

Pendleton hospital offers to run Boardman clinic

About 15 people showed up at the October 23 North Morrow Medical Board meeting in opposition to St. Anthony Hospital's offer to operate the North Morrow Medical Clinic.

Bill Alsdurf, vice-president of the hospital made no formal presentation to the board but did answer questions about the offer.

Alsdurf indicated St. Anthony was setting up a clinic in Hermiston and had contacted the medical board to see if the board would consider such an alignment in Boardman.

The reason for the contract was two-fold, Alsdurf said. 1) The hospital was expanding into the Hermiston area, and 2) they had heard "rumblings" that Dr. Steve Zielinski might not stay on after his contract expired.

Alsdurf said St. Anthony had come to Boardman two years ago to look over the clinic but nothing materialized from that visit. "Health care has changed in the last four years—substantially," he said. "It's not that we weren't interested."

Alsdurf stated the hospital would like to expand its Preferred Provider Organization to this area. He added that Eastern Oregon "is way behind compared to the valley."

"We anticipate that it (PPO) will be successful in Hermiston, Boardman, all of Eastern Oregon."

Alsdurf explained that health insurance companies give incentives for employees whose employer's have a PPO contract to visit the preferred provider. For example, if an employee sees the preferred provider, the insurance company may pay 80 percent of the cost. If the patient chooses a facility outside the PPO the company may pay only 60 percent of the cost per visit.

Alsdurf said the hospital found the clinic facility suitable and if Dr. Zielinski did not have plans to continue practicing in Boardman "we'd be very interested in something."

"There's a chance we might want to do something on our own," Alsdurf continued, "if we can't work something out. Although we have no immediate plans."

He estimated it would cost St. Anthony \$300,000 dollars to build and equip a facility here if the clinic building could not be acquired.

Board member Steve Rowe admitted he was somewhat skeptical of the proposal. Rowe asked if local companies did not participate in the PPO program what affect that would have on St. Anthony's commitment to the community.

Alsdurf answered he felt the clinic would operate regardless of PPO participation.

Alsdurf said that if negotiations were successful the clinic may be able to have a resident physician or possibly two rotating doctors. "My opinion is to have a resident physician," he added.

Alsdurf went on to say that the hospital could not guarantee a resident physician but every effort could be made to secure one. "Dr. Zielinski could be a possibility," he continued, "but we'd need to talk to him about it."

Alsdurf stated he did not foresee any adverse effects to the proposed operation in the event of two medical districts. "We consider ourselves to be a regional hospital, but the arrangement has to work for both parties," he said.

Alsdurf also stated increased hospital business and referrals would pick up the extra cost if the clinic were operating at a loss.

Board member Marnie Anderson said she felt there were some attractive advantages to an agreement with St. Anthony. "Maybe we could alleviate some of these problems we've incurred as a board in the last year."

One member of the audience asked if St. Anthony's physicians would have privileges at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. Alsdurf answered it could be possible but was not likely.

The audience expressed concern

about traveling to Pendleton for hospital and physician services (especially for senior citizens) when the same services might be available at a closer facility.

Members of the audience also expressed uncertainty about whether such an arrangement would be in the best interest of patients in the community currently using the clinic and Good Shepherd for medical services.

Kathy Kenton, Boardman, stated she was concerned about not having a choice of hospitals if St. Anthony took over operations here.

County overlooked as supercollider site

The Governor's Task Force on the Superconducting Super Collider has selected the south Willamette Valley site near Lebanon as the preferred site for a giant particle accelerator if located in Oregon.

The Task Force made the recommendation in a letter to Gov. Vic Atiyeh. According to the recommendation, the Boardman-Hermiston site would remain the second choice for the SSC should geophysical studies not pan out for the valley location. The north Willamette site near Woodburn has been eliminated.

David Fiskum, deputy director for the Oregon Economic Development Department said remoteness of the area and lack of urban amenities led to the rejection of the Eastern Oregon site. "I don't characterize the decision as rejection. The two sites are deemed to be acceptable. The selection was a close, tough decision," he said.

Fiskum added that the Task Force felt the south Willamette site "will compete better (on a national level) because it is not as remote." An economic study conducted by CH2M Hill for the Governor's SSC Task Force and the Oregon Department of Economic Development indicated rapid growth of other areas around the country who have hosted similar high tech centers.

The SSC is a huge particle accelerator that would be used by high-energy physicists to study the nature of matter and the origins of the universe. Originally round, the shape of the SSC has been changed to "...more of a race track shape," according to Fiskum. It would be close to an oval shape 22 miles on the long side and 18 miles on the ends.

The U.S. Department of Energy has not begun the national site selection process nor have funds been ap-

To fill Port commission vacancies

A special committee appointed by the Port of Morrow Commission in late September to formulate a written policy for the appointment of commission vacancies, plans to present the commission with its recommendation at the Port's regular meeting November 12, reported William "Bill" Sharkey, chairman of the ad hoc committee.

The recommendation suggests that a seven-member committee be appointed and that a port commissioner serve as chairman of the committee.

Members of the new committee are to include representatives of the economic agencies, Chamber of Commerce, or city administration from the five cities within Morrow County, and one port tenant. The chairman will solicit representatives from those areas or agencies.

In the event of a commission vacancy, the Port Commission would advertise the vacancy. Applicants submitting written resumes would then be screened and interviewed by the special committee.

Two applicants would be presented to the commission, which would make the final selection.

The appointed committee also recommends that the new committee

Continued Pg 6

Don Eppenbach, vice-chairman of the board said "We want to make sure the clinic, no matter who operates it, remains a county operation."

The board took no action on the St. Anthony proposal.

In other business Marnie Anderson proposed to the board that both hospital boards in the county, the EMT's, and other interested agencies in the county hold a public meeting to discuss the health needs of the county at both ends. The board indicated it would be receptive to

meeting interested parties from both ends to the county and instructed Anderson to take steps to initiate such a meeting.

The board also reported that contract negotiations with Dr. Zielinski were progressing well and the terms of the contract are being reviewed by county counsel. As soon as this year's contract is complete the board said it intends to pursue an extended contract to alleviate lengthy negotiations on an annual basis.

Dr. Zielinski said he would be open to negotiating a long-term contract.

proved for the \$4 billion dollar research center. Fiskum said the Task Force expects the national site selection process to begin anytime in the next three to 18 months.

If the SSC were located in Oregon, the CH2M Hill study projects an increase of employment by over 10,000 people and resident incomes by more than \$1.5 billion dollars. Income tax revenues will increase by approximately \$24 million. Spinoff industries and businesses would be an added bonus.

Fiskum did say that if the SSC were located in the Willamette valley site, the valley would feel "...the major impact, both positive and

negative." Fiskum said though doubtful, Eastern Oregon may feel some "ripple effects" from the economic impact to the state.

Matt Doherty, chairman of the Eastern Oregon Task Force which has been rallying for the Boardman-Hermiston site for nearly a year said the Task Force is "disappointed in the recommendation."

"This is only a recommendation, the Governor has not responded officially to the site."

Doherty said that if the Governor upholds the Task Force's recommendation "there's probably nothing we could do. We will have to accept what the Governor says."

Feed grain program signup dates told

Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng recently announced that signup for the 1987 feed grains, upland cotton and rice programs will be held November 17 through March 30.

Signup for the 1987 program began October 1 and will continue through March 30.

Lyng also said that wheat and feed grain producers participating in the programs may request 40 percent of their estimated deficiency payments when they sign up for the program, while upland cotton and rice producers may request 30 percent of their deficiency payments. Also at signup, feed grain producers may request 50 percent of their estimated diversion payments.

"The advance payments will provide producers additional cash flow for spring plantings and to meet

other financial obligations," said Lyng.

The USDA estimates deficiency

Computer club offered

Morrow County will offer a 4-H Computer Club in Heppner. Extension Agent Bill Broderick has announced. Father Edward of the Catholic Church has volunteered to help the youth with computers.

He has had a lot of experience with computers, Broderick said, and has also worked with youth a great deal. "This is the perfect chance to learn about computers," he said.

Youth in grades six through eighth who are interested in joining this club should contact the Extension Office at 676-9642.



Shooting at the Moon?

This bullet hole appeared in the Courthouse Clock sometime Hallowe'en night. It is not known if the shooter was aiming at the moon or was spooked by a Hallowe'en ghost. Heppner Police said investigation of the incident is continuing.

be made in generic commodity certificates. Lyng also said that an additional common program provision which will be applicable to the 1987 crops of upland cotton, feed grains and rice provides that actual yields for 1987 and subsequent crop years will not be used to establish farm program payment yields for the 1988 and subsequent crops. This is the same as announced for wheat on June 30.

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<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Jason Palmer #69 5'10", 195 lbs., T-LB Senior</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Bob Rish #55 5'9", 175 lbs., T-T Senior</p>

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