

New personnel hired

School board begins budget sessions

A series of budget meetings and negotiations meetings have been scheduled by the Morrow County School Board to prepare the 1975-76 school budget.

The first budget message was presented on Jan. 21 at the district office. A second budget committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m., at Riverside High School. On Thursday, Jan. 30, a special board meeting has been called to review economic proposals in regard to salary by the five administrators in the district. This meeting, to be held at the district office, will be followed by a negotiation meeting scheduled with representatives of the certificated staff. A final budget committee meeting is planned for Feb. 4, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Heppner High School.

In his report to Monday evening's school board meeting, Supt. Matt Doherty reported to the board some of the items of interest to education which will be com-

ing before this session of legislature out of the Interim Committee on Education. A redistribution formula for county school funding will be an issue to watch carefully, Doherty told board members. Other items mentioned were curriculum development, discrimination in schools, early childhood education, censorship as it pertains to school libraries, the metric system, post-secondary education, special education and the school lunch program.

Doherty said that two of the buses on main runs between Lexington and Heppner and Lexington and Ione are running 71 passengers each when each bus has a 66-passenger capacity. If the number grows the situation will have to be changed. However, Doherty said a solution was not economically feasible at this time.

Joyce Bergstrom was awarded the Clarks Canyon bus run at 44.75 cents per mile. The run had been contracted to Lee Hamilton, but was

broken when Hamilton moved from the area.

Two aides were hired out of Federal Title I funds for special education in Heppner and Ione. Carol Moon was hired for the Heppner position and Kathy Peterson in Ione.

The board approved a contract for Ruby Shear to finish out the school year as a 5th grade teacher at Heppner Elementary. She replaces Suzanne Sherman, who resigned.

Permanent contract status was granted to three eligible administrators, Bier, Tolar, and Edmundson.

The board voted to have a wooden storage shed placed on the newly developed trailer site on the old George property in Heppner. The construction of such will exceed the \$2,000 budgeted by about \$300. The board's reason for adding the building is that such a building was customary for such sites and they had agreed to develop a standard mobile home site in the original agreement. Board member Irvin Rauch questioned recent

\$6,500 worth of expenditures while only \$3,000 had been realized in income since July 1 into the teacherage fund. It was pointed out that \$2,000 of this was for development of the trailer site, which would bring in added income. The larger portion of the remaining amount was roofing the teacherage at Ione and the teacherage in Irrigon.

Several people were hired to fill vacancies in classified employee positions in the north end of the county. Jack Gayman was hired as a full time bus driver and Perry Pummel as a half-time driver to replace Fred and Mary Fredericksen, who resigned. Cheryl Hobbs was advanced to the head cook's position vacated by retiring Verdie Isom. Janet Cooley was hired to the assistant cook position. Vera Cooley was hired to replace Delores Pummel. Mrs. Pummel has not been able to fill the position because of health reasons. In Heppner, Joan McDaniel was hired to fill the vacancy left by Verna Brinda.

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MARSHA LOVGREN, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Lovgren, is shown in a free fall sky dive at Ridgely, Md. The photo is included in the Andy Keech book, "Skies Call," the first book on sky diving over the U. S. Marsha, who lives in Vienna, Va., and is a federal government employee, does sky diving as a hobby. She is shown here in a dive, photographed by Keech who mounted a camera on his helmet and jumped with Marsha for this picture. Marsha is a 1968 Heppner High School graduate and visited her parents here during the holidays.

Candidates must file by Feb. 11

\$605 or 120 days in jail

Tuesday, Feb. 11, has been scheduled as the deadline for candidates wishing to file for the open positions on the Morrow County School Board and on the three attendance area advisory committees within the district.

Two school board positions will be up for election and six advisory committee positions.

The open positions on the school board are Zone 3, Ione, now held by Don McElligott, and Zone 4, Lexington, held by Irvy Rauch. McElligott, who has served on the county board two terms and has been involved with school boards for 20 years, has expressed his desire not to run again. Rauch, who has served 12 years, has not decided to date whether he will run again or not.

The school board term is for four years. To be eligible a candidate must be a register-

ed voter in the zone he is filing for and must file a petition containing at least 25 signatures of registered voters residing in said district. The petition must be filed with the County School District office in Lexington or with the county clerk by Feb. 11.

The term of office on an advisory committee is three years. The candidate must be a registered voter in the school attendance area in which he is running and file a petition containing the signatures of at least 10 registered voters in that area. There are three attendance advisory committees in the school district: Boardman-Irrigon Ione, and Heppner-Lexington.

Three positions are up for election on the Boardman-Irrigon Advisory Committee. Those positions are now filled by Kenneth Broadbent, Barbara Hug and Francine

Evans. Mrs. Hug and Mrs. Evans were appointed earlier in the school year to fill positions on the committee which were vacated. By law they must run in the next election for the remainder of the term in order to serve. Mrs. Hug has said she will run again. Mrs. Evans is undecided. Broadbent has stated he will probably run again. He has served four and a half years.

Only one position is coming up on the Ione Advisory Committee and this position is currently held by Mike Palmer. Palmer, who has been on the committee for two years, is undecided about running.

Two positions are up for re-election on the Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee. Virginia Grieb, who has served four years, has expressed the desire to run again. Ron Haguewood is undecided. He has served two years.

The purpose of the school attendance advisory committee is to make recommendations on matters of concern to the schools in their attendance area to the school board. They meet once a month.

The responsibilities of the school board are considerably more. School board members act on all business and financial matters concerning the school district at monthly school board meetings.

Panter out of hospital

David Panter, a City of Heppner police patrolman who was hospitalized Jan. 1 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital for a kidney contusion, is now convalescing at his home.

His health is such that he is unable to continue his duties as a city patrolman, according to Chief of Police Dean Gilman.

Panter, his wife and three children, came to Heppner last August from Hermiston. He became a city patrolman on Aug. 13.

Theft charges filed

Three men were arrested Thursday and Friday and charged with burglary in the second degree.

Sheriff's deputies arrested Steven Noel Potter, 22; Ronald Ray Harper, 23; and James Benjamin Eaton, 23; all of Condon, and charged with theft at Morrow County Grain Growers on Sept. 1, 1974.

Potter is also charged with theft in the second degree and negotiating a bad check.

IRVIN MANN TO SPEAK MONDAY

Irvin Mann, former director of the State Department of Agriculture, will speak to the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce Monday at its noon luncheon.

Mann will speak on the "Strength and Weakness of the Oregon Department of Agriculture."

Cases heard in justice court

The following cases were tried Jan. 16 in justice court by Judge Charles O'Connor:

Gregory Robert Hull, Portland, charged with criminal use of drugs, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$205 or spend 40 days in jail. He was released to secure bail.

Nathan Ray Hammons, Heppner, was fined \$105 for illegal possession of drugs,

less than one ounce.

Aaron Klingler was arraigned on two counts of theft in the second degree. O'Connor suspended sentence until the school term is completed, during which time Klingler, a student, was placed on probation.

Martin Ray Potter, Lexington, was fined \$25 for contempt of court stemming from

his failure to pay a fine previously imposed.

Jerry Ray Johnson, Echo, was fined \$205 and sentenced to four months in the county jail, suspended, for illegal possession of game (venison). He was also placed on strict probation.

Jan. 21, James Harvey Brannon, Heppner, was cited by police for driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor and for driving with a blood alcohol content of .15 or over. He was given time to consult an attorney before entering a plea to the charge.

Gomez sentenced for manslaughter

Avelino P. Gomez pled guilty to manslaughter in circuit court at Pendleton Monday and sentenced to seven years in prison, conditionally suspended.

Gomez was indicted by the Morrow County Grand Jury recently for the Nov. 17 fatal stabbing of Vicente Ortiz in a Boardman trailer court. The charge was reduced to manslaughter when a polygraph examination indicated that premeditation was not the issue in the slaying and that the matter was mostly a case of self-defense.

Judge Henry Kaye's sentence was suspended on condition that Gomez serve six months in the county jail at Pendleton, with credit for time already served; the balance of the six months will

be suspended at such time as the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service takes custody of Gomez for the sole purpose of deporting him to Mexico; Gomez must not return to the United States following deportation except by legal authority and means, and Gomez is to reimburse Morrow County for such sums as have been expended in the investigation, preparation and prosecution of the case.

It is expected that Gomez, along with the five material witnesses being held in Umatilla County Jail, will be deported soon. All are illegal aliens.

Gomez had about \$400 worth of assets at the time of his arrest. This is probably the only reimbursement the county can expect to receive.

Sweeney heads bicentennial

On Jan. 8 Mike Sweeney accepted an appointment by the Morrow County Court as county bicentennial chairman. He replaces Marlene Peterson, who resigned after doing organizational work for the Oregon State Bicentennial Sub-committee.

Sweeney has requested that committee members and others interested meet at the courthouse Jan. 28 at 7:30 p.m. Because the bicentennial committee is a county-wide effort and its activities will involve all parts of the county, the new chairman is urging all residents to meet with the committee and offer suggestions.

"The national bicentennial should not come and go without this county really taking positive action to assure that specific goals and projects are completed," Sweeney said. Several pro-

jects have moved ahead already, especially the formation of the Morrow County Historical Society. Other projects and goals will be reviewed and discussed at this Jan. 28 meeting.

Sweeney has lived in Heppner more than 10 years. He came here with his family, the Jerry Sweeneys, from Grants Pass. He completed high school here in 1966, gained his B.S. degree from the University of Oregon in 1970, and in December, 1974 completed requirements for the Juris Doctor degree at Gonzaga University's Law School.

Sweeney has been working in Robert Abram's law office as a legal clerk, and upon the completion of his Oregon state bar examination intends to practice with Abram. He is a member of St. Patrick's Holy Name Society, of BPOE No. 358, and of the Morrow County Chamber of Commerce.

Appeal lost by Penland

The Department of Revenue last week denied the Lake Penland Corporation a reduction in the true cash value of its property as of Jan. 1, 1974.

The land was appraised by the county at \$71,560. The corporation had requested a reduction to \$28,000, and had taken an appeal to the Department of Revenue.

The property in question contains 45 individual parcels, of which 42 have lake frontages.

Witness for the county presented evidence of five comparable sales. The sales to the State Game Commission indicated a lakefront value of \$12.93 per foot with a depth of approximately 248 feet. This parcel contains 11.80 acres with 1,160 front feet on the lake, showing an indicated

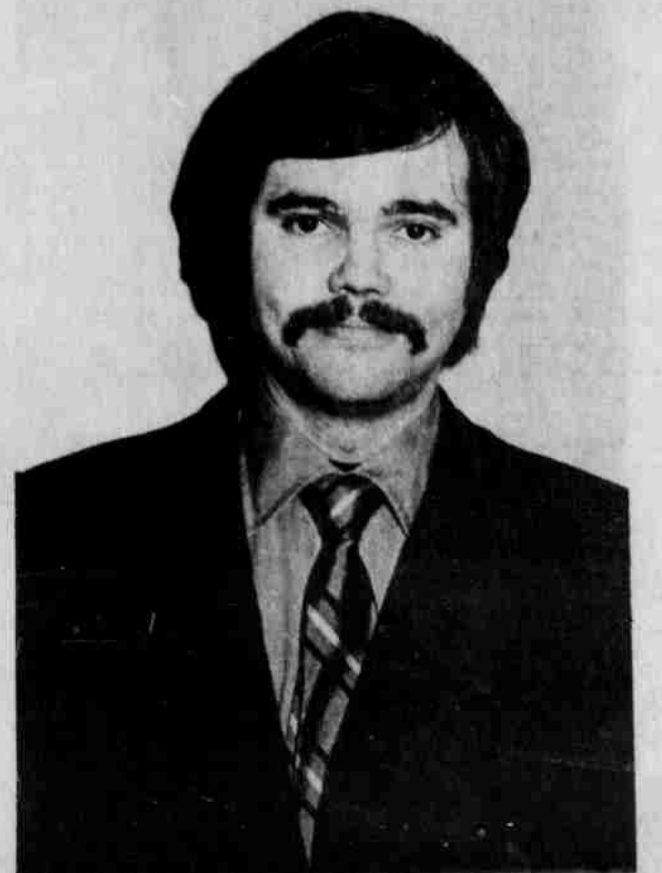
value of \$1,271 per acre. Other sales in the Blake Ranch addition, a recreational subdivision less than 10 miles from the Penland property, show an average appraisal of \$1,622 per acre, well above the appraised value of the Penland property.

In a recent letter to the corporation the Department of Revenue stated, "It is our opinion that the best evidence of the value of the property is the expert opinion and testimony of the county which supports the value of the roll. I therefore find the appeal must be denied."

On Oct. 8, 1974, the State Real Estate Board approved the subdivision, as did the Department of Environmental Quality, provided disclosure statements be prepared for all prospective buyers.



CATTLE ON THE BANK? Residents crossing Willow Creek on May Street take a "second take" these days when they see cattle browsing on top of the First National Bank Building. But it's an optical illusion. The cattle are grazing on a hill a quarter of a mile west of the bank.



MIKE SWEENEY