

County Commission honors outgoing directors

Outgoing county commissioners Lisa Clement and Scott Lee were honored last week for their service on the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners.

It was the final meeting for each.

Board Vice Chair Sarah Nebeker presented the two with plaques recognizing their service.

Lee was elected to the board in 2009 and served two terms as commissioner for District 1, which represents Warrenton and the western part of Astoria. He was chosen board chairman for five years.



Commissioner Sarah Nebeker (left) presents plaques to outgoing members Scott Lee and Lisa Clement.

Clement was elected in 2013 to the District 3 seat, which represents much of Astoria.

Both chose not to seek re-

election this year.

"This has been the most difficult and the most rewarding job I've had," Lee said. "I'm proud to have been part of this board, and work with so many wonderful people."

"I'm grateful for this experience of the past few years, and hope the board continues to have confidence in the county staff," Clement said.

Former Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala was elected to Lee's seat and Pamela Wev of Astoria will take over Clement's seat. They'll be sworn into office at the board's Jan. 9 meeting.

County Commission extends property sale

Clatsop County's Board of Commissioners made a number of decisions last week that affected Warrenton projects and residents.

The board approved a 120-day extension to the due-diligence period on the sale of 67 acres in the North Coast Business Park

to Agile Design LLC.

The \$1.2 million sale originally was approved in August. Agile Design President Mark Cox plans to develop a technology center in three-phases. The project would include data center facilities, a conference center, a technology incubator, re-

search and development space and associated uses.

NEW JAIL

The board also voted to approve issuing \$20 million in general obligation bonds to fund development of a new 148-bed county jail at the former Oregon Youth Authority juvenile detention facility in Warrenton.

County voters approved the bond measure for the project in November.

RESTORATION LAND

Commissioners also approved an ordinance rezoning 193 acres of marshland south of Astoria.

The land, located at the confluence of Youngs River and Wall-ooskee River, is the site of a restoration project undertaken by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

The tribe acquired the former farm tract in 2015 as a way to enhance fish and wildlife habitat. The move changes the property's plan expectations from rural agricultural to natural and the zoning from exclusive farm use to aquatic natural.

The redesignation was required as a condition of the permit granted to the Cowlitz tribe for the project in 2015.



A Clatsop College automotive student uses diagnostic equipment in class.

Right: (L-R) Mill manager Jeremy Ness; Kristin Wilkin, CCC's dean of workforce education; Kristi Ward, Wauna public affairs; and Thad Nolan, automotive program instructor.



Wauna funds automotive program

Georgia-Pacific's Wauna paper mill this month presented Clatsop Community College with a check for \$5,000 to support the college's Automotive Program and Safety Training.

Students in the college's automotive program learn to use diagnostic tools in class and learn to look at

data, interpret it, and then troubleshoot problems, which is what the company is looking for as their systems become more and more automated, a mill official said.

The technical connection between the college and the mill means promising jobs for automotive graduates.

Take homeless survey online

Clatsop County, like the rest of Oregon and the nation, is grappling with the problem of homelessness.

The county Board of Commissioners, in response, has made housing and homelessness priority issues and earlier this year voted to establish a fund to support local efforts to combat homelessness.

In order to identify both the best revenue sources and uses for the fund, the county is encouraging the public to

take part in an online poll.

The 10-question survey aims to provide insight into the factors that lead people to be homeless, as well as gauge community opinions on potential solutions.

The survey asks participants if they've been homeless and what services they have used, as well as asks participants to identify the best ways to help.

The survey is available at the Clatsop County website, www.co.clatsop.or.us.

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5 N Highway 101 #500, Warrenton OR 97146

Cindy Yingst, Publisher/Editor
(news@thecolumbiapress.com)

503-861-3331

Peggy Yingst, Advertising Director
(ads@thecolumbiapress.com)

503-861-3331

D.B. Lewis, Circulation Director
(circulation@thecolumbiapress.com)

503-861-3331

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