

Grant rejection slows Boardman clinic proposal

"We're back to first base," Bob Ewell, Tri-County Health Services head said this week when he learned that a grant proposal to build a health clinic in Boardman had been rejected by the Public Works Employment Act.

The PWEA grants are designed on an immediate work force program. And that's what has Ewell as well as Morrow County Judge Paul Jones perplexed and disappointed.

According to Ewell, the proposed 3,950 square foot clinic would have housed services consisting of medical, mental health, dental and preventive educational services.

The estimated employment would be 16 full time persons, including seven minorities

because of the Spanish speaking population in the area. Ewell said that 16 persons represents 11 per cent of the county employee work force in the county and it would be permanent.

Ewell was dismayed at the outcome. "The money was in the ball park," he said. The proposed application asked for \$301,906. "The school districts got the money," he said. Ewell noted that Eagle Point school district, a school district that has not operated since October because of budget defeats, got \$3 million to build a new building.

"What was the criteria to determine which applications should be granted and which ones would not?" Ewell asked. He said Portland was ex-

pecting around 13 million and got a figure in the thousands.

What was it for? A tennis court. "How many people will a tennis court employ?" Ewell asked again. "They could hire a person to sweep it off, I guess."

Ewell was critical of the

Jones said the program must not have felt that the health clinic would contribute to immediate employment in the Boardman area.

Jones said he "thought that without the clinic, businesses will be discouraged to come to

ing to Ewell, would present growth and also add a "stimulus for more diversified industries to come into the area." Ewell said new companies and businesses look into incentives when they come to an area. They look for housing, the labor force, schools and medical services, Ewell stated.

The proposed building, still proposed but with a slight financial setback, would be owned by the county. Space in the clinic would be leased to practitioners. The clinic already has a commitment from one dentist who said he would build his own facility if the clinic grant proposal fell through.

Ewell said contact with doctors had also been made, but there have been no commitments from them. Dr. Janice Green would continue to serve as mental health officer.

Services that would be offered are of a wide array. In general practices, the following would be among the services: general and physical examinations, treatment, immunizations, minor surgery and family planning.

The emergency services would be for minor trauma, lacerations, simple fractures, heart attacks, major trauma, respiratory distress, seizures, and overdoses.

The clinic would be equipped with X-ray facilities for both doctors and dentists. The floor plan listed a common lounge and waiting area with a common entrance. It also called for an ambulance entrance next to the X-ray and trauma centers.

Ewell said he received "great support" from congressmen on the Boardman clinic proposal. Among those going to bat for the clinic were Ullman, Packwood, Acoino and Hatfield.

"I felt pretty confident," Ewell said. "I thought we had a good shot at it."

Ewell said he will direct his communications back to the building committee in Boardman, made up of business leaders, citizens and elected officials.

Ewell said a bond issue, financed through the Federal Home Administration on a 20 year term might be asked. "It depends on what the citizens feel the need is," Ewell said.

'I felt pretty confident'

criteria used to determine grant applications since the whole idea of the program was to create immediate employment.

Both Ewell and Jones were somewhat confident that the application would be approved.

the area."

Ewell echoed that stand. "I was hopeful," he said. "This area has been designated the fastest growing area in the state. Using their own criteria, I thought it would be justified."

Gaining the clinic, accord-



Last week's snowfall?

Lawrence F. Burd, Pendleton, was cited by Morrow County Sheriff's Department last week for offensive littering.

Although this picture looks like the county received a

heavy snowfall, it was taken last week by county road superintendent, Doc Sherer. It is not snow—but soap.

Burd was using soap to aid in his well drilling process in the Sand Hollow area. The

soapy foam ran out of the well and onto the county road, standing in places knee deep for about a hundred yards down the highway.

Burd will appear in court on Dec. 29 at 2 p.m.

Manslaughter trial here dismissed

Suppressed information forced the dismissal last week of a manslaughter trial against Jerry Patrick DeLair, Boardman.

DeLair, 25, was the driver of a pickup truck that struck a tree on Wilson Road, which caused the death of Douglas Theodore Brundy, 30, Boardman.

The accident took place in late August and was a one car accident involving the driver and five passengers.

District Attorney Dennis Doherty, Morrow County, said his case against DeLair was based on blood alcohol evidence that was taken from DeLair following the accident at St. Anthony's Hospital in Pendleton.

The defense successfully suppressed the information when the court ruled that Oregon State Police did not have probable cause to justify the seizure.



Ray Boyce Takes over from Larry Mills

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

HEPPNER, OR.

THURSDAY, DEC. 30, 1976

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Boyce installed chamber pres.

Ray Boyce officially took over the presidency Monday of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce.

Boyce and his two officers, first vice president Don Cole and second vice president Lyle Lowe, were installed in a ceremony by Bob Abrams, installing officer.

Boyce takes charge, following the year stint of Larry Mills.

Boyce told the chamber that Mills had done a "wonderful

job." Truthfully and honestly," Boyce said. "I think Larry's set a record. As far as I know, he's only missed three meetings this year."

Also stepping down is Nona Grace, who has been secretary of the chamber for the past seven years. Wil Phinney was named by Boyce to succeed her.

In other business, the chamber

raised dues \$5 per year. Cost raise was instituted by a hike in the noon luncheon fee from \$2.25 to \$2.50, which was negotiated earlier this year. A full membership raised from \$105 to \$110; an associate membership raised from \$35 to \$40; and an honorary membership increased from \$15 to \$20.

heard from Randall Peter-

son, merchants' chairman. Peterson told the chamber that he had not yet solicited businesses for their share of the Christmas street light decorations collections. Peterson also explained the reason for all the lights not being lit. He said that the committee simply ran out of time. The lights all needed new plugs, lights and brackets.

Peterson said he wasn't leaving the chamber "high and dry" since the chamber loaned the merchants the money to purchase the lights from The Dalles. Cost of the lights was around \$1,000. Heppner purchased 35 lights at \$20 apiece and received 45 lights.

Peterson said he will ask for a \$20 contribution from the 50-60 merchants in the town

and that individual contributions are also welcome. Columbia Basin Electric Coop.

the city of Heppner crews and Heppner TV did the light installation.



Lyle Lowe



Don Cole

Preliminary report

County, city grants rejected by PWEA

Preliminary grant approvals from the Public Works Employment Act in Morrow County don't leave many county or city officials with smiling faces. Of more than two million dollars worth of applications in the county, the tentative report is that the county gained approval on one application for \$116,000.

One of the biggest disappointments in the county

was the disapproval of a \$301,906 application for a medical clinic in Boardman. (See additional story.)

In some respects, the dollar signs look fine, but to this individual county, they don't. In Oregon, out of \$29,700,000 granted, there were applications that went over the \$500 million mark.

Of that \$29 million granted in Oregon—district 12, which

encompasses Morrow, Umatilla, Gilliam, Wheeler and Grant counties—received \$3 million.

"On a population basis, we got more than our share," Judge Paul Jones said of the district's application approvals. "On an area basis," he added, "we didn't get as much."

Of the 10 applications from the county and cities of Morrow, only one, a grant for \$116,000 in Irrigon, was approved for improvements on that city's water system.

That \$116,000 is to expand the present system and improve on it. Jones said that figure "wasn't much" and he thought the application would be rejected because of an "insufficient application."

The improvements are to include water lines to outlying areas and improvements on the distribution system. Jones said the improvements should enable Irrigon to add considerably to the number of households on the water system.

Jones made it clear that the grant approval reports were not official, but said that he'd heard of some that did gain



The first baby of 1977 won't cry. Look to page 10 to see why.

Kuhn joins Abrams in Heppner attorney firm

Bill Kuhn has been associated with Robert Abrams in the Main Street Law Office, which says "Mahoney and Abrams" on its window, for the past four weeks now. He likes this small town, likes the West generally, and wants to settle in and stay quite a while.

Statistically, Bill is almost 25-years-old, holds a 1976 J.D.



Bill Kuhn

degree from Portland's Lewis and Clark School of Law and was admitted to the Oregon

Bar last summer. He is single—but is engaged to a Lewis and Clark law student from Toppenish, Wash. His fiancée will complete her legal training next June.

Attorney Kuhn grew up in north central Pennsylvania and attended Pennsylvania State University before he carried out his desire to come west. During summers he has worked as a lifeguard and has coached swim teams. Last summer he was employed as a beach guard at Rooster Rock State Park along the Columbia River. Bill enjoys high school sports and will be cheering for Heppner from now on.

Bill first heard about Heppner from a fellow law student, Bill Cox, who encouraged him to come here and look around. He came to talk with Bob Abrams and, in fact, spent an early November weekend in the Abrams' home. Bill is impressed with the friendly people in this part of the world and with the help being offered to him by everyone, especially the city officers and the folks at the county courthouse.

Kuhn feels that Morrow

County offers much variety—western atmosphere which he likes. He has already visited its mountains and is enjoying looking around. He likes camping, hiking, hunting and fishing and likes having these things available nearby.

Along with Attorney Abrams, he has attended several city council meetings and school board meetings. He is interested in the many developments taking place in the entire county.

Presently, Bill is living in an apartment in the Heppner Hotel Building, where he is close to the center of Heppner.

WEATHER

DATE	High	Low	Pct.
Wed., Dec. 22	29	19	—
Thurs., Dec. 23	46	23	.11 (1" snow)
Fri., Dec. 24	43	22	—
Sat., Dec. 25	57	32	.11
Sun., Dec. 26	55	45	—
Mon., Dec. 27	52	32	—

Christmas light winners named

Hazel Mahoney won the outdoor and Butch Laughlin the indoor competition of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting contest.

Mrs. Mahoney, 655 E. Hager, won first prize of \$30. In second was Randall Peterson, \$20 winner, and Calvin Sherman, third, \$10 win-

ner. Laughlin won the \$30 first prize for indoor lighting (seen from the outside). Laughlin lives at 265 E. Canyon. In second was Harry Kenison, \$20 winner, and third was Toussent Dubuque, \$10 winner.

Honorable mention went to Sam and Ruby Steers and to Robert Kelly.

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