

## Morrow County School Board selects Bill Kuhn

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with community celebrations in Heppner, Boardman and Irrigon;

-initiate radio broadcasts with short blips prior to the news at noon and at other times;

-meet with legislators and with other boards about legislative activity during the off season.

Academics:  
-again increase the number of students who meet or exceed the benchmarks by five percent over the 2002-03 school year;

-increase by four percent the number of students meeting or exceeding the benchmarks in math, science and language arts at each of the grade levels tested;

-increase the use and availability of the V-tel system;

-support formation of a high school continued reading program, not just a remedial program;

-examine deleting individual class subjects-not necessarily deleting programs-so there is more time in the curriculum to emphasize that which the board deems most important.

Other:  
-open the Irrigon High School in the fall of 2005 with the administration to begin planning and making decisions to that end.

In a separate matter, Senior Judge Frank J. Yraguen who is with the Oregon Judicial Department and also operates his own mediation/arbitration/settlement counseling service, "Yraguen Resolution Services," was present at the Monday night meeting. Judge Yraguen is assisting MCSD and the Lone Self Determination Committee in coming to an agreement in settling the accounts between MCSD and the Lone School District. Judge Yraguen is meeting with numerous groups in order to assist in resolving the issues between the two entities.

In other business, the board:

-selected the name "Irrigon Elementary School" for the new Irrigon elementary building, 4-3, with board members Miles, Lindsay and Renfro voting against the motion.

-voted to continue the board meetings as previously scheduled with board meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. and meeting places revolving among schools and the district office.

-approved the appointment of Dean Mason and Mike Armato to the budget committee. Two

budget committee openings still remain.

-approved the MCSD contract with the Morrow County Recreation District for funding of athletic and other extracurricular programs for the 2003-04 year. MCSD Superintendent Dr. Jack Crippen said that the district had an unanticipated increase in cash carryover funds for the coming school year and reduced the district's financial request from MCURD from \$450,000 to \$403,000, while Lone Schools were still a part of the district. Since that time, however, Lone has seceded from the district. According to Dr. Crippen, MCSD subsequently reduced its request by another \$85,000, which was the MCSD's approximate cost of the Lone athletic programs while still a part of MCSD (with an additional \$15,000 generated by the Lone School District through pay to pay, according to MCSD estimates). Dr. Crippen pointed out that MCURD increased the Lone School District's MCURD funds by \$11,000 more than what Lone Schools received when those schools were still a part of MCSD. Terry Tallman, a member of the MCURD Board said that the increase of \$11,000 to ISD was a one-time increase to assist with startup costs for the new district. "I was concerned," said Dr. Crippen, "because I was so heavily lobbied to give back that money (the \$47,000)." Tallman assured Dr. Crippen and the board that MCURD wants to work with the district for the benefit of the students.

-directed Rhonda Lorenz, the MCSD deputy clerk, to investigate the cost of flood and earthquake insurance coverage.

-requested a demonstration of a portable sound system at the next board meeting.

-approved a cooperative sponsorship of a girls' soccer team between Heppner High School and Riverside High School with the stipulation that the girls provide their own transportation.

-heard a report from Nan Hall of Heery International architects concerning the bond construction. Hall said that the new Boardman elementary school is ready for inspections and has been approved for temporary occupancy, but landscaping continues to be a problem; the Irrigon Elementary School is substantially complete with completion expected Sept. 5, however the building is not expected to be ready for

occupancy until around the fifth week of school; the handicap access ramp at the Heppner Elementary building still needs to be completed; the lone building is ready for occupancy and the old building is in the process of being demolished.

-heard a report from Howard Sheets on other district projects. Sheets said that the locker room renovation at Heppner High School should be completed by Sept. 1, since they discovered nothing structurally wrong; fencing at A.C. Houghton Elementary is in process of being installed; installation of floor tile at HES is expected to start the third week in August; and the asbestos floor tile at HHS is in the process of being replaced.

-heard a report from district principals as follows: A.C. Houghton Elementary Principal John Sebastian reports that all teachers have been hired at ACH with a counselor still needed; the new Irrigon elementary school won't be ready by the start of school, so Columbia Middle School and Irrigon Elementary School Principal Ron Anthony reports that he is developing a plan to incorporate fifth and sixth graders at CMS until the new school is completed; HES/HHS principal Wade Smith announced the resignation of counselor Mona Hardman; RHS Principal Dirk Dirksen says that all staff positions at RHS have been filled with the exception of a soccer coach and some classified positions; Sam Boardman Elementary and Windy River Elementary schools Principal B.J. Wilson says that some classified positions remain to be filled.

-approved employment for: Greg Lyons, CMS technology education teacher; Jeanne Collins, half time HHS language arts teacher, replacing Val Campbell; Petra Elguezabal, half-time Spanish teacher at HHS, replacing Campbell; Brian Wilson, RHS language arts teacher (Wilson subsequently resigned); Teresa Parret, half-time HES assistant custodian, replacing Randy Vosberg; Denise Riddle, program director's secretary.

-approved extra duty contract for Brian Wilson, RHS head soccer coach (subsequently resigned).

-approved transfers for G Ann Thomas, from RHS language arts teacher to RHS counselor, replacing Sharon Barrick; Karli Cook from RHS educational assistant to Irrigon Elementary School department secretary; Jody

Marston from CMS department secretary to Windy River Elementary department secretary.

-accepted resignations/retirements from: Frances Glenn, retiring effective Jan. 1, 2004, and continuing to teacher through the end of the 2003-04 school year; Kelly Griffith from her RHS assistant custodian position; Brian Wilson from his RHS language arts teaching position and RHS soccer coach position.

-scheduled a meeting with the Community Education Committees for Thursday, Aug. 21, at 7 p.m. at the district office in Lexington.

-heard the following announcements: MCSD meeting with the Morrow County Unified Recreation District, Monday, Aug. 25, at noon at the Port of Morrow in Boardman; district-wide inservice at RHS Monday, Aug. 25; inservice work days Tuesday, Aug. 26, through Thursday, Aug. 28; Labor Day holiday, Monday, Sept. 1; first day of school for students, Tuesday, Sept. 2; next board meeting, Monday, Sept. 8, A.C. Houghton Elementary School, Irrigon, 7:30 p.m.

## WCCC Ladies' Playday results

Under overcast skies, 13 women gathered Aug. 5, for Willow Creek Country Club's Ladies' Playday.

Pat Edmundson had low gross of the field. Liz Orwick had low net of the field. Least putts of the field went to Luvilla Sonstegard.

In flight A, Corol Mitchell received low gross.

In flight B, Lynnea Sargent received low gross; Loa Henderson, low net; and Betty Rietmann, least putts.

In flight C, Lorrene Montgomery received low gross; Betty Carlson, low net; and Joyce Dinkins, least putts.

Edmundson received second shot on hole 11. Mitchell had third shot on hole 15. Montgomery, Sargent, Sonstegard, Orwick, Rietmann, Dinkins and Mitchell all were "on the green" on hole 13.

Edmundson received a birdie on hole 10 and Mitchell had a birdie on hole 13.

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## City Council *continued from page one*

backed not by water revenue but by the entire assets of the city. He also disputed the assumption that the city will grow to population of 2000 in the next 20 years. "They say we have 1,500 now, but I don't think there are 1200 people here," he said.

With the smaller size project Wolff added that maybe some of the local contractors could bid and "keep some of the money at home."

City Manager Jerry Breazeale argued in favor of the larger water project saying the city needed the extra storage for fire fighting and for increased growth in the city. "If you don't want to grow and you don't want to invest in your community then you will plan to fade away," he said. He also pointed out that the city council, or a council committee, had over the past several years reviewed and approved every step of the project, from the water master plan to the financing package.

The financing package already approved for the \$6 million project called for the city to receive approximately \$2.25 million in grants and the rest a loan payable at 1 percent interest over 30 years. Breazeale said he did not know if the loan or grants could be used for the smaller \$1.7 - \$2 million size project, or if he would have to go out and find new funding, but he would check it out. He also said the city might face some expenses in getting out of the engineering contracts already signed for the larger project.

Several members of the public also spoke at the meeting, and all but one was in favor of the smaller size project. Some said water rates are already too high, and some said the Little League could not afford to pay for all the water necessary to keep the fields green.

Others said higher water rates would drive people away from Heppner and we would end up with a smaller population still paying for the expensive water system. All agreed that the system needed to be repaired, but that the city could not afford the more expensive project.

In the end, however, the council voted six to one to rescind its prior approval of the project and move ahead with the smaller water project. All council members voted in favor of the motion and Mayor Bob Jepsen voted against. "I am against this motion," Jepsen said. "Our other plan is 80 percent completed. We are going out to bids in two to three months," he said.

In other business at the meeting the council:

Heard from city manager Breazeale who said he has been working with federal agencies to try and get Heppner's flood zones reduced and it looked like there may be some success from his efforts. "It looks like we will have significant reduction in our flood plain," he told the council. The reduced size of the flood plain will mean fewer people will have to pay for flood insurance, and less stringent building codes will be necessary with new and remodeled construction in the city.

Heard from the city manager that the city had received several grants including \$24,000 for work at Heritage Plaza and \$4,000 towards leadership training.

Accepted the resignation of public works director Craig Canham. Canham said he had married a woman in Washington and would be moving there to be with her. His last day on the job would be Sept. 2.

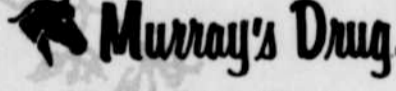
Appointed Duane Jones to the city planning commission.

## Wedding Tables


Kimberly Becker & Brent Gunderson  
Wedding - Saturday, August 23

Nicki and Tony Clement  
Wedding Reception - Saturday, August 23

Stephanie Haquewood & Shaun Hisler  
Shower - Sunday, August 24  
Wedding - Saturday, September 20



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