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VOL 105 NO. 29

Wednesday, July 22, 1987

# **Testimony mostly favorable**

Testimony on construction of a large landfill in Morrow County. was mostly favorable during a public hearing last week in Heppner.

Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, Port of Morrow, and businesses in the county spoke in favor of the 600-acre dump, saying it would be an economic boon to the county

Opponents on the other hand, said the landfill wouldn't generate as many jobs as claimed, and would drive tourists away with a bad image of Morrow County

The proposed dump is to be located at Finley Buttes, about 16 miles south of Boardman off Bombing Range Road.

Tidewater Barge Lines, the largest shipper on the Columbia and Snake River System, is behind the project, which could see up to 2,500 tons of residential and commercial garbage shipped into Morrow County every day from communities along the Columbia River. Life of the dump could be up to 25 years.

• Landfill Site

Miller also pointed out that Heppner's landfill is scheduled to close in several years, and with the high cost

Mills also said that he has worked with Tidewater Barge Lines in the past and has found them "to be good neighbors.

Heppner 25¢

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Othesr speaking in favor of the project were Cliff Green, president of the Heppner Economic Development Committee. Kent Goodyear of Kinzua Corp. (a Heppner wood products company). Bill Doherty, a local wheat farmer, Bill Cox, a local Heppner citizen, Anne Murray of Heppner, Bill Kuhn of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce and the City of Heppner, and Ed Glenn, a Boardman resident and member of the Morrow County health care board of directors.

Glenn said he was probably closer to the project than any other resident of the county, "the lights of the trucks will be shining right in my bedroom window," he pointed out. Glenn said he favored the project,

court) decision on this dump containers to be available in the area. tingent on the vote," he said. Opposition to the landfill project, voiced at the public hearing, came We want to insure the public has

hea

mainly from two Boardman men a right to voice their opinion through who have organized a petition drive the polls," said Mason, who also that will place a resolution on a helped with the petition.

Mason said that economic data uscounty-wide ballot Nov. 3 asking for voter approval before any landfill ed by Tidewater to estimate spinoff that accepts garbage from outside the jobs in the county was inaccurate. and should not be taken seriously. 'If you are going to give away the farm, Dean Mason and Jerry Simpson, you should at last do it for more." employees at the Portland General Mason said

Electric Coal plant in Boardman, Mason said a similar landfill prosaid they feel a majority of the public posed for Gilliam County by another don't want the landfill and would company, offered that county more "I don't run in the same circles as money

Pat Wright, a Lexington resident and Morrrow County Health Nurse, spoke out against the project, saying on her travels around the county she uses Bombing Range Road, which fill in the papers and felt there were the large container trucks would use heavily.

# ring First load shipped from stud mill

operate on swing to utilize equipment also us-

The new mill will produce about 30 million

In recent years the company has installed a chipping operation, new small log mill, and

a cogeneration plant that produces electrici-

board feet of two-by-fours per year. "This is really a smooth operation," Dubuque said of

ed in the main mill during the day

Kinzua's latest addition.

ty from wood waste.

Last week Kinzua Corp. shipped the first carload of construction 2 x 4s produced by its new stud mill.

Kinzua has hired about 20 people for the stud mill itself and will require an additional 18 in the planer facility, Personnel Manager Doug Dubuque said Friday.

The stud mill, in operation since July I allows us to use small logs and White Fir better and more economically than before, he said. Company owned land and many of the timber sales coming up have a lot of White Fir, he continued, "with the stud mill, we can process it more economically than before.

So far the studs have been shipped to the Chicago area, Marketing Manager Kent Goodyear said, because most of the available market is in the north eastern quarter of the U.S. He expects some later shipments to the South Central and Texas area. Sales have been to distribution yards, wholesalers, chain yard and home centers, and some directly to retail chains, he



**Finished** Product

Doug Dubuque of Kinzua Corp. shows members of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce the finished product that comes out of the company's new stud mill.

The chamber toured both the new stud mill, and the regular saw mill, at Kinzua's Heppner plant.

Dubuque says the new stud mill is operating on the swing shift with about 40 new employees. The mill will continue to

at land

county be built here.

The hearing in Heppner was just one of four held by the county court to gather public feeling on the project.

Bob Miller of Boardman said the project was endorsed both by the Boardman Chamber of Commerce and the Port of Morrow "because of the jobs and economic development it will bring to Morrow County." Miller is a member of the chamber's economic development committee. and also manager of the Port of Morrow

Representatives of Tidewater say the project will generate 30 to 50 new jobs in Morrow County, including heavy equipment operators, truck drivers and other landfill operators, for an annual payroll of \$600,000 to \$1 million. Tidewater says spinoff related jobs could total 35 to 65 and have a payroll of \$450,000 to \$750,000.

of locating a new landfill, the Finley Buttes site offers a solution to the problem. Tidewater officials have said that the dump would be available for use to people in Mor-

row County. Other testimony in favor included letters from John Pragg, a Boardman real estate broker, who said that Morrow County has established a reputation for driving business away. and that the landfill would be good economically for the county, and would help solve Heppner's solid waste disposal problem.

Larry Mills, manager of the Morrow County Grain Growers in Lexington, said the landfill was a "win, win" project.

Mills pointed out that having the waste shipped to Morrow County in sealed containers, would mean plenty of empty containers would be available for shipment of agricultural products back down the river. Lack of available containers in the past has apparently hurt shipping opportunities in Eastern Oregon.

but thought the county should decide on how to spend the "franchise fees" imposed by the county on Tidewater

(The county is currently negotiating with Tidewater on a perton fee to be paid for dumping in the county.

"I think we should dedicate the money to help small manufacturing companies locate in the county." said Glenn. "Small manufacturing will bring new money into the county," he said.

Four letters in support of the landfill were also read at the hearing. Sunridge Homes, John Gorham, and the Nornad Restaurant, all of Boardman, were in favor of the project as well as Columbia Basin Electric of Heppner, and B & C Repair of Ione. B & C asked that it be stipulated in Tidewater's contract that goods and services be purchased locally. Pendleton Grain Growers, the large grain co-op in Pendleton, also wrote in favor of the project, saying that it would cause more shipping con-

"a lot of questions asked, and no answers given. I had technical and land use questions that weren't answered (by Tidewater and their representatives).

vote it down if given a chance.

the Port of Morrow and the

Chamber of Commerce," Simpson

said in response to the endorsements

But he said he read about the land-

of the landfill from those groups.

Simpson said he was concerned the landfill would turn out like a feedlot west of Boardman, which he claims did not live up to promises made before construction.

On public sentiment about the project. Simpson said he collected 75 signatures in one evening around his house in Boardman. "I kept getting invited into people's houses, and that made me think there is more opposition than has come out.

Among other things Tidewater's proposal to pay the county fifty cents per ton on garbage coming into the county, was too low and would not even pay for upkeep on the roads. "I see my taxes going up to cover t." he said

Simpson said the initiative petition he and others circulated was an effort to tell elected officials how they feel about the project. "Let's get this on the ballot and make your (county-

We need the jobs, but my main concern is for public safety," she said. Wright said she objects to more traffic on Bombing Range, and is concerned about the Boardman Interchange, which the trucks would also use.

Dr. Steve Zielinski of Boardman also testified against the landfill, saying it would be bad for tourism, and unattractive for the location of a Super Collider to Eastern Oregon.

The Heppner public hearing on the landfill was the last of four held throughout the county, and the county court is expected to make a decision on the project Wednesday, July 22.

Even if the court approves the project. Tidewater will still have to go through a permit application with the Department of Environmental Quality, before the landfill could be built.

The county has hired an independent attorney to help in contract negotiations with Tidewater, and per ton fees and other details of the contract are being worked out at this

ahead of it. "When the fire turned

and came toward us, we had to hop

on the truck and drive away as fast

#### **Board elects chair**

Mary Michael, Boardman, was elected chairman at the Morrow County Medical Board meeting Monday at the Irrigon City Hall. Jackie Bergstrom, Ione, was elected vice chairman and Don Eppenbaugh, Irrigon, was elected secretary.

#### Transportation, medical care survey underway

If they haven't already done so, neighbors of yours will be calling on you to get your opinions and ideas to improve transportation and medical care in the county. These volunteers will be spending the next week and a half meeting with as many people as possible.

The information on transportation will provide the basis for a grant application the County is submitting to fund a transportation system. The questions on medical care address concerns of everyone in the county and it is hoped that citizens will take advantage of this forum to make suggestions to improve service. Everyone is encouraged to take the time to visit with the survey volunteers and join them in taking this first step to enlarge and improve services in the County.

# Weather Report

	July 14 - 20 High Low Prec.		
Tues.	100	58	.0
Wed.	82	43	.0
Thurs.	64	49	.0
Fri.	63	51	.04
Sat.	69	46	.0
Sun.	79	47	0
Mon.	83	50	.01

### Market Report

Tuesday, July 21 Soft White	
July-Aug	\$2.89
Sept.	\$2.90
Barley	
July-Aug	\$83
Hard Red Winter	
11% protein	\$2.81
PIK	
Generic Certificates106 ¼%	cash

# Wind-whipped blaze challenges volunteer firefighters

Two range fires halted harvest operations in much of the county Wednesday afternoon as crews left the fields to help battle the winddriven inferno.

Sparks started the two fires almost simultaneously, one just north of Ione in a stubble field belonging to Ralph Crum, the other west of Heppner on range land belonging to Keith Lewis.

Ralph Crum related that Tuesday afternoon one of the truck drivers of his harvest crew forgot to close the gate on a hopper bottom dump truck. When the combine man dumped his load of grain into the truck, the wheat ran out the bottom and held the truck from moving. Wednesday, Crum continued, his crew took a combine over and shoveled wheat off the ground into the header to free

the truck. It must have been friction on the belts from the weight of the load that caused the spark, he surmised. Water pressure fire extinguishers on both sides of the combine failed to put out the flames. With 30 mph winds and knee-high stubble from a near 60 bu./acre crop, the fire took off about 2:30 p.m. and burned for more than three hours, leaving scorched fields and

It destroyed one of Crum's trucks, an old barn used as a grainery (empty), 300 acres of Crum's stubble, 200 acres of standing wheat belonging to Wayne and Harold Rietmann. and range land to total almost 1200 acres of devastation. The fire burned to within 100 yards of two homes and completely circled a third, but did no damage there. Crum said four other ranchers contributed tractors with discs in addition to his rig for building fire lanes. The wind was blowing faster than the rigs could go. though, he said. The fire jumped the first fire lane and a county road. It burned over a pickup destroying a tire but failing to ignite the fuel tanks full of gasoline on the back of the truck, he said.

The fire west of Heppner started about 3:10 p.m. near where Bart and Assoc, were working on the replacement main power line for Columbia Basin Electric Co-op. A short in the wiring of the power transmission lines which also caused a brief power outage started the fire, Heppner Chief Forrie Burkenbine said. The wind-whipped fire burned 500 acres of rangeland belonging to Keith Lewis and about 35 acres of wheat belonging to Tony Doherty.

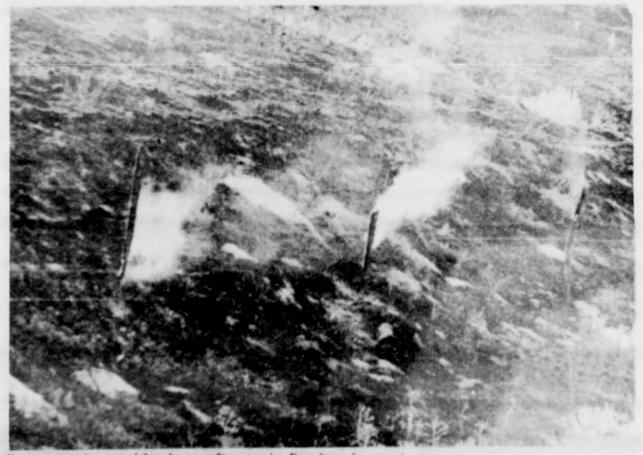
Firefighters from Heppner's rural fire district were not able to make much headway in stopping the fire until John Boyer's planes began to drop water, some farmers sent tractors with discs, and the county road department sent a road grader out, Burkenbine said. Flames from the fire shot 15' in the air and the fire was moving so fast we couldn't stay

as we could," Assistant Chief Rusty Estes said. "We lost radio contact with the other fire truck until we were away from the fire.' The fire finally burned out about 7 p.m. Charred fields mark it's path. Both Burkenbine and Childers said that as always farmers sending equipment and individuals with burlap sacks and shovels helped.

Spray planes with tanks full of water and Grain Growers tanker trucks helped, too. Crews from the Grain Growers and Columbia Basin helped the volunteers also.

The tanker trucks from the Grain Growers were a real help, especially around the buildings, Harvey Childers who has been trying to get things rolling for a rural fire district in the lone area said. The district was approved int he 1950s, but a board has never been appointed to propose a tax base and get a measure on the ballot. We need people to express interest in serving on the board and in spending the necessary time to train and take care of equipment, he said, before we can go any further with the district.

Saturday's heavy rains washed mud from the newly burned fields down Rietmann grade undercutting portions of the county road and onto Ione's Main St. Straw bales kept water and mud out of the few threatened homes and businesses. City crewman Jim Rudisill was out cleaning up Sunday afternoon.



Fence posts smolder long after main fire has burned past

