

Hospital levy trimmed, on ballot again Aug. 9

From a motion by Commissioner Dorothy Krebs, the court approved a change in the hospital levy to medical levy and set Thursday, August 9 as the date for the third levy election.

Eighty-three thousand dollars have been trimmed off the original levy figure submitted to the voters in the first vote May 22, with a tax rate of \$1.32 per \$1,000. The latest request asks voters to support a lower tax rate or \$1.125 per \$1,000, almost \$.20 per \$1,000 cheaper.

The total budget requirements have been dropped from \$1,685,274 to \$1,633,685, total resources from \$1,186,152 to \$1,173,450, thereby lowering the amount outside the 6 percent limitation needed to balance the budget or \$460,385 compared to the previous \$499,122.

The hospital board expects \$15,000 more to be available at the end of the year as

cash-in-hand, recommended a change in operations requirements and resources, \$924,501 is the new figure compared to \$920,501 for requirements and \$758,105 is the new figure for resources compared to the previous \$758,105; \$2,700 was added to the resources and requirement side of the budget, although balancing out with no funds on the amount necessary to balance the budget (that amount will be the rent charged the hospital administrator for rental of a house adjacent to the court-house); the \$87,000 contingency and \$25,000 in planning and development funds were left unchanged; the capital improvement and replacement fund was increased by \$7,000 for requirements; the amount needed to balance the budget for physician service for the rest of the year or physician relief; the new figure and funds for the North Morrow clinic were left intact in the

amount of \$157,140 in requirements and \$127,990 in resources.

The court accepted the board's recommendation that surgical expenses be left in the budget despite the professional staff's recommendation to delete the requirement because no surgery was being done at Pioneer Memorial. Also accepted was \$33,639 reduction in physician relief, malpractice and insurance, a \$5,000 reduction in physician recruitment, reduction in a physician's salary by \$12,500 thereby reducing income by \$18,744, adding \$2,342 for reimbursement of telephone billing for individual patients, increasing laboratory fees by \$4,000 and proposed \$6,000 as the increase in income from lab fees because of a physician recommendation that the work should be done at Pioneer Memorial rather than farmed out to other laboratories.

Port Commissioners foresee new fuel developments on port property

The Port of Morrow doesn't want a piece of the rock but it would like to have the U.S. Navy Bombing Range property under its jurisdiction should the property become available.

Port of Morrow Commissioners went on record Thursday in support of a resolution by Commissioner Beverly Kyd, that the Port would be the state utility to receive the land for orderly development if the Navy moved out of the bombing range and authorizing Port Manager Buddy Toadvin to conduct a feasibility study on irrigating the land.

Kyd foresees future development of the property into family sized units, possibly tied to a cooperative program for producing grain for a gasohol distillery.

Kyd and Commissioner Larry Lindsay recently attended the Western Regional Gasohol Conference at the Oregon Technical Institute in Klamath Falls and presented a report to the commission.

Following the report, Toadvin posed the question, "What would be required for the Port building a gasohol plant or having it built and bonding the construction?"

Replied Lindsay: "There would have to be an assured supply of grain." He said it might be premature to invest in gasohol plants at this time

but noted that the Port could start on a small scale by setting up docking facilities. Lindsay felt the time for construction of a gasohol plant would be determined by the national demand for gasohol to ease shrinking gasoline supplies.

The commission took no action on authorizing planning for a Port gasohol plant but approved a \$25 membership in the National Gasohol Association Inc.

Faced with problems with an effluent or wastewater pipe installed in 1974, the commission approved a motion calling for litigation against the Teckite Corporation, the pipe manufacturer and allocated a \$1,500 retainer fee and \$65 an hour to a California Attorney, Stanley Grydyk of Arcata, California to begin proceedings against the firm in California and Washington. The Port's legal counsel, Herman Winter, said he had contacted Grydyk about his legal work in several product liability cases lodged against the corporation and learned that attorney has worked seven years on such cases and won a half million dollar settlement for the city of Arcata.

Responding to commission questions, Winter estimated that the Port might have to spend upwards to \$25,000 to win the case and the adverse

effect would be spending the legal costs of trying to win.

Commissioner Lindsay felt the "facts are on our side" and introduced the motion to initiate the litigation. Commissioner Gene Allen said, "We have to aggressively pursue this case," and the other commission members agreed, voting unanimously to hire Grydyk.

When the 30 inch pipe was first installed, its installation cost was estimated at \$183,000. The \$5,000 ft. section, which has experienced 17 breaks in about five years would cost about \$200,000 to replace, Toadvin told the board.

To provide information on the chemicals in the waste water system as required by the Department of Environmental Quality, the commission is considering hiring a chemical laboratory to take water and soil samples. One company representative, Eugene Kuo of Agri-Check Inc., submitted his firm's price list for quarterly soil

sampling of the irrigation circles and monthly water samples. Port members felt the cost of \$9,364 for the year's testing program was too steep and tabled action until further costs are investigated. Kyd suggested the commission budget might hire a person to test the soil for the cost and the board tabled the matter until its August meeting.

A question raised by Commissioner Louis Carlson was whether the firm could analyze the soils data submitted and Kuo responded that his partner, Dave Anderson, a former county extension agent in Morrow, would be able to explain the findings.

The commission also tabled action on a proposed five year lease with Miracle Potatoes, Commissioner Allen said a vote on the proposal had resulted in a split vote and because of inadequate information wanted action tabled. "More study is needed before we step out on this long

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Hospital Administrator resigns Byrnes cites 'political situation' as reason for leaving

Pioneer Hospital Administrator Bob Byrnes resigned his position at Tuesday's Hospital Board meeting, effective October 31, citing the "complex political situation" and it would appear that I am at this time "a political liability."

"It is with regret that I tender my resignation effective October 31, 1979. There does not appear to be any solution or compromise to the complex political situation.

"I feel much has been accomplished in the past two years for the hospital in areas such as organization, systems, planning, financial reporting, analysis and accountability. It is unfortunate that change is always traumatic."

"I would expect to receive any unused accrued benefits such as vacation and some freedom during the subsequent months in order to firm up plans to relocate.

"I believe that the hospital is now at a turning point and I extend my best wishes for the

future of the hospital and the board."

The board accepted the resignation with regrets and several members expressed disappointment in the resignation. Board Member Ed Dick said, "I feel the board has no alternative but to accept the resignation with regrets. Board Member Gladys Hobbs said she felt "we are making a mistake. I don't know we could find an administrator to pick up the pieces; he knows what we are doing."

Dick further stated that he had received "various indications of the distrust of people of our operations; this is a prevalent feeling. There has been distrust on down from the higher levels of government individually and collectively. It's terrible we have to yield to these pressures. Bob has seen these pressures."

Board Member Alice Bartlett said "I regret we have to use this means; he is being used as a scapegoat."

A motion by Ed Dick to accept the resignation was seconded by Dan Sweeney and the board approved it unanimously.

In announcing the letter of resignation, Chairman Fred Martin said the board should require an audit at the end of

Hospital budget

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creating "more than a first aid station" at Pioneer Memorial Hospital as the long range goal of the institution. Sweeney insisted the court make a decision on his call for a change in administration.

County Judge D.O. Nelson adjourned the public session of the court meeting to go into executive session asking members of the public to leave the courthouse meeting room. The news media was allowed to stay but unable to report any of the details of the session because of state law.

90 days to afford protection to the administrator as well as advice from the District Attorney. He then asked the

School board hires teachers

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the next regular meeting on August 20 at Heppner High School beginning at 8 p.m.

The board accepted the resignations of teachers, Mark Carnathan, Susan Dickler, Mary Benedict, Louise Schmidt, Ken Lemley, all of Heppner schools and Joanne McGovern of Boardman and hired new teachers: Maureen McElligott, social studies, Riverside, graduate of University of Portland and M.A.; Brenda Weygand, intermediate, Heppner Elementary School, EOSC graduate with a

B.A.; Bruce Martin, instrumental music, Heppner, Central Washington University graduate with a B.A., Reginald Clark, language arts-Spanish, Heppner High School, University of Washington graduate, M.A.; Lisa Nelson, librarian at Heppner Elementary and Jr. High School, B.A. from Athens State and EOSC; Gene Sartin, music, Ione, Arizona State University, B.A.; Don Vanos, language arts, physical education, Heppner High School, University of North

Dakota, B.A., Kim Webster, special education; University of Idaho, B.A.; Al Roehl, art, A.C. Houghton, EOSC, B.A. and Mark Bake, language arts-social studies, Brigham Young, B.A., Riverside High School.

The District called for maintenance on district school buses and eliminated a contract run in the Valby area. Talks are underway on the possibility of extending contract service to Blake's addition. Supt. Doherty said the diesel bus has been repaired.

OBITUARY

Mabel Rash

Mabel Grace Rash, 67, Boardman, died at Community Hospital in Pendleton Wednesday.

Funeral services were held Saturday at the Boardman Community Church.

Mrs. Rash was born June 2, 1912 in Clatskanie, had been a resident of Boardman since 1950. She is survived by her husband, Darrel Rash, Boardman.

She is also survived by a son, Darrel Rash Jr. of Bend; three daughters, Elmora Panages, Boardman, Dorothy Getz, The Dalles and Diane Buchanan, Kenai, Alaska;

three brothers, Wilson Trotter, Sheridan, Charlie Trotter, Clatskanie and Acie Trotter of Willamina, Oregon; two sisters, Mary Glenn, Willamina and Cordelia Burt,

Ranier, Wash.; and nine grandchildren.

Contributions may be made through the local Cancer Society through Burns Mortuary.

Willow Lodge No. 66--I.O.O.F.

Special Meeting Wednesday, Aug. 1 at 8:00 p.m. at Lodge Hall for Odd Fellow and Rebekahs. Visitation by Grand Master Herbert M. Mansell after regular lodge meeting, followed by meeting with Grand Master. Light lunch at closing.

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