

Court grants tippage fee project awards

By Doris Brosnan

At the August 16 meeting of the Morrow County Court, Finance Director Lianne Currin offered a report on the tippage fee account.

After discussion, the court chose to use discretionary funds for a payment to the Eastern Oregon Telecommunications Consortium and for a payment to the Oregon Economic Community Development Department for the Willow Creek Valley relationship-based business recruitment match.

Currin reported the tippage-fee awards previously granted but not yet spent. The court discussed and selected the following projects to receive tippage-fee funds this year: Willow Creek Valley Assisted Living Center, the Heritage Trail, Lexington Fire Department for training and equipment, Heppner for a RARE Economic Development Coordinator, Lexington for technical assistance and for town hall rewiring, Boardman RARE Community Development Coordinator, Heppner Fire Department pagers, Morrow County Ambulance pagers, Heppner Police portable radios, Hardman Community Center.

After discussion, the court agreed to seek clarification of some details related to the Sheriff's Reserves program and soon revisit the question of providing some funding for it.

Currin and County Assessor Greg Sweek discussed with the court the proposed road levy. The projection for "uncollectibles" has been increased, thereby changing calculations. The results of the Road Committee meeting included a suggestion of asking for more than the \$1,350,000 that the Court had targeted. Cumin reminded the Court that the general fund would still be short and cautioned that all calculations are based on certain assumptions regarding revenues, growth in property taxes from construction, etc., which may or may not turn out to be accurate.

The "payment in lieu of taxes" legislation and the effect of its passage on the road fund revenues were again discussed. The court questioned transferring funds from the general fund to the road fund, also apportioning out the rate between the general fund and the road fund. Commissioner John Wenzholz reported that the consensus of the Road Committee was that a \$1.50 rate would be necessary to keep the county "whole" for the entire four-year period of the levy. Currin answered to questions that the levy would not replace lost staff positions, only materials and services. After discussing the options of levying for an amount or a rate, the court approved placing on the November ballot a road fund levy at the tax rate of \$1.50.

Currin will write the ballot and a fact sheet for distribution. This decision was followed with some discussion of the effects on the road department, as well as other departments, of a "no" vote. County Counsel Bill Hanlon reported to the court the final agreement and order from the Bureau of Labor and Industries, and the court approved payment of the penalty. In a related matter, Hanlon noted that the appointment of Commissioner Brosnan as the contract performance manager on the painting and roofing contracts does not meet BOLI's requirement that the CPM be a full-time employee. The court agreed to speak to a particular employee and provide his training for the position.

Emergency Management Director Casey Beard explained bids for a mechanical system and an electrical system for the overpressurization of the Irrigon Fire Hall. The court approved the improvements to comply with CSEPP requirements.

Beard also reported questions from departments and agencies about discarding use of cell phones for use of the Nextel phones, thereby eliminating the need to carry two phones, but creating the question of personal use. The rulings by the Government Standards and Practices Commission that govern use of

such equipment were discussed, as were the taxable benefit portions, the possible access coding of the phones and the possible improvement to service in the south county through the Nextel phones. Hanlon agreed to investigate the legal issues.

Public Works Director Burke O'Brien reported having received an offer from the Umatilla County Public Works Department regarding the repaving and maintenance of the County Line Road, and said that he will study the proposal before making a recommendation. O'Brien reported that gravel was put down on Hale Ridge Road.

The court opened bids for fuel, oil, and lubricants and gave them to O'Brien for review and a recommendation.

-Also at the meeting of the court:

-Commissioner Wenzholz reported on the first meeting of the newly formed CSEPP Board;

-the court discussed payment of the CSEPP paving project at the Boardman school parking lot;

Student leaders attend workshops

Over 550 student leaders from around the state attended the Oregon Association of Student Council's Summer Leadership Workshops in late July.

The two high school sessions were held at Western Oregon University in Monmouth and the middle school session was held at Chemawa Indian School in Salem.

The workshops provided leadership training in organization and time management skills,

-the Court approved an enterprise zone extended abatement for Stanford Chemical;

-Emergency Management Director Beard presented the Court an updated draft of the letter to the governor regarding the County's safety concerns;

- the Court approved a corrected agreement with the Morrow County School District for the STARS program;

- the court discussed and decided that it could not legally accommodate a complaint from a taxpayer who was requesting that he not be charged interest on a delinquent tax payment because he had not received a timely notice;

- the court reviewed a request for lease of a county land parcel; - the court commended members Shannon Boor, Karen Masshoff, Martha Doherty, Patti Peck, Marilyn Allison, Tina Edwards and Karen Morgan of the employees' union, AFSCME Local 2479-2, for participation in the roadside cleanup project in preparation for the fair.

communication, project planning and meeting skills, goal setting and ethical decision-making.

For the past eight years, the workshops have been sponsored by the Independent Community Banks of Oregon (ICBO). ICBO president Rex Brittle, president and CEO of Merchants Bank in Gresham, was a guest speaker at the final banquet. ICBO has 47 member banks around the state serving their local communities. Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner, helped co-sponsor the event.

Sheriff's Report

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

Morrow County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) reports handling the following business: **July 17:** MCSO received report of dog barking in Boardman. Officer was unable to locate any dog.

July 18: MCSO received report of a small grass fire at Bombing Range Rd./Hwy. 730 junction. It was under control.

-Boardman Fire Department (BFD), Heppner FD, Ione FD, Oregon State Police (OSP), Irrigon FD, Hermiston FD, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife FD received report of a large fire at Oregon Hay at 1:08 a.m. with approximately two-plus miles burning on the fish and game refuge and a large amount of hay is burning at Oregon Hay.

-Irrigon FD received report of a brush fire at Wilson Rd. and Bombing Range Rd. It was under control.

-MCSO received report of barking dog in Boardman.

Morrow County Health Dept. received report of a four-year-old girl with a dog bite on the face that will require stitches. It was her grandmother's dog.

-MCSO received report of an erratic driver. It appeared that the driver, either tired or intoxicated, was hitting himself on the head.

-Heppner FD, Ione FD received report of a grass fire on Willow Creek headed up towards Balm Fork.

-MCSO received report of a 911 call with nothing but static on the phone then a woman's voice in the background.

-MCSO received report from Irrigon Marina Park that an ice-cream man was asked not to sell ice-cream in the park because it is a non-profit organization. The man asked for it in writing. When it was shown to him, he threw it at the caretaker's wife.

-MCSO received report of possible DUII from Buff 'n Brew, possibly a blue Corvette convertible. Deputy was unable to locate anyone.

-Boardman Police Department (BPD) received report from Services to Children and Families of someone who may be suicidal.

-Heppner FD received report from a woman that her

husband locked himself in the cellar and she wants him to leave. Woman said she found out that he has been using drugs.

-MCSO received report of a suspicious vehicle at Logan International. Subject worked there.

July 19: Received report of a possible prowler at an Irrigon residence. A female at the residence said she heard someone walking outside and when she went outside there was someone standing there. Deputy was unable to locate anyone.

-MCSO received report of subject playing basketball and music up loud. Problem was resolved.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner woman that someone stole her ex-husband's motorcycle and poured oil all over the cat.

-Heppner Police Department (HPD) received report from a woman of a subject exposing himself to her.

-MCSO received report of a Morrow County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) vehicle vandalized during the night on Hwy. 207/4.5 miles out of Lexington toward Hermiston. The vehicle had broken down and MCSO was arranging for a tow.

-BPD received report of a cow out.

-HPD received report from a woman that her son's pickup had been pushed into Hinton Creek. She felt it was intentional.

-MCSO received report of a dog in Irrigon with not enough water.

-MCSO received report of cows out in Hwy 730.

-HPD received report of a possible hit and run.

-MCSO arrested Frank David Battaglia, 21, on a Hermiston PD warrant, Pendleton warrant. He was lodged at Umatilla Co. Jail.

-MCSO received request for deputy concerning abandoned dog.

-MCSO received report of an alarm at Bethlehem Construction in Boardman.

-MCSO, Irrigon FD, Irrigon Ambulance received report of a one-vehicle accident. Two were transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

-BPD received report of two juveniles, possible MIP at the Boardman 76 store. A 17-year-old was cited for MIP tobacco and alcohol and Juan Luis Ayala, 18, for MIP alcohol.

Sheriff's Report

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

-Heppner FD received report of a field fire on Basey Canyon Rd. The fire was out.

-MCSO, BPD received report of vandalism at Driftwood RV park.

-BPD, MCSO received request for an officer because someone broke a window out of a vacant apartment, possibly with alcohol involved.

July 20: MCSO received report of the faucet at Klamath First Federal on. Caller turned it off.

-Heppner PD cited a subject for public indecency.

-Boardman Ambulance received request for an ambulance for a woman crying on the phone and incoherent. One was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

-MCSO received report on an on-going cattle problem in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of an older red pickup all over the road east of Irrigon on Hwy. 730. Deputy was unable to locate anything.

-MCSO received report of a code violation in Irrigon.

-Heppner Ambulance received report of a 60-year-old male that fell at Bucknum's and is semi-conscious. One was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

-BPD received report of a 911 hang up call. Sheriff's Office was unable to determine an emergency.

-Hermiston PD received report of a possible fire in Irrigon headed toward the depot. There was no fire.

-OSP, MCSO received report of kids in a white Chevy pickup trashing property and speeding up and down the street in Irrigon.

-HPD received report of a male subject at Cal's refusing to leave and they are closing.

-MCSO received report of someone who keeps dumping cats and kittens at a location on Hwy. 207. Caller would like to cite subjects.

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

July 20: MCSO received report of an elderly male at the fish hatchery. His wife found him and took him home.

-MCSO, Boardman Police Department (BPD) received report of two males fighting at Hab Doc Apartments.

-MCSO, BPD received report of hit and run with vehicle traced to an Irrigon address.

-MCSO received report from BPD that officer was attempting to catch a speeding motorcycle. Subject was hiding in the bushes.

July 21: MCSO received report of a suspicious vehicle at the Irrigon Marina playing loud music.

- Boardman Ambulance, BPD received report of a woman who was overheated and experiencing signs of convulsions at Lamb Weston. She was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

-MCSO cited John Leslie Hickman, 40, for Driving While Suspended and DUII with a .18.

-BPD received report of juveniles hanging out at Riverview Motel in Boardman all evening acting suspicious.

-BPD received report of a broken car window in Boardman.

-MCSO received request for deputy concerning weapons confiscated from caller's ex-husband.

-BPD, MCSO arrested Ricardo Alvarado-Alonso, 33, Boardman, on a Morrow County Circuit Court warrant for Assault IV, with \$25,000 bail and an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/DUII with \$1,427 bail. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-MCSO received report from a subject that a saddle reported stolen was found.

-MCSO received report of an abandoned 911 call. Everything was ok.

-Heppner Police Department (HPD) received report from a man that the window of his mother-in-law's vehicle was broken.

-MCSO received report from Umatilla Police Dept. of a beach sports pack with money and belongings left at Horner's Fruit Stand in Irrigon. Deputy was unable to locate anything.

-HPD, Heppner Ambulance, Heppner Fire Department (HFD) received request for ambulance for a 49-year-old woman having difficulty breathing. She had a history of heart trouble and was diabetic.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon woman that her sons have been fighting. One left the residence, but the other followed.

-MCSO received report of an injured dog in a yard in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of a stubble field fire near Hawkins' Ranch. It was out of Heppner district. All of Morrow County fire departments were in contact regarding the fire.

-BPD received report that the manager at His Place in Boardman fell, hit his head and is bleeding profusely out of his nose. He was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

-MCSO received report of suspicious individuals parked near trees.

-Oregon State Police (OSP), BPD received report of a white Chevy that left Boardman Chevron without paying.

-MCSO, HFD received report of a lot of smoke at Balm Fork.

-MCSO received report of black cow in road. The owner was located.

-OSP received report of a man possibly on a wanted poster leaving Boardman East Bound on I-84.

-MCSO received report of juveniles possibly breaking into a car in Heppner. Deputy was unable to locate anything.

July 22: MCSO, OSP received request for authorization to search a vehicle. Suspect was combative.

-MCSO, OSP received report of a stolen vehicle from Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of theft of fence posts stolen from back of parking lot at Irrigon Post Office.

-Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) received report of a fawn found on Hwy 74 and mother was not located. ODFW advised returning fawn to location it was found.

-Jone FD, HFD, BFD, Irrigon FD, Navy FD, Army FD, Fish and Wildlife FD, Hermiston FD, Stanfield FD, Sherman Co. FD, Gilliam Co. Sheriff's Office, MCSO, Arlington FD, McNary FD, OSP, ODOT, OEM, Red Cross, Blue Mtn. and State Forestry received report of a grass fire at the Junction of Eightmile Rd and Fourmile Canyon at 11:07 a.m.

-MCSO, HFD, received report of a strange smell coming from a residence.

-MCSO received report of a motor vehicle accident injury near the Boardman Fire Hall. There were minor injuries only. BPD responded.

-MCSO, BPD received report of two females in the middle of the street fighting in Boardman.

-MCSO arrested Armando Robles-Rosas, 24, for Driving While Suspended-misdemeanor. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail. He was cited earlier that evening by OSP in the Pendleton area and was not to drive.

-MCSO received request for a check at a residence in Boardman.

-MCSO cited Jacob Leon Kinsey, 21, for disorderly conduct and harrasment.

July 23: BPD cited Armando Robles-Rosas, 24, for Driving While Suspended, Driving Uninsured.

-BPD received report of a car stolen in Boardman. Caller also requested information on a restraining order against his wife

to protect his kids.

-MCSO received report of road sign down at Patterson Ferry and Columbia.

-MCSO received report from BFD that they were going to do a 50-acre back slash burn at the fire scene.

-MCSO received report of neighbor's peacocks coming in caller's yard and causing problems.

-MCSO received request from Grandview PD for assistance in delivering a death notification in Irrigon.

-OSP received request from a Wheeler Co. deputy to assist in a call near Bull Prairie. An off-duty Umatilla Co. deputy requested assistance detaining a subject shooting in the federal campgrounds the previous night. Subjects were cooperative.

-MCSO received request for a deputy at an Irrigon residence. Caller's boyfriend wouldn't leave the residence. He left while she was on the phone.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon man that his wife was at the residence trying to take the kids and the kids don't want to go. She had custody of the kids and a restraining order against him. She left without the kids.

-BPD, OSP received report of a possible domestic dispute at a Boardman residence with the male half very angry.

-BPD received report of a full-sized mobile home towed by a regular-sized pickup going approximately 20-25 mph on Wilson Lane. Officer was unable to locate anything.

-MCSO, BPD, BFD, received report of a vehicle fire past the elevators near the railroad tracks on Cargill Lane. It was a non-injury.

-Arlington FD, Ione FD, Heppner FD received report of a fire up on approximately two acres on Hwy 74. They were going to let it burn and put out hot spots.

-MCSO received request for a deputy from a Boardman man concerning a custody issue. He also wanted to file a complaint that his ex-wife is using drugs and drinking heavily.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon resident that goats have taken up residence in her back yard.

-MCSO received abandoned 911 calls from Irrigon. It was a child and mom got on the phone, but didn't speak English.

-MCSO received request for deputy contact from an Ione woman who said that rumors are going around that her kids possibly started the fire on July 22.

-MCSO received report of a civil problem involving the trade of a pickup.

-MCSO received report of a smoky plume near Hwy 74. The fire rekindled.

-Boardman Ambulance received report of a 62-year-old woman who fell and hurt her hip. She was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

-MCSO received report of a cow out. Owner was going to get cow.

-MCSO received report from ODFW that he was citing several juveniles for trespassing and found a cooler of beer and wanted deputy to respond. Subjects had been on an island on F&W property but were currently at the Boardman Marina.

-MCSO, BPD received report from a woman that her estranged husband was at the residence threatening to break in.

-MCSO received report of a purse stolen from a vehicle at the Irrigon 76 station.

-MCSO received report of several juveniles at the park possibly drinking.

4-H News

Pins and Pots and Patterns and Pans

By Emily Bergstrom
On Friday August 11 members went to the fairgrounds and cleaned up the 4-H kitchen. Then they went up to Mary Jean's house and got everything pressed and ur commentaries written and tags sewed on our outfits for fair and style review.

Members modeled for the public on Wednesday, Aug. 15.

Potato give-away scheduled

A potato give-away, with frozen hash browns and frozen french fries, will be held on Thursday, August 31, at the Heppner Neighborhood Center.

Everyone is welcome to participate. Donations are accepted.