



The Eagle/Rudy Diaz
Chris Fox, left, an owner and manager of the Riverside Mobile Home Park, listens as discussions begin on ordinances.

City withdraws development ordinances after appeal

By Rudy Diaz
Blue Mountain Eagle

The John Day City Council voted to withdraw Ordinance No. 20-180-01, an ordinance amending the John Day Development Code to strengthen and clarify enforcement provisions within the code, and Ordinance No. 20-185-06, an ordinance amending the John Day Development Code to revise code language related to manufactured homes.

Riverside Home Park filed an appeal on procedural grounds to the Land Use Board of Appeals for these two ordinances adopted by the city council on May 12, according to John Day City Manager Nick Green.

“They had asked to be notified, to have their attorneys notified, to the ordinances that would affect the park, and I neglected to do that,” Green said. “We did mail the notice to all property owners within the city limits,

including Riverside, but I did not send the notice directly to their attorneys.”

Riverside and their legal counsel requested that the city council withdraw both ordinances and refer them back to the planning commission so they would have the opportunity to make comments.

The recommendation from Green to the council was to withdraw both ordinances and refer them back to the planning commission for another public hearing. A notice will go out sometime in mid- to late July, and a hearing date will be set for comment.

The planning commission will make their decision, and if there are substantive changes, those will be made by the planning commission and then sent to the council, according to Green.

In return for withdrawing the ordinances, Riverside and their legal counsel will dismiss the appeals, according to the agenda for the meeting.

Oregon DMV detours around phone logjam, gets more time for Real ID licenses

By Peter Wong
Oregon Capital Bureau

Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services had bad news and good news for customers stemming from the coronavirus pandemic.

The bad news was that DMV’s initial effort to reopen its field offices after a 10-week shutdown hit a roadblock — and not the physical kind.

The good news is that DMV was able to get around it quickly — and that more than 3.1 million Oregon drivers will have up to 15 months, instead of three, to obtain the kind of licenses enabling them to board commercial aircraft.

Assistant Director Travis Brouwer of the Oregon Department of Transportation, DMV’s parent agency, spoke about both this week at a virtual meeting of the Legislature’s Joint Committee on Transportation.

In the first hour after telephone lines were opened June 1, DMV got 18,000 calls — the normal call volume is 1,000 per day — and DMV shut down the lines soon afterward.

“We were faced with a deluge of calls we did not anticipate,” Brouwer said.

But with help from its computer systems vendor, DMV put up a substitute: An online form for people to request in-person appointments, with specific times, at their local field office.

Of the 60 field offices, 38 were able to reopen June 3 to provide limited services. All but six were closed since March 25, after the first of Gov. Kate Brown’s executive orders during the coronavirus pandemic — and those six were limited to commercial driver licenses.

In a second phase, 57 field offices will reopen by Monday, June 22, for limited services. All 60 offices will reopen by Aug. 3 with all services.

Many DMV services can be done



online or via mail. A new computer system will enable DMV to expand that list.

But renewals of regular drivers’ licenses require people to come in for new photos and, for those 60 and older, vision tests.

Vehicle registrations can be renewed online or by mail. But for people in the Portland metro area or Jackson County, their vehicles must undergo inspections by the Department of Environmental Quality at stations now scheduled to reopen June 15 and 16.

Drive tests for first-time license applicants and others also require in-person appointments. The tests usually are conducted by DMV vendors, but Brouwer said vendors are unavailable in some areas of Oregon.

The pandemic did have one unanticipated effect.

Oregon faced a deadline of Oct. 1 for licenses compliant with the Real ID Act, a 2005 federal law whose goal is to make state drivers’ licenses more secure. Some of the hijackers involved in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the East Coast used drivers’ licenses

to board commercial aircraft.

Oregon DMV will proceed with its plan to start issuing compliant licenses on July 1.

But Oregon’s deadline for compliance with the federal law is now Oct. 1, 2021. ODOT’s Brouwer said the delay will give DMV 15 months, instead of three months, and many drivers now can opt to obtain the new licenses when their renewal time comes.

“As a result, it will significantly reduce that surge of customers we were predicting in the field offices,” he said.

The compliant licenses will be required when state licenses are used for federal purposes, such as boarding commercial aircraft or entering federal buildings.

Oregon will begin issuing noncompliant licenses starting Jan. 1, when House Bill 2015 takes effect. That law does away with the requirement that drivers show proof of legal presence in the United States to obtain a state drivers’ license, although drivers must pass the other tests. These licenses cannot be used for federal purposes and must be marked to that effect.

COPS AND COURTS

Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.

Grant County Circuit Court

Garrett B. Lent, 34, pleaded guilty June 10 to a count of harassment committed on Feb. 8. He was sentenced to serve 18 months of bench probation and pay \$200 in fine and probation fees. A count of interference with making a report was dismissed.

Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff’s Office reported the following for the week of June 10:

Concealed handgun licenses: 7	handgun
Average inmates: 9	
Bookings: 6	
Releases: 5	
Arrests: 1	
Citations: 1	
Fingerprints: 0	
Civil papers: 16	
Warrants processed: 1	
Assistance/Welfare check: 1	
Search and Rescue: 2	

Korah Butler, 18, Baker City, was cited for violation of basic rule, 77/55 zone, driving while suspended and driving uninsured.

Grant County Justice Court

Exceeding speed limit: Rayme K. Lacey, 44, John Day, Aug. 7, 79/55 zone, fined \$200.

Oregon State Police

June 7: OSP stopped a pickup for a traffic violation. During the contact, OSP became aware of multiple firearms concealed in the backseat. Neither the driver or passenger had a concealed handgun license, and OSP knew the driver to be a convicted felon. Pending further investigation, OSP seized a .357 revolver, a .22 revolver and a .22 semi-automatic handgun. Investigation is ongoing.

June 8: OSP conducted a traffic stop for a speed violation on Highway 395B near milepost 109. OSP contacted a 72-year-old male driver and a 66-year-old female passenger. After further investigation, OSP consent searched the vehicle. OSP located more than 1 ounce of marijuana that was purchased in California. The 66-year-old woman, Marlene J. Law of Bedford, Kentucky, was cited in lieu of custody, for import/export of marijuana over 1 ounce.

June 10: Responded to milepost 18.9 on Highway 207 in Wheeler County for

a reported fatal motorcycle crash. The 2018 BMW motorcycle was traveling southbound when it couldn’t negotiate a corner. The motorcycle left the roadway into the ditch on the northbound side of the road. A 72-year-old man was ejected from the motorcycle landing in the ditch and sustaining fatal injuries. The motorcycle was towed by Frontier Towing. Assistance was also provided by the Wheeler County Sheriff’s Office, Oregon Department of Transportation and Air Life. The highway was shut down during the incident.

June 12: OSP stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation near milepost 154 on Highway 26. On the initial contact, OSP saw a used methamphetamine pipe on the floor between the driver seat and door. OSP took the driver, Benjamin X. Adams, 23, of Riverside, California, into custody for unlawful possession of methamphetamine. Upon searching the car, OSP located a suspected bindle of methamphetamine in the driver door pouch, a second methamphetamine pipe in the center console, a small baggie of suspected methamphetamine on the passenger floorboard near the center console and an orange bong with suspected methamphetamine residue in the backseat. The driver admitted the baggie on

the passenger floor belonged to him. A 17-year-old passenger admitted the orange bong was hers and she used it to smoke methamphetamine. OSP learned the juvenile was from California and had left California without the knowledge or consent of her guardian grandmother. OSP arrested the juvenile for unlawful possession of methamphetamine and ultimately released her to the custody of the Grant County Juvenile Department. Doug’s Towing responded and removed the vehicle. OSP transported Adams to the Grant County Jail where OSP lodged him for unlawful possession of methamphetamine and endangering the welfare of a minor.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 180 calls during the week of June 8-14, including:

- **John Day Police Department**
- June 8: Cited Steven Warrington, 30, of John Day for a driving while suspended violation and driving uninsured.
- June 9: Cited Adrian Couey, 35, of John Day for no insurance and driving while suspended.
- June 9: Cited Travis J. Freniere of John Day for driving while suspended and no insurance.
- June 9: Responded to a report of dispute on East

Main Street.

- June 12: Responded to a report of a restraining order violation on Southwest First Avenue.
- June 12: Cited Travis Freniere of John Day for driving while suspended, driving uninsured and for expired vehicle registration on West Main Street.
- June 13: Responded to a report of an assault on West Main Street.
- June 13: Responded to a report of a man who had fallen and with a broken ankle.
- **Oregon State Police**
- June 9: Advised of an injured deer on Luce Creek Road.
- June 14: Received a report of a noninjury crash on Highway 395 near milepost 31C.
- **Grant County Sheriff’s Office**
- June 8: Received a report of trespassing at Carpenter Pond.
- June 9: Received a report of a civil problem on Pine Creek Road.
- **John Day ambulance**
- June 8: Dispatched for a woman with difficulty breathing on West Main Street.
- June 8: Dispatched for a man who fell on Northwest First Avenue.
- June 9: Paged for a woman who fell and injured her hip on Valley View Drive.
- June 10: Responded for a 65-year-old man who had

taken too much medication on West Main Street.

- June 10: Paged for a subject that had fallen with a possible injured knee on Aslin Avenue.
- June 11: Responded to a man with pain in his ribs on West Main Street.
- June 11: Along with Monument ambulance, paged for a man with a possible stroke on Highway 402.
- June 12: Responded for a 65-year-old man on West Main Street requesting to be seen at the hospital.
- June 12: Responded to a 1-year-old child who had been choking.
- June 13: Along with Long Creek ambulance, responded to a 71-year-old male patient in need of pain management.
- **John Day fire**
- June 10: Responded to an illegal burn on Marysville Road.
- **Long Creek ambulance**
- June 10: Along with John Day ambulance, dispatched for a patient with swelling and splitting of the feet on East Main Street.
- **Oregon Department of Transportation**
- June 10: Advised of a dead deer on Highway 395 near milepost 7/8.
- **Dayville fire**
- June 13: Dispatched for a downed power line that was smoldering on Highway 26 near milepost 133.

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