

Desert Hills back in picture

Problems of a city planned for 500 people

By MARY LOU CARLSON

Tuesday, City Planning Commissioner Jack McFadden was quoted as saying "The city should not hesitate to put pressure on state agencies through Governor McCall, if that is what is needed to solve these problems."

After an all-day meeting Thursday with the city staff, City Councilman Zearl Gillespie, City Engineer Stanley Wallulis, two members of the State Health Department and Del Smith, Morrow County planner, Mayor West said, "I cannot envision we will talk to Governor McCall. Tuesday evening was an informal meeting where we talked about the situation and stated our thoughts on it."

Due to recent legislation at the state level, there are regulations at the community level for municipal water systems that are bound in red tape.

The Department of Environmental Quality administers community sanitary sewer systems and disposal treatment. Boardman has a problem in both areas.

"During the late 1950s and early 1960s, in relocation planning for Boardman, with a population of 100, we planned for 500 people. Some of us couldn't visualize where that many people would come from, but we felt with subsequent development, we could realistically have this number of people. We accordingly planned the utilities and sewer system for 500."

"Now a second growth phase is upon us and the systems have deficiencies due to overloading, even now," states Mayor West.

William Doherty is a patient in St. Anthony's Hospital.

Schools present concert

Riverside Junior-Senior High School presented the spring music concert on May 1, in the Riverside High School Commons. The director was John Weddle.

The Junior High Band played Great Bear March, Jamaica Farewell, Today Explosion, and Funway March.

The High School Choir presented: I Don't Know How to Love Him, Day by Day, O Eyes of My Beloved, sung by the ensemble, A Sign of the Times, and Peace on Earth.

The High School concert Band presented Saturday in the Park, Thus Spake Sarathustra, and Ballad For Barbara. The High School Stage Band presented The Morning After, Song from M-A-S-H, House of the Rising Sun, and Rock Bottom.

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"To grow from 10 taxpayers to 100 taxpayers is quite a problem. We are envisioning an influx of people with the sewer and utilities studies. So far we have not asked present taxpayers to pay the bill on anticipated development. The people coming should have to pay for this. We knew people were coming, we have planned for them. They had no name or face; but we know they will be here."

"Red tape brought about by environmental legislation, pollution legislation and conservation, though necessary, is the problem Howard Kartchner and I ran up against. The city and the DEQ must coordinate resources."

Mayor West said, "I am real glad to see people working together and appreciate the time and effort given by the agencies involved. They realize our problem and are working closely with us. In the last three days, they have dropped other work and are trying to get help."

"These people have been here all along. I think the city—i.e., as Mayor, haven't called upon them to the fullest we could have. There are so many things to get done, we must have the full cooperation and assistance of everyone to achieve the needed results."

Howard Kartchner of Desert Hills Residential Development, stated Thursday he met with the Boardman city council and "they are desperately pursuing different sources of water."

City Engineer Stanley Wallulis is working on possible solutions to water problems.

The city council noted that people are more aware of the proposed Desert Hills development and are "gung-ho" for this. So Kartchner feels the Desert Hills development problem looks improved and is closer to reality, because all concerned will be working together for a solution.

The Department of Human Resources uses past water consumption records as an indicator of future needs. The City of Boardman must meet all state regulations for the municipality. Some of these requirements involve location of a new well. The state requires a specific type of soil strata to provide a seal on the well that will keep out surface water and sources of contamination.

Kartchner said the cost of drilling a city well is estimated at \$60,000.

Tuesday the city council and planning commission met together to discuss recent developments that threaten to

stall expansion of the City of Boardman for two years.

Mayor Dewey West stated, "The Department of Human Resources sent the city a letter recommending that Boardman 'discourage' new growth until it meets strict water and sewer standards."

This letter and other obstacles had caused the Desert Hills residential developers to shut down the project last weekend and to look elsewhere for housing for employees.

Head of the firm, Howard Kartchner, said he has found a means to provide housing for the 200 new employees expected to work at his potato processing plants in July, but there have been no provisions made for workers needed to operate the Gourmet Foods plant scheduled to open in late September.

"Gourmet Foods has made a \$5 million dollar investment in this community," said Kartchner, "and these water and sewer problems threaten the entire project."

Most of the sewer problems were close to being solved Tuesday.

The Corps of Engineers and the city reached a tentative agreement to expand the existing treatment plant to handle a population of about 1500.

Mayor West said Burlington-Northern Railway has agreed to negotiate a proposed sewage treatment plant site near the Port of Morrow food processing park or near the southern boundary of the city.

West also stated the water problems center around the need for more storage capacity and another well to meet expansion needs.

The Kartchner project would have included a second well that would serve his housing and the city.

As soon as another well driller can be hired, Kartchner has agreed to renew drilling efforts.

By calling for a cut-back in irrigation use, said Mayor West, and trying to find an alternate source of water for the state highway park on Interstate 80-N, the city should be able to reduce its consumption to provide water needed for more homes.

The Department of Human Resources said Boardman uses 600,000 gallons of water in its peak demand days in the summer. "But only 50,000 gallons of that is water used in the homes." Based on the 50,000 gallon figure, West said "the city can approach meeting a required three-day storage edict. We have to be sure the bureaucrats in Salem know these figures before they start telling us what we can't do."

Jack McFadden, a member of the planning commission said Boardman could find water and a way to treat sewage if there were a catastrophe in the city. "We have to start telling our developers what we can do for them," he said "not what we can't do."

The city should not hesitate to put pressure on state agencies through Governor Tom McCall "if that is what is needed to solve these problems," Mr. McFadden said.

There has been a tentative agreement, by the Corps of Engineers and the city council to allow the use of the Riverfront Park and additional sewage treatment capacity for city residential growth.

According to a Corps spokesman, the park should be open for business in about two weeks. The agreement calls for the city to accept sanitary waste from the park in return for the military allowing Boardman to temporarily expand or modify the city sewage treatment plant to accept additional waste. The Corps leases to the city the land for the plant.

Wallulis and representatives of the military are negotiating a hook-up fee and monthly charges to the engineers.

The camping portion of the park has never opened because of the lack of sewage treatment.

The Department of Human Resources has faced the city with a suggested moratorium on new construction until it meets water standards and can provide proper sewage treatment.

The City of Boardman hopes to build a permanent facility at one of two locations near the edge of the city. Both are

owned by Burlington-Northern Railway, which agreed to negotiate the sale of one of the sites.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Smith are parents of a baby daughter, Amanda Christine, born in Good Shepherd Hospital, Hermiston, April 30.

The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tatone Sr. of Boardman and Margaret Ann Smith of Condon. Great grandmother is Mrs. Charles Wicklander of Portland.

Mrs. Glenn Mallory of Seattle is visiting at the home of her father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ball.

Mrs. Dalto's Bluebird group left Saturday morning for a trip to Portland to see the Ice Follies. Each girl earned a portion of her expenses by selling Campfire Girl candies earlier this year. Mrs. Dalto was assisted by Mrs. Larry Phillips. Included in the group are Betty Bonnie, Janet Bonnie, Tammy Bozarth, Sharon Brasel, Karen Brasel, Jeanne Carroll, Helen Dalto, Karen Carlson, Liza Graham, Kelly Harvey, Dawn Kee, Denise Kee, Monica McDonough, Tina Nelson and Brenda Pettigrew. Mrs. Dalto reports the group will picnic on the trip down and have dinner at The Dalles on the return trip.

The Ladies Aide Society meeting has been postponed until June 5.

The Tillicum Club Annual Scholarship Breakfast was held April 27, at the home of Myra Scoubo. Co-hostesses were: Barbara Hugg, Edith Partlow, Zoa Billings, LaVerne Partlow and Dorothy Kennedy. Kathy Bartlett, Princess of the 1973 Morrow County Fair and Rodeo was present as a guest. The annual Cancer Fund Drive began April 29. Ladies are out collecting. Barbara Hinkle was appointed chaperone for the Harvest Festival Court. The next meeting will be May 14 at the home of Anita Raynor.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Allen are home from a trip to Washington, D.C. While there they visited a nephew, Donald Grey, neice, Marie Winslow, and aunt, Ester Nyrop, of Maryland.

A card party at Greenfield Grange Hall Tuesday was sponsored by the Women's Activity Committee of the Grange. Hostess was Hazel Carpenter. There were five tables in play. High prize went to Nellie Busch, 2nd high to Laura Smith. Traveling pinochle prizes went to Mrs. Arthur Allen and Mrs. Walter Wyss.



KAREN RICHARDS

Karen Richards finalist for 4-H Congress

Karen Richards, Irrigon, has been selected as a state finalist for a trip to the 4-H Club Congress to be held in November at Chicago. Final selection will be made in September.

Karen's selection was based on her achievement with her 4-H swine project, which is one of the 50 program areas available to 4-H youth in the National 4-H Awards Program. If selected as a national finalist she will be considered for one of six \$700 scholarships.

Karen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Richards of Irrigon.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ball and son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Gates, of Lincoln City, Ore., were weekend guests at the home of Ball's father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ball. Other visitors at the Ball home Saturday were Franklin Ball and daughter, Karen.

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