Commissioner Kress Goes to Washington

Commissioner Tom Kress recently traveled to Washington D.C. as a part of State Leadership Day. Commissioner Kress was among state leaders from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming whom were personally invited for three days of targeted panel discussions, conferences and to talk directly with National Leaders about priority issues in their area.

The first evening Commissioner Kress was invited to attended a presentation from the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition, discussing the future of Secure Rural Schools funding that affects 4,400 school districts, 775 forest counties and communities in 41 states serving over 9 million students.

The next morning, after extensive security protocol measures, groups were able to tour the White House. After which they attended a full day of panel discussions focused on land and forest management, fire resiliency, shared stewardship, and community benefits. The panel of experts and speakers included, Secretary David Bernhardt, Department of the Interior; Kendel Ehrlich, Deputy Director of the Office National Drug Control Policy and Kristi Boswell, Policy Advisor, Office of American Innovation.

The following day he was able to attend the PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) Conference presented by the National Association of Counties. The conference detailed the ongoing relationship between federal lands and local communities and the critical need to continue full funding of PILT in fiscal year 2020 and to support a sustainable long-term approach to financing essential local services in America’s public land counties. In the afternoon Commissioner Kress and local leaders had the opportunity to meet directly with Congressman Greg Walden, U.S. Senator Ron Wyden, U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley and Kathy Dedrick, Congressman Peter Defazio’s Staff Director to discuss advancing economic opportunities in their area, as well as infrastructure funding.

He finished the last day with a poignant meeting with James Hubbard, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment (Who’s career was tragically cut short when the forests of Roseburg, Oregon, V; Frank Bean, Acting Associate Deputy Chief of the National Forest System; Chris Markland, Under Secretary Hubbard’s Chief of Staff and Daniel Jiron, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for the Department of Agriculture to specifically discuss issues that affect Douglas County.

State Leadership Day offers a vital connection between local, state and the federal government, and provides an open door for local leaders to talk openly and freely about their issues and concerns with the current administration.

Commissioner Freeman Recognized by the U.S. Department of the Interior

Commissioner Tim Freeman was recently recognized amongst national leaders in a press release issued by the U.S. Department of the Interior. The release highlighted U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt’s announcement of improvements in implementing regulations to the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Commissioner Freeman has long advocated for modern updates to the ESA Act from 1973. He was in good company in the release, with quotes from national and industry leaders, including: U.S. Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID), U.S. Senator Steve Daines (R-MT), U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK), U.S. Senator Jim Risch (R-ID), Congressman Rob Bishop (R-UT-01), Congressman Russ Fulcher (R-ID-01), Congressman Paul A. Gosar (R-AZ-04), Congressman Dan Newhouse (R-WA-04), Congressman Greg Walden (R-OR-02), Congressman Don Young (R-AK), Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry, Greg Ugalde, Chairman of the National Association of Home Builders, Bob Stoker, President of the Public Lands Council, Jeannette Lof squido, President of the American Agri-Women, Kathleen Sgamma, President of the Western Energy Alliance, Dan Keppen, Executive Director for the Family Farm Alliance.

He was quoted as saying: “I am thankful the Trump Administration and the Department of the Interior have recognized the need to update and streamline the most critical elements of the Endangered Species Act. By modernizing and tailoring these important functions, the Act will more effectively meet the needs and changes which have occurred over several decades. In addition, the mission and primary goals of the Act will be enhanced and improved, both for the public and for species in need of protection and recovery efforts. The Association of O&C Counties stands ready to help in every way possible with the implementation of these much-needed improvements.” – Tim Freeman, President of the Association of O&C Counties.
Douglas County Board of Commissioners October 10, 2019 · connections e-Newsletter

DOUGLAS COUNTY CLERK’S OFFICE

Douglas County Welcomes New County Clerk Daniel J. Loomis

Daniel Loomis was officially sworn in as your new Douglas County Clerk on Wednesday, October 9, 2019. He was sworn in by The Honorable Judge Machelle Briggs-Mayfield, the South Douglas County Justice Court, Justice of the Peace. Loomis fills the Douglas County Clerk position, vacated by Patricia Hitt, who retired before her term was complete on Monday, September 30, 2019. He was appointed to the interim position, by an unanimous vote of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, at the weekly Commissioner’s business meeting. The appointment concluded a month long public applicant selection process conducted by the Commissioners, and facilitated by Human Resources Director, Michael Kurtz. Loomis was one of three applicants to apply for the interim position. Loomis will serve as the County Clerk until a new Clerk is chosen by the voters of Douglas County in 2020.

Loomis is a retired Army veteran who served 23 years in the United States Military, holding jobs as a Helicopter Crew Chief, a Quality Assurance Supervisor, a Senior Aviation Logistician and a Chief Warrant Officer. Currently, he is a workforce development manager at Umbqua Economic Development Partnership and serves on the Douglas County Parks Advisory Board and is chair of the Douglas County Veterans Service Office Advisory Committee. Loomis is married to Dawanda, and chose to return to his home community after retirement to raise his family and serve his community.

The Commissioners were very pleased with the applicant selection process and felt very lucky to have three qualified applicants from which to choose. They are excited to have Loomis on board. Commissioner Boice said, “He has a great resume, which includes a tremendous amount of experience in management and leadership, as well as civic responsibility.”

Loomis commented, “This a great County! I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Douglas County and excited to work with all the great professionals in the Clerk’s office.”

Douglas County Commissioners Recognize Roger Arnold and Dave Sabala for Their Years of Service

Douglas County Commissioners recently recognized Roger Arnold and Dave Sabala at a weekly Commissioner’s Business Meeting and thanked them for their many years of dedicated volunteer service serving on Douglas County Advisory Boards.

Roger Arnold was appointed to the Douglas County Veterans Advisory Committee (VAC) in April 2004. Roger helped to foster the committee into what it is today. He served as Chair of the VAC for several years and helped oversee projects like changing the visitors parking outside the VSO to one hour so that Veterans had time to visit the VSO; helped to create the military “museum” in the DCVS Office; helped the Veterans Day parade grow from “pretty good” to Great and he supported the efforts to repair and restore the Courthouse Veterans Memorial through Oregon Parks Grant Process. Roger retired from the VAC board in August.

Dave Sabala was appointed to the Douglas County Industrial Development Board (DCIDB) in 2002. Dave has been an integral part of the growth in industrial development efforts in Douglas County during his 17 years serving on the DCIDB. The board works to coordinate and facilitate business retention, expansion and recruitment in Douglas County. He has worked many projects including the Sutherlin Industrial Park, MedEd Project and the South Umbqua Valley Industrial Park. Dave retired from the DCIDB Board in August.

Douglas County Annual Veterans Day Parade Scheduled for Monday, November 11

The Douglas County Annual Veterans Day Parade is scheduled to take place in downtown Roseburg, Oregon on Monday, November 11, 2019, starting at 11:00 am. The Douglas County Veterans Day Parade is held every year in Roseburg on Veterans Day. It is often referred to as the greatest Veterans Day Parade in Oregon, and on several occasions the largest.

This year the Grand Marshals will be representatives from generations of military families. The theme is: “Celebrating Multi-Generational Military Families: Generations of Military Service.”

The parade will follow the traditional route through downtown Roseburg starting on the corner of NE Fowler Street and NE Diamond Lake Blvd, turning left onto NE Jackson Street, which becomes SE Jackson Street, turning left onto SE Lane Street, left onto SE Main Street, right onto SE Douglas Avenue and concluding in front of the Douglas County Courthouse.

The Douglas County Veteran’s Day Parade entry deadline is Friday, November 1, 2019 by 5:00 pm. Your entry must include your completed parade application and your $5.00 entry fee. Entries received after this date will not be judged. Late entries will be added to the parade line up in order received. In addition to the parade entry, the Douglas County Veteran’s Day parade committee is also accepting applications for Grand Marshalls, as representatives from generations of military families. Douglas County Veteran’s Day Parade Entry Applications can be found at the link below.

We invite you to join us for the 2019 Veterans Day Parade in downtown Roseburg, on Monday, November 11, 2019. For more information about the parade contact the Veteran’s Day Parade Committee at (541) 671-1274.

DOUGLAS COUNTY • 1036 SE DOUGLAS AVENUE • ROSEBURG, OREGON 97470 • (541) 672-3311
Welcome to the Douglas County Law Library

To know that Douglas County operates a Public Law Library? Do you need specific case and statute information? There's a court or want information on tenant and landlord laws? Well, look no further. The Douglas County Law Library has the most extensive collection of current legal reference materials around. You don't have to be a lawyer or a judge to visit, there are plenty of self-help books for the public to use as well.*

The Law Library is nestled in a quiet and relaxing second story space at the end of the Justice Court hallway, on the third floor of the Douglas County Justice Building. One of its most unique features is an artisan spiral staircase designed and installed by a local craftsman in the 1970’s.

The Douglas County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution on January 1, 1983, establishing the Douglas County Law Library. Prior to January 1, 1983 the Law Library was managed by the Douglas County Circuit Court with the advice and assistance of the Law Library Committee, originally created by the Douglas County Bar Association. The operation of the Law Library has shifted over the years from Douglas County Circuit Courts, to the Douglas County Public Library and the Douglas County Clerks Office. Currently it is managed by County Counsel.

The Douglas County Law Library is open to the public and provides access to the latest guides and reference materials for local, state and federal statutes, rules, cases and other legal information through printed materials and electronic access. A computer is also available for legal research, with the Oregon State Library and other libraries in Oregon.

The Law Library is located in the Douglas County Courthouse, 1036 SE Douglas Avenue, Roseburg, Oregon and can be reached at (541) 440-4332.

*Please note that this is a reference library and staff may not recommend or assist in the preparation of forms, interpret statutes, cases, regulations, provide legal advice or check or advise patrons regarding their legal rights. Staff is available to help patrons locate materials or links that may aid in an individual search.

David Palmer, Building Facilities Director

Please welcome the new Douglas County Building Facilities Director, David Palmer. David comes with over 30 years experience in facilities administration, electrical contracting, historic building preservation and project management. He has worked for Sims Electric, SAIF Corporation, ACB/Harvard Medical Park, and most recently for the Oregon Legislature at the Oregon State Capitol.

A facilities director is responsible for making sure that buildings and their services meet the needs of the people that work in them. As director, David is tasked with overseeing facilities operations, managing facilities budgets, directing routine maintenance, overseeing janitorial services, coordinating facility events, managing emergencies, maintaining risks and hazards, managing contractors, overseeing security and parking, conducting periodic site inspections and making sure the surrounding environment is in a suitable condition to work.

His goals for the department are to be fiscally responsible, bring the maintenance team together, be proactive in responding to issues and maintain an accurate facility condition assessment report.

David was looking to return to his hometown roots and be closer to his family in taking this position. He grew up in Roseburg, graduated from Roseburg High School, Linqua Community College and Oregon Institute of Technology with a B.S. in Operations Management. His first job was as a local logger with the timber industry.

David married to Susan and they have three kids. In his free time he likes to explore the local outdoors, go for hikes and play golf.

National Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Douglas County Board of Commissioners are pleased to announce that Douglas County has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for their comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for year ending June 30, 2018.

According to GFOA, “The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.”

The Award of Financial Reporting Achievement was awarded to Jessica Hansen, Douglas County Chief Financial Officer and the Douglas County Management and Finance Department, as the department, designated by the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, is responsible for preparing the annual Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) which was prepared for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.

This year marks the 31st year that Douglas County’s Management and Finance Department has achieved this honor.

“Our achievements are shaped by the strength of the foundations we set. Congratulations to Jessica and her dedicated team for their continued commitment to excellence. We are thrilled for the excellent work they do day in and day out to achieve this high level of recognition,” commented Commissioner Tim Freeman.

The CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

Click on the link below for more information.

Voter Registration Deadline for Limited Special Election is October 15, 2019

If you have recently tied the knot, changed your name, moved or turned 18? Then make sure you update your voter information or register to vote! The deadline to register to vote in the upcoming November Special District Election is Tuesday, October 15, 2019. Please note that a Special Election will be held on November 5, 2019, involving only those registered voters in the City of Reedsport and the Tenmile Rural Fire District. So, only voters in those two areas will receive ballots this November.

For more information, please visit the Douglas County Clerk's Office, in Room 124 of the Douglas County Courthouse, 1036 SE Douglas Avenue, Roseburg, Oregon, or call (541) 440-4332, or visit their website at the link provided below. You can also register to vote online with the Oregon Secretary of State's website at the link provided below.