

County to receive 'overdue' \$117,213

Congressman Al Ullman, D-OR, said the House "has taken an overdue step toward solving a problem that plagues Oregon and many other states" by passing legislation to provide new federal payments to counties where tax-immune federal lands are located.

The county-by-county breakdown showing what amounts Oregon counties would have received this year under the bill lists Morrow County's total amount due at \$117,213.

The bill entitled the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act was adopted in the house last Thursday by a vote of 270-125. It authorizes up to \$117 million in payments to more than 1,000 counties in 48 states, where federal lands are exempt from local taxes. Senate

action on similar legislation and a subsequent appropriation would be required before payments could actually be made.

Ullman reported that every county in Oregon's 2nd congressional district would receive additional funds under the bill, and that all but two Oregon counties would be eligible for new payments.

Speaking in the house in

support of the bill, Ullman said population growth related to development of federal energy resources, increasing use of federal lands for recreation and other factors have "created and will continue to create overwhelming demands on local governments to provide services."

"Since these lands are a national resource, there is a federal responsibility to minimize the financial burden placed on these jurisdictions," he said.

Payments on the bill would be made on the basis of a formula that compensates local governments for the tax immunity of national forests, national parks, wilderness areas, Bureau of Land Management lands, and major federal water resource projects.

Under the bill, counties would receive either 75 cents per acre of so-called entitlement lands, minus current receipts under existing programs for timber harvest, mineral development, grazing and the like, or 10 cents per acre, whichever is greater.

These additional payments would be limited, however, by a population factor. Counties with populations of 5,000 or less could not receive payments totaling more than \$50 per person, and the amount per person slides downward as population increases. Morrow

County with a population of 1485 falls into this category.

Counties with more than 50,000 or more people would receive a maximum payment of \$20 per person.

Finally, the bill would provide annual payments of one per cent of the fair market value of lands acquired after Dec. 31, 1970, for wilderness areas and new units of the National Park System. These payments would be made annually for five years following acquisition of formerly taxable land by the Federal government. They are intended to cushion local governments against sudden drops in local tax revenues resulting from such acquisitions.

City closer to dentist

One way or another, it looks as if the city of Heppner is closer to gaining another dentist. But it might take some time.

The Tri-County Health Service met with representatives of the Eastern Oregon Dental Society and the National Health Service Corps Tuesday night to try to gain support from the two agencies.

The Tri-County Service has conducted a survey in the three counties of Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler and found that the counties are lacking in dentists.

Dr. Harold Huber, a part time dentist in Heppner, wants to curtail his operation to half time. And, two more dentists in Condon that live in Bend and commute a couple days a week, leave the area practically dentistless.

There are 9300 people in the three counties. Many travel to Hermiston and Pendleton for dental care.

If there are more than 5000 people per dentist, the NHSC can designate the area as "critical dental manpower shortage area." That designation would help the city with federally funded dentists.

This is not the only option the city is taking, just one of many. They would prefer to see a private practice dentist.

And that is the support the E.O.D.S. gave them Tuesday night. Earlier, in a letter, the E.O.D.S. cited four reasons why they would not support the idea that the area needed dentists.

Among those reasons was

Markets

Losses were narrow to wide in grain markets for the week ending Aug. 5, according to Grain Market News, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In the Pacific Northwest summary, the news said wheat futures slipped to new contract lows following soybean futures that worked at limit lows several sessions during the reporting period.

Schools slate opening

All schools in Morrow County will begin the first day of school September 7, the day after Labor Day.

School will dismiss at 1:30 p.m. on the first day. Lunches will be served in all cafeterias on that day. School lunches are 30 cents and milk is served at all meals with extra milk costing an additional five cents.

School buses will run at the regular time in the morning of Sept. 7, unless special arrangements have been made with families by the driver.

Morrow County school hours are between 8:30 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. each day with only a slight variation from building to building.

Kindergarten students attend school one-half day with afternoon and morning sessions at Heppner Elementary and A.C. Houghton in Irrigon and morning sessions only at lone.

that the Hermiston dentists draw many patients and Heppner's federal acts would interfere with their private practices; Dr. Huber was trying to find a private practitioner and that was being interfered with; and people shop in Hermiston and

Pendleton and it was not an inconvenience to see a dentist during the trip.

The E.O.D.S. finally agreed that the area needs dentists.

The federal program would insure a dentist's salary for two years but the city would have to come up with the

facilities for him.

Although the E.O.D.S. finally agreed, the Tri-County Health Service says it may override the agency through Washington, D.C. letters so that federal involvement, if that is what is needed, can be used.

We'll See You There—At The Morrow County Fair

Family Fun Night

6-7:30 p.m.—dinner at \$2/person
7:30-8:15 p.m.—Marty Davis Show
8:30-11:30 p.m.—Dance with Davis

Wednesday

Demonstrations

Every day you'll see — spinning, weaving, wool drying, painting, techniques, use of wheat and beef products and more.

Carnival

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
3 adult rides & 3 children rides
tickets sold by Lions Club

3 Big Days

Style Revue

"We've Come A Long Way"
Clothing, knitting, crochet
8 p.m. for the 4-H event

Tuesday

Street Parade
RCA Rodeo
4-H, FFA Judging
Showmanship
Pet Show

Horse Show

Open Class Horse Show
Two judging rings all day
New-English & Working class

Friday

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