

MCSO BUDGET

-Continued from PAGE ONE
 "vet prospective buyers to ensure they have the financial resources to keep the building from falling into total disrepair."

Administrators and the board also discussed turning the Heppner tennis courts, which are on school district property, over to the city of Heppner, stating that the courts are a financial liability because of the cost of maintenance and the cost of replacing basketball hoops on the courts, which they say are often torn down. The school district said that it did not use the courts for PE or other activities.

A new basketball court (see front-page story "Paving Rock Street") is going in by the Heppner swimming pool on Riverside Ave, with \$10,000 to build the court provided by Wildhorse Foundation. The new court will be turned over to the Willow Creek Park District and maintained by the park district. The lighting for the court will also be funded by Wildhorse. Funding is being sought for the irrigation and landscaping.

Also at the meeting, the board held a budget hearing for the 2014-15 year and approved a budget for the upcoming year amounting to nearly \$31 million.

Classified expenditures include: \$11,674,509 for salaries; \$7,513,894 in other associated payroll costs; \$2,957,455 in purchased services; \$2,842,602 in supplies and materials; \$350,00 for capital outlay; \$461,045 in other (except debt service and interfund transfers); \$2,686,656 in debt service; \$970,750 in interfund transfers; \$750,000 for operating contingency; and a \$780,199 unappropriated ending fund balance and reserves; for \$30,987,110 in expenditures.

Expenditures by function are as follows: \$14,746,301 for instruction; \$9,980,700 in support services; \$972,504 for enterprise and community service; 0 for facility acquisition and construction; \$3,657,406 for other uses (\$2,686,658 for debt service and \$970,750 for interfund transfers); \$750,000 for contingency; \$880,199 unappropriated ending fund balance; for \$30,987,110 in total requirements.

Resources include: a

\$3,246,470 beginning fund balance; \$5,733,000 in property taxes, excluding local option taxes; \$420,000 in local option property taxes; \$4,899,009 in other revenue from local sources; \$169,000 in revenue from "intermediate sources"; \$13,826,040 in state revenue; \$1,717,841 in federal revenue; and \$975,750 from all other budget resources.

The school district's permanent tax levy is at \$4.0342 (\$403.42 a year for a taxpayer with a \$100,000 home in Morrow County). MCSO's local option levy is \$1 per thousand (\$100 a year for a taxpayer with a \$100,000 home). The district has a \$2,272,400 levy for general obligation bonds. As of July 1, the district had \$11,914,668 in general obligation bonds, \$10,436,120 in other bonds and \$1,740,125 in "other borrowings" for a total of \$24,090,913 in outstanding debt.

In other business, the board:

-approved the first reading of district policy on the creation of web pages.

-adopted policy on electronic communication systems, with the addition of "Educating minors about appropriate online behavior, including cyberbullying awareness and response, and how to interact with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms."

-ratified the Oregon School Employees Association contract "re-opener language" for 2014-15 with a three-percent raise with 15 steps. Salaries (with 15 steps) range from \$9.33 an hour to \$12.31 an hour for assistant cooks; \$9.92-\$13.09 for head cooks; \$13.20-\$16.27 for assistant custodians; \$14.40-\$17.73 for head custodians/behavior techs; \$13.79-\$16.98 for facility coordinators; \$9.37-\$12.37 for educational assistants; \$9.97-\$13.16 for library techs/alt. ed assistants; \$10.83-\$14.27 for department secretaries; \$11.81-\$15.60 for school secretaries. Tier 1 for special education level of dependent care is \$50 per month, Tier 2-\$75/month, and Tier 3-\$100/month. A limited number of classified staff who predominantly work with students are eligible for additional compensation after passing a Spanish

fluency competence test with reading, writing and speaking components at a rate of \$50 per month. The district will also pay up to \$1,200 per month for health insurance premiums for classified employees, based on annual hours.

-ratified a license agreement between the district and the Morrow County Unified Recreation District which provides funds for "cultural and recreational activities for the people of Morrow County", including sports and school extracurricular activities. Superintendent Dirk Dirksen expressed his appreciation for MCURD, saying that many activities for students would not exist without it.

-approved the following resignations: Linsey Mitchell, Heppner Junior High School girls' basketball coach, Sylvia Barrera, Sam Boardman Elementary School head secretary (resigned), Cynthia Rives, Riverside Jr./Sr. High School education assistant (resigned), Jesse Rodriguez, Heppner Jr. High girls' basketball coach, Blaine Ganvoa, Irrigon High School head volleyball coach, Molly Rhea, Heppner High School assistant volleyball coach, Jake McElligott, Irrigon High School head boys' basketball coach, Larry Palmer, Heppner Jr. High wrestling coach, Tristan Holechek, Riverside Junior High football coach, Meagan Shaver, Windy River Elementary head cook.

-approved the following retirements: Grace Sandlin, Irrigon Elementary head custodian.

-approved the following employment/promotions/transfers: Melissa Coiner, Heppner Elementary second-grade teacher to third-grade teacher, Sybil Stewart, Heppner Elementary fourth-grade teacher to second-grade teacher, Joselyn Piper, Heppner Elementary special ed K-12 to fifth-grade teacher; Tessa Gourneau, Sam Boardman Elementary department secretary to head secretary, Marissa Turner, special education teacher from Irrigon to Heppner, Virginia Garcia, from WRE ed assistant to SBE department secretary, Amy Stringer, ACH/IES/HHS counselor, Adrienne Cole, IES special education teacher, Steven

Students of the month announced at HES



Heppner Elementary this week announced Students of the Month for April and May. The theme was "Improving Yourself," which included the traits of self-improvement, goals, potential and courage. Pictured are winners (top L-R) Bill Alldritt, Bryan Collins, Hayden Hyatt, Jackson Lehman, Hannah Palmer, Miracle Holsinger, (bottom L-R) Mariah Combe, Damien Sheeships-Ball, Sierra Greenup, Landon Waddell, Irelynn Kollman, Austin Brown and Shaylyn DeLoach. Not pictured: Brinley Furrer. -Contributed photo

Elementary students receive Presidential Awards



Presidential Awards were awarded to sixth-grade students excelling in all academic areas as well as OAKS tests in fifth and sixth grade. Receiving the Gold Presidential Certificate and Pin were (back L-R) Nicole Prophet, Kellen Grant, Brianne Smith, Kami Holtz and Cami VanArsdale. Students receiving the Silver Presidential Certificate and Pin were (front L-R) Jason Rea, Cheyenne Shaw, Sam Grigg, Casey Fletcher, Alison Cecil and Tresslyn McCurry. -Contributed photo

Sheller, Irrigon JSHS science teacher.

-approved the following extra duty contracts: Mike Royer, IHS head girls' basketball coach, Mike Gilman, IHS assistant softball coach, Joshua Gutierrez, RHS 1/4-time assistant baseball coach, Neil Livingston, RHS assistant football coach, Melissa Lindsay, HHS head girls' basketball coach, Anna Wedding, HHS assistant girls' basketball coach, Mitch Thompson, IHS head boys' basketball coach, Steve Sheller, IHS assistant girls' basketball coach, Michelle Morgan, IJH head girls' basketball coach, Al Phillips, IJH half-time assistant girls' basketball coach, Debbie White, IJH half-time assistant girls' basketball coach, Laura Combes, IHS head volleyball coach.

-approved a trip

proposal from Jeff Searles for the Tri-County Eastern Oregon Concert Band, which includes Heppner, Irrigon, Riverside, Lone and Arlington high school bands, to travel to Disneyland during spring break of 2015.

-approved 2014-15 annual organizational details for the district.

-authorized the country treasurer to invest district funds.

-approved a resolution for a committed fund balance.

-heard that the Morrow County School District Board of Directors called a special work session for Wednesday, June 11, at 6 p.m. at Heppner Elementary School; the purpose of the work session is to hear a proposal from American Tower to place a cell tower on Morrow County School

District property.

-received the following enrollment report for June: A.C. Houghton Elementary, Irrigon-279, Sam Boardman Elementary, Boardman-324, Heppner Elementary-176, Irrigon Elementary-175, Windy River Elementary, Boardman-207, Heppner Jr./Sr. High-165, Irrigon Jr./Sr. High-379, Riverside Jr./Sr. High, Boardman-385, Morrow Education Center, Irrigon-39, Total-2,129.

-held an executive session concerning legal matters and an expulsion.

-received the following announcements: June 5-last student day, June 6-last teacher day, July 4-Independence Day, Aug. 1-administrators return, Aug. 25-28-staff in-service week, Sept. 2-students begin; Aug. 11-next board meeting, A.C. Houghton Elementary.

Heppner plans Music in the Park

Heppner is once again holding Music in the Park this summer.

The series of three summer concerts will kick off at Heppner City Park Sunday, June 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. with a concert by the Tri-Cities steel drum band Bram Brata. The band, named from two Trinidadian slang words meaning "an unexpected party," delivers an eclectic blend of Caribbean, Soca, jazz, pop and even classical music.

Residents and visitors are invited to bring their lawn chairs for an evening of entertainment. Picnics are also encouraged, and

supper will be available for purchase to raise funds for the FFA trip to Washington, D.C. in July.

More concerts are also planned, to be held at Heppner Elementary School's newly remodeled Lower Field. The Emersons will perform Sunday, July 27, and Dakota Brown and Luke Basile will take the

stage Sunday, Aug. 24. The rain location for all concerts is the elementary school gym.

These evenings of music are sponsored by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District and facilitated by the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran and All Saints Episcopal churches.



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