

MARIJUANA: Legislature will likely work for years to shape Oregon’s legal pot system

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arose last week, when Senate Minority Leader Sen. Ted Ferrioli, R-John Day, sent an email to other lawmakers saying that he would not support the bill under consideration unless it allowed city councils and county commissions to prohibit medical and recreational retailers.

Ferrioli threw his support behind a proposal by the League of Oregon Cities to allow elected officials in cities and counties that voted against Measure 91 to pass bans on medical and recreational pot businesses. Under the compromise proposal, elected officials in cities and counties where voters approved Measure 91 could also vote to pass bans, but those would be referred to the voters.

Both provisions were included in the bill that passed out of the House-Senate committee Monday evening.

House Bill 3400 will receive its first full vote in the Oregon House.

Meanwhile, lawmakers on the committee will continue

to work on some of the proposals that were left out of House Bill 3400. That includes a proposal by Ferrioli, with support from Sen. Floyd Prozanski, D-Eugene, to allow medical marijuana dispensaries to temporarily sell pot to recreational customers until the launch of the recreational pot retail system sometime in 2016.

Under Measure 91, adults age 21 and older can legally grow and possess limited amounts of pot and cannabis products starting July 1.

Lawmakers plan to tackle early sales and recreational pot taxes in separate bills, and took public testimony on the taxation bill on Monday evening. House Bill 2041 would replace the weight-based excise tax the state would charge growers under Measure 91 with a sales tax on the drug.

Several lawmakers on the committee said after the vote Monday that the Legislature will likely work for years to shape Oregon’s new legal pot system.

“You can ask the question, how can you be called on to

legislate a culture change?” said Rep. Carl Wilson, R-Grants Pass. “We’ll be working on this forever.”

The co-chairs of the committee, Rep. Ann Lininger, D-Lake Oswego, and Sen. Ginny Burdick, D-Portland, thanked other lawmakers, members of the marijuana industry and medical marijuana advocates for their hard work on the legislation.

Still, not everyone was happy with the bill. Rep. Peter Buckley, D-Ashland, said he voted out of courtesy to move House Bill 3400 to the House floor for a vote, but he remained frustrated by the process by which the committee drafted the bill.

“It’s been dysfunctional in many respects,” Buckley said, adding that he was dismayed at the move by a special Senate committee last month to push through its own bill to regulate medical marijuana. Most of that bill was folded into House Bill 3400. “I think the public has been shut out of this process to a great extent,” Buckley said.

ATV: Took several hours to extricate Williams

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ated between daytime highs of 80 degrees and nighttime lows of 50 degrees.

“For the type of accident in the area he was in, and how long he was out there in only work clothes, he was in surprisingly good shape,” Humphreys said. “We’re very thankful for that.”

Crews began searching Saturday for Williams, who had last been seen Friday morning, according to a police report. They worked through the night before a sheriff’s deputy and landowner found him early Sunday morning.

It took several hours to extricate Williams due to the difficult terrain, and move him into an area where the Life Flight helicopter could land.

“The rescue itself was

“For the type of accident in the area he was in, and how long he was out there in only work clothes, he was in surprisingly good shape.”

— Sheriff Chris Humphreys

amazing,” Humphreys said. “On this particular situation, the helicopter landed and Life Flight medics had to work a long time to get him stabilized before transport.”

Search and rescue was able to drive Williams up a side hill using a utility vehicle confiscated by police in the high-profile poaching case involving Alan Roy Aronson, of Bend, who was convicted last year of leading illegal hunting trips on private land. Police arrested 23 people on more than 200 counts of illegal hunting

stemming from that investigation.

Having that UTV available to the sheriff’s office likely saved Williams’s life during Sunday’s rescue effort, Humphreys said.

“There’s no way Wheeler County could ever afford buying one of those,” he said. “Without that, I have no idea how we would have done it.”

Members of the Gilliam County Sheriff’s Office also assisted in the rescue.

Contact George Plaven at gplaven@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4547.

LAMPREY: Goal is to bring them back to the Umatilla

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Quaempts, who for years participated in the annual harvest at Willamette Falls, said he is encouraged by the progress.

“This tribe is at the forefront of fish recovery,” he said. “We didn’t make them go away, but we will bring them back, because they are a part of us.”

Monday’s distribution on the reservation was for tribal members only. Jim Marsh, secretary for the CTUIR Fish and Wildlife Commission, checked first for identification while Kanim Moses-Conner, a technician for the lamprey fisheries project, handed out the fish in clear plastic bags.

Usually the harvest begins a little later in the month, Moses-Conner said, but they went early this year due to lower river flows and warmer water temperature. By the end, they caught roughly 400 lamprey, most of which were distributed Sunday.

Not everyone enjoys eating lamprey, but the jawless fish remain a delicacy especially for tribal elders, Moses-Conner said. The tribes’ goal is to eventually bring lamprey back to the Umatilla River by transporting them past Bonneville, The Dalles and John Day dams and into the basin.

“I’m a believer in what we’ve been doing,” Moses-Conner said. “I’ve seen it firsthand. Our numbers have

gone up for lamprey. It has been working.”

Marsh said he enjoys lamprey best over the barbecue, with some salt and pepper. Quaempts prefers to dry the meat, and compared the taste to anchovies.

Tribal members cried and prayed when the lamprey were wiped out in the Umatilla decades ago, Quaempts said.

“It’s so cool to see them when they’re little, their heads poking out of the sand,” he said. “That was years ago. Hopefully my granddaughters will be able to see it.”

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STATUES: Don Requa bronze will be unveiled July 11

Continued from 1A

Phillip Houk, Pendleton mayor and the chairman of the art commission, said a bronze of 1929 Round-Up Queen Kathleen McClintock will be unveiled across from the Fletcher statue at a June 27 ceremony at 10 a.m.

Houk said McClintock’s family members are expected to fly in from across the country to honor the former rodeo queen and rancher.

The other two bases are placeholders for future statues, which will be determined by a “community process” in the coming months, Houk said.

The mayor added that the city will save money in the long term by cutting the bases from the same stone instead of continually requesting new bases each time a bronze is commissioned.

All statue subjects are in

play until the city can conduct a community survey similar to the one that produced the original crop of downtown statues, but Houk was enthusiastic over the idea to place a bronze of former Pendleton police chief Ernie Gallaher across from the Darby, a former bordello madam.

“Ernie was really the one who stopped prostitution in Pendleton,” he said.

Featured at the convergence of Dorion Ave. and Court Ave., a rendering of 1924 Indian Queen Esther Motanic was the first bronze erected after the original survey was conducted in 2012.

While there was some initial discussion to move the statue to Main Street, the city nixed the plan when Motanic’s family grew concerned over decorations that periodically adorned the Sundown bronze.

Instead, Houk said the city is looking into improving the aesthetics and accessibility surrounding the Motanic bronze, including the installation of new landscaping and sidewalks.

Even though the McClintock bronze will be the first statue to join the Main Street collection, it won’t be the only statue erected this summer.

The bronze of former Pendleton High School Football Coach Don Requa will be unveiled at a July 11 ceremony at Brownfield Park.

The bronze was entirely sponsored by the Linebacker’s Club, a football booster club dedicated to preserving the longtime coach’s memory.

The statue’s location has proven polarizing, with many residents feeling the high school would be a better spot.

WAGE: At \$13, Portland would be lowest among big West Coast cities

Continued from 1A

Business groups oppose raising the current wage, which at \$9.25 per hour is the second highest state rate in the nation — and they strongly oppose allowing cities and counties to set their own rates.

Also, Kotek acknowledged that Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem, has resisted a discussion about increasing the wage.

Senate and House committees conducted a public hearing on various minimum-wage bills on April 13, but have not acted except to move them to the rules committees, which can still advance legislation.

The 2015 session must end by July 11.

Under Kotek’s proposal,

which will be in the form of an amendment to House Bill 2012, the minimum would go to \$11 in 2016, \$12 in 2017 and \$13 in 2018. Afterward, future increases would be linked to the Consumer Price Index, just as Oregon’s minimum wage has been increased annually since 2002.

Lawmakers also are being asked to lift a statewide ban that dates to 2001 on cities and counties setting their own rates.

Lawmakers just approved a statewide requirement for paid sick leave, supplanting ordinances passed in Portland and Eugene.

Even at \$13 in 2018, Kotek said, Portland will have the lowest wage among West Coast cities.

Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles are raising their minimum wage in stages to \$15.

“I know that is where we should try to get to in Portland, but that getting to \$15 an hour is difficult in some parts of this state,” she said. “So from my position as speaker, I am trying to say that from a statewide perspective, this is what is reasonable and try to help everyone — but not neglect the fact that it is more costly to live in Portland.”

Advocates have filed paperwork for petitions to qualify a \$15 minimum wage for the November 2016 ballot.

Kotek said her proposal was not intended to avert a ballot measure, “but it would make more sense to have a planned strategy.”

LOTTERY: Boardman Chevron will receive a 1-percent bonus for selling the winning ticket

Continued from 1A

“The only thing we have done so far,” Myren said, “we promised ourselves a new pickup. So we bought a new pickup.”

He also said he’s received a lot of messages since word leaked about the win, and “98 percent” of those have been from folks expressing thumbs-up to the good fortune.

Myren was not the only winner. According to the lottery’s statement, the Boardman Chevron will receive a 1-percent bonus for selling the winning ticket, bringing in \$55,000 to the service station and

convenience store off Interstate 84 in Boardman.

The last Oregon’s Game Megabucks jackpot winner was John and Patricia Cason from Beaverton who won \$12.6 million. Players this year have won more than \$18 million in prizes playing Oregon’s Game Megabucks.

Lottery officials recommend you always sign the back of your tickets regardless of what Oregon Lottery game you play to ensure you can claim any prize you win. The Oregon Lottery also recommends winners of a jackpot consult with a trusted financial planner or similar

professional to develop a plan for their winnings. Prize winners of more than \$50,000 should contact the Lottery office to schedule an appointment to claim their prize.

Since the Oregon Lottery began selling tickets on April 25, 1985, it has earned more than \$9 billion for economic development, public education, state parks and watershed enhancements. For more information on the Oregon Lottery visit www.oregon-lottery.org

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0833.

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SCHEDULE OF MAJOR EVENTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 19
EARLY CAR REGISTRATION Corner of 1st, 4-7pm
LIVE MUSIC - BAD MOTOR SCOOTER 7.0 Downtown South Second, 6-9:30pm
OPENING CEREMONY AmericanWest Bank parking lot on Main Street, 7:30pm
FRIDAY NIGHT CRUIZIN’ Up and down gorgeous Main Street
PRESENTATION OF CARS American West Bank parking lot on Main Street, 7:30 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 20
CAR REGISTRATION Corner of 1st & Main, 7-10am
SHOW-N-SHINE Downtown Dayton, 9am-4pm
TRIBUTE TO THE FLAG Markeeta Little Wolf, 9:30am
SPEEDER CAR RIDES by Double D Farms at the Historic Depot, 9am-3pm
POKER WALK by Dingle’s of Dayton, Corner of 1st & Main, 10am-2pm
OUTLAW LAWN DRAGSTER RACE by Columbia REA, 3rd & Main 10am & 2:45pm
MEN’S “DRAG” RACES by Scott Hudson NW/ Business Services, 2nd & Main, 2pm
TROPHY PRESENTATIONS by Les Schwab at Dayton Historic Depot, 4 pm (Bring a lawn chair)
FAIRGROUNDS
BEER GARDEN Opens at 3pm (ID required)
DEMO DERBY by O’Brien Chevrolet/Nissan of Walla Walla, 5pm

SUNDAY, JUNE 21
FATHER’S DAY BREAKFAST Youth Building at the Fairgrounds 8-11am
GOLF TOURNAMENT by Chief Springs at Touchet Valley Golf Course at 9am. Putt your way to \$10K

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