

HEPPNER



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## School board recommends bond cuts

The Morrow County School Board told superintendent Chuck Starr to come to the November meeting with several options for cutting the \$15,585,000 school bond issue which was defeated by the voters in Sept. and March of this year.

Board members say that they feel they will have to make "significant" cuts if the construction bond is to pass. Several board members said that district taxpayers seemed most concerned with funding gymnasiums at Riverside High School at \$1.7 million and at Heppner Elementary at \$1.1 million. Heppner's facility would include a new art, music and gym facility.

If the construction bond passes, says Starr, certain projects, such as repair of the roof and floor at Columbia Junior High and changes mandated under the federal disabilities act would not have to be taken out of general and contingency funds.

Board members concurred that "classrooms need to be the first priority and discussed the possibility of a March 1995 election.

However, the construction bond would be affected if ballot measures 5 or 20 are approved statewide this November. Ballot measure 5 bars new or increased state local taxes without prior voter approval, including fees, charges, except fines, forfeitures, tuition, and utility or port district user fees. This measure would permit only two tax elections annually. The automatic annual six percent tax base increases would still be allowed without a vote.

Ballot measure 20 would repeal sections of the Oregon Constitution regarding income taxes, fuel and oil taxes, property taxes, and tax limitations. It would bar all current state and local taxes, fees and assessments and instead would substitute a two percent tax on all transfers of property, goods and services. The state estimates a loss of \$490 million in revenue if ballot measure 20 passes.

The board also voiced concern that increases in architectural, engineering and construction costs would eat up cuts made to the construction bond amounts.

In other business, the board denied a request from the Heppner High School senior class and senior class parents that the graduation date be changed to Saturday. The motion failed because of a lack of a second.

-approved leave of absence requests for Anne Bedortha from her position of lone bus driver for the remainder of the year and from Nancy Swarat, Heppner High School math teacher for maternity leave from Oct. 1 through Dec.

-approved the resignation of Benn Houk from an extra duty position as Columbia Junior High School assistant basketball coach.

-approved employment of: Shawn Kempas, temporary contract to teach home economics half time at HHS for balance of school year; Doug Warren, special education assistant at CJH, replacing Dora Wallace; George Waterland, special education assistant at HMS to work with special needs student; Lloyd Peck and Becci Peters, north end bus drivers; and Kay Proctor, south end bus driver.

-approved extra duty contract for Doug Warren, CJH assistant football coach.

-heard a report from Superintendent Chuck Starr that the city does not consider the streets surrounding the high school as city streets and therefore will not pay for repair. The county has patched the biggest potholes, said Starr.

-learned that the fairgrounds is asking a 60 percent increase for school district use of the grounds, from \$4,000 to \$6,500.

## Clerk announces voter registration changes

Morrow County Clerk Barbara Bloodsworth has announced several changes in the state election law that affect Morrow County residents. The changes were passed by the 1993 Legislature to make registering to vote and voting more convenient for Oregonians.

For the first time in Oregon, a county clerk will register a voter whose registration card contains a postmark indicating it was mailed by the deadline to register, even if the card is received by the clerk after the deadline, says Bloodsworth. In addition, cards may be turned in to any Department of Motor Vehicle Services office by the deadline. Under previous law, all voter registration cards had to be received by the county clerk no later than the close of business on the deadline to register.

The deadline to register for this year's General Election is Tuesday, October 18. Anyone not currently registered in Morrow County should fill out a voter registration card and mail

Starr said that the increase was "not in the spirit of fair negotiations" and cited decreased use of the fairgrounds by the district because there will be no baseball this coming spring. He said that since grades 7 and 8 will be moving to the high school next fall, the fairgrounds will be used even less.

-discussed the school district zones as follows: zone one (includes part of Boardman, area east of Boardman and west of Irrigon) Gary Frederickson was elected to a four-year term in March and lives in that zone; zone 2 (includes Lexington, areas near Boardman and Irrigon) Marcia Kemp and Dwayne Carroll both live in zone 2. When Kemp's term expires in June of 1995, Carroll will continue in that position until 1996; zone 3 (includes lone, extends from north to south) both Molly Rill and John Rietmann live in that zone and both will be up for election in 1995; zone 4 (Heppner city limits) no one currently lives in that zone which will be up for election in 1995; zone 5 (includes Irrigon) no current representative for the zone which will be up for election in 1995; zone 6 (includes much of south Morrow County, excluding Heppner) Bill Doherty lives in that zone. His term will expire in 1996; zone 7 (Boardman area) Scott Bauska holds this position until 1997.

or deliver it to the county clerk by the end of the day Tuesday, or deliver it to a Department of Motor Vehicle Services office.

Another significant change, says Bloodsworth, allows voters who have moved within the same county to go to their polling place to vote and to update their voter registration. Registered voters who have moved from one county in Oregon to another county in Oregon must contact the county clerk to get information about how they can vote. In both circumstances, if the clerk receives the information after the eighth day before the election, the voter will be eligible to vote on federal and statewide measures only.

"We have pioneered progressive and open election law in our state," said Bloodsworth. "With these changes, more people should be able to vote, and I urge them to do so on November 8."

Voters may find registration forms at most post offices, banks, DMV offices and your telephone book.

## Service organizations receive donation



L-R: Paul Sumner, personnel manager Kinzua Resources; Rick Re, Kinzua Resources general manager receive sincere appreciation for their recent donation from Mary Goheen, Sr. Mealsite chair; Carol Mitchell, Senior Services coordinator; Janice Skaggs, Heppner Neighborhood Center, all Heppner; Eunice Weems, Stokes Landing Senior Center and Shirley Girtton, Irrigon-Boardman Emergency Assistance Center.

Kinzua Resources, Pioneer Resources and Rick Re, Kinzua Resources general manager, dramatically increased the pantries of Morrow County service organizations.

Kinzua, Pioneer and Re purchased one beef, two hogs and two sheep from the 4-H market sale at the Morrow County Fair and donated the meat to the Heppner Neighborhood Center, the St. Patrick's Senior

Center, the Stokes Landing Senior Center in Irrigon and the Irrigon-Boardman Emergency Assistance Center.

Carol Mitchell of CAPECO, who coordinated the distribution of the meat, says that 1,443 pounds of meat were purchased by Kinzua, Pioneer and Re at the fair.

Mitchell says that the community organizations sometimes make the difference whether seniors and the needy

are eating properly or not. "This (donation) is such a wonderful thing," said Mitchell. "The senior centers operate on a real shoestring, providing meals for 200 or more people a week. The emergency centers make up food baskets year round, not just on Thanksgiving and Christmas.

They depend on government commodities and donations. The more donated, the better."

## City council discuss streets at meeting

At a special meeting last week, Heppner City Council members met with school officials concerning major repairs to the streets running past Heppner High School. When the high school property was annexed into the city in 1977, school access roads were not dedicated as city streets.

City officials maintain that it is not the city's responsibility to provide major street repairs. However residents in the Lott addition claim that those streets provide homeowner access especially when bad weather causes travel up the steep hill at the end of Water Street, the only other access road to the area.

The city has agreed to do maintenance work on those streets, such as providing gravel and cold mix patching, as manpower and materials are available. The city will also continue to provide snow removal.

Limited resources for both the city and the school will force the district to look elsewhere for funding to repair those streets. The cost of that project has not been determined, although those streets have significantly deteriorated in recent years.

One option may be to seek federal funds through the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program. Heppner High School has been designated as an emergency shelter if a chemical weapons emergency is declared during the destruction of those weapons at the Ordinance Depot.

Another answer might be to include the cost of those repairs in a future school building bond issue, should that measure again be resubmitted to voters. A proposed measure to be used to expand and repair existing schools, in its present form, has twice been rejected by voters this year, however.

The city's major street repair work is nearing completion as planned, but not all homeowners are pleased with residential access. Tom McElligott, who lives on Court St., is one of those homeowners who have cited access problems.

Several residents appeared at the Monday night council meeting Oct. 10, to ask that the berm in the travel lanes at the top of Willow Street be removed. This steep street accesses Gilmore Street and is a major route to the hospital and to Rock Street. The council agreed to remove portions of that berm. Concrete gutter and berm were constructed on the lower side of this street to prevent water from running off into residences below Gilmore, which runs behind the courthouse. A large storm drain at the lowest point should handle all runoff water, according to the engineers. However, in some instances it has increased the steepness of driveways accesses for those residents on the west side of Gilmore Street.

According to city manager Gary Marks, intermittent work will continue on Aiken Street and other areas as city workers find time.

## 4-H showcase achievement night

The 4-H Showcase will begin at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, at Riverside High School in Boardman.

Presentations by 4-H members will be from 3 to 4 p.m. with displays on different 4-H activities. "If you have youth interested in 4-H or you are interested in a youth development program for your children," said Bill Broderick, Morrow County Extension agent. "This would be a great

time to find out more about 4-H and what it is doing."

Achievement Night will begin with a potluck at 4 p.m. immediately following 4-H Showcase. Achievement Night will recognize 4-H members for various achievements during the year.

Those attending are asked to bring a dish to serve 8 to 10. Those with last names beginning with A-H should bring dessert, I-O, a hot dish, and P-Z, a salad.

### Fencing Sale thru Nov. 1st

### Save Big on Fencing Supplies

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