

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

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Morrow Applies For \$402,000 Aid On Flood Damage

Application for federal aid on flood damage to roads and structures in Morrow county will total \$402,000, including the loss sustained in the second flood, County Judge Paul Jones said Tuesday.

As a result of the engineers' survey, an estimate of \$277,751.68 has been set on damage in the Christmas flood. This includes \$44,000 for Federal Aid Secondary roads, of which the county stands to recover 80%. Of the balance, \$19,000 is earmarked for the one project for which the county is permitted to request an appropriate Federal agency to come in and do the work of restoration. This is that on the Lonerock road, including a bridge that was taken out in the Christmas flood. Remainder of the \$277,000 total is \$234,000, of which \$175,000 would be earmarked for crushed rock and the truck costs to damaged areas.

Washouts Most Damaging

It is estimated that 75% to 80% of the damage to the 1,225 miles of county roads was that of washouts and loss of gravel. More than 1,000 miles of the roads sustained damage, according to the court's estimate. This accounts for the earmarking of \$175,000 for the 35,000 yards of crushed rock. Without the serial levy, there might be little in the way of funds available to apply it, if federal aid does not provide sufficient funds to do the job, the judge said.

"We need to let the contracts for the rock just as quickly as possible so it is available to get the crews operating on a normal basis," Judge Jones said. "However, uncertainties of the road levy and of the amount to be coming from the government make it difficult to go ahead."

He pointed out that there is no assurance of how much the county will actually get from the federal government and no way of telling how soon it will be in hand, although it is hoped that it will be here by the start of the new fiscal year, July 1.

Second Survey Set

A team will be in the county again Monday to assess damage of the January flood, which also is eligible for disaster relief under the program. This figure is tentatively set at \$125,000, which, added to the \$277,000, completes the \$402,000 total. Judge Jones said that he had been advised that it will take a considerable time to get the aid applications processed. Morrow county was one of the last to get in an application since it was one of the last that the survey team visited. After the state approves, it will take an estimated four to six weeks before the federal government will have it processed. None of the counties' applications have been processed to this time.

Judge Jones said that he has heard of some misconceptions on the proposed levy. One report was that \$30,000 in unexpended funds had been turned into the general fund at the end of the last fiscal year. The judge said that this is not true. There was an unexpended balance of some \$30,000 which was held in the road fund as a cash carryover to start the current year. This kept the department operational between the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1964, and the first tax turnover after November 15. However, at the end of the current fiscal year, June 30, 1965, road funds will be exhausted because of the heavy drain on them occasioned by the emergency.

Costs \$20,000 Per Month

Normal operations of the road department require expenditures averaging \$20,000 per month, Judge Jones said. If the serial levy is not approved, only about \$80,000 will be available from sources other than taxes. At the average rate of expenditure, this would carry a normal road program only four months. Obvious alternatives would be an extensive curtailment, he said.

The county does not anticipate any new construction in 1965-66 but it is hoped to do some limited oiling, the judge said. The oiling, however, will be undertaken only after present roads are repaired and brought to a standard condition.

Among the early major jobs anticipated is the erection of temporary spans on Butter Creek to assure one-way traffic there. Others include immediate replacement of headwalls on culverts in various areas of the county. This must be done before fills can be restored to full road width.

Work to Restore Roads

At the present time all available equipment and sources are focused on the repair and replacement of the roads towards normal condition.

"This can only be accomplished by the county funds, contingent upon funds which may be forthcoming from flood relief," the judge said.

In a statement from the county court the judge said, "The Morrow county court wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the many farmers in Morrow county who have furnished equipment and men to assist the county in putting some of our roads back into shape. We have had wonderful cooperation from those whom we have called on to give us help where needed. Some of our roads probably would not have had even one-way traffic had we not used our farmers' equipment."

Chamber to Hear Nunn at Banquet, To Award Honors

Crowd of some 100 persons is expected at the annual banquet of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce Monday night at 6:30 in the parish hall of St. Patrick's Catholic church. Members, and their wives or husbands, and guests will be present.

Warne Nunn, assistant to Governor Mark Hatfield, will be speaker at the banquet. President Randall Peterson is in charge of arrangements.

Turkey dinner will be served by the Soroptimist club and musical entertainment will be furnished by pupils of Mrs. Ola Mae Groshens.

Review of the previous year's activities and achievements will be presented, and certificates of recognition will be awarded to those showing outstanding achievement.

Al Lamb, last year's president, will be awarded a plaque as outgoing president. This custom of presenting a plaque to the retiring president was started last year.

Tickets to the banquet are on sale at Peterson's Jewelers, the drug stores, and the banks at \$2 per plate.

Chamber Approves Road Levy Support

Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce voted at its Monday meeting to support the county road serial levy, which is coming up at a special election February 24.

Much of the meeting was devoted to discussing legislative bills, and the members voted to go on record as opposing some of the bills. Among them were House Bill 1297 providing for automatic exemption for garnishments from wages of \$200 per calendar month and House Bill 1333 which exempts from execution or other process the earnings of a debtor who has been a recipient of public assistance for the period of six months succeeding the payment of such assistance.

These bills would make it exceedingly difficult for a creditor to collect bills in many instances, Joe Balfe said in presenting the matter to the Chamber.

Pros and cons of proposed traffic laws were discussed. One would state a specific speed limit, another would provide for periodic inspection of motor vehicles, and a third is the "implied consent" bill for testing drivers for intoxication.

2 Youths Represent County At State 4-H Meeting

Two 4-H club members, Jean Stockard, Heppner, and Mitchell Ashbeck, Echo, attended the eighth annual Oregon 4-H Club Conference in Salem this week, representing Morrow county clubs.

They were among more than 70 4-H club members, 16 years and older, who spent three days studying how their state government works. A part of this study included a chance for question and answer sessions with such officials as Governor Mark Hatfield. The program is developed in cooperation with the executive branch of the government and opportunities were given for the club members to visit with key state officials.

At the three day program which started Sunday afternoon, February 7 at the Marion Motor Hotel, the members traced the path of a bill through legislative conference. Delegates attended committee hearings in the capitol and attended sessions of both the house and senate.

Merchants to Mark George Washington's Birthday Next Week

First merchants promotion in Heppner of 1965 will be next week-end, February 19 and 20, when George Washington's birthday will be observed with bargains and special events in the stores. Bob Henry, chairman of the merchants committee, announces.

Parking meters will be hooded on Saturday, February 20, so that all shoppers may enjoy free parking.

Bargains will be included in next week's edition of the Gazette-Times, which asks cooperation of all participating merchants to submit copy early.

Senior Citizens' Tax Exemption Forms Available

Senior citizens of Morrow county who wish to claim property tax exemptions on their residences under the state law passed by the 1963 legislature have until April 1 to file applications for 1965-66. Rod Thomson, county assessor, said Wednesday.

Application forms are available at the assessor's office in the courthouse.

Last year was the first time that such older citizens were permitted to seek the exemption under the law, which allows a partial exemption from taxation of property used as a personal residence by a person whose "gross receipts" are \$2500 or less during the previous calendar year.

A person is eligible to apply if he is 65 years of age or older on March 1 of the year in which he files. The exemption provision defines a "principal personal residence" to include the private house and land equivalent to a single family accommodation used by the taxpayer as his principal or permanent dwelling place in which he lives with a spouse, unmarried minor children, or blood relatives actually supported by the taxpayer, owning the property as a life estate on a fee simple, or purchasing the fee simple under a recorded instrument of sale.

If he qualifies, the taxpayer is allowed an exemption of a percentage of the first \$10,000 of true cash (market) value of the principal personal residence. The exemption ranges from a 10 percent deduction for persons from 65 to 68, to a maximum of 100 per cent for those 80 years of age or older.

Central Market Has Anniversary

In observance of its fifth anniversary, Central Market is holding a "Can-O-Rama Sale" Friday and Saturday. Clint McQuarrie, manager, announces.

Anniversary cake and coffee will be served Saturday. Free boxes of groceries will be given at various times during the sale and there will be drawings for other gifts.

Canned goods and other items are featured in the sale, which is announced in detail in an advertisement on page 3.

Bus to Arbuckle To Haul Skiers

Higher Education, spoke at the Monday night banquet on the importance of public affairs education for youth.

Chief Justice William McAllister explained the role of the judicial branch of government on Tuesday morning. During the banquet, delegates were interviewed by committees who selected four of the young people to attend the National 4-H Club Conference in Washington, D. C.

Mitch and Jean were selected to represent Morrow county clubs on the basis of years in club work, club, school and community activities and their interest in state and national government.

Jean, daughter of Mrs. Anita Stockard, is an 8-year member who has carried 14 projects including cooking, food preservation, child care, flower garden, and sewing. She is one of the advanced sewing girls this year, carrying a Phase 7 project. She has been active as a 4-H Summer Camp counselor, recreation leader, and has attended 4-H Summer School.



HONORED AS a champion of the Hayward Banquet of Champions in Portland Monday night was Dick Ruhl, co-captain of the OSU football team and outstanding linebacker. Ruhl, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Ruhl of Lexington and son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McQuarrie, Heppner, was one of 12 finalists among the athletic champions. Swimmer Don Schollander was named Oregon's Outstanding Athlete of the Year. Other finalists among Oregon's athletic elite were ex-OSU basketball player Mel Counts, now with the Boston Celtics; ex-Oregon Mel Renfro, now with Dallas Cowboys in pro football; Olympic skier Jean Saubert and others.

Mustangs Travel To Play Sherman and Enterprise

GREATER OREGON STANDINGS

	W	L
Pilot Rock	5	1
Grant Union	4	2
Burns	3	3
Heppner	3	3
Wahtonka	2	4
Sherman	1	5

Still to be considered in the Greater Oregon basketball title picture are the tenacious Heppner High Mustangs who travel to Moro Friday night for a second meeting with the Sherman County Huskies. A victory in this game would keep Coach Bob Clough's lads hot on the heels of Pilot Rock and Grant Union, current league leaders.

With their two big league games—against the Rockets and Prospectors—still ahead of them on the Heppner floor on February 20 and February 26 the Mustangs still have a chance of knocking them over and tightening the pennant picture.

First, though, the Blue and Gold has to score the second win over Sherman. This may be tough even though the Heppner five won at home rather easily. The Huskies have been on the upswing recently, defeated Wahtonka and clipped Condon, after previously having been socked by the Blue Devils. Another road trip is ahead, too, this against Wahtonka on February 19.

After playing Sherman Friday night, the Heppner team has to come all the way home and then take the long trip to Enterprise in a non-league return game Saturday night. The Mustangs topped the Savages here earlier in the season.

Ione took two setbacks in the Amatilla-Morrow B league over the week-end, losing to River-

side and Weston, and is now in fourth place with a 6-4 mark. Coach Gene Dockett's team travels to Stanfield Friday night in the first of its week-end games and then plays at home Saturday night against McEwen of Athena. The Cards took an early lead against Weston Saturday, running 30-20 at half-time, but faltered in the third quarter and lost, 61 to 56. The lone five ran into a hornets' nest the night before in playing Riverside at Ione and were defeated, 71 to 56, with five of the Pirates scoring in double figures.



STUART DICK, 5-8 sparkplug of the Heppner High basketball team, will be with the Mustangs Friday night as they seek a second league victory over Sherman county at Moro.

Wheat Men Back Bill; Plan Eighth Grade Tour

Officers and committee chairmen of the Morrow County Wheat Growers association at a busy meeting recently voted unanimously to "aggressively support a bill of 100% parity of domestic consumed wheat," and set dates of May 7, 8 and 9 for the annual Portland 8th grade tour.

They laid plans for a spring meeting date which will hinge on proposed national legislation and on whether a wheat referendum is held again this year. They decided to hold regular executive committee meetings to consider state legislative matters of importance to wheat growers, and they will also meet with the Oregon Wheat League at quarterly meetings, the next being April 26.

Plans for a finance and membership drive to raise additional funds to use in legislative activities were announced. Contributions are being solicited with life members paying \$3 plus three cents for wheat acreage allotment. Current and new annual members are to pay \$4 with the three cents per acre allotment contribution. Life memberships on the basis of age are still offered for sale for grow-

ers in the 18 to 34-year bracket at \$25, 35 to 49, \$18; 50 to 65, \$8; and 65 and over, \$5.

Bob Jepsen, new president of the county association, stressed the need for a thorough understanding of the workings of and affiliations with other groups. He explained that the Wheat Commission is administrator of the one-half cent per bushel tax gathered from all wheat growers to finance programs of statewide value. The commission, successful in its activities in sponsoring research, market development and public policy work, has a budget of \$154,298.51 for the current fiscal year.

E. H. (Tad) Miller, Jr., explained that the Oregon Wheat League was started in 1946 by growers interested in trying to solve some of the problems of that time, quite unlike problems of today. Present budget of \$69,875 largely comes from special appropriations from the Oregon Wheat Commission in contracting special projects to the league.

National Association of Wheat Growers was discussed by Milton Morgan. Their 1965 budget is

Directors Adjust Salaries, Talk Budget

Salaries of custodians, cooks, coaches and band instructors occupied the attention of the directors of Morrow county School District R. at their meeting held in Ione Tuesday night. Budget matters and policy considerations also shared the limelight.

A new custodial salary schedule was adopted with pay on step one set at \$4200 per year as compared with the previous step one of \$3900. Top for step five is now placed at \$4600 as compared with the previous high of \$4400.

One additional level for cafeteria employees was added for

a fourth year of work. Top previously was \$195 per month for cooks, for the third year level, but this was extended to \$210 for the fourth level. Assistants working 100 hours per month also had the fourth level added to \$190 month as the top as compared with \$175 for the previous third level top. For assistants with 140 hours per month, the fourth level will be \$240 per month as compared with \$225 on the third level as the previous maximum.

Index for grade school coaches was changed so that the maximum index figure for any one coach may be 1.12 (multiplying this times his base teaching salary) as compared with the present maximum of 1.08. The index for each sport in schools over 200 students was not changed, but for those under 200 students it was increased as follows: Football, from 1.03 to 1.04; basketball, from 1.03 to 1.04; and spring sports, from 1.02 to 1.03.

Only change on the high school level for coaches was that the Heppner High school athletic director's additional pay for this purpose was raised to \$300 from \$250.

Coaching Cost Low

The board decided that a complete study should be made of coaches' salary indexes by next year. Supt. Dave Potter pointed out that only about \$7,200 annually is spent by the district on coaching throughout the county for both grade and high schools. All of the coaches have teaching loads, and their coaching duties are extra, he said. The superintendent said the cost figure is very low for a system of this size.

Extra pay for band instructors was held to the same amounts, \$550 in Heppner, and \$500 each for Ione and Boardman-Irrigon. However the length of service on their annual contracts was cut by a half month. Previously their contracts ran for 4 months extra and this was reduced to 3 months. Net result is that they will get the same amount of pay for less time.

Administrators' salary maximums were set by the board as follows: Boardman, Riverside, \$10,493; C. C. February, \$9,497; Ione, Elementary, \$9,497; Ione High school, \$9,497; Heppner Elementary, \$10,493; and Heppner High, \$10,991. All are for contract lengths of 11 months. However, index figures on administrators new to the district, effective July 1, 1965, would be reduced to as low as 1.011 (at Houghton and Ione Elementary and Ione High school) to the high of 1.17 at Heppner High. Low index figure for present administrators is 1.15 and the high is 1.2.

Secretaries salaries were fixed as follows: Irrigon, Boardman, Ione and Heppner elementary (start August 23, 1965; finish June 10, 1966; 42 weeks, seven hours per day)—\$2,352. Heppner High school and county office—52 weeks, 7 1/2 hours per day, \$3,315. District clerk, 52 weeks, 7 1/2 hours per day, \$5,362. All work through Christmas and spring vacations.

Discussion was held on the student insurance program and it was decided to leave this item in the budget for further study. Budget schedule was confirmed. First hearing will be Monday night, February 15. Publication will be March 4 and 11 and final hearing is set March 22 with election to be April 13.

Budget items talked

The board authorized the following to be considered for possible inclusion in the 1965-66 budget: 1. A proposed move of the county office to Lexington. 2. Driver education program. Ellwynne Peck brought out the insurance savings that would accrue to parents of those enrolled in this program. 3. Possibility of opening to bids bus runs which have less than 10 students. 4. Providing for an initial sum to study educational TV. 5. A full time program for mentally retarded. Supt. Potter pointed out that such a program is 50% reimbursable if certified. The present part time program is not certified.

Policy considerations discussed were those concerning maternity leave and husband and wife teams in teaching. On the latter, one recommendation has been that husband and wife teams are encouraged, but if one is an administrator, the spouse should not teach in the same school. These will be studied and considered again at the meeting on February 23, when teaching personnel will be discussed for offering contracts.

A committee was appointed to consider a policy on fee schedules for use of school facilities by those other than school groups. On the committee are Bob Rietmann, Irvin Rauch, Milton Morgan, Everett Holstein and Earl McQuaw.

Officer Gordon To Be Transferred

Jim Gordon, state police officer in this area for the past 2 1/2 years, received word Monday of his transfer to Baker. He will report to his new position with the state force there on April 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon were former residents in the Baker area, and have several relatives living there. They expect to move as soon as a replacement has been assigned here, and now have their home on Water Street for sale.

(Continued on page 8)