

Business Oregon director resigns to return to Wisconsin

By PETER WONG
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The director of Business Oregon, the state agency that promotes new and expanded business in the state, is leaving after slightly more than a year in office.

Gov. Kate Brown announced Sean Robbins' resignation Wednesday. It will take effect in the fall.

Her announcement said that Robbins, his wife and two young sons will return to Wisconsin, where Robbins worked for nearly a decade before he became chief executive of Greater Portland Inc., a public-private partnership, in 2011.

He was named by then-Gov. John Kitzhaber to lead the Business Development Department, also known as Business Oregon, in June 2014.

"I'm grateful to Sean for his leadership and contribution to Business Oregon over the last year," Brown said in her statement. "He crafted a thoughtful vision into an effective strategic action plan for the agency, laying a solid foundation for the next director."

This is the second resignation of an agency director within the past week. Erin Kelley-Siel is leaving as director of the Department of Human Services, which has the largest workforce in state government, upon Brown's appointment of a successor.

Both mentioned family reasons as paramount in their resignations.

State Sen. Betsy Johnson, whose budget subcommittee handled the Business Development Department spending plan, said she accepts Robbins' explanation that his resignation was prompted by family reasons.

"When he called and left me the message, I was so distraught that I called him back and asked if there was a backstory — and he said 'no,'" said Johnson, a Democrat from Scappoose who is Senate co-chairwoman of the Legislature's transportation and economic development budget subcommittee.

Brown has replaced two other agency directors — one on an interim basis — since Kitzhaber resigned and she became governor on Feb. 18.

Robbins said his approach was to focus on growing businesses already in Oregon.

In an interview published last July in the Portland Tribune, Robbins said Oregon cannot compete with other states that offer cheap land and public subsidies to new businesses.

"If it's most important for your business to be in the cheapest state you shouldn't be in Oregon," he said. "But if you're looking for talent, innovation, a place that talent wants to be, this is a place to invest."

Yet Robbins said Oregon is very competitive on the West Coast.

"We have some value to add to people in California and Washington who simply can't afford to live there any more," he said.

Robbins succeeded Tim McCabe, who retired after six years of leading the business agency.

Before Robbins came to Oregon in 2011, he was executive vice president of the Madison Regional Economic Partnership in Wisconsin for two years, and senior vice president of Vanta Commercial Properties for two years before then. He was a commercial real estate analyst in the Milwaukee area from 2003 to 2007.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.



Sean Robbins

Regatta Junior Parade invites participants

The Daily Astorian

The Kiwanis Club of Astoria and the Astoria Regatta Association invite children of all ages to participate in the Kiwanis Junior Parade on Wednesday.

The Junior Parade kicks off this year's Regatta festivities. Parade formation begins at 6 p.m., at U.S. Bank parking lot on the corner of Ninth and Exchange streets.

Children may bring bikes,

scooters and floats, or join in by walking, skipping or skating. Participants can blow bubbles, carry banners, and make noise, but no motorized vehicles are allowed. People are encouraged to decorate themselves and their non-motorized vehicles.

Judging begins at 6:15 p.m. The winner in the float category will be selected to participate in the Grand Land Parade on Saturday.

New this year, children ages 8 to 12 have the opportunity to enter a costume contest, with the winner riding with the police chief in the "bubble car" leading the parade. Judging for the costume contest will begin at 6:20 p.m. The parade through downtown starts promptly at 6:30 p.m.

People of all ages are encouraged to cheer on the parade participants along the parade route, from 10th to 13th streets on Exchange Street and returning to U.S. Bank.

Wyden hangout honors craft beverages

The Daily Astorian

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden co-hosted a "Happy Half-Hour Hangout" on Google Monday with U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin to discuss the craft beverage industry.

They were joined by Gary Fish, the owner of Deschutes Brewery in Bend, and Jeff Hamilton, president of Wisconsin business Sprecher Brewing Co.

"Oregon is home, and of course this is a completely unbiased opinion, to the best breweries in the world," Wyden, D-Ore., said during the hangout. "And we're also home to world-class cider makers, wineries and distilleries."

Wyden emphasized the benefits of the craft industry to the

'Oregon is home, and of course this is a completely unbiased opinion, to the best breweries in the world'

— Ron Wyden
U.S. senator

economy, both locally in Oregon and in the nation.

Wyden authored the Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act, which Baldwin, D-Wis., co-sponsored. The act would provide tax relief for small producers of craft beverages, roll back outdated alcohol regulations and streamline administration for how these busi-

nesses are run, Wyden said.

"From our discussion, it's clear our laws should be helping breweries and other craft beverage makers grow, not cut them off with red tape and taxes," Wyden said in news release. "I look forward to working with Sen. Baldwin and my colleagues to pass legislation to remove obstacles these businesses face."

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Tonight
A moonlit sky
57°

Friday
Mostly sunny and nice
78° 56°

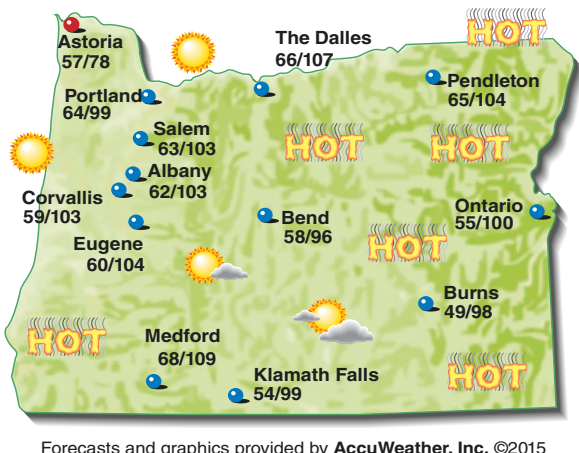
Saturday
Partly sunny and nice; breezy in the p.m.
76° 58°

Sunday
Mostly sunny and pleasant
73° 57°

Monday
Nice with clouds and sunshine
72° 58°

Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs

Oregon Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2015

Almanac

Astoria through Wednesday.

Temperatures	
High	83°
Low	53°
Normal high	68°
Normal low	54°
Precipitation	
Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.39"
Normal month to date	0.98"
Year to date	27.78"
Normal year to date	36.89"

Sun and Moon

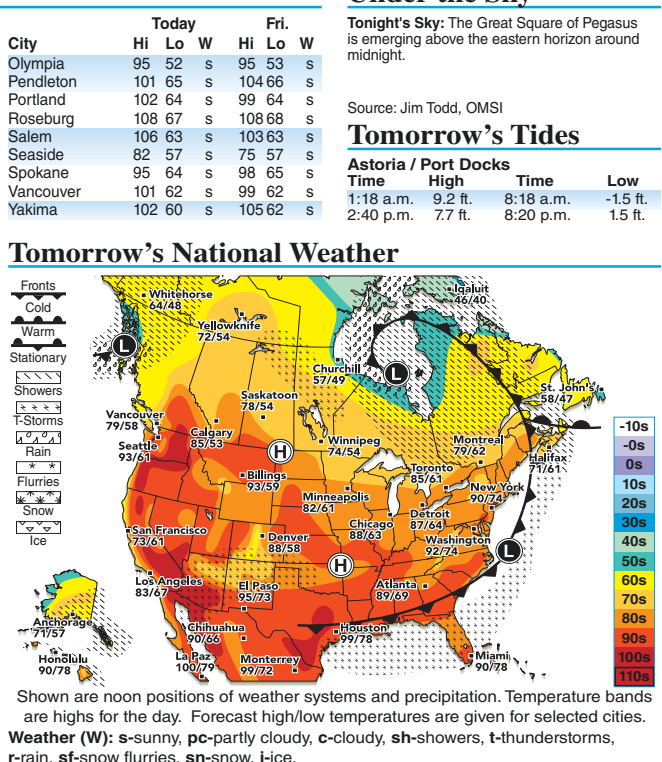
Sunset tonight	8:49 p.m.
Sunrise Friday	5:55 a.m.
Moonrise today	8:06 p.m.
Moonset today	5:11 a.m.

Phase	Date
Full	July 31
Last	Aug 6
New	Aug 14
First	Aug 22

Regional Cities

City	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Baker City	92	43	s	96	48	s
Bend	96	58	s	96	58	s
Brookings	81	59	s	77	59	pc
Eugene	107	60	s	104	61	s
Ilwaco	74	60	s	72	59	s
Klamath Falls	96	54	s	99	57	s
Medford	108	68	s	109	70	s
Newport	73	54	s	71	54	s
North Bend	76	57	s	74	57	s

Tomorrow's National Weather



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are high for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities. Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

National Cities

City	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Allanta	93	72	pc	89	69	pc
Boston	88	70	pc	87	69	s
Chicago	87	66	s	88	63	s
Denver	89	59	pc	88	58	t
Des Moines	87	69	s	88	62	s
Detroit	86	65	s	87	64	s
El Paso	94	73	t	95	73	t
Fairbanks	70	53	sh	70	54	pc
Honolulu	90	78	pc	90	78	pc
Indianapolis	84	64	s	86	65	s
Kansas City	86	64	pc	89	67	s
Las Vegas	102	81	t	103	83	t
Los Angeles	85	68	t	83	67	pc
Memphis	92	71	pc	93	72	s
Miami	92	77	t	90	78	t
Nashville	88	66	pc	90	67	s
New Orleans	96	80	pc	94	79	t
New York	88	74	t	90	74	s
Oklahoma City	93	71	t	84	70	t
Philadelphia	90	72	t	90	72	s
St. Louis	90	70	s	92	70	s
Salt Lake City	92	63	s	94	65	s
San Francisco	74	61	pc	73	61	pc
Seattle	92	61	s	93	61	s
Washington, DC	93	73	t	92	74	s

Under the Sky

Tonight's Sky: The Great Square of Pegasus is emerging above the eastern horizon around midnight.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

Tomorrow's Tides

Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
1:18 a.m.	9.2 ft.	8:18 a.m.	-1.5 ft.
2:40 p.m.	7.7 ft.	8:20 p.m.	1.5 ft.

Public meetings

THURSDAY
Recreational Lands Planning and Advisory Committee, 1 to 3 p.m., fourth floor, 800 Exchange St.

FRIDAY
Cannon Beach Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St., Cannon Beach.

FRIDAY
Cannon Beach Emergency Preparedness Committee, 10 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St., Cannon Beach.

Lotteries

OREGON
Wednesday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 8-6-3-7
4 p.m.: 3-3-9-4
7 p.m.: 7-1-9-7
10 p.m.: 3-6-1-3
Wednesday's Megabucks: 2-11-13-30-33-44
Estimated jackpot: \$5.2 million.

WASHINGTON
Wednesday's Powerball: 4-22-27-28-52, Powerball: 35
Estimated jackpot: \$100 million.
Wednesday's Daily Game: 7-8-4
Wednesday's Hit 5: 13-14-22-26-35

Estimated jackpot: \$360,000
Wednesday's Keno: 01-04-09-12-15-16-17-21-23-29-35-36-39-46-50-60-61-72-73-77
Wednesday's Lotto: 01-05-09-31-43-45
Estimated jackpot: \$1.4 million
Wednesday's Match 4: 07-11-22-24

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Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/obituaryform, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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