

Carty Road petitions bring Boeing 'NO'



Stephen Lindstrom (left), Port of Umatilla manager, discusses log loading operation at McNary Dam with Norman Pallus, log hauler for Kinsua Corp., Heppner. Kinsua expects to unload about one million board feet of lumber monthly at the port site and haul it to its plant at Heppner.

A four-mile stretch of rutted trail directly north of Ione has been stirring up much more than dust in the past two weeks.

The strip of land, located on Boeing Corporation-leased property, has been the subject of an extensive petition drive directed at the Morrow County Court. The petition asks that the Court consider extending Ella Road across Boeing land to the Carty Reservoir generating site making it accessible to potential workers from the south end. But Boeing officials have emphatically stated that the petitioners will be facing formidable roadblocks.

"We definitely oppose and will continue to oppose any access to the Boeing property from the south end," Boeing Agri-Industrial Vice President Gene Norton told the Gazette-Times Tuesday.

"We don't want it open to the public and have no intention of changing our position at this time," Norton said. Norton cited possible hazards to the public which could result from Boeing's tests and research in the area as the reason for the firm stand. He

said present tests involving jet engines and solar energy are not hazardous "from that distance" but said plans make it imperative the area remain restricted.

Currently, the only access to the coal-fired generating plant now under construction is the Power Road from Boardman which is strictly regulated by a guard station.

"I have complete control of access from the north and I'm not interested in implementing the same guard situation from the south—the distance from our base of operations is too great," Norton said.

Petitions won't help road

When asked about the current petition drive, Norton said he was "tired of people running around with petitions trying to ram this road down my throat because it isn't going to work."

He expressed a willingness to talk the issue over with the interested parties but said no one had approached him on the subject.

As it stands, the County

Court, soon to be the recipient of the petitions, is in a virtually helpless position. The disputed roadway is located on private property and therefore completely out of the Court's jurisdiction.

Norton said that after a similar petition drive last year he was contacted by County Judge Paul Jones but added he never actually saw any petitions and the issue was soon dismissed.

"I'll get a hold of D.O. Nelson as soon as he takes office and tell him the same thing I told Jones," Norton said. "The road area is simply not available."

The property is now leased from Boeing by Portland General Electric which employs 420 workers in the construction phase of the plant. Employment is expected to increase to 800 by late next year.

A PGE spokesman from the corporation's Condon office indicated that PGE "has very little to say one way or the other on the road."

"Everything is covered by our lease with Boeing and its not appropriate at this time

for me to say if we (PGE) would back the road or not," he said, adding that a road from the south "would not do us any good at this time."

More than a few people in the Ione area, however, are of the opinion that the road would do them some good.

"I'd like to see it," said Ione businessman Gene Rietmann. "It's not going to turn Ione into a metropolis overnight, but as far as providing goods and services, the city is capable."

Presently, the \$30,000 per day payroll generated at the Carty site is channeled almost exclusively back to the Boardman area. Only a handful of workers make the round trip to the plant from the south end. Rather than make the 45-mile circuit to Boardman on paved roads, the workers take short cuts across the restricted area on unimproved dirt paths—a practice that Norton is well aware of.

He said he would have to resort to digging ditches across the paths "if it comes to that."

One of the Ione workers at the plant said the road would probably bring more people into Ione, "not necessarily to

live but just because it would be more convenient."

"I work with the people out there and most are quality people, I don't think they would detract from the town at all," he said.

Ione Planning Commission Chairman Fred Martin said the road would probably have "the greatest effect on Ione, no doubt, but of course the effect would also extend through Lexington and Heppner."

Others do not look as favorably on the possibility of having a direct link to the burgeoning industrial area, but for now the question appears moot.

Harold Sherer of the County Road Department offered a summation for the present when he said, "there's nothing the county can do, it can't condemn right-of-way on a road on private property or government property for that matter."

"The chances of anything happening in the near future aren't too bright," Sherer said.

"If they (Boeing) don't want the road, it's not going to be built by a handful of citizens hollering," he added.

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Masons invite public to 100th Anniversary Saturday

Worshipful Master Dick Wilkinson and officers of Heppner Masonic Lodge No. 69 are extending a special invitation to residents of the area to attend the 100th Anniversary of the Lodge Saturday, June 25.



Dick Wilkinson...Masons Worthy Master

An evening dinner and program starts at 6 p.m. in the Heppner High School Cafeteria. The dinner will be a no-host affair, catered by Jim Rogers of the West of Willow Restaurant.

Wilkinson will open the program at 7 p.m., which features a reading of the history of the Lodge by Harold Becket, who compiled the history. Each person attending the dinner and program will receive a copy of the history and a deer skin bookmark commemorating the anniversary. Keynote speaker for the evening will be Joseph W. Jarvis, Grand Master of Masons in Oregon.

Entertainment will be provided by the Heppner High School Swing Band with vocal selections by Jim Ackley and Shannon Kelly.

During the afternoon Saturday, the Lodge Hall, located on Willow Street behind Gardner's Men's Wear, will be open to the public for viewing. "We wish to stress that this is a community affair and want to extend a warm welcome to everyone," said Wilkinson.

Ione sewer plan past first stage

Ione is nearing the end of the initial phase in a three-step process ultimately aimed at providing a new sewer system for the city.

Currently, the details are being handled by the Tenneson Engineering Corp., and according to Tenneson spokesman Donald Rhode, the environmental impact survey is completed and ready for submittal to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for final approval.

The next step for The Dalles-based engineering firm will be the overseeing of federal grant applications that would provide a major portion of the financing for the project.

The impact and feasibility study already completed by Tenneson is estimated at a cost of

\$6,800—25 per cent of which will be paid from city funds. The remainder is covered by an already approved EPA grant.

Two major grants are now pending for the bulk of the sewer system financing.

One grant request, submitted to EPA, would cover 75 per cent of the estimated \$365,000 needed to build the treatment facility. Another grant is pending with the Federal Housing Administration which would provide 50 per cent financing for the estimated \$348,000 collection system.

According to Ione Mayor Robert Drake, a city bond election would be needed to come up with the funds necessary for the city's portion.

Rhode said the city is "looking at one year at least before any definite

construction begins," and added that without approval of the two grants there is virtually no way the system would be completed.

"The EPA has a list of priorities for its grants and although Ione's grant will be approved eventually, I can't say if it will come through this year," Rhode said.

"Ione's sewer situation is not a real serious problem now and more immediate concerns of other cities might be approved before this one," Rhode said.

The sewer project will be included on the agenda of a special city council meeting set for June 28 at 8 p.m., in Ione City Hall.

Water cutback again asked

City Foreman Don Penney has asked Heppner residents to limit lawn and garden watering during the current two-month critical use period.

Peak demands are now placing overloads on the five city well pumps and Penney is now left without a standby pump for use in case of a breakdown.

News notes

Sidewalk sale set

Heppner merchants are busy marking down merchandise in preparation for their annual Sidewalk Sales Day, scheduled for Friday, July 8.

Randall Peterson, chairman of the merchants' committee, said most of the stores in downtown Heppner would be participating in the one-day event that offers "very special prices" on regular merchandise.

Peterson also invited any group or organization that wishes to set up a sidewalk display of craft or food items for sale to contact him at Peterson's Jewelers, 676-9200.

Nelson in July 1

Delwin O. Nelson, newly appointed County Judge, will take the oath of office during ceremonies Friday, July 1 at the Morrow County Courthouse.

Ed Sullivan, legal counsel for Gov. Bob Straub, will administer the oath at 11:30 a.m.

Nelson was appointed by Gov. Straub to fill the unexpired term of retiring Judge Paul Jones last week.

The public is invited to attend the ceremonies and Nelson will be at the Courthouse during the day to greet visitors. Coffee and cookies will be served throughout the day.

Burning ban on

Fire Chief Forrie Burkenbine announced that a burning ban for area residents goes into effect immediately.

"Due to the extremely dry conditions and recent fires we must enforce the city's statutes that prohibit burning in anything but state approved incinerators," said Burkenbine.

The Fire Chief noted that burning barrels do not fit into the "approved" burning device category, whether or not they have a cover.

"Persons should understand that if a fire gets started from their burning, they are responsible for all costs in putting the fire out, plus damage," said Burkenbine.

Burning while the ban is in effect is also punishable by a fine and the Fire Chief noted that the ban would be enforced, beginning immediately.

Fair premium books in mail

The 1977 Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Premium Books were mailed last week to 4-H'ers, advertisers, the last two year's exhibitors and interested persons.

If you didn't receive a book, you are advised to contact Liz Curtis at 676-9454 or stop by the Extension Office in Heppner or Irrigon.

This year's premium book is dedicated to the memory of Mary Lindsay who devoted countless hours of service to the Morrow County Fair for more than 20 years.

Exhibitors are reminded all open class exhibits will be accepted on Monday, Aug. 22, at the Fairgrounds between 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Lebush slates grand opening

Lebush Shoppe II, a clothing store for women and girls, will hold their grand opening in the lower level of the Dodge City Inn, Boardman, this Friday and Saturday from 9 to 5 each day.

Featuring a line of moderately priced, quality clothing, Lebush offers a selection from more than 20 famous-maker brands.

Hal and Virginia Whitaker, owners of the Lebush Shoppes in Heppner and Boardman, said numerous prizes will be

awarded grand opening customers including merchandise and gift certificates. Drawings will be held every hour for door prizes.

The shop will carry the same lines of junior, missy and queen sizes as the Heppner store, plus a line of casual-sport shoes.

"We're very pleased with the response we've had from customers this past week and the ladies seem to be happy to have their own clothing store in Boardman," said Mrs. Whitaker.

Burns resigns planning post

Don Burns, acting Morrow County Planning Director for the past three months will be leaving that position effective July 1.

Burns, who has also served as City Planner for the cities of Heppner, Lexington, Ione and Irrigon for the past ten months, will assume the position of Criminal Justice Planner with the East Central Oregon Assn. of Counties.

With ECOAC, Burns will be working in conjunction with law enforcement agencies in determining problem areas and monitoring crime level activities. He will also be working to secure grants for various programs including juvenile facilities and boys' ranches.

Burns will be working out of ECOAC's office in Pendleton where he currently resides with his wife Michelle.

Vacation of the planning post will force the four cities Burns has aided to

look elsewhere for assistance in planning. Burns has been working with the local planning commissions in compiling guidelines for the cities' comprehensive plans. The four cities have been contracting his services through the county.

A little more than 1½ months after going to work as joint city administrator for the communities of Echo and Irrigon, Dave Moon handed in his resignation last Thursday. He will officially leave the position July 1.

Joint Mgr. Quits

Bob and Phyllis Kroll of Heppner announced this week the opening of a new department store at 167 N. Main. July 5 has been set as the opening date.

The new Heppner business will be called Kroll's Department Store and will feature a basic line of ready-to-wear clothing for men, women, children, toddlers and infants. The store will also carry a

complete line of domestics, such as sheets and towels.

"We will open with pretty much basic lines of clothing, including some fashion merchandise," said Kroll, "but we'd like to see what the community wants from its department store and we will then order stock accordingly."

He added that a complete size selection will be offered in all departments.

moving into drafting the actual plans.

Replacing Burns will be Dave Moon who will return to his former position as County Planning Director after completing a three month term of duty as the joint City Administrator for the cities of Echo and Irrigon.

Krolls plan July 5 opening for store

Neither council has had time to meet on this recent development. No regular meeting is slated before Moon is scheduled to leave. Mayors of both communities are cur-

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WEATHER
June 15-21

Hi-Lo	
Wednesday	82-48
Thursday	82-46
Friday	88-50
Saturday	90-55
Sunday	88-56
Monday	82-57
Tuesday	82-54