

# Green contract holds up to scrutiny

By JUSTIN DAVIS  
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — When Nick Green resigned last month as John Day's city manager and took on a high-paid consulting role for the city, some observers cried foul. But an investigation by the Blue Mountain Eagle found no evidence of wrongdoing.

As reported earlier, Green officially resigned from the position of city manager during the June 14 session of the John Day City Council. At the same meeting, the council voted to bring Green on as a consultant for the city.

Green is slated to make no less than \$150,000 a year as a

consultant with the possibility of earning up to \$200,000 if additional service are required. Green's compensation as city manager was just over \$107,000 yearly, including benefits.

Green's duties will include strategic financial planning, capital asset management, master planning, code implementation and contract administration.

Additional services provided by Green would likely come in the form of grant writing. An amended services agreement between Green and the city states that Green will not perform any additional services unless the City Council provides Green with a written request.



Green

### Is it legal?

While the timing might seem abrupt in this case, transitioning from a role as city manager into a role as a consultant for the same entity is a common occurrence.

But is it legal? The short answer is yes, the transition is legal. Jack Orchard is a Portland-based attorney who advises newspapers within the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association about legal issues. According to Orchard, there is nothing illegal about the hire.

### Is it ethical?

The question of whether

Green's hire as a consultant for the city is ethical isn't as clear-cut as simply citing Oregon revised statutes. ORS 244.40 states that "a public official may not use or attempt to use their official position to obtain financial gain or avoidance of financial detriment ... if the financial gain or avoidance of financial detriment would not otherwise be available but for the public official's holding of the official position or office."

Green created his consulting company, Catalyst Public Policy Advisors, at the end of March, prior to his official resignation as city manager.

However, by that time Green had already announced plans to step down. At the Jan. 25 meeting of the John Day

City Council, Green said he intended to resign as city manager by the end of June, citing long hours and job-related stress, including verbal attacks on himself and his family by critics of his work for the city.

In public meetings over the following weeks, several city councilors expressed a desire for Green to continue working for the city in some capacity.

Some councilors raised concerns that the various projects started during Green's six-year tenure as city manager would either stall or fail outright without his involvement.

### Is Green overpaid?

A concern voiced by critics of the move is the cost of the consulting contract. Green

is slated to make \$150,000 a year in base pay, plus \$225 an hour for services that are outside the scope of his duties as the city's consultant. Green's pay is capped at no more than \$200,000 a year.

While those figures might seem high to some, they are within the range of compensation for urban planning consultants.

Glassdoor.com lists urban consultant pay as ranging between \$49,000 a year at the low end to \$467,000 a year at the high end. Glassdoor also lists \$66,000 a year to \$206,000 a year as the most likely range of pay for urban planning consultants. The median pay for the position is \$104,149 a year.

# 1188 plan, downtown rezone move ahead

By JUSTIN DAVIS  
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — Several items were on the agenda during the John Day Planning Commission's Thursday, July 21, session, including Shannon Adair's development proposal for the Innovation Gateway, plans to rezone sections of downtown and an effort to annex a residential property owned by Bob Pereira into the city of John Day.

The first item on the agenda was a request for site design review and land partition for mixed-use development for 1188 Destinations. Shannon Adair is looking to build an eating and drinking establishment in the Innovation Gateway as an expansion of her current 1188 brewery and restaurant operation. The development will also include an entertainment venue and overnight lodging.

Land uses for the development are categorized as retail sales and commercial uses.

The motion to approve the request for site design review passed the planning commission 5-1. The lone no vote was due to concerns the development would further strain the city's sewer system in the absence of a new wastewater treatment plant.

The commission also considered a



Justin Davis/Blue Mountain Eagle

From left, 1188 Destinations business partners Julie Bowling, John Spencer, Shannon Adair and Jeremy Adair sit outside 1188 Brewing in John Day on Monday, June 20, 2022. The partners plan to build a distillery, restaurant and other facilities as part of the Innovation Gateway development.

proposal to rezone a number of properties downtown from their current designation of general commercial or downtown to residential commercial. The rezoning covers 78 properties.

Properties on Northwest First and Second avenues, North Canyon Boulevard, Northeast First and Second avenues, Northeast Dayton Street, Northeast Elm Street and a single property on East Main Street will be affected by the rezoning.

The agenda item passed unanimously with an amendment to allow tiny homes on the rezoned properties.

The proposal will head to the John Day City Council for approval.

A motion to annex Bob Pereira's house into the city limits was also heard at the planning commission session. Pereria's home is located at 373 Patterson Bridge Road and is surrounded by the corporate boundaries of the city while still remaining outside city limits.

The motion proposed changing Pereira's zoning designation from county industrial general to city general industrial.

Pereira opposed the annexation and said he had made an agreement with the

city in the 1980s that stated his home would not be annexed into the city.

The vote to pass the motion ended in a 3-3 tie. The motion will be continued to the Aug. 23 John Day Planning Commission meeting as a motion cannot end in a tie and must pass or fail by at least a single vote.

In other action, the planning commission decided to push three agenda items out until its next meeting on Aug. 23 due to unfamiliarity with the laws and regulations that govern the agenda items. The three agenda items deal with land use proposals at the Grant County Airport Industrial Park.

AMD 22-02 would've clarified and refined land use regulations pertaining to residential dwellings in the general industrial and airport industrial park zones. CUP 22-02 was an application by the Oregon Department of Forestry for a conditional use permit to conduct helipad operations within the airport industrial park and the airport safety and compatibility overlay zone. AMD 22-03 would have amended land uses within the airport industrial park zone to allow for self-service storage facilities.

All three proposals, as well as the proposal to annex Pereira's home into the city, will be re-evaluated on Aug. 23.

## Blue Mountain Eagle to stream governor candidate debate on Friday

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — The three leading candidates in the race to become Oregon's next governor will appear live at a forum Friday, July 29, hosted by the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

Republican nominee Christine Drazan, Democratic nominee Tina Kotek and unaffiliated candidate Betsy Johnson are all scheduled to debate starting at 2 p.m. in Welches.

The forum is moderated by Pamplin Media Group President Mark Garber. Questions will come from editors of newspapers across Oregon.

The debate will be livestreamed on the Blue Mountain Eagle's website, beginning at 2 p.m. July 29.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**THURSDAY, JULY 28**  
3 to 5 p.m., John Day Fire Hall, 316 S. Canyon Blvd.

Grant County Republican Central Committee meeting  
Grant County Republicans will meet to discuss the 113th Grant County Parade, Fair and Rodeo and precinct committee person appointments. The public is welcome.

**FRIDAY, JULY 29**  
Prairie City Street Fair  
4-8 p.m., downtown Prairie City

Sponsored by Oregon RAIN, this free event features music, food, games and booths selling the wares of Grant County artisans. For more information, contact Zach Denney at 541-589-5565 or zach@oregonrain.org.

**SATURDAY, JULY 30**  
Grant County Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., South Washington Street, Canyon City  
Locally-grown produce and other items for sale in an open-air setting every Saturday from mid-June through mid-October.

**SUNDAY, JULY 31**  
Silvies Sunday Slam

11:30 a.m., The Retreat and Links at Silvies Valley Ranch, 11 miles south of Seneca on Forest Road 3930

Couples date: Any two people play for \$50 apiece (husband/wife, boyfriend girlfriend, father/daughter, mother/son, etc.). Sunday Slams, open to all Grant and Harney County residents, include golf, cart, range balls and a hotdog lunch. Check-in at the gatehouse starts at 11:30 a.m., with the first tee time at 1 p.m. Call 800-SILVIES to sign up.

**SATURDAY, AUG. 6**  
Grant County Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., South Washington Street, Canyon City  
Locally-grown produce and other items for sale in an open-air setting every Saturday from mid-June through mid-October.

**Family Movie Night**

Dusk, Grant Union Junior/Senior High School, 911 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day

A free series of fami-



ly-friendly movies screened outdoors on the football field at Grant Union. Tonight's selection: "Bad Guys."

**SUNDAY, AUG. 7**  
Silvies Sunday Slam

11:30 a.m., The Retreat and Links at Silvies Valley Ranch, 11 miles south of Seneca on Forest Road 3930

Couples date: Any two people play for \$50 each (husband/wife, boyfriend girlfriend, father/daughter, mother/son, etc.). Sunday Slams, open to all Grant and Harney County residents, include golf, cart, range balls and a hotdog lunch. Check-in at the gatehouse starts at 11:30 a.m., with the first tee time at 1 p.m. Call 800-SILVIES to sign up.

**SATURDAY, AUG. 13**  
Grant County Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., South Washington Street, Canyon City  
Locally-grown produce and other items for sale in an open-air setting every Saturday from mid-June through mid-October.

**SATURDAY, AUG. 20**  
Grant County Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., South

Washington Street, Canyon City  
Locally-grown produce and other items for sale in an open-air setting every Saturday from mid-June through mid-October.

**Family Movie Night**

Dusk, Grant Union Junior/Senior High School, 911 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day

A free series of family-friendly movies screened outdoors on the football field at Grant Union. Tonight's selection: "Clifford the Big Red Dog."

**SUNDAY, AUG. 28**  
Silvies Sunday Slam

11:30 a.m., The Retreat and Links at Silvies Valley Ranch, 11 miles south of Seneca on Forest Road 3930

Couples date: Any two people play for \$50 each (husband/wife, boyfriend girlfriend, father/daughter, mother/son, etc.). Sunday Slams, open to all Grant and Harney County residents, include golf, cart, range balls and a hotdog lunch. Check-in at the gatehouse starts at 11:30 a.m., with the first tee time at 1 p.m. Call 800-SILVIES to sign up.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 4**  
Silvies Sunday Slam

11:30 a.m., The Retreat and Links at Silvies Valley Ranch, 11 miles south of Seneca on Forest Road 3930

Labor Day weekend: Wear your biggest, brightest belt buckle, and you and your partner play for \$50 apiece. Sunday Slams, open to all Grant

and Harney County residents, include golf, cart, range balls and a hotdog lunch. Check-in at the gatehouse starts at 11:30 a.m., with the first tee time at 1 p.m. Call 800-SILVIES to sign up.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 25**  
Silvies Sunday Slam

11:30 a.m., The Retreat and Links at Silvies Valley Ranch, 11 miles south of Seneca on Forest Road 3930

The last Sunday Slam of the year is a couples date: Any two people play for \$50 each (husband/wife, boyfriend girlfriend, father/daughter, mother/son, etc.). Sunday Slams, open to all Grant and Harney County residents, include golf, cart, range balls and a hotdog lunch. Check-in at the gatehouse starts at 11:30 a.m., with the first tee time at 1 p.m. Call 800-SILVIES to sign up.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

**Ken & Shirly Kindig are RETIRING!**

After many years of working their assets off, Ken and Shirly have made the calculated decision to retire.

Celebration will be held July 30th

For more information contact Alyse at 541-821-4884.

Do you have a community event you'd like to publicize? Email information to editor@bmeagle.com. The deadline is noon Friday for publication the following Wednesday.

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★ JULY 29- AUG 4 ★

**DC LEAGUE OF SUPERPETS** (PG)  
Krypto the Super-Dog and Superman are best friends, sharing the same superpowers. When Superman is kidnapped, Krypto must master his own powers for a rescue mission.  
Fri - Sun 1:20, 4:20, 7:20  
Mon - Thurs 4:20, 7:20

**MRS. HARRIS GOES TO PARIS** (PG)  
A widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress, and decides that she must have one of her own.  
Fri - Sun 1:10, 4:10, 7:10  
Mon - Thurs 4:10, 7:10

**NOPE** (R)  
The residents of a lonely gulch in inland California bear witness to an uncanny and chilling discovery.  
Fri - Sun 1:00, 4:00, 7:00  
Mon - Thurs 4:00, 7:00

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www.eltrym.com (541) 523-2522

On Saturday 30 July we will be Celebrating 45 years of Marriage. Has it really been 45 years? The time went so fast. You have been the best partner a guy could ever ask for. Thanks for sticking it out with me. **Dave**

Join Us for the 4th Annual!

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*Prairie City*

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**July 30 & 31, 2022**  
Workshops July 29, 30 & 31

for up-to-date information visit:  
**www.PrairieCityFiberFest.com**