

Crescent City harbor heads seek funding post-tsunami

By CURRY COASTAL PILOT, BROOKINGS

Del Norte Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to send a plea for financial help to state of California officials following the tsunami that caused \$1.1 million in damage to the Crescent City Harbor.

Their 5-0 vote came less than a week after a 5-foot tsunami sent boats careening through the harbor Nov. 15.

Although the wave generated \$1,148,149 in damage, the damage was limited to docks, floats and electrical equipment.

“It could have been so much worse,” said Harbor-master Richard Young. “We lost no lives and no boats sank.”

Allen Winogradov, who heads Crescent City area emergency services, is not sure which pot of money will be used to pay for fixing the harbor. If the California Emergency Services director approves assistance, the funds probably would be provided through the California Disaster Assistance Act, he said.

Before approving Young’s request for help, Supervisor Chuck Blackburn asked whether the damage estimate includes the cost of dredging the harbor. Blackburn suspects the strong action of the undersea wave could have brought silt and sand into the already shallow harbor.

“We lost 1,000 feet of dock and 35 slips,” Young told the board.

He submitted a diagram of the three docks either destroyed or substantially damaged by the wave. Blackburn also questioned whether the loss in slips will result in revenue lost from “transient” boats that seek harbor during the crabbing season that will begin Friday, Dec. 1.

The figure could be “substantial” since the harbor can no longer accommodate extra vessels.

“This needs to be dealt with ASAP,” Blackburn said. “We need to help cover ourselves.”

Supervisor David Finigan agreed that the damage estimate from Crescent City Harbor should include dredging costs.

“It may help us get federal money,” he said.

Although harbor and emergency services officials attending a meeting said they did not think the damage exceeded the threshold figure needed to apply at the federal level, they could not say what that amount is.

“It would cost us \$50,000 to survey the harbor for dredging purposes,” Young said. “We have been contacted by all our elected officials; we will see what comes in.”

Holiday credit?

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WEDDING VOWS were exchanged by **Kimberly Peterson and Michael Christophersen Nov. 4, 2006 during a garden ceremony at a Cave Junction residence. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. Sonny Battle, of First Christian Church, of Downey, Calif. Many friends and family members attended. Michael is the son of Vern & Barbara Carlson, of Cave Junction; and Kimberly is the daughter of Phil & Jan Severson, of Portland. The couple have made their home in Cave Junction. (Photo provided)**

Developer urges attention to detail for improving 199

CJ council receives outline of ODOT plan

By SCOTT JORGENSEN
IVN Staff Writer

Plans for a Local Improvement District (LID) in Cave Junction are moving right along, developer Larry Osborn told the city council Monday night, Nov. 27 during its regular meeting in CJ City Hall.

Osborn, of Lodi, Calif.-based Manor Communities Development LLC, said that Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) has finalized a \$6 million plan to improve portions of Hwy. 199 (Redwood Hwy.) in anticipation of further growth.

“Every month, we write big checks to ODOT,” Osborn said.

Osborn asked that the matter get the “utmost attention” from the city. He said that the LID ultimately will be an advantage for the city and its residents, as well as others in the overall valley community

“I think the benefit is more than anyone realizes at this point,” Osborn said.

ODOT improvements will involve widening the highway from approximately Laurel Road to a point near Wild River Brewing & Pizza Co.

Highway improvements are related to major residential and commercial developments planned by Manor. Additionally, they are in

connection with the new Siskiyou Community Medical Center.

The council also agreed to hold a workshop Thursday, Nov. 30 at 10 a.m. in city hall to discuss how to fund some coming expenses.

Mayor Tony Paulson said that continuing issues with the city’s water and sewer plants are requiring constant repairs, which are becoming costly.

Paulson said that the city’s in-house maintenance is “very minimal,” and that repairs are not covered under System Development Charges (SDC). Those funds can be used only for new infrastructure, he said.

“We have some huge expenditures that are coming up, and we have to find funding for them,” said the mayor.

“We have decisions to make,” he added.

In other matters, the council:

*Voted 5-0 to recommend to Oregon Liquor Control Commission the approval of a liquor license for Speedy Mart & Deli, now owned by Jimmy & Salena Su.

*Voted 5-0 to approve use of Jubilee Park’s baseball field for Illinois Valley Little League from February through the end of July.

Getting rid of (recycling) computers, other e-gadgets a growing concern

A detailed look at electronic scrap (e-scrap) handlers and collectors throughout Oregon, as well as the environmental management practices these operations use is provided in a newly released study commissioned by the Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ.)

DEQ commissioned the study to examine gaps in e-scrap services and learn what current environmental management practices are, in anticipation of future service needs and establishment of statewide guidelines or best management practices for dealing with e-scrap. The report is available on DEQ’s Website atdeq.state.or.us/wmc/pubs/docs/swEWasteBaselineSurveyReport.pdf.

E-scrap is defined in the study to include end-of-life computers (including CRTs, CPUs, laptops, printers and peripherals) as well as televisions. The handling and disposal of such electronic waste is recognized globally and nationally as a growing challenge in the solid waste management field, DEQ said.

It is anticipated that management of e-scrap or e-waste will draw considerable interest during the 2007 Oregon legislative session. In anticipation, DEQ commissioned Portland-based Eco Stewardship Strategies to conduct the study to get a closer look at how e-scrap is actually managed in Oregon.

“We wanted to get a better look at who’s out there providing these services and where the gaps in service are as well as get a better understanding of their management practices,” said Jan White-worth, DEQ solid waste analyst. “We recognize the need

for environmental management guidelines or industry standards, not necessarily regulations, in handling e-scrap.”

As part of the study, 74 entities were contacted; 65, or nearly 90 percent, responded. Among the major findings:

*Nearly half of all e-scrap handled in Oregon is processed by only three entities (one private business, one nonprofit organization, one thrift store/charitable organization).

*Of 167 identified collection points around the state where the public can bring e-scrap, approximately two-thirds are comprised of thrift shops, charitable organizations and other nonprofits. (Several surveyed entities have multiple sites.)

*Eleven rural counties in Southern and Eastern Oregon have no reasonable collection points available, but approximately 95 percent of the state’s population has reasonable access to electronic recycling services.

*The majority of collectors and collector/handlers serve the greater Willamette Valley and Portland metro area, but some one-third say that they serve the entire state.

*During 2005, businesses and other organizations collected or processed

approximately 16.7 million pounds of e-scrap material. More than half of the material is managed by private businesses and about 40 percent by nonprofit organizations.

*Of the 16.7 million pounds of e-scrap managed statewide during 2005, the portion collected from residents (40 percent) is similar in size to that collected from the commercial sector (46 percent). The remaining 14 percent from unknown generators is primarily collected by haulers, landfills and local governments.

*The annual per-capita amount of e-scrap collected from residents and small businesses is estimated at 1.8 pounds.

*Of all e-scrap collected in Oregon in 2005, slightly more than two-thirds was recycled, 25 percent was reused, 2 percent was “landfilled” or incinerated, and the remaining 6 percent was “unknown” in terms of handling. A large percentage of e-scrap collected and/or processed appears to be ultimately exported out of state for final use or disposition.

*The e-scrap industry in Oregon is in flux about environmental practices, with a wide range of practices by handlers and collector/handlers.

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- Adlai E. Stevenson Jr -