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Sandy fire district seeks bond, discusses centralized dispatch

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News Editor

Two important issues are facing the Sandy Rural Fire Protection District during the next few months. The district has slated a bond issue election on March 6 and the fire board is presently looking into the district's dispatching situation.

The district is seeking a \$190,000 bond issue which will be used to purchase equipment and substation facilities and to establish a minimum base from which the district can plan for future growth.

At the fire board meeting, Feb. 13, 8 p.m., the question of whether to go to a centralized radio dispatching service with Boring and Estacada fire departments will be discussed. Fire chief Bob Rathke has recommended approval to the board, while the volunteer firemen voted against the proposal.

The fire board in putting the bond issue before the voters is seeking to eventually lower the fire insurance premiums paid by the taxpayers of the district and to provide the best possible firefighting, first aid and rescue services available at a reasonable cost, according to chief Rathke.

If approved, the bond issue will increase the taxes in the district 28 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. Presently the tax rate in the district is 1.73 per \$1,000.

Rathke told the Post, the funds from the bond will be used to purchase two new pumps and proper equipment to replace 1940 and 1941 model pumps; completion of both the Dover and Arms substations; and general improvement of all services of

Dinner honors new, old chamber officers

The Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual installation banquet at Heidi's. The new officers for 1973 will be installed at the dinner.

Mel Lamm, of Sandy Insurance Company, will be the new Chamber president taking over from Brother Barnabas SSP.

Featured speaker at the banquet will be Miller McClung, Assistant Director of the Oregon Historical Society, in keeping with the Centennial Year theme of the Sandy area.

Other officers to be installed are Jim Patrick, vice president; Tony Bryant, treasurer; and Mrs. Dorothy Depro, secretary.

The dinner will begin at 7:30 with the cocktail hour starting at 6:30 p.m. at T.J's.

County dental program seeks participants

Do you have an emergency dental problem, if so maybe you can qualify for the emergency dental funding in Clackamas County.

The dental program in the county has been funded for \$5,000 and only \$500 of it has been used, according to Carl Woods.

Woods, chairman of the Committee for Progress through Law, said the dental grant is funded half through the federal Office of Economic Opportunity and it is designed to underwrite emergency dental work for any individuals who otherwise might have difficulty handling the financial burden it would entail.

No walk mail delivery here

City walk mail delivery in Sandy has been denied by the U.S. Post Office, according to local postmaster John Metzger. He told the Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce Tuesday because the city's population is still under 2,500 no walk mail delivery would be possible.

The Chamber turned in with the request for the walk mail delivery petitions signed by over 300 area residents supporting the new delivery service.

Metzger did say a fourth rural route was being established out of the Sandy Post Office this winter.

"This shows we are a growing area and the city may reach the 2,500 population needed to qualify for the walk mail delivery in the near future," said Metzger.

the district.

Rathke said the district with the bond would be able to meet the recommendations and principles set down by the Insurance Rating Bureau and the National Fire Protection Association. These bodies set the standards for fire departments and it is on this basis that all fire departments are judged.

Groups interested in finding out more about the bond issue are asked to call the fire district. The district has prepared a presentation and it is available to be shown to different groups in the area.

The issue of a centralized dispatch system was presented to the fire board at their January meeting by chief Rathke.

Presently, the district has its own dispatching office in the Sandy station and

there are three dispatchers. Each dispatcher works a 56 hour week, 24 hours on and 48 hours off.

The chief in asking the board's approval cited several reasons for his request: 1) The Sandy district would have no capital expense to get the use of a modern and up-to-date dispatch system which is presently available at Boring; 2) The joint facility has been recommended many times by the rating bureau and the district would receive more rating credit (especially for mutual aid); 3) It would give better fire protection service in the districts concerned by co-ordinating the dispatching of equipment; 4) The probability of a county wide central dispatching service within the next five years.

Future funding for Sandy's community center in doubt

The future of community action centers similar to Sandy's is presently in doubt with the recent trend of the federal government to cut funding for social services. The federal government is advising that funding come from the states and local municipalities receiving federal revenue sharing funds.

According to W. Peter Sulzbach, vice-president of the Sandy Community Action Council, this lack of federal funding could cut into the programs and services offered through the local action center.

Many of the programs run through the local center are based on volunteers. One such program HELP, has been meeting a need to help persons with emergency food or clothing problems. Other programs include Head Start, legal aid and abundant food.

Sulzbach told the Post a good example of the service the HELP volunteers provide came during the recent cold spell.

"Could you help me find some warm clothing for myself and my son?" It was one of those twenty degree cold days. The woman speaking had just come into the Sandy Community Action Center. She wore a thin sweater over a cotton dress and held her bare hands against her body to warm them. Her small son was no better off. The HELP volunteer saw in a glance that he wore badly worn sneakers without socks and that a second shirt was

doing duty as a jacket.

"I am quite sure that we can find some warm clothing for you right now from what we have on hand and if not, I know where we can find more." With this, the HELP volunteer led the way to a clothing rack. In a few moments, the woman was trying on coats and her boy was struggling into a pair of stockings.

"Providing clothing is about the best thing we can do," said Astri Torbergson, chairman of HELP Volunteers. "We can meet most all requests for clothing except rain suits for men doing farm work."

HELP volunteers provide emergency food and on occasion find furniture and household equipment for people in need. They help people with information about the abundant food program, county health services, Oregon State Employment Office, and make referrals to other government and private agencies.

The Community Action Center building is used for distribution of abundant foods

Firm gets okay for wigwam burner

Mount Hood Box Company near Aldercreek was given approval to use a wigwam incinerator burner by the Clackamas County Planning Commission last week.

The purpose of the request was the disposal of cedar wood debris from the company's wood mill. A company spokesman told the planning commission the company had been unsuccessful in trying to market the waste.

The approval was given under the guidelines of the Columbia-Willamette Air Pollution Authority, and a permit will be required on a yearly basis to insure proper compliance.



WORK ON the comprehensive plan for the city of Sandy is now underway. Pat Gordon, left, is the advisor to the city for the plan. Gordon is a planning manager for Robert E. Meyer Engineers, Inc. of Beaverton. Here Gordon discusses some planning with city councilman Ed Burke who is also working on the comprehensive plan.

(Post photo)

Hoodland plan review starts

Public review of the proposed comprehensive plan for the Mt. Hood community will start Saturday, Jan. 20, at 2 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Welches Grade School and is being sponsored by the Hoodland Chamber of Commerce.

The comprehensive plan was done by Cornell, Howland, Hayes and Merryfield, Engineers and Planners (CH2M). Members of the firm will be present at the meeting to discuss the just completed plan.

Also attending the meeting, will be Clackamas County Planning Department officials and members of the local advisory group the Hoodland Planning Group (HPG).

According to chamber officials, this meeting will serve as the first public meeting to discuss the plan. A presentation of the 136 page report by CH2M officials will be given and a discussion period held.

Presently copies of the plan are available for \$5 from the county planning department in Oregon City. Five reference copies have been placed in the Welches Grade School library and the US Forest

Service has several copies available to the public.

Ken Dople of the county planning department, told the Post persons wishing a copy of the report can mail a \$5 check to the county at 940 Warner-Milne Rd., Oregon City, 97045 and the planning department will mail the requested copy.

"We only have about 150 copies of the plan to sell," said Dople.

The first meeting is only one of several public meetings which will be held to discuss the plan, according to Col. Jack Baker chairman of the HPG.

Baker told the Post, the HPG members are planning to hold several discussion sessions to develop the group's recommendations concerning the plan.

The HPG will send their recommendations about the plan to the county planning commission when the plan goes before that commission. It is not expected that the plan will go before the commission any earlier than late this spring.

Dople said the county is hopeful through this meeting Saturday and the following meetings slated by the HPG, all persons concerned will have a chance to review and discuss the plan.



A NEW trailer park in Sandy is now under construction. The park is located between the old city sewer plant and S. Bluff Rd. At the same time work is going on for the

trailer park, crews will straighten S. Bluff Rd. The above photo shows the trailer park to the left and the new line for S. Bluff will also be to the left.

(Post photo)

State slates hearings on Sandy River plan

Should a 12.5 mile stretch of the Sandy River Gorge be placed under the protection of the Scenic Rivers Act?

This is the question facing residents of the area when the State Highway Commission holds hearings next week in Portland and Sandy.

The first meeting will be held Tuesday at the Bonneville Power Administration Auditorium, 1002 NE Holladay St. and the next day a meeting will be held at the Odd Fellows Hall in Sandy.

Lack of funds closes office

Sandy is about to lose its Valley-Migrant League office. The office is set to close on Feb. 28, according to Donna Bogart office supervisor.

The Valley-Migrant League office has been in Sandy since 1966 and it has played an important role in working with farm workers here.

According to Mrs. Bogart, during the past year the office has worked with at least 30 families per month. The heaviest workload time is during the summer months when the migrant farm workers are in the area.

"We have to close the Sandy office because our federal funding has run out and it is not to be renewed," said Mrs. Bogart.

Valley-Migrant League offices in Salem, Hubbard and Woodburn will be continued, according to Mrs. Bogart.

The local office has helped farm workers with finding jobs, job training, counseling, and emergency food and housing needs while it has served the Sandy area.

Both Mrs. Bogart and Mrs. Carol Truesdale, clerk-typist for the Sandy office, will be without jobs when the office closes.

Both meetings will consist of information sessions from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. followed by the public hearings to start at 7 p.m.

The State Highway Division report, which was just completed on the segment of the Sandy River between Dodge Park in Clackamas County and Dabney State Park in Multnomah County, recommends the scenic waterway designation.

According to George Baldwin, administrator of highways, this report and the "public input at the hearings will be important to the Highway Commission when it considers action on the proposal. If

the Commission recommends scenic waterway status for the Sandy River and the State Water Resources Board concurs, the Governor could then make the designation, although he is not bound to do so. These decisions have not yet been made."

Those who are unable to attend the hearings may submit written statements to the State Highway Commission, State Highway Building, Salem, Oregon 97310, prior to Feb. 6.

More on this story in "River's Edge" column on sports pages.

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