

SEASIDE FIRE GETS SOME 'BREATHING ROOM'

Grant, levy to boost breathing apparatus gear

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

For the Seaside Fire Department, the third time's a charm.

Chief Joey Daniels and Seaside Fire and Rescue were awarded \$151,600 to buy self-contained breathing apparatus essential for indoor firefighting. "These are lifesaving pieces of equipment," Daniels said.

Seaside will match a little more than \$7,000 of U.S. Department of Homeland Security funds, for a federal share just above \$144,000.

Daniels said he'd sought the funds each of the last three years, as aging, unusable or obsolete equipment limited the number of air packs available for the 35-member Seaside volunteer staff.

The fire department asked voters for a levy to help meet critical safety needs, including the apparatus.

Thumbs-up

In May, Seaside voters overwhelmingly endorsed Local Option 4-186, approving \$2 million over five years for fire equipment and personnel, including self-contained breathing apparatus, a new ladder truck and funding for the department's training and safety officer.

The federal grant, meanwhile, was approved only days after the election.

Within the last five years, Daniels said he has noticed major issues with the current apparatus. "We're always fixing them," Daniels said. "If you went out there right now, there are six hanging out there on the wall, out of service."

Tanks must be tested every five years, with a 15-year life before they must be thrown away. All 32 tanks owned by the department are up for disposal next year. "You're not going interior without them," Daniels said. "That's our air."

While levy funds are not available until November 2018, the grant, available immediately, gives the fire department a head start.

One package includes back-assembly, high-pressure cylinder and a face mask and sells for about \$6,500 to \$7,200 each. The Department of Homeland Security grants a slightly lower cost allowance, capping their participation at \$6,200 per unit. Seaside will make up the difference through the department's budget, Daniels said.

Ideally, every firefighter in Seaside will have access to a pack, with spares, he said. Daniels said he hopes to ultimately have 45 packs to meet the needs of a full roster. But even with the grant funds, "we're still probably going to be short," he said.

Funds from the May levy will help meet shortfalls, along with extra parts, facepieces and training.



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The new grant awarded to the Seaside Fire Department will upgrade certain components of the safety equipment system.



COLIN MURPHEY/EO MEDIA GROUP

Jimmy Huddleston, with the Seaside Fire Department, works to maintain equipment at the Fire Station. The department was recently awarded a grant that will update some components of their self-contained-breathing-apparatus gear.



COLIN MURPHEY/EO MEDIA GROUP

Seaside firefighter Jimmy Huddleston demonstrates how the group's self-contained-breathing-apparatus equipment works in conjunction with other safety gear.

Simulations

The department plans to narrow suppliers down to two companies in July, followed by demonstrations of test equipment in simulated situations. Final selection will be made by a committee of eight firefighters.

Daniels said he received grant-writing assistance

from Chief Jeff Golightly of the Lewis and Clark Fire District, who won a similar grant last year. Daniels said he hopes that other county departments receive items on their wish lists.

"Everything that we get or they get benefits our county as a whole," he said.

Lawmakers recognize Goodding's sacrifice

State legislators recall fallen officer

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

State lawmakers have voted unanimously to recognize and honor Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Goodding for his service to the state.

"He fulfilled the vital and difficult job of policing with passion, dedication and diligence, and was known for his immense smile and generous nature," stated state Rep. Deborah Boone said in bringing Senate Concurrent Resolution 6 to the floor in Salem.

"His reputation was stellar," Boone. "Everyone loved him. The kids all loved him. I have a granddaughter at the high school and she knew him. He had everyone's respect and love. It was emotional at all levels."

Goodding, who was shot and killed in the line of duty in February 2016 while at-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

State Rep. Deborah Boone carries a resolution honoring Sgt. Jason Goodding.

tempting to make a felony warrant arrest on Broadway in Seaside, was recognized as "a mentor and leader who worked to improve the lives of homeless people in Seaside and who was loved and respected by his co-workers and the community he served."

Goodding's parents, Dean and Patty Goodding, attended the June 13 event, accompanied by state Sen. Betsy Johnson, sponsor of the original Senate resolution. The Senate proclamation passed unanimously in March before heading to the House.

In the proclamation, Goodding is described by Seaside

Police Chief Dave Ham as representing "the best of what anybody's looking for" as a law enforcement officer.

After his death in the line of duty, Goodding was awarded the Law Enforcement Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice, presented to his wife, Amy, and daughters Joslyn and Jayden at his memorial service in Seaside by Gov. Kate Brown.

Memorials in Salem and in

Washington, D.C., also honored his memory.

Goodding and other fallen officers will also be remembered with highway memorial signs, according to Mary Nunnenkamp, chairwoman of the Oregon Law Enforcement Memorial Fund.

"We promise to never forget," Nunnenkamp told legislators. "We promise to support our survivors for as long as they need us. These signs represent one more way for us to keep that promise. These highway memorial signs are incredibly important to them."

The resolution recalled Goodding's "passion, dedication and diligence" in his role as a law enforcement officer.

"My personal regret is that I did not know him," Boone said this week. "Because I certainly found out what a wonderful person he was after he died. I wish I'd known him."

Middle-schoolers invited to science program

Oregon State University, in partnership with the Oregon Coast Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Hub, will provide local middle-schoolers with a free opportunity next month to try their hands at making solar cars and earthquake simulations.

The two-day Cosey Mobile Science and Engineering Camp will visit Astoria Middle School July 10 and 11 and is open to Astoria- and Warrenton-area students entering the sixth through ninth grade. A subsequent two-day camp will visit

Seaside Heights Elementary School July 12 and 13 for students in Seaside, Gearhart and Cannon Beach.

The camps, which run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, will provide lunch and the opportunity for students to design solar-powered cars, create earthquake simulations and more.

Registration ends one week prior to the camp. Register for the for the Seaside camp at <http://tinyurl.com/COSEY-Seaside>. If all slots fill up, registrants can be placed on a waiting list in case a spot opens up.

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