

School board learns fire damages to exceed \$3 million

continued from page one

administrators: Jack Thompson, Heppner Elementary School principal, Thad Killingbeck, Windy River Elementary principal, BJ Wilson, Sam Boardman Elementary School principal and Wade Smith, assistant superintendent.

Irrigon High School Assistant Principal Chris Davis has been promoted to IHS principal; Phyllis Danielson, formerly Irrigon Elementary School principal, has been promoted to programs director; Joel Chavez has been promoted from English Language Learner program director to Irrigon Elementary principal/ELL director; and Donna Barton, teacher on special assignment, has been promoted to Riverside High School assistant principal. Craig Benson, who has had experience at both Stanfield and Umatilla, was hired as Irrigon High School assistant principal.

In other business, the board:

-heard a report from Killingbeck and Davis on the proposed plan for installing lights at the Irrigon High School football and soccer field. The plan calls for the installation of 40 1,500-watt lights on the field to be funded with \$25,000 from the district and, they hope, financial and in-kind donations of labor and materials from the Umatilla Electric Company, the Irrigon Booster Club, the school's athletic budget, the class of 2007, the Moose Lodge, members of the Irrigon community and others.

-recognized Matlack for his years of service for the district.

-authorized Burrows to engage in negotiations with the Cartwell company to contract food purchasing and management of food services district-wide pending state approval. Burrows assured the board that the district will retain its own food-service employees.

-decided to review the viability of the district's

Community Education Committees. Burrows said that the district was charged around \$500 for the CEC portion in the recent election, however, only one person filed out of 14 CEC openings. "It doesn't make sense to spend money for an election where no one runs," said Burrows.

-heard a report on the Talented and Gifted Program trip to Seattle by Heppner High School TAG students Kelsey and Ashley Wolff.

-adopted the 2007-08 board meeting calendar as follows (on Mondays except where noted): July-no meeting; August 13-district office; September 10-HHS; October 8-RHS; Tuesday, November 13-Morrow Education Center; December 10-Irrigon Elementary; January 14-Heppner Elementary; February 11-Sam Boardman Elementary; March 10-A.C. Houghton Elementary; April 14-Windy River Elementary; May 12-IHS; June 9-district office.

-approved annual organization details.

-approved resignations/retirements for: Killingbeck; Smith; Wilson; Ryan Preuit, IHS advanced math teacher; Beau Phillips, WRE Title I teacher; Brian Frazier, WRE sixth-grade teacher; Alissa Wood, IES special ed assistant; Beth Wheeler, ACH ed assistant.

-approved recall of Cara Osmen to WRE Title I teacher.

-approved 2007-08 extra duty coaching assignments as follows (Heppner only listed): Heppner Junior High-Rick Paullus, head football coach; Josh Coiner, assistant football coach; Jaci Hughes, head volleyball coach; Mindy Wilson, assistant volleyball coach; Adam Doherty, head boys' basketball coach; Kevin Payne, assistant boys' basketball coach; Melissa Coiner, head girls' basketball coach; Keith Price, assistant girls' basketball coach; Mark Lemmon, head wrestling

coach; Heppner High School-Greg Grant, athletic director, head football coach, head golf coach; Les Payne, assistant football coach; Shane Matheny, half-time assistant football coach; Kevin Payne, half-time assistant football coach; Pam Dowdy, head volleyball coach; Petra Payne, assistant volleyball coach, head softball coach; Troy Morgan, head wrestling coach, assistant baseball coach; Forrest McKinnis, head boys' basketball coach; Ken Grieb, assistant boys' basketball coach; Mark Dowdy, head girls' basketball coach; Chris Rauch, assistant girls' basketball coach; Rick Johnston, head baseball coach; Rick Paullus, assistant baseball coach; Marianne Smith, head track coach; Jason Palmer, assistant track coach; and Petra Payne, head softball coach.

-approved 2007-08 extra duty non-coaching assignments as follows (Heppner only listed): Heppner Elementary-Joe Lindsay, half-time band, half-time music; Molly Rill, TAG coordinator; Karen Smith-Griffith, DART coordinator; Mary Ann Elguezabal, ELL site coordinator; Heppner High School-Darlene Marquardt, annual; Joe Lindsay, half-time choir, half-time pep band; Virginia Grant, rally advisor; Jodi Chapa, drama advisor; Petra Payne, TAG coordinator; John Flaherty, DART coordinator.

-approved the language arts textbook adoption.

-approved attendance variances.

-accepted and acknowledged a \$2,231.90 donation from the Heppner Parent Teacher Club to Heppner Elementary School with funds to be used for Outdoor School.

-held a 2007-08 budget hearing.

-saw the June enrollment report as follows: ACH-349 students; IHS-310; HES-196; HHS-230;

IES-127; RHS-391; SBE-318; WRE-231; MCS D Morrow Education Center-44; Umatilla School District MEC-35 for a total of 2,231 students.

-approved a selection committee for the SBE principal position.

-heard the announcement that there will be no July board meeting, with the next meeting set for August 13 at the district office.

Obituaries

Oral C. Wright

Oral C. Wright died Friday, May 4, 2007, in Bothell, WA, at the age of 94.



Oral C. Wright

He was born December 15, 1912 on Rhea Creek, in the same bedroom his father was born, to Moses Albert and Ava McFerrin Wright. He resided in the Heppner and Lexington area most all but the last 10 years of his life. He was a 45 year auto mechanic and was a 50 year member of the Heppner BPOE. He loved spending time with family and friends, gardening and boating.

On August 11, 1934 he married Marjorie Happold in Heppner. They resided in Morrow County almost all of their 65 year marriage, except for a brief time in Washington. Mrs. Wright passed away in Bothell in 1999.

He is survived by three daughters, Bobbi Lynne Haguwood of Pendleton, Nancy Ann and Larry Huffman of Palm Bay, FL, and Deanna Sue and Alex Bellamy of Bothell; his companion for seven years, Donna Hickey; grandchildren, Kelwayne Haguwood, Kimee Haguwood, Kevin Haguwood, Lisa Huffman, Lawrence Huffman, Leslie Coppage, Lorinda Zimmerman, Alexandra Bellamy, Aaron Bellamy, and Amelia Bellamy; 23 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Kristi Haguwood Huber.

Disposition was by cremation and burial services in Heppner will be announced at a later date.

Heppner loses out in grants to aid St. Pat's Senior Center

Heppner lost out on government grants which would have helped put the downtown St. Patrick's Senior Center on more secure financial footing, the city council was told Monday night. But the consultant hired by the city to apply for the aid said her firm was going back in the fall for a second try at obtaining up to \$500,000 in financial aid.

Darlee Rex of Rex Development in Pendleton, along with Bruce Buchanan of Oregon Housing and Community Services, reported to the council that the city lost out because of the unique ownership of the center, the way the weatherization budget was constructed and the historical character of the building.

There is a total of 19 apartments designed especially for senior living at the center. Unit prices include all utilities except telephone and cable television, and laundry facilities are on-site. An elevator is centrally located in the building and the center also employs an on-site manager and maintenance person. But, the center is having trouble financially.

In January the city hired Rex and her company to help re-financing for the St. Patrick's Senior Center's \$350,000 debt. The Sr. Center is in need of repairs, however the low rents charged over the years has not allowed for a contingency or repair fund to be build up to pay for maintenance.

Rex and her company were hired to prepare an application to obtain re-financing. The application was a package of grants, loans, and tax credits that reduce the financing costs and the Bank of Eastern Oregon loan originally used to purchase and renovate the center. The application will also include obtaining funds for financial management of the project for a period of 20 years.

The city agreed to pay Rex Consulting \$3,000 immediately and then \$1,500 a month until funding was approved. Rex will be paid a maximum of \$30,000 if the grants are successful. The city also agreed to pay up to \$2,500 in additional fees such as filing fees, photographic services and

other administrative costs associated with the application.

Monday Rex said the second round of funding would be more competitive for the city, but also there would be more funding available. "It's a wonderful project, but there is more money and more competition available," said Buchanan. Rex said she had 35 letters of support from the community which were very helpful in the application.

In other business the council discussed the leaking roof at the fire hall. City Manager Dave DeMayo said it was necessary to cut out repair money from the upcoming year's budget because the city just didn't have the funds available. Fire Chief Rusty Estes said the water was leaking down near an electrical box and on to some equipment.

The council heard that city employees have donated 18 days of sick leave to city crew member Randy Sample for his use. Sample is undergoing chemo therapy, and cannot always come to work.

It was announced that the Port of Morrow will be holding its monthly meeting in Heppner on August 8.

The council heard that the Sr. Center had received a \$3,500 grant from Wildhorse Casino for the purchase of new dining room chairs.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports the following business:

May 22:-MCSO arrested Mark Dewayne Pope on Morrow County Circuit Court warrant for failure to appear/Dis. Con. Subject was also arrested on a Hermiston PD warrant for failure to appear/1 Con. and prohibition against drug paraphernalia.

-MCSO issued a citation to John Martinez Frutos for no seatbelt.

-MCSO received a report of graffiti at the shop at the high school in Heppner.

-MCSO issued a citation to Mark Deppall Mesteth for no seatbelt.

-BPD issued a citation to Frances Irene Smith for going 38 mph in a 25 mph zone.

-BPD gave a subject a courtesy ride to the Shell station for gas and then was returned to the vehicle.

-BPD received a report of a hit and run. Report was actually a vehicle break in.

-BPD assisted OSP with a traffic stop.

Boardman Ambulance received a report that a male in his 50's fell from a tall ladder, possible hip injuries. Subject was conscious and breathing. Patient was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

-Irrigon Fire Department received a report of a general fire alarm.

Fair Board meeting changed

Due to a lack of quorum, the Morrow County Fair Board meeting was changed to Thursday, June 14, at 6 p.m. at the fairgrounds.

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Dad's Time

Citizen's Watch with Day and Date



CELEBRATE HEPPNER SIDEWALK SALE FRIDAY, JUNE 15th



Father's Day is almost here... Sunday, June 17th Need gift ideas? We can help!

Don't miss our Annual SUPER SIDEWALK SALE!

SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE!

We're cleaning house in preparation for our annual buying trip so we'll have lots of great bargains!

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