

Banks School board hears presentation on science activities

The May 17 Banks School Board meeting seemed to revolve around topics of scientific interest.

First there was an Elementary Science Fair presentation by parent Pete Edison and his three sons. The Board and audience were treated to an explanation of why submarines work and how golf balls fly. Nearly twice as many students as last year at the Banks Elementary School participated in

this year's science fair. Each of the 91 exhibits received a certificate and ribbon. They were all winners.

Next, City Engineer Dale Merrell spoke about irrigation and water conservation in the City of Banks. Merrell reported that Banks' population went from 300 to 1200 in one year because of the completion of the new subdivision. Water consumption within the city limits is at 90,000 gallons per day

and reaches levels of one million gallons/day during the summer. Most of this summer increase is for lawn and playing field irrigation, said Merrell. Even with the new reservoir on line, there is a risk of running low on water to the point of rationing, he said.

The city is looking into Tualatin Valley Irrigation as a possible alternative to using treated drinking water for lawns and fields. Merrell said the cost of TVI water would be less than the cost of city water, and the TVI start-up costs would be off-

set within three years.

Finally, Superintendent Marilyn McGlasson outlined the district building projects she expects completed before school opens in the fall. Completion of the high school parking lot, new drains and water lines, a new chain link fence on the north property line, renovations to the high school office space, completion of exterior painting and some interior painting at the high school, and renovation of the old Jr. High building will all be ongoing during the summer months.

The board voted to accept the resignations of: Jeffrey King, Grade 1; Chris Drew, Jr. High Language Arts; and Robin Herb, Elementary Office Assistant.

Marilyn Munly, Grade 2, is retiring.

The board approved hiring Darrell Winterbourne and Janelle Rankin for Grade 6, Catherine Wilson for Grade 5/6, Kasi Miller a part-time Speech-Language Assistant, and Cindy Simonsen for half-time Kindergarten.



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Banks Council says "No" to new 9-1-1 agreement

The Banks City Council held a special meeting May 24 to consider the proposed intergovernmental reorganization of the Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency. WCCCA presented its proposals at the May 9 City Council meeting.

Essentially, WCCCA's restructuring would reduce Banks' voting power from one vote to one-fifth of a vote, lumping the five smallest (in population, not area) cities together in a one-vote block. Banks City Council voted to reject WCCCA's proposal, as did several of the other smaller cities, according to Mayor Ray Deeth.

WCCCA, which was formed in 1990, provides 9-1-1 call answering and public safety dispatch for all of Washington County, except the City of Forest Grove. It serves 12 law enforcement agencies and seven fire/EMS agencies, including the Banks Police Department and the Tri-Cities Fire Department. As such, WCCCA is of vital importance to the communities it serves.

WCCCA will probably have to go back to the drawing board on their intergovernmental plan, said Deeth.

Another issue before the council at the special meeting was the 1999-2000 city budget general fund deficit of \$119,000. As part of the solution, the council voted to sell a property the city owns on Market Street. The property originally was purchased to house the Banks Police Department, which has instead moved to the old State Police office on Main Street. The council resolved to study several ways of eliminating the deficit, possibly through interfund borrowing.

In other business, the council:

- Approved renewal of Bank's Billiard's liquor license.
- Voted to renew North Plains Municipal Court Police Contract.
- Directed City Planner K.J. Won to reopen discussion between the city and Tillamook Railroad concerning conditional land use at the Banks Depot.
- Set a public hearing for July in the matter of a permit applied for by Voice Stream for a tower near Banks Lumber.
- Committed to a public hearing, date to be determined, concerning raising business license fees.

Blue Book photo contest opened

A statewide contest to select a cover photograph for the 2001-2002 Oregon Blue Book has been announced. The contest, held every two years, is designed to showcase the talents of Oregon residents of any age who are amateur photographers.

The Oregon Blue Book, a compendium of facts, figures, and details about the state, is published by the Secretary of State. It is a who's who of state and local governments that provides extensive information about Oregon's economy, his-

tory, educational system, cultural resources, and much more.

The winner of the contest will be featured on the inside front cover of the 2001-2002 Blue Book in a narrative about the photograph and the photographer. Selected entries also may be exhibited at the Archives Building following publication of the 2001-2002 Oregon Blue Book.

Entries must be postmarked by October 16, 2000. The photos must be 4 by 6 inch or 4 by 6 inch. **Please see page 20**

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