

Board-Teachers Agree. Salary Hikes Up Budget \$52,725

The Morrow County School Board, at a regular meeting held on Dec. 6, officially adopted consultation agreements that had been previously reached with representatives of the classified and certificated employees.

The agreement reached on Morrow County teacher salaries provides for a base increase of \$150 a year. This increases starting salaries from \$6,900 to \$7,050 per year. The agreement also provides for minimal increases in some coaching salaries, a \$1.00 per month increase in health insurance, extra pay of \$150 per year for annual and drama advisors and a change in tuition reimbursement that makes 1/4 instead of 1/5 of the teachers eligible each year.

This agreement reflects a total budget increase of \$25,205, which is a 3.1% increase in this budget item.

The agreement with classified employees was established on the basis of a minimum salary of at least \$2.00 per hour for all employees. Increases varied from group to group, but averaged about 7%.

Classified employees were also granted a \$1.00 increase per month in health insurance and activity bus driver pay was raised from \$2.00 to \$2.25 per hour.

The largest percentage increases occurred in the areas of Retirement and Social Security due to changes in the law governing these two areas.

Retirement costs will increase approximately 30% with Social Security increases averaging about 8%.

All increases in classified and certificated salaries, plus the increases in Retirement and Social Security will increase the budget by \$52,725, an increase of 3.4%.

The agreements were reached after four separate meetings with each group.

Heppner Xmas Lighting Contest

Prizes totaling \$120.00 will be awarded again this year to Heppner residents for the annual Christmas Lighting Contest. Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, Heppner - Morrow County Chamber of Commerce and an anonymous donor provide the funds for the prizes.

Prizes are given for Outdoor Decorations and for window and interior decorations which can be seen from the street. There are so many lovely trees on display in windows, the Judges suggest more background or framework for originality in the interior category.

In each group the prizes will be: First \$30; Second, \$20; Third, \$10. Also, the Merchants judged to have the best Christmas display will receive recognition from the Chamber.

Judges will use a basis of 50% for Christmas theme, and 50% for originality. Winning displays must be kept lighted each night through Christmas week. All residents of the city are eligible, registration is not necessary. If you live in Heppner you're in it!

Judging will begin at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 19. Be sure your lights are on! Members of the Christmas Lighting Committee are Nona Sowell, Chairman, Elaine George and Vel Robinson.

First prize winners from the last two years are eliminated from prizes in their winning category, they may win in a category in which they have not won. It is hoped the winners will repeat their beautiful decorations.

County Gets Road Money

The State Highway Commission has approved allocation of Federal-aid secondary funds for fiscal 1973 to the counties. Total, including state and county matching money is \$5,090,000. Federal money is 60% and the county and state match with about 20% each.

Morrow County will receive \$76,000 of which \$45,317 is federal funds.

Sheep Hurt by Dogs

Dec. 5, Oscar Shoemaker, Boardman, reported to the Sheriff's office that he has suffered recent damage to his sheep from dogs. He said one lamb was killed and several of his ewes were badly damaged.

GRAIN PRICES

(F.O.B. Lexington, does not include warehouse chgs.)
(Courtesy of Morrow County Grain Growers)
Soft white wheat 1.43 1/2 bu.
Red wheat no market
Barley 46.50 ton

88th Year

Price 10 Cents

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

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Annual Awards Night to Highlight Farm-City Banquet Friday, Dec. 10



A PIN OR A CHAIN NECKLACE? Elma Harshman and Marlene Bergstrom finally decide it is a chain necklace that's needed to go with this blue double knit that may be seen modeled at the CowBelles' Style Show this Friday at 1:30 at All Saints' Episcopal Church.

It's a super secret who the "Stockman of the Year" is. The announcement of the winner of this annual award will be one of the highlights of the annual Farm-City Banquet this Friday at 7 p.m. at the Heppner High School Cafeteria. The Morrow County Conservation Man of the Year will be introduced. The Chamber of Commerce selection of the outstanding business will be announced. New this year is the tribute the Heppner Soroptimist Club is making. The club has selected a line from the Soroptimist pledge to designate this award, "The Dignity of Service" to be presented to an outstanding young woman of the community.

Gene Pierce will act as MC. Musical entertainment will be provided by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Cass. The banquet speaker is Dr. R. W. Henderson, assistant director of Oregon Agricultural Experiment Stations.

Each guest present will be presented with an envelope with a "Jewel" in it. One will contain a real \$100 diamond, a gift of Peterson's Jewelers. The banquet follows an afternoon meeting of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Assn. 22nd Annual Meeting.

Tom Currin, president of the Assn. will open the meeting at 1 p.m. at the Heppner Elks Lodge. The program will include talks by Gene Kankle of the State Brand Inspection Board and a discussion of Livestock Theft. Jim Wilkins on the range staff of the Umatilla National Forest and Ernie Labart of the Oregon State Board of Forestry at Fossil.

The afternoon break will be the courtesy of the Bank of Eastern Oregon. The social hour termed "the Readjustment hour" following the close of the meeting is the courtesy of the First National Bank.

Tickets for the banquet will be on sale at the door as well as at either bank, Extension office and Turner, Van Marter and Bryant. Friends in both town and country are urged to attend the banquet and the meeting.

CowBelles Meet Too
The Morrow County CowBelles will meet for their fall luncheon and meeting at noon Friday at All Saints' Episcopal Church. The business meeting which will include election of new officers will follow the luncheon. Mrs. Ned Clark has served as president this past year.

Open to anyone interested in the Style Show to be presented at 1:30. Models will be presented by MilLadies, Gardner's and Elma's. Jewelry from Peterson's will be worn by the models.

Unemployment Office Location Changed To Courthouse
The Oregon State Employment Service representative from the Pendleton office will handle the unemployment insurance claims in the basement of the Morrow County Courthouse rather than at the Neighborhood Center. The change will begin with the Dec. 16 visit which is the next visit. The representative, Hugh Hamley, will continue serving this area and is here on alternate Thursdays.

Boeing Pump Plant Coming
Engineer Gene Norton said Boeing's big pumping plant near the mouth of Willow Creek will be built in the near future. It will be constructed near Lee Majors' pumping station. Mr. Majors plans to irrigate 12,000 acres of alfalfa.

Boeing will irrigate 1800 acres to start with but have not yet completed leasing arrangements on their ground. It is expected to be planted to pasture grasses.

Mr. Norton said there were nine bidders for the station. Teeples & Thatcher, Inc. of Portland are the apparent low bidders. After award of the bid it will take 90 days for construction of the pumping facility, an access road and 32 inch pipe-line.

Ron Daniels Accepts Only One-year Contract

Morrow County Board of Education approved a one-year contract for Supt. Ron Daniels at the Monday night meeting. The one-year contract was at his request.

This came in an executive session that ended the 3 1/2 hour meeting at A. C. Houghton School at Irrigon.

In his financial report, Supt. Daniels noted that the district had received \$735,908.45 in taxes this month. The board with one opposing vote sold two 25'-x100' building lots in lone to Mrs. Hazel Ellis for \$250 which is the appraised value.

Mr. Daniels gave some background on the Trane Co. before the board approved a service contract with them on the Riverside School heat pumps. Trane Co. has a contract on the Science Building at Whitman. This building has a similar system as Riverside. In talking with those in charge of the building, Mr. Daniels learned that they feel the service contract has saved money for Whitman. They feel that this type of contract is a necessity. The contract includes an opening check at start of school and start of cold weather as well as other periodic maintenance checks.

The board felt this would be good preventive maintenance and suggested the head custodian might work with the company representative to learn more about the system. Principal Dan Daltoso says when it's working "it is a marvelous even distribution of heat or cooling."

At the special board meeting on Nov. 29 attended by board members and also attended by Kirk Robinson, Heppner High School student body president, the board adopted the Student Conduct Code as revised with the exception of the section on Search and Seizure.

At the Dec. 6 meeting of the board reviewed the revised section on Search and Seizure and adopted it to be a part of the

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Santa To Cheer Heppner Shoppers Dec. 11 and 18

Santa Claus seems to be keeping up with orders at his shop and just let us know he can get away for two more visits to Heppner. He expects to wander around town and through the stores from 2:00 until 4:00 on Saturdays, Dec. 11 and 18. There will be free parking for shoppers in Heppner on these two days.

Stores of members of The Heppner Merchants' Association will be open evenings until 8:00 for four nights, Dec. 20, 21, 22 and 23.

12 Taxpayers Pay Fourth of Local Taxes

The top dozen property taxpayers in Morrow County this year have paid nearly one fourth of the county's taxes for 1971-1972. The 12 firms or persons have paid a total of \$482,734.24 or nearly 25% of the total county tax bill, according to figures released by the Sheriff's Dept.

Total taxes to be collected in Morrow County this year amount to \$1,999,478, less the rebate made for payment of taxes by Nov. 15 or earlier. This tax rebate amounts to 3%.

Seventy-one percent of the county taxes are used for the schools (\$1,419,262.38) and the remaining \$580,215.62 is used by the County general fund, parks, roads, hospital, Port of Morrow, cities, West Ext. Irrigation Dist., Rural Fire Patrol District, Cemetery District, State Fire District.

Six Largest
The six largest taxpayers of the county who paid their taxes by Nov. 15 and the amounts of their tax bills are as follows:



Susan French

Susan French Chosen 1972 Rodeo Queen

Susan French, 18 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond French, Butter Creek ranchers, was chosen Queen of the 1972 Morrow County Fair & Rodeo at Monday night's Rodeo meeting. Queen Susan is a freshman at Blue Mountain Community College, majoring in secretarial science.

She graduated in 1971 from Heppner High. In high school she was a cheer leader and was chosen "Girl of the Year" when she was a senior. An Honor Student for three years, she received a plaque award as one of five top students of her class. She received the Oregon State University Dad's Club Award.

Queen Susan was a princess in 1970 on Queen Sherri Lynn O'Brien's Court. Her sister, Verma, was Queen of the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo in 1967.

Try-Outs
Try-out for the Princesses on Queen Susan's Court will be held Sunday, Dec. 26 at the Morrow County Fairgrounds.

Grain and Alfalfa Meetings Soon

Larry Mills and Gene Trumbull are announcing two meetings for next week of interest to grain and alfalfa growers.

Both meetings will be held in the conference room of the new headquarters building of Morrow County Grain Growers in Lexington. Starting time both days is 9 a.m. The meetings will conclude about noon.

Grain Meeting
First meeting is on grains and will be held Tuesday, Dec. 14. Featured at this meeting will be representatives from a chemical company to discuss new chemicals, application, weed problems and seed treatment.

Alfalfa Meeting
The second meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 16 on alfalfa. Representatives will discuss alfalfa production including water supply, fertility, harvesting, disease and insect problems and seed varieties. Free coffee and doughnuts will be served.

The meetings are being jointly sponsored by Morrow County Grain Growers and Heppner Inland Chemical Co.

Willow Creek Dam Study

Topographical survey work has started by the Army Engineers on the Willow Creek Dam project. The announcement was made today by Major Carlos W. Hickman, Walla Walla District Deputy District Engineer.

Survey crews on the ground and by helicopter are working in the reservoir area and will be also covering the Willow Creek channel downstream from the proposed dam site.

The Walla Walla District is undertaking a formulation study that will be a comprehensive review of all of the preparatory study and analysis that has gone into the project.

\$300,000 has been appropriated for this fiscal year for this study.

Willow Creek Dam was authorized for construction in 1965. The project would consist of a rockfill dam about 155 feet high and an over-all length of about 1,700 feet. The dam would be located on Willow Creek upstream from Heppner and downstream from the junction of Balm Fork and Willow Creek.

The lake will have an 11,500 acre-foot storage capability and will provide flood control, irrigation water, sports fishing and other outdoor recreation. Plans are also being developed to use the reservoir for water quality control and municipal and industrial water supply.

The re-evaluation formulation study will examine changes and needs in criteria that have taken place since the project was authorized. An environmental impact statement will be prepared to reflect the views of the public and other governmental agencies in the project plan.

This phase of the project study is scheduled for completion next fall and the general design studies should be completed by the summer of 1973.

It will take about three years to construct the dam and this depends upon Congress appropriating funds. The current estimated cost of the project is \$116 million.

Council, Engineer Study Bridge Costs

The Heppner City Council heard projected plans and costs of new bridges and swim pool repairs by Larry Youngman of Clark & Groff, Engineers. Total estimated costs will run \$82,600 to \$98,000, he said. From this we will subtract the amount of the Federal grant of 50% of swim pool refurbishing costs, if application is approved.

The City of Heppner will open bids for purchase of \$94,000 general obligation bonds next Monday at 2 p.m. Award of the sale will follow at 8 p.m.

License
James Phegley had applied for a City liquor license. It was approved by the City. It will have to be approved by the State Liquor Commission, too.

Mobile Home Requests
Buddy Batty said he would like to buy a lot from Joan Hughes to place a mobile home there. It would be 24 x 65 feet on a 100 x 305 foot lot. Mayor Collins explained that the Council could take no action until a formal application had been made. Mr. Batty explained that he had no intention of installing a trailer court.

An application was read from R. G. Watkins to place a 12 x 60 ft. mobile home on a 66 x 131 ft. lot at 655 North Elder. Value \$8,000. Recorder will write abutting neighbors to see if they are willing to have a mobile home there, as per city ordinances.

Mayor read third and final reading of Ordinance 380 to vacate an unnamed alley. Passed.

Mr. Youngman explained detailed cost estimates of the new bridges as follows: Main Street bridge is longest and most expensive. A precast slab of double T sections would run \$22,400 to \$27,380. Precast box sections would cost \$33,400 to \$38,500. Laminated wood over steel beams would run \$37,640 to \$44,300.

The Kirk Street bridge would run precast \$12,300 to \$15,000 or laminated \$16,300 to \$20,000.

Mr. Youngman says the precast slabs are preferred by a great many project people nowadays. The Main Street bridge would be 67 feet long.

The footbridge on Willow Creek would have a 48 foot span and to rebuild and straighten the three bays would run \$21,000 to \$25,000.

Swimming pool repairs are estimated at \$19,000 to \$22,000. Two contractors had made estimates of the costs at \$16,000 by one and \$20,000 by the other.

A steel guard railing on Cannon Street would cost about \$750.

The City Council passed a resolution to apply to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation for a grant of \$22,000 for swimming pool repairs. This would be a case where the Government would furnish one half of the project cost, or \$11,000. The application would have to be approved first by the District 12 Council of Government. Judge Jones has offered to expedite this application all possible.

Shobe Creek Work
Council voted to accept the Shobe Creek project work done by the U. S. Corps of Engineers. It is the desire of the Corps that the City take over the maintenance and the City will appoint a superintendent to make a twice annual report. The Heppner Water Control Board will be advised of the matter and Council would like to have them take charge of maintenance when they get going.

A resolution was passed creating a Department of Emergency Services. The County also has a Dept. of Emergency Services which replaces the civil defense group for the County.

The Chief of Police was authorized to call for bids for a new police car.

All radios of city and county offices are on the same wave length, tied in with Umatilla County, too.

Council voted to pay the \$14,300 balance of costs of moving utilities, water and sewer pipe on the Shobe Creek project. Total cost was \$17,475.00.

WEATHER

By DON GILLIAM

	H1	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	47	26	—
Thursday	46	33	25*
Friday	38	27	47*
Saturday	38	30	30
Sunday	54	37	32
Monday	45	25	15*
Tuesday	26	12	—

*-T Snow; 7 snow; 1 snow line.