

Record school budget proposed

Members of the Morrow County School District budget committee are finding their work cut out for them as they prepare the operating budget for the district for 1975-76. Their first meeting, however, was recessed on Jan. 21 due to a lack of a quorum. Their second meeting was held at Riverside High School on Jan. 28. Their final work

session is scheduled for Feb. 4 at Heppner High School. An increase of 18.5 per cent in the budget over the 1974-75 budget is predicted; however, several variables hamper budget estimates. Some of these uncertainties are presidential planning for oil embargo and the effect on fuel price, inflation and its effect on costs, uncertain receipts

from basic school support funds, inability to predict what will happen to revenue such as federal forest rentals if the building industry continues to slump, and the fact that the budget document is being presented to the committee before settlement of salaries with teachers. This is due in part to the March voting date whereas the pre-

vious voting date was in May. The proposed budget is up \$356,659 from last year's \$1,926,297. Projected receipts for 1975-76 show an increase of \$54,359. A large share of this increase is due to an increase in the available cash on hand which has been recommended to be placed in the budget to offset tax requirements.

On the expenditure side of the budget it is anticipated that budget requirements could increase 3 per cent over last year's increase requiring an additional levy of \$2.43 per thousand of true cash value. Some of the reasons for additional monies are extra staff due to the development of new programs and the anticipated increase in student

enrollment. During the past year there was an increase of 80 students in the district exclusive of the kindergarten. A similar increase or more is anticipated for the coming year. Increases in salary and fringe benefits to employees, and increases in supplies such as paper and textbooks and increases in electricity and water rates are factors.



MRS. IDA MAY GRABILL celebrated her 93rd birthday Sunday. She is shown here relaxing with one of her favorite hobbies, jig-saw puzzles.

Ida May Grabill is a spry 93

Ida May Grabill, lone, celebrated her 93rd birthday Sunday, at the Bristow residence in lone.

She was born in lone, Jan. 28, 1892, one of 12 children of Milton and Mary Hale. Her father migrated to Oregon from Indiana, her mother came to Oregon from Iowa, and the two were married in Brownsville, Ore., Nov. 25, 1899.

Ida May Hale married Thomas E. Grabill in 1902, at Oregon City. The couple have five children, Mrs. Anna Wright, Baker, Mr. Gene

Grabill, Sumpter, Ore., Hazel Ellis and Mary Bristow, both of lone, and Mrs. Helen Keithley, Heppner.

Mrs. Grabill has 15 grandchildren, 34 great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

She still does her own housework, and enjoys putting jigsaw puzzles together. She is also an ardent wrestling fan, and seldom misses them on television. She recently attended the wrestling matches in Heppner, and hopes to visit Portland to see matches in the future.

What else is new?

Stop flooding; build a dam

By ERNIE CERESA

Twenty citizens appeared at the Morrow County court house Monday night to receive a publicized report on flood plain problems and conditions in the Heppner area.

What they learned was (1) that the report is many months away and (2) the city needs Willow Creek Dam.

Representatives of the State Water Resources Board, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Soil Conservation Service spent the evening pointing out that floods happen, they are bad, and something should be done about them.

It was hardly news to those who had braved 20-degree temperatures, snow and ice to be present, and who had lived through years of costly floods and had had the Willow Creek Dam vetoed by the president last year because it wouldn't show a financial profit.

Robert Evans, State Water Resources Board showed slides showing preventive methods that might be adopted to minimize damage in case of a flood. "Heppner is unique in that it doesn't flood every year, but when it does it creates problems, Evans stated, which the 20 interested citizens understood as the understatement of the year.

"Generally speaking, we are not concerned with water running over the land as we are with the damage the water causes."

Dikes and channel improvements can be useful in keeping the water away from man, as can updating building codes, land use programs, urban development programs, warning signs and flood insurance combined with the flood plain management program, he said.

Ronald G. Barrett, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, told the group that the flood patterns for Shobe, Hinton and Willow Creeks are all based on

a 100-year flood and also on a 50-year flood. Although the cubic feet per second shown on a chart appear to be rather small, when they are combined they are quite large, with the runoffs varying from 6,000 to 34,000 cfs for a 100-year flood.

"The Heppner area is unique in that it is subject to cloudburst rather than the rising waters of rivers or streams," said Barrett.

Last summer surveyors took cross-sections of the Heppner area, and a computer was used to determine the 100-year flood plain level.

"Should a flood occur, such as the one in 1903, Heppner would be isolated, as all of the present bridges would either be destroyed or they would be under water. Heppner needs a dam, like the Willow Creek Dam," said Barrett.

After the veto by the president of the Willow Creek Dam project, Barrett said he spoke to one of his superiors and he was told that the cost benefits would not justify the cost of the project. He feels that this was one of many projects caught in the guideline squeeze.

"We are not burning our drawings and our designs of the Willow Creek Dam project," Barrett said. "We are just putting them on the shelf for a while."

Speaking for HUD regarding home and commercial flood insurance was Chuck Steele, who said "Flood insurance is required whenever an existing house or building is sold that requires money from a bank."

Within the next year or so, the flood insurance study should be completed, establishing the flood risk areas. The map when completed will also show the actual elevations and showing the boundaries of a 100-year flood. If the dam is built, Heppner will no longer be in the 100-year flood plain, and the federal flood insurance would be eliminated.

Wheat seminar at lone

A wheat seminar will be held Feb. 4 at the Willows Grange in lone.

The education program begins at 10 a.m. and is presented by the OSU extension specialists and research personnel at OSU and the ARS-USDA station in Pendleton.

At 10 a.m. Paul Rasmussen, Columbia Basin Research Center, Pendleton, will speak on "Nitrogen and Sulphur Responses in Dry Land Wheat," followed by Don Rydrych, also of the Columbia Basin Research Center, speaking on "Weed Control in Wheat and Fallow."

At 11:30 the group will have lunch at Beecher's in lone.

The seminar will resume at 1 p.m. with Bob Robinson, OSU extension entomologist, discussing "Wheat Insects," followed by Norm Goetze, OSU extension agronomist, "How Wheat Varieties are Developed." The final speaker will be Gene Nelson, OSU extension farm management specialist, speaking on "Coping with Inflation Production Costs."

Patrolman hired, another sought

A special meeting of the Heppner common council was held Thursday night to hear a report from Police Committee Chairman Ray Boyce regarding the hiring of another police officer.

The request for another officer was made by Police Chief Dean Gilman at the regular meeting of the council, Jan. 6, at which time the matter was referred to the committee.

With Dave Panter unable to continue his duties as a patrolman, the police committee authorized the hiring of another officer to fill the vacancy and also authorized the hiring of an additional police officer.

The police committee also recommended that in the future all police personnel be required to pass a physical examination prior to being hired by the city, and that all police officers have periodical physical checkups.

Gilman stated that Wayne Maxam, has been hired by the city as a patrolman, replacing Dave Panter.



WAYNE MAXAM is Heppner's newest police officer. He and his wife, Theresa, have one child and are expecting another in March. He was active in the police reserve at Lake Oswego, Ore., for one year before coming to Heppner.

In other business, Mayor Jerry Sweeney signed an agreement with the Parker Hosmit Corporation granting the city the necessary rights-of-way for the installation of the water transmission line to the proposed reservoir site near Heppner High School. Weather permitting, Kenny Construction Company will begin installing the water main Monday.

Former Councilmen Clyde Alost and Jerry Holomon were present in the audience and both commented on the progress of Valley View Estates subdivision. They reported they had received complaints that some discrepancies exist in the subdivision and the contractor and the architect should be notified.

After reading a deficiency report submitted by Thomas Potter, Sweeney notified the city clerk to ask both men to be present at the next regular meeting of the council, Feb. 3, to explain their changes in the subdivision.

"Since Friday we have made more progress toward building a clinic than we have since Drs. Joe Gifford and Richard Carpenter, general practitioners in Pendleton, had first said they would locate in Heppner," County Judge Paul Jones said Monday morning.

Jones said he felt work on the building site would be under way by March 1 and the clinic ready for use by June 1.

The county court began negotiations with Kinzua Corporation Monday to purchase two lots on which to build the

clinic. The lots are located east of the hospital just across Thompson Avenue, which runs in back of the hospital. The judge pointed out that the doctors could buy the clinic and lot outright from the county at some future date if the building were located off hospital property.

Building codes would be easier to meet off hospital property, especially fire and health regulations. The location would allow for expansion and better parking. Jones also said the possibility of a federal grant to pay a portion of the

clinic cost might be impossible if the clinic were located on hospital property. Water and sewer are available on the two lots being considered. If the clinic is constructed on the proposed location less excavation work will be required and a basement is not being planned.

A number of estimates and bids have been received by the court and more are expected during the coming week. Three different types of construction are being considered. One is the modular unit which is built at the factory

and transported in two sections to the site. Size is limited with this type. A second type being studied is the one built in sections which are then transported to the site and erected on a prepared foundation. The third method is the complete construction of the building at the site from the foundation up.

The court and the two doctors have been proposing a building measuring 64 feet by 28 feet or approximately 1,800 square feet.

Funding of the clinic is in question because prices quot-

ed by the varied construction firms have fluctuated as much as \$10 per square foot.

The sum of \$30,000 was set aside in 1974 from revenue sharing funds which can be used for construction of a clinic. What additional monies are needed and how said monies will be acquired have not been determined. Judge Jones said he has made inquiry into the possibility of a federal grant.

No contract has been drawn up because, as hospital board members pointed out at a meeting Thursday, the two

doctors must first make application to the hospital board to be admitted to the medical staff of Pioneer Memorial Hospital. This procedure is standard in all hospitals. The two doctors submit a standard application containing their credentials. The applications are then reviewed by the medical staff at the hospital and recommendations given to the hospital board. At present Drs. Gifford and Carpenter are on the medical staffs at St. Anthony's and Community Hospital in Pendleton.

Mobile health unit to provide services here

Area residents will have an opportunity for a free blood pressure check and lung function test on Thursday, Jan. 30.

This free check is being provided as a community service by the Seventh-day Adventist Church which owns and operates the mobile health unit. The unit will be in Heppner Thursday morning and in Lexington Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m.

The mobile health unit was obtained and equipped in the fall of 1974 at a cost of approximately \$15,000 by the Upper Columbia Conference of the church for health screening and education in Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho and part of Northeast Oregon.

All testing is done by two nurses and other qualified personnel, under the direction of the church's Health Services Department. When persons being screened indicate a high blood pressure reading, they are advised to see their family physician for medical attention.

Pastor Robert Youngberg, in commenting on the visit of the mobile health unit to the Heppner area said, "Many people have an elevated blood pressure that they are not aware of, and this condition should have medical attention. The purpose of this screening program is prevention of disease through early detection, referral and education." Health information will be available on heart disease prevention, weight control, nutrition, physical fitness and many other areas vital to health.

"We are fortunate to have this unit in our area because there is such a heavy demand for its use," Pastor Youngberg stated. "We believe that helping our fellow man is a living demonstration of what Christianity is all about, and that man can serve his God and fellow man more effectively when he is healthy and strong."

"High blood pressure has been called the silent killer," said Donald R. Hall, MPH, Director of Community Health

Services for the church and a former pastor in Heppner. "because it usually has no obvious symptoms." Hall pointed out that high blood pressure is a leading cause of disease and death in this country, affecting one in every six adults. Of the estimated 23 million people who have high blood pressure, 50 per cent of the people are completely unaware and another one-fourth are aware, but not doing anything about it. Uncontrolled high blood pressure can result in a stroke, heart failure, or other serious diseases, he said.

SPAGHETTI DINNER BY HONOR SOCIETY

The Heppner High School National Honor Society is sponsoring an "all you can eat" spaghetti dinner Saturday, Feb. 8.

The dinner will be served following the performance of the College of Idaho Chorus, and will continue through the junior varsity game with Wasco County.



SUNDAY'S 4-inch snow bent tree branches to the ground. This picture was taken in Lexington.