

Theft from 1A

The tips that were stolen from employees of the Surfside Restaurant were later replaced by Driftwood Shores management.

"We were able to go through the paperwork and identify exactly who had what missing from their paycheck and make sure they got the money they were owed," Alletson said.

The manager also said that responding to that part of the situation was important to him

on a personal level.

"We have since made good on anybody that lost their tips. We have paid them all back, not only the ones that are working here now, but the ones that were working here then. We made every effort to locate any employee that may have lost tip money and reimbursed them," he said.

The official investigation was initiated after Alletson compiled financial information that indicated Bursaw had allegedly been taking money from the business.

A complaint was filed with the Florence Police Department, which gave the case to Sgt. Brandon Ott for a formal investigation.

"We have worked closely with the police, giving them all the backup data, to show exactly what day it was taken, how much was taken and who it was taken from," Alletson said.

In an affidavit submitted to the Lane County District Attorney's Office, Ott stated that after initially denying that she had committed a crime, Bursaw eventually admitted to

the theft and apologized for her actions.

"I feel that she's only sorry that she got caught, not that she's really sorry that she did it," Alletson said. "To look your fellow workers in the eye, every day, and know that you are taking from them, that's just not right."

Alletson indicated he was bothered by the organization's misplaced trust in Bursaw.

"If you can't trust the people you are working with and you

have to watch them every five minutes to see what they are doing, then you don't need them. You might as well just do the job yourself," he said.

The results of the police investigation and the accompanying affidavit submitted by Ott led to the formal charges that were leveled against Bursaw on Wednesday.

In order to prevent any future problems of a similar nature, Alletson and the Driftwood Shores/Surfside Restaurant

staff have made some changes to the way they will handle these issues moving forward.

"What we have done is put some practices in place so that we can easily check and make sure that everyone is being compliant," Alletson said. "Again, we still have to have trust in the person that is in that position."

Driftwood Shores has since filled the bookkeeping position after a thorough background check.

Dunes City from 1A

even heavy use of the well will significantly impact the lake. A 400-foot well will have the same impact as a 100-foot well."

The 400 feet was in reference to the unusual depth of the well, caused by problems in its construction — the walls kept caving in. While most wells reach 100 feet, Cain-Mathis' reached 400.

Seepage from the grow site was another major concern of the public, with fears that contaminants would seep into Woahink lake.

"We have no stagnant water issues," Cain-Mathis said. "What little excess water the plants have is drained out to be caught in trays below. We

allow the above lighting to evaporate the rest of the waters in the trays. We do not discharge any products from our site to any sort of drainage system ever."

She also explained that the site has a concrete floor that would further prevent seepage.

Dunes City does have the ability to monitor if grow sites seep into the water supply. In every public city council meeting, a time is set aside to discuss the lake and reports from water testers.

Despite all of this, some Dunes City residents are continuing to push for the grow sites to be disbanded, even after the council decided Oct. 25 to allow the LUCS to continue.

Residents are writing resolutions for the city council to

pass, attacking the grow sites over water use and detailing information local citizens have found out about the growers and the process that led to the LUCS.

Defining the ordinances, and enforcing them when they're broken, is only a small part of why the LUCS still remains, and why Dunes City Council is asking if the city is broken.

In Part II of this article, which will be published Wednesday, Nov. 1, find out how miscommunication between Dunes City staff and the city council, lack of interest from the public and a severe lack of funds both led to the creation of the LUCS, and the cities inability to take it away.

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