

CITY

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sions," said Jake Bolland, chief operating officer, and Heidi Logosz, Meadows Sustainability Manager, who highlighted the company's composting and vehicle exhaust "idling awareness" campaigns, as well as overall carbon reductions of 11 percent and 6 percent in 2012 and 2013.

Hood River builder Mike Kitts urged the council to adopt the resolution, as did spokeswoman Page Atcheson of the non-profit climate advocacy group Oregon Climate.

"Climate change is an urgent threat. Any small gesture will lead to other small

gestures," Kitts said. "Resolutions from cities and counties lend a strong voice to our state's desire to proactively address climate change," said Atcheson, noting that resolutions have either been passed or are being considered in Benton County, Eugene, and Corvallis. "We hope you will vote in support of this resolution tonight and continue to be part of the important statewide discussion around carbon pricing," she said.

Hood River resident Scott Haanstad asked if the resolution was permanent and questioned the city adopting something without a sunset.

"There is nothing temporary about it," Cornelison said. "This initiative is to change behavior."

Picard, while acknowledging that global warming is a

real problem, claimed the resolution would be "ineffectual," that unlike past resolutions does not deal with a direct threat to health and safety, and a carbon pricing statement now will "dilute the city's voice" on what he regards as more important, and divisive, political issues.

"We have to make our voice count where it really matters. Oil trains need to be the priority."

He added, "I feel uncomfortable speaking for all citizens on this issue, as there are differing positions.

"Resolutions need to be used sparingly and judiciously, regardless of our good intentions," Picard said.

Zanmiller countered that, "societally, we haven't gotten off the ball. More measures are needed to signify where we stand and where we want the state federal governments to stand."

"This is timely and it will matter," Brun said. "We are being a national leader here," she said, with few other states looking at similar carbon legislation.

"Climate change is going to have a huge impact on the poor and elderly," Brun said. "I see it as being like coal and oil transport and other health and safety issues. If other people brought resolutions to us, I'd love to listen to how it affects them. I'm hearing from people that they mostly support this."

Cornelison called it "the seminal issue of our time. Leadership is lacking. It may not have any effect, but we have to try. We have a bully

pulpit and I think we should use it.

"I ran as a sustainability candidate and made no bones about it," said Cornelison, who, like Brun, was elected in November. "I feel I do have the backing of people who elected me to move forward on this."

Blackburn said he has heard from those who believe the resolution is "too much" and "too little."

"So the beauty of it is it's both," said Blackburn. "I challenge anyone to tell me that in market terms a zero tax on carbon emission is the best thing."

The resolution, modeled on one passed by the City of Eugene, states that "the City Council and Mayor under the Hood River City Charter have the authority to protect the health, safety and general welfare of its citizens and is compelled by the scientific consensus that carbon dioxide emissions are the primary cause of global climate change, and agrees that climate change is a crisis demanding immediate measures to reduce its negative effects, and the City finds that climate change is a threat to public health, national security, food security, and business supply chains.

"These societal costs of inaction are significant and outweigh the temporary economic impacts associated with the energy transition," and "the City believes that assigning a cost to carbon dioxide emissions is one of the most efficient ways to discourage consumption of fossil fuels..."



Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

PARKDALE volunteer Oscar Anaya mops up hot spots on Monday at the fire on Baseline Road.

Three fires in four days raise concerns

By KIRBY NEUMANN-REA
News editor

One fire jumped a creek, another came close to a home and a third nearly took out a greenhouse.

Firefighters responded to three brush fires in Parkdale and Odell between Friday and Monday, as ground fuels appear to be drying out after continued dry and unseasonably warm weather.

"The grass is a lot drier than I thought," landowner Jim Byrne said Monday as he cleaned up after the fire that burned a 150-by-100-foot area of grass and bush next to his greenhouse operation Monday at about 10 a.m. on Baseline Road near Highway 35. A 50-foot slab of melted plastic was all that remained of the 500 plastic planting pots he lost in the fire.

Parkdale volunteers doused the flames before they could damage the greenhouses, other than minor damage to one corner. Byrne was monitoring his permitted fire but wind spurred the

flames and caused it to spread.

On Sunday, a Billings Road burn pile jumped Trout Creek and spread to a neighboring piece of property, burning nearly a half-acre of grass before Parkdale firefighters doused it, according to Chief Mike McCafferty. No structures were threatened.

On Friday, Wy'east Fire District put out an afternoon shed fire at the end of a long driveway on Willow Flat Road. The shed was totaled but there was no damage to the manufactured home about 25 yards away.

The barn had been filled with household goods and farm equipment, and plenty of hay, which firefighters laboriously turned over and over to make sure all hot spots were doused. The cause of the fire is unknown, according to district officials. Westside and Parkdale provided backup, along with Hood River, and the Sheriff's Office responded.

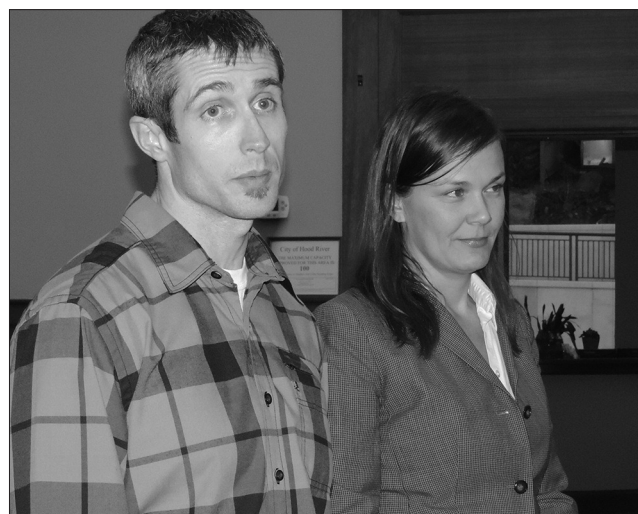


Photo by Kirby Neumann-Rea

MEADOWS officials Jake Bolland and Heidi Logosz testify Monday in support of a council resolution for state legislation on carbon pricing.

PULIDO

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ging, or what are they up to?"

Pulido accepted the award last week at the Legion Post on Tucker Road, after a lunch hosted by the members of the Post and Auxiliary. The organization revived the award after a few years' hiatus; Gerry Tiffany, then of Hood River Sheriff's Office, was the previous winner. The Legion's Jim Tomson said the Post plans similar awards this year to the Sheriff's office and to fire and EMS.

Pulido, a 1995 Columbia High School graduate, worked at NORCOR and as a Hood River County Sheriff Reserve before joining Hood River in 2007.

"It feels okay," Pulido said of the award. "I didn't go into the job for public recognition of my achievements. I believe law enforcement is an important aspect of the community, and that's plenty enough for me."

He said he focuses on traffic violations, including DUII, "but I don't have as many drug interdictions as Officer (Emy) Delancy," and said he has less of the "public relations" role as guys such as long-time officer Erin Mason.

"It's a challenging job. Many people take our jobs for granted, maybe they don't understand what we do," Pulido said. "Someone may mean to cause you harm. You never know."

It comes down to prevention, he said.

"It's hard to measure what you prevent, because a bad guy isn't going to say, 'I got stopped from robbing a house because a policeman drove by,'" he said. "It's a matter of getting out there, in the neighborhoods. I've never been concerned about what the bad guy says about me. I've had complaints on me. It doesn't really bother me. As long as they are investigated, and unfounded, I'm not concerned about it."

Asked if he has aspirations to move up in the ranks, he said, "No, I like being the grunt. I enjoy being the guy at the bottom of the line, pushing forward."

On hand for Pulido's award were Holste, Code Enforcement Officer Marty Morgan, Officers Isaac Miller and Kyle Zuercher, Sgt. Stan Baker, and office administrator Maria Rivera.

Pulido started his public service in 2000, working as corrections officer for the Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility. In May

2007, he joined Hood River Police.

"Officer Pulido has proudly served this department and the citizens of Hood River. Pulido has taken on other roles outside of his normal duties and is the department's range instructor and a field training officer," wrote Holste in a letter to American Legion nominating Pulido.

"Officer Pulido is looked up to as a highly skilled trainer and trusted mentor of new hires and reserve officers. Serving as the department range master, Officer Pulido created and imple-

mented new and creative range techniques which further advanced our officers in the safe and accurate handling of all firearms at our disposal," continued Holste.

"Officer Pulido has not only led the department in these areas but led the department in self-initiated activity, which illustrates his zeal to work hard for our department and community.

"Officer Pulido is a very driven, extremely active, and professional officer who represents and emulates the Hood River Police Department's values of honor, integrity and excellence," Holste wrote.

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Panorama is the premier publication of the Blossom Festival. It includes festival activities, a schedule of events and a map — plus features and stories of special interest. This special yearly edition will be published April 11. Panorama reaches nearly 20,000 residents and visitors who will be in Hood River County for the busiest weekend of the year.

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