

Light vote turnout

Water improvement bonds win approval, 2-1

Voters in the City of Heppner approved by a 2-1 margin the \$450,000 water bond issue last Monday.

The final tabulation showed a total of 232 votes cast, with 158 votes in favor of the bond and 73 against. One ballot was discarded as it had been improperly marked. Mayor Sweeney announced the results of the election during the regular meeting of the Heppner Common Council. A special meeting is called for Friday night in order to

canvass the votes of the bond election. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Mike Gray, Union 76 dealer, appeared before the council to ask for a change in City Ordinance 353, which allows dealers to receive only 1,200 gallons of gasoline for distribution.

The City of Heppner recently received a letter from Union Oil Company requesting a hearing on the ordinance; however, the letter

was not received in time for a response from the city to allow Union Oil Co. to make arrangements for the Monday night meeting. After much discussion on the ordinance, pro and con, it was decided to

postpone any action until a Union Oil Co. representative is present to explain the company's interest. A meeting between the city and Union Oil Co. has been set for Jan. 7, the next regular meeting of the common council.

In other business, the council listened to a report by Rev. Blackaller, requesting that a guard rail be installed on Cannon St. as the existing condition is dangerous and could be the cause of accidents in the near future. The council approved Blackaller's request and is asking for sealed bids for the construction of the guard rail.

Resolved to accept an agreement with the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (State of

Oregon) for funds to improve Hager Park.

Listened to report from Fire Chief Forrest Burkenbine who told the council that the county has offered the fire department the use of a needed van. The county has further agreed to install a two-way radio and a red light for the emergency vehicle. Burkenbine believes the fire department could use an extra vehicle; however, he met with some disapproval. The council

asked who would retain title to the vehicle, he replied, "The county."

"Will the county pay for the insurance of the vehicle as long as they wish to retain title?" "I really don't know," the chief replied.

This matter was delayed until further information could be presented to the council for approval.

Chief Burkenbine also reported to the council that many people are storing

gasoline in containers, either in the trunks of their vehicles or on their premises. According to Burkenbine, 15 gallons of gasoline is all that can be stored in containers above the ground. "This is the maxi-

mum amount, and any person who stores more than that amount is in violation of the law," said Burkenbine. He also warned motorists about carrying containers full of gasoline in the trunks of the cars. Although not illegal, it

could be dangerous in the event of an accident.

Heard reports from the mayor and other city officials who attended the League of Oregon Cities, Portland, Nov. 11-12. All members reported they had learned something about the workings of other small cities in Oregon.

Police Chief Dean Gilman reported the city had collected \$218.19 from parking meters and \$118 in fines during the month of November.



Dick Sargent presents Orville Cutsforth a certificate for the Outstanding Community Man of the Year. Wife Barbara looks on.

Judge Jones

Appointment is held up again

The Senate Committee on Executive Appointments in Salem Saturday withheld approval of two members of the State Land Conservation and Development Commission pending an opinion of the attorney general on their eligibility to serve.

The two are Morrow County Judge Paul Jones and Paul Rudy of Charleston.

The committee referred the matter to the attorney general when the question arose that the two might be barred from the new board by a constitu-

tional provision that holds persons may not hold positions in two branches of government at the same time.

Jones is a county judge and Rudy, a biologist at the University of Oregon Marine Science Center, is a member of the Coos County Planning Commission and the advisory committee to the Oregon Coastal Conservation and Development Commission.

This is the second roadblock Jones has encountered since he was named to the LCDC by Governor Tom McCall. The

first one hinged on his connection with the Lake Penland Corp., which was resolved in his favor.

"The attorney general's opinion in this case will have far-reaching effects," Jones told the Gazette-Times Monday, "and it is a question that must be resolved."

Jones pointed out that most state officials are members of various boards, committees and commissions. If the attorney general rules Jones ineligible, it means that city, county and state

officials must divest themselves of their memberships. It would mean, for example, that Rep. Jack Sumner could not serve on the Morrow County School District board of trustees, as he now does. The governor himself, Jones said, is a member of several boards and commissions.

"I would have thought that the question of the constitutionality, or of a conflict of interest, would have been ascertained prior to my appointment and swearing in as a member of the LCDC," Jones said.

Although Jones would receive no salary as an LCDC member, he would be eligible for per diem payment for expenses in the amount of \$20 a day while attending official meetings.

He was questioned for an hour and a half by the committee Saturday, during which time Jones defended his connection with Lake Penland and told the group he would not change his position on the recreational lake project if he had it to do over again; that it was a non-profit project to be enjoyed and used by Morrow County and not for any individual.

"At this point," Jones said, "I just don't care whether I'm confirmed or not. But I am in favor of the issue of constitutionality being settled once and for all."

New radar gun tags speeders

The Heppner City Police Department has issued its first traffic citations using its new radar speed gun, in an effort to curb speedsters in Heppner.

The first citation was issued to Russell Marvin Wellman, 21, Baker, Ore.

Wellman was cited Dec. 1, 1:35 a.m., for speeding 60 miles per hour in a 35-mile zone. Bail has been set at \$53, and Wellman was scheduled to appear in municipal court, Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Also arrested Dec. 1 on speeding violations were John Orville Kilkenny, 16, Heppner, and James Donald Hams, 23, Heppner.

Kilkenny was arrested at 7:20 p.m. for doing 53 miles per hour in a 35-mile zone and Hams was cited for doing 37 miles per hour in a 25-mile zone.

Bail has been set at \$27 for Kilkenny and \$17 for Hams. Both were to appear Dec. 5 in municipal court, City Hall.

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Environmentalists hit

Livestock growers end annual meeting

Most Morrow County livestock growers were in Heppner Friday attending the annual meeting of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association at the Elks Lodge. Merlin Hughes, president of the MCLG, started the day-long activities by introducing Ron Baker of C & B Livestock Company.

Baker spoke on the issue of "Should Beef Grades be Lowered." The present system is based on quality of meat which is derived from the marbling. Retailers are buying yields 2 to 3 with the most red-meat cutout. Cattle are being marketed at only 70-75 percent choice.

"If beef grades were lowered the animals would increase their marketing value to 90 or 95 per cent," Baker said.

Jack Sumner, state representative at a legislature report at the no-host luncheon. He cited new bills which affect farmers in Morrow County as well as in the state. The bills include: classifying the theft of livestock as a felony, workman's compensation new rate set at \$8.50, requiring anyone hauling over 20 bales of hay to have a hay certificate, and a law which protects land owners who allow hunters and recreational people to use their land.

Tax Investment Opportunities with Tax Incentive was presented by Jerry Wasserburger, account executive, DuPont Walston, during the first afternoon session.

Dr. Dave Church, animal nutritionist at OSU, spoke on using quality roughages. Church explained that certain nutrients are needed to supplement low quality roughages. These nutrients include calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, and trace minerals such as salt, zinc, copper and iodine.

"If you're feeding a low quality roughage such as wheat straw, then supplementing nutrients are advised," he said. "Animals need these nutrients and vitamin A to maintain the proper level of protein and energy needed for growth and reproduction."

State Brand Inspector Gene Kunkle pointed to bills that affect all livestock operators.

"HB 3118 requires a title of livestock for the purchaser and owner. HB 2194 makes theft of livestock a felony. This year the livestock industry had a loss of over \$400,000 to the theft of livestock," Kunkle said.

Custom slaughters are required to obtain from the ranchers a certificate with the name of the owner and identity of the animal. HB 3052 also requires an aluminum tag to be placed in the ear of the animal. The certificate and hide is sent to the state brand inspector.

A new bill, HB 3054, requires additional brand inspection when there is a change of ownership and change of location.

"Our department has asked a committee be formed to study the new law," he said.

The committee consisted of members from Oregon Cattlemen Association and Western Livestock Association. Bud Philippi, Arlington, and Earl Smith, Antelope, presented the committee's proposal on the new law.

The new proposal states additional brand inspection is required when change of ownership takes place, not the

change of location.

"An exception to this new proposal would allow buyers purchasing cattle and then immediately taking them to the auction or the slaughterhouse to bypass the brand inspection. Another exception exempts a buyer with the purchase of five head or less from additional brand inspection. The buyer, however, would have to pay a 30 cent certificate charge. Kunkle said.

The Morrow County Livestock Growers business meeting ended the meeting.

The organization voted to give the Morrow County CowBelles \$500 for their projects for the coming year. They also donated \$50 to the home economist.

Don Ostensoe, executive vice-president, Oregon Cattlemen Association, spoke to MCLG and community and business members at the Farm-City Banquet Friday evening at Heppner High School.

"Environmentalists are the primary villains of the energy crisis," stated Ostensoe. They are also fostering programs for a food crisis in the near future."

Ostensoe pointed to activities of the group. These include: stoppage of the oil from Alaska, slowing down and stopping many nuclear energy plants, delaying offshore oil drilling, and opposed hydro-electric dams on the Snake River.

Concerning the energy, oil and gas crisis, farmers are requested to call Don Mc-

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Mediator asked in dispute

After five negotiating meetings, the Morrow County Education Association and the school board have become deadlocked in making a salary decision.

The teachers are asking for a \$7,920 starting base pay with \$270 increments. The school board raised their offer of \$7,400 base pay to \$7,700 with \$250 increments.

"After the fifth meeting last week, we notified the Public Employees Relation Board of our failure to make a decision," said Ron Daniels, Morrow County School Superintendent. "In a few days they will send a mediator to confer with both sides."

The mediator will talk to both parties and give suggestions to bring teachers and school board to agreement.

"If this mediator process fails, then under the collective bargaining law, we will have to ask the state for a fact finder to help with the negotiations," Daniels said.

Power rate to be upped 25

"The recent heavy rains give us a better outlook than a few weeks ago," said Dave Harrison, manager of Columbia Basin Electric Co-op, as he addressed the Chamber of Commerce members at their regular meeting Monday.

"Members can now use indoor Christmas tree lighting; however, the ban on outdoor lighting by the governor is still in effect," he said.

"We can cut down on electricity if we have to," said Harrison, noting that the schools in the area helped eliminate usage as did small business and also the average household. Farmers cut down 9 per cent and small business cut down 16 per cent on the amount of electricity used as compared with last year.

"At present there are no new hydro-electric sites under study, and should we face another shortage in the near future we would be faced with the same problems as today, for we are not keeping up with any reserve for the shortage situation," he continued.

Most people are under the impression that nuclear plants are the solution. They fail to realize that a nuclear plant would take 12 years to construct and put into operation, instead of the usual seven years. The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) now requires that down payment be made eight years prior to the construction of a nuclear plant.

"Many of our customers in the area have had high voltage in their homes, so during the last week we have been working on transformers, lowering the voltage, not to

save power, but to regulate the power at our substation."

Now for the bad news—there will be an increase in rates beginning Jan. 1 ranging from 20-30 per cent, with 25 per cent selected as the average. Members have had a 2 per cent discount, which they will lose when the rate increase goes into effect, making the average increase 27 per cent. Irrigation discounts have been given farmers in the past, and the discounted rate is also to be phased out. The discount rate has averaged 6 per cent, and Columbia Basin directors believe it will take at least 15 years to phase out the discount.

According to Harrison, "We will not have to have another rate increase for the next four or five years, after this present increase takes effect."

Man cited for hit and run

Brock Linnell, 25, Boardman, was cited by the Sheriff's Department Nov. 25 for hit and run and driving while under the influence of liquor.

Linnell allegedly hit a parked vehicle belonging to James R. Hager, Heppner, at 12:15 a.m., north of Court St. Linnell failed to stop after hitting the vehicle and was finally apprehended in Lexington.

He was released on his own recognizance. No trial date has been set.

ARTIST DISPLAYS PAINTINGS

Oil paintings and water colors by Ardith Hunt are on display at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner.



DAVE HARRISON



It's Christmas time in Heppner . . . Ed Struthers decorates the town.