

Livestock growers re-elect directors

The Morrow County Livestock Growers unanimously re-elected Ray French, Charlie Daley, Merlin Hughes and Ned Clark as directors at their afternoon business meeting on Friday, Dec. 9.

Judy Bushke, ASCS county executive director, discussed different aspects of the new Emergency Feed program and urged any livestock grower who might qualify to apply for the program.

Ray French talked about the affect that the contract between Iowa Beef Packers and Northwest Cattle Feeders, a conglomerate of six major feed lots in the Northwest, could have on the cattle growing industry.

The feed lot group is contracted to supply cattle to Iowa Beef plants in Boise and Pasco, sharing the profit and loss from lot to kill. French said his main concern is that this concentration of power in the industry could dictate prices in the Northwest "up and down the line" and expand to all parts of the

United States. French said one aspect of the situation not discussed in the media was that, since Iowa Beef dealt with the Amalgamated Union instead

of the Meat Cutters, it paid its employes about \$3 less per hour than other plants, and was able to undercut prices, tending to drive smaller packers out of business.

"If the Iowa Beef-Northwest Cattle Feeders combination is opposed, it should be attacked on the basis that it is a monopoly and bad for the industry," French said.

"Mexican Standoff"

Sumner negotiating for gravel site rights

Calling the situation a "Mexican standoff," Rep. Jack Sumner last week told Port of Morrow commissioners he is working with the state Department of Transportation to transfer rights to a 40-acre gravel mining site on Port Food Processing Park land from the DOT back to the Port.

Through a series of deed transfers, the DOT was given a permit to remove gravel

from land before the area was purchased by the Port. According to Port Manager Ruppert Kennedy, the land deed obtained by the DOT did not show the gravel encumbrance which happens to be located directly in the middle of the Food Processing Park.

The DOT is presently not mining any gravel in the area and has no plans to do so in the next six years.

"I feel very strongly it would be in the public's best interest to transfer the land to the Port," Sumner said. "But all the DOT can see is all those potential yards of gravel that will be there in the future when they need it."

Kennedy said Sumner has been working on behalf of the Port to secure a settlement.

"We've done everything we've been asked to do as a community as far as setting up an industrial park and now they want to dig a hole in the middle," Kennedy said. "We're just have to rattle this one out."

Court decides to try

trench disposal

Dail Turner and Robert Schultz, co-owners of the Turner Landfill site, met with the county court and Cliff Green, manager of the landfill, on Wednesday, Dec. 7 to discuss problems connected with the site, including its longevity—or lack of it.

The feasibility of using a trench rather than pit method of solid waste burial was discussed as a possible way to

extend the life span of the site and also to control the litter problem caused by wind-blown paper. The court decided to try the trenching method to see how it worked.

Judge D.O. Nelson said that the old Lexington Dump is now covered and will be open a couple of times a month for white goods disposal as soon as another gate is installed and a caretaker found.

Sigurdson graduates from Police Academy

Steven J. Sigurdson of the Morrow County Sheriff's Office will participate in graduation exercises at the Oregon Police Academy Friday, Dec. 16, in Monmouth.

Sigurdson, one of 38 graduates of Law Enforcement Basic Class No. 71, has been a deputy in Morrow County since February. The Law Enforcement Class is part of

the certification process required of all first year law officers.

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Lexington City Council discusses garbage pickup

At the regular meeting of the Lexington City Council Dec. 6, Cliff Green, Heppner, met with the council on providing garbage pickup service to the town. About 30 persons have signed up, but more are needed in order to obtain the service. Interested persons are asked to call

Green, any council member or Lois Allyn, city recorder.

Marie Hall, ECOAC, Pendleton, met with the Council concerning "911" phone service, which is a method of using a single phone number to call for all emergency services, fire, police, etc. The

council has not made a final decision.

Hall also presented a preliminary comprehensive plan map for the town. The map may be altered by several annexations and a public hearing on the changes will be held later in the winter.

Morrow County considered for sludge disposal location

The feasibility and advisability of barging digested sludge from Portland to Morrow County was discussed at an information gathering meeting between the county court and a group including representatives from the City of Portland, the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Environmental Quality and Planners Deane Seeger and Dave Moon on Dec. 7.

The sludge is being used on an experimental basis in the Eugene area for use as a fertilizer, containing approximately four per cent nitrogen and an equal amount of phosphorus.

Several other Eastern Oregon counties are being considered as sites for the sludge disposal. Preliminary environmental impact statements are planned to be completed by Feb. 8, followed by public hearings and brochures to explain procedures and benefits of sludge disposal and to gauge public reaction in the counties under consideration.

Shannon Kelly selected to Linfield choir

Shannon Kelly, Heppner, has been selected as a member of the Linfield College A Capella choir for the 1977-78 school year.

The choir has approximately 45 members and

performs at church services and concerts throughout the Portland area. In addition, the choir will travel to Montana this spring for a week long recruiting and fund-raising tour.

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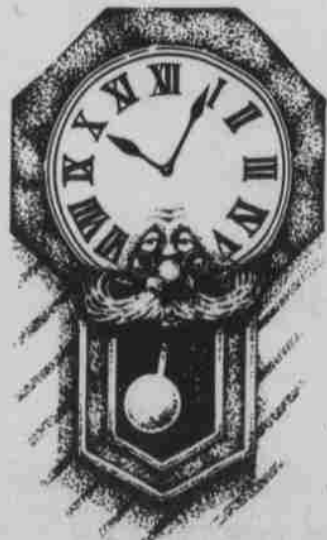
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