



Sheriff Terry Rowan, left, explains his stance on Measure 105 during a Hispanic Advisory Committee meeting at Hermiston City Hall Monday.

STAFF PHOTO BY JADE MCDOWELL

Rowan explains support of Measure 105

Sheriff tells Hispanic Advisory Committee he wants to work more closely with federal officials

By JADE MCDOWELL
STAFF WRITER

After signing a letter of support for repealing Oregon's sanctuary status, Umatilla County Sheriff Terry Rowan explained his views on Measure 105 to Hermiston's Hispanic Advisory Committee on Monday.

Measure 105, which will appear on November's ballot statewide, would repeal an Oregon law on the books since 1987 that forbids city, county and state law enforcement agencies from using their resources for "detecting or apprehending" people whose only violation of the law is being in the country without documentation.

Rowan said he is not interested in using the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office to detain people based solely on their immigration status. But he told the audience of about 30 people that he believes repeal of Oregon's sanctuary law would allow law enforcement to communicate and coordinate with federal immigration officials about dangerous criminals who commit crimes such as murder or rape.

"I'm not talking about someone here without the right papers," he said. "If folks are coming here to make a better life for themselves I welcome them with open arms. It's those people who are coming here with criminal intentions, that I'm focused on."

Rowan said over the years lawsuits and court rulings relating to the 1987 sanctu-

ary law have restricted law enforcement beyond what the original law intended. For example, he said, when an undocumented immigrant committed a violent crime, the jail or prison used to let immigration officials know when the inmate was being released so that they could pick the person up and start deportation proceedings immediately. That doesn't happen anymore, he said, because law enforcement agencies live in fear of large civil penalties that some agencies have experienced in the past when cooperating with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

He said he had no intention of sending deputies to help with ICE raids, or asking victims about their immigration status or reporting hard working people who are obeying the law other than their documentation.

But audience members at the Hispanic Advisory Committee meeting told Rowan that even if he felt that way, he couldn't guarantee other sheriffs and police chiefs wouldn't try to find otherwise law-abiding undocumented immigrants and get them deported.

"How are you sure others won't do that if passed, even if you do not?" Brenda Flores asked.

She said the measure is backed by Oregonians for Immigration Reform, which was labeled a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center for efforts to demonize immigrants and stoke fear of immigration.

She and other Latino audience members said they worried that Measure 105 would lead to racial profiling — that they could be stopped or detained by police on suspicion of being in the country illegally based on what they looked like. They pointed out that the catalyst for the law in the first place was an incident in which police officers approached U.S. citizens of Latino descent in a restaurant and began interrogating them about their legal status.

Rowan said there are "very robust" laws against profiling on the books that would still exist if Measure 105 passed. The state is requiring large law enforcement agencies to start submitting their "stop data" this year and smaller agencies next year for independent analysis by a third party looking for patterns of racial profiling. He said his door is always open if anyone has a complaint.

Virginia Rome Garcia said Rowan spoke of not going after people whose only crime was being in the country illegally, but the same people who support Measure 105 already got a referendum passed to not allow undocumented immigrants to receive driver's licenses or car insurance. She asked what Rowan planned to do about undocumented immigrants who drove to work without a license.

Rowan said that was considered an infraction, not a crime, in Oregon. He said he would support something

that said local law enforcement shouldn't contact ICE unless an incident rose to a certain level of misdemeanor. When asked how many times in a year he was seeing undocumented immigrants committing serious crimes that he wanted to work with ICE on, he said in the past year he had probably seen four cases.

Roy Barron, Hermiston's newest city councilor, said he respected Rowan's opinion but personally believed that if Measure 105 passes it will create more fear of law enforcement in the Latino community and that there could be unintended consequences beyond Rowan's desire to communicate with ICE about dangerous criminals.

"It just leaves way too much gray area that I'm not comfortable with," he said.

Kit Morgan and Rev. Charlotte Wells of Pendleton's Episcopal Church of the Redeemer both spoke out against Measure 105 at Monday's meeting. Morgan said he agrees with critics of the measure who say it will aid criminals by making undocumented victims and witnesses of crime afraid to go to law enforcement.

Measure 105 is sponsored by three Republican members of Oregon's legislature — Greg Barreto, who represents Pendleton's District 58; Sal Esquivel of Medford and Mike Nearman of Independence. Sixteen of Oregon's 36 sheriffs, including Rowan and Morrow County Sheriff Ken Matlack, signed a letter of support.

Hermiston will hold forum for superintendent

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
STAFF WRITER

The Hermiston School District has not yet finalized a decision about how they will fill the superintendent role vacated last month.

At a meeting on Sept. 10, board members said they were leaning toward appointing acting superintendent Tricia Mooney in the role, but that they would first hold a community forum so that Mooney could speak to members of the public about her vision for the district and the work she's done so far.

The board will host a meet-and-greet with Mooney, at its upcoming work session on Sept. 24 from 6 to 6:30 p.m. at Desert View Elementary School, 1225 SW Ninth St., Hermiston. Mooney will discuss her background in education and with the Hermiston School District. Students, staff, parents and community members are invited to ask questions and provide feedback.

Fred Maiocco, superintendent of the Hermiston School District for the past 10 years, submitted a letter of resignation the last week of August, after informing the board that his military duty had been extended until January 2020. When he left for military duty in July 2017, he told the board he would return by January 2019.

Fred Maiocco, a brigadier general with the U.S. Army Reserves, is currently serving as the commander, 7th Mission Support Command, a forward-deployed, consequence management and civil affairs unit based in Kaiserslautern, Germany. He is also the deputy commanding general for the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, coordinating logistical support to U.S. forces in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

He has been previously deployed in 2011, to Kuwait and Iraq for 18

months. Mooney was selected as interim superintendent after the board interviewed three candidates. She previously served as the district's human resources director.

During the meeting, each board member stated how they'd like to proceed with filling the position. Five of the six members present said they were leaning toward appointing Mooney, and the absent board member, Dave Smith, submitted a written statement saying the same thing.

Board member Jason Middleton said he would like to see the search expanded to other candidates.

"You've done a great job," he said to Mooney. "While we get to see the great things (Mooney) has done, a search is a way for the community to see what she has done and can do. I think going through that process is a good thing for the district."

Board chair Karen Sherman said a search would cost the district about \$10,000.

Most board members said they see the value in a broader search, but felt appointing Mooney would maintain a sense of stability in the district.

"I've been contacted by several people, and the concern has been stability and accountability," Sherman said. "They feel they can be stable with the current administration."



Tricia Mooney



WILDHORSE
RESORT & CASINO

5 Theater Cineplex

Check wildhorseresort.com for showtimes

\$5 Matinee Classics Every Wednesday

Credit & Debit Cards accepted
Cineplex gift cards available

541-966-1850
Pendleton, OR I-84 - Exit 216

IT'S TIME TO DECORATE FOR FALL!

We have beautiful decor and fresh flowers to spruce up your home.

Put a smile on the heart with the power of flowers.



HWY 395, HERMISTON • 541-567-4305
Mon-Sat 8am-6pm • Sun 12pm-5am
www.cottageflowersonline.com

Help Celebrate Cason's Place First Birthday

Sunday, September 23, 2018 • 1-3 pm
1416 SE Court Ave, Pendleton

*Dedication of Outdoor Activity Area Opening:
Honoring Adrian Stump, a fallen soldier*

- Rock Painting for Memorial Garden
- Please join us and learn more about Cason's Place work with grieving children and families.

No Child Should have to Grieve Alone



Grief Support for Children and Families of Eastern Oregon

www.casonsplace.org

DIVORCE \$155

NO Court Appearances

www.paralegalalternatives.com

Divorce in 1-5 weeks Possible!

Complete Preparation Includes:
Children • Custody • Support • Property • Bills Division

☐ legalalt@msn.com ☎ 503-772-5295

Eagle Cap Excursion Train

Saturdays: Sept. 29, Wine & Cheese Train
October 6 & 13, Train Robberies
October 20, Season's Bounty



Elgin Depot
800.323.7330

Descriptions & Tickets at www.eaglecaptrainrides.com

JAMIE
MCLEOD SKINNER
FOR CONGRESS • FOR OREGON

**INVEST IN COMMUNITY VALUES:
HEALTHCARE, EDUCATION,
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

JAMIEFOROREGON.COM

AUTHORIZED AND PAID FOR BY MCLEOD-SKINNER FOR OREGON • PO BOX 1894, REDMOND, OR 97756

