



PHOTO BY RICK OLSON

Dave Rankin (top left) demonstrates how a mobile dimension sawmill works to attendees of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association annual meeting held June 15 to 17 in Florence.

Woods from 1A

At one station, Dianne talked about managing an unevenly aged multi-species coast range forest. She said, "(OSWA) encourages people to come and see a woodland and learn what private landowners are doing with their property as far as stewardship."

Dave demonstrated a portable sawmill at another station. "I demonstrated what is called a mobile dimension mill. It is a circular dimen-

sion mill that cuts both vertically and horizontally," he said.

At the third station, Oregon State University Extension Agent Lauren Grand talked about the importance of proper forest thinning.

The Rankins, both retired Siuslaw School District teachers, purchased the 197-acre Rankin Woodlands, LLC, located south of Florence, in 1973.

Oregon Small Woodlands Association and Oregon Forest Resources Institute sponsored the annual meeting.



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

The 2017-18 Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors were installed during the June 15 annual meeting at the Florence Senior Center.

Chamber from 1A

"This event is really about honoring our volunteers. That really is the heart of the chamber. I hope you'll join me in appreciating and recognizing their service to us."

She also thanked the chamber's board of directors.

"These board members — their dedication is incredible. They run or own businesses, yet they have time to come out and sit on a board and share their time," she said.

As part of the board installation, the chamber honored retiring board members Cal

Applebee, Annette Foglio, Jim Martin and Kelsey Terry.

Hannigan also praised retiring board president Jenna Bartlett, who has served seven years on the chamber board, with three years of those as president.

Bartlett said, "To anyone who is considering volunteering or even joining the board, it has been one of the most worthwhile things I have done on both a personal and professional level. I have gained amazing friendships and mentorships with people I likely would not have. It truly has been a great experience."

She will continue on the chamber board as past president.

New board members Tom Bassett, Shauna Beckendorf and Dee Osborne join remaining board members Martin Alletson, Jennifer Connor and Robbie Wright, along with newly elected board leadership Treasurer Gary Cargill, Secretary Nancy Bosket and President Elect Russ Pierson.

Presiding over all will be Chamber President Jensen.

"Leadership is your mantle, and your board will be looking to you for direction," Hannigan said to Jensen. "Your enthusiasm and out-of-the-box thinking will bring new growth and purpose to the chamber."

Jensen, who owns and operates Breen Marine, said the chamber's focus under him

could be simplified to two things: developing members and promoting Florence.

"I'm so grateful to be in a community with you guys who support and help people to live out their passions. The generosity is phenomenal," he said. "I hope we can make these next couple years amazing as we move forward, developing the businesses and promote Florence. It's going to be awesome."

For more information about the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, stop by the Visitor's Center at 290 Highway 101, call 541-997-3128 or go to florencechamber.com.

www.TheSiuslawNews.com

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Upgrade from 1A

Columbia River and its tributaries and a nuclear plant located at the Hanford Site in Washington.

Tyler said, "BPA sells wholesale electricity to public utility districts in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Western Montana, including Central Lincoln Public Utility District. We also transmit electricity, for a fee. When British



PHOTOS BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

Bonneville Power Administration staff discuss a new \$ 20 million project during an open house at the Florence Events Center Wednesday.



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Columbia generates excess electricity and they want to transmit it to Los Angeles, we will move that electricity along our lines."

According to Tyler, the project will not cause a rate hike in utility bills.

"BPA has anticipated this project for a long time. The financial impact has already been built into the rate structure that we have. This project will not increase rates because it is already in the rates we are currently charging," he said.

The project will also improve BPA's reliability.

BPA Substation Operator Larry Kite said, "It is important to have redundant electricity routes. In the event of maintenance or some kind accident, people may not even know, because the electricity still gets to their house."

"Most of the time, your lights will blink, maybe for a couple of seconds. There is a fair chance a line may have kicked off and be out of service because of storm damage. One line coming into this area was out for six weeks last winter because of severe ice storm damage in Eugene."

In addition to helping improve reliability, the project will have a positive impact on the local economy.

According to Tyler, BPA workers and subcontractors will stay at local motels, eat at local restaurants and buy groceries and gas locally.

The only inconvenience Tyler sees will be that some traffic along Highway 126 may be temporarily interrupted when materials are moved from the staging area to the point of installation.

For more information, visit www.bpa.gov.

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