

County court approves approach requests, hears of Park phone service lack

Public Works Director Guy Van Arsdale submitted, on behalf of landowners, a request for an approach to Stock Drive and a request for an approach onto West Eighth in Irrigon. The Morrow County Court approved both at their Sept. 1 meeting.

Van Arsdale reported that hot mix is being put on Patterson Ferry Road. He informed the court that he requested a change by the company doing the work on the Coal Mine Hill Road in their laying of emulsion on the base, to avoid compacting and settling differently on different sections. He also noted a problem with one guard rail.

Van Arsdale reported that the legislature has passed an aviation gas tax and that the revenue may be used for pavement maintenance. The county will receive about \$100,000 for "patching" and chip sealing. He explained that the state includes an overlay in the definition of a "patch." Van Arsdale and the court discussed eligibility for improvement grants at the airport now that the county has an Airport Layout Plan. They viewed some conceptual plans that could become part of a master plan. Public hearings will occur before anything is finalized. Van Arsdale reported that the Jordan Bridge will be a project next year and will be let for bids at the same time as the B Street Bridge.

The court discussed the Monday tour with the Forest Service personnel, during which they looked at roads in the exchange agreement and the problem that the Forest Service is having with a decision pertaining to the endangerment of one species of fish by action taken to protect another. The court also discussed the Smith Ditch issue and the county's water right and property owners' easements and permits.

Two property owners addressed the court about lack of telephone service in the Cutsforth Park area. They described problems created by lack of service and lack of cell phone accessibility, and they presented a list of property owners, almost half of whom said they would use a telephone service if it were available. They suggested that the county's installation of service to the park would make hook-ups by property owners feasible, but noted that many parks do not have telephone service. The court was reminded that they need to look to the future, as more and more people are moving into that area. The court agreed to write a letter to CenturyTel in support of the private citizens' request for telephone lines. The court also heard that the park's condition is "going down hill fast," with suggestions of work that needs to be accomplished there. Another suggestion was to have someone in the park year-round to also discourage vandalism.

Representative of GEODC contracted by the county for economic development services, Joni Woodwell, recommended holding payment on Elesco's report on the Kinzua Mill site until after review of the draft. She reported that she is leaving GEODC, temporarily leaving the agency short-staffed. She told the court that GEODC continues interest in contracting for services but would need to increase rates and include some added expenses. She explained

that the agency has considered adding a staff person to work additional time in the county. The court concurred that they must wait to see "how things sort out" at GEODC and the Economic Development Administration. Woodwell and the court discussed the "Big Five" counties' formation. She informed them of interest by three of the counties to realign. The court agreed that a group meeting of the five counties would be useful for airing concerns and having a candid discussion. They discussed the state's agenda or role in the formation of these regions, which is a state program.

Extension agent, Bill Broderick, talked to the court about staffing for the Extension Service since the OSU budget passed, completely funding the position of a dry land crops agent and funding a half-time 4-H position, as well as the home-economist position in Umatilla County. Broderick requested increasing the 4-H position to full time and using toward that the funds the county had budgeted for part of the dry land crops agent's salary and its contracted funds to Umatilla County for home economist help. Broderick reported that there will be a farm management economist position for the Mid-Columbia area, fully funded by the state for two years. Twenty-five percent of the position must be used for wheat. Seventh-five percent may be used for other dry land crops, cattle or dairy. Should this position be located in Morrow County, the county would need to provide support personnel by increasing secretarial help to 1.5 time. Discussion continued on the probability of a dairy agent. The court opted to withhold any decisions until after learning what happens with the farm economist position.

Lisa Mittelsdorf of the Port of Morrow discussed with the court the port's proposal of including four pieces of land in the expanded Columbia River Enterprise Zone, producing the third zone change, according to Assessor Greg Sweek, since the zone was created less than one year ago. Mittelsdorf reported on the Tillamook Creamery site, on which the company would like start work in 30 to 45 days. She told the court that Tillamook would contact the planning department about necessary permits, and she said that the state departments have all been asked to "fast-track" this project. Discussion continued about dairies, confined animal feed lot permits and water and air quality issues. The court agreed to have a public hearing on the proposed zone expansion on September 22, and Sweek noted that a joint public hearing with the city of Heppner and the county will be held on September 22 on the Willow Creek Valley Enterprise Zone.

The court acknowledged receipt of petitions from Irrigon precincts requesting annexation into the Oregon Trail Library District and will initiate the process for public hearings on the request. In response to a question of the county's having a policy for removal of graffiti, the court agreed that no such policy exists. The matter will be referred to the Sheriff's Office Code Enforcement Officer.

The last item addressed concerned FEMA and a permit to burn at the depot.

Chronicles now on sale

The 1999 Morrow County Chronicles are now on sale. Earlier distribution of the publication was halted because of some printer errors.

Anyone who purchased a Chronicles in August is encouraged to return it to the place of purchase and exchange it for the reprinted issue, at no additional cost, said the Historical Society.

The Chronicles, a yearly publication, costs \$4 each. This year's issue includes articles about the Morrow County Judges, the West Extension Irrigation District, Lexington and Irrigon schools, pre-flood

homes in Heppner and several county families. The publication committee also included two photos of unidentified people, in hopes of getting name names to go with the faces.

The 1999 Morrow County Chronicles are available in Boardman at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Boardman Pharmacy and Pam's Posies 'n Stuff. In Irrigon and Ione, they are on sale at the Bank of Eastern Oregon. In Heppner, they may be purchased at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Klamath First Federal, Murray's, Twice upon a time... and the Morrow County Museum.

Special needs children sought for program

Schools in Umatilla and Morrow Counties are attempting to locate all persons between from birth through 21 years old not enrolled in public school who may have special needs.

Special need may include concerns with the following: hearing; traumatic brain injury; vision; emotional/behavioral problems; speech; mental retardation; language; orthopedic problems; health; autism; learning; developmental delay; or other disabilities.

Those who have any of the above concerns regarding a child

in their care who is aged 5-21, may contact the local school district special education department contact person Michael Keown, Morrow County School District R-1, (541) 989-8202, 270 W. Main, Box 368, Lexington, Oregon 97839

Those with any of the above concerns regarding a child in their care who is aged birth-five years old should contact the Umatilla-Morrow County Resource and Referral, located at the Umatilla-Morrow ESD, at 1-800-927-5847.

Tourism Committee schedules meeting

Morrow County Tourism Committee will meet at 3 p.m., Wednesday, September 22, at Beechers Restaurant, Ione.

The meeting will open with a tour of Ione's historic sites, led by Ruth McCabe of the Morrow County Historical Society.

After the tour, agenda items for the quarterly Tourism Committee meeting will include: finalizing Morrow County's advertising in the 2000-2001 Eastern Oregon Visitor Guide;

updating the 2000 Morrow County Activity Calendar; and selecting officers for 2000.

Morrow County Tourism Committee is open to all persons interested in Morrow County visitor services and amenities. There is no cost to belong or to attend meetings.

For information about the Morrow County Tourism Committee or the September 22 meeting, contact Carol Michael, chair at 541-481-3014.

Commission plans meeting

The monthly meeting of the Morrow County Commission on Children & Families will be held on September 14, at the state office for Services To Children & Families (SCF), 101 SW Kinkade in Boardman from 7-9 p.m.

The main topics of discussion will be the recommended approval of the Child Care Development proposals and the Community Development Grant proposals.

The public is invited to attend

and participate in the discussions.

For further information call 676-9675."

Births

Hannah Jo Padberg-a daughter, Hannah Jo, was born to Karen and Dustin Padberg of Ione on August 23, 1999, at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz.

Gabriela Montenegro-a daughter, Gabriela, was born to Maria Verdin and Gabriel Montenegro of Irrigon on August 19, 1999, at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) reports handling the following business:

MCSO received a report of a woman and a small child walking along I-84 eastbound three miles west of Boardman.

MCSO received a report of sheep kept in a pen without food or water.

MCSO received a report from a female in Irrigon that a male had threatened her and her dog.

Heppner Fire Dept. received a report of a fire in the Hardman area.

Ione Fire Dept. received a report of a fire in CRP off of Gooseberry Hill.

Ione Fire Dept. received a report of heavy smoke, possibly a field fire.

Ione Fire Dept. received a report of a fire on Highway 74 north of Ione. It was a brush fire caused by lightning.

Boardman, Heppner Fire depts. received a request for mutual aid from the Arlington Fire Dept.

Ione Fire Dept. received a report of a hot spot from a fire that had occurred the day before.

Aug. 5: MCSO received a report of an audible burglar alarm at Riverside High School. It was a false alarm.

MCSO received a report of cows regularly in a neighbor's yard in Irrigon.

MCSO received a report of two men walking from a parked pickup in Irrigon overheard discussing tools.

MCSO received a report of trucks speeding through a construction zone at Patterson Ferry construction area.

Heppner Police Dept. received a report of cows out on Rock Street.

MCSO received a request for a deputy concerning refuge signs with several bullet holes.

MCSO received a report of an ongoing problem with loud noise from a maroon-colored vehicle parked behind a residence in Irrigon.

MCSO received a report of two male subjects coming out of the brush at the refuge.

MCSO deputy arrested Michael Dean Lynch, 41, Heppner, for Possession of a Controlled Substance/Delivery of a Controlled Substance and was also cited for Violation of the Basic Rule, 74 mph in a 55 mph zone, Driving while License Suspended Infraction and Driving Uninsured. MCSO deputy also arrested Jason Rhett Paluso, 27, Hermiston, for Possession of a Controlled Substance/Delivery of a Controlled Substance. They were lodged at the UCSO jail.

MCSO deputy cited Julie Watkins, 18, and a 17 year old juvenile for MIP-Consumption.

Aug. 6: MCSO received a re-

port of cows in the campground at Willow Creek Campground.

Boardman Police Dept. received a report of a theft from a porch in Boardman.

Heppner Police Dept. received a report of a door kicked in in Heppner.

MCSO received a report of a mostly white border collie lost in Heppner.

Boardman Police Dept. received a report of pit bulls in a neighbor's yard again.

MCSO received a report of a riding lawnmower stolen in Boardman.

MCSO, Boardman Police Dept. received a report from a MCSO deputy that he was attempting to locate a tan station wagon on I-84 that was driving erratically at 90+ mph.

MCSO, Boardman Police and Fire depts., Umatilla Electric received a report of a transformer blown on Wilson and Root Lane that started a grass fire.

MCSO, Oregon State Police, UCSO received a report of a possible DUII on Highway 730, speeding and passing on double yellow lines.

MCSO received a report of a male who had urinated on a building at Brown's BP station in Irrigon. The caller wanted to press charges.

MCSO received a request for a deputy from a woman who wanted to get her medication from her husband's house in Lexington.

Heppner Fire Dept., CBEC received a report of a lightning strike and smoke on Slaughterhouse Ridge.

MCSO received a report of a silver pickup chasing a blue pickup with two male occupants in the silver pickup screaming and yelling and reported to have a black handgun.

Tualatin Police Dept. arrested Pablo Organiz Mendoza, 37, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Driving while License Suspended. Mendoza was lodged at the Washington County jail with a hold for MCSO.

MCSO received a report of a gas smell in a trailer at the Riverview Trailer Court.

MCSO received two calls concerning two hitchhikers in dark clothing walking along Highway 730 near Irrigon.

MCSO deputy responded to assist with a subject fleeing on foot.

Aug. 7: Boardman Police Dept. received a request for help from a male who wanted help for an abuse problem against his wife. The subject was transported to Boardman Police Dept. and Morrow County Behavioral Health was contacted.

MCSO, Boardman Police Dept. received two reports of a interior motion sensor at Huwe's Washboard in Irrigon.

MCSO received a report of gang graffiti at the Irrigon Marina.

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The Morrow County Livestock Growers would like to thank the following 1999 Morrow County 4-H and FFA Livestock Auction Supporters:

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Wedding Tables

Mary Jane McCarty & Aaron Heideman
Wedding - Saturday, September 11th

Suzanna Heideman & Travis Brewster
Shower - Thursday, September 9th at Ione
Wedding - Sunday, Sept. 26th at Gresham



217 North Main Heppner 676-9158