

## Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 4, 2012

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Agenda Item: 4a

Information

Topic: Director's Update – Employee Recognition

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On February 2, 2012, I was pleased to announce the selections for the annual employee recognition awards at the monthly All-staff meeting in Salem.

Additionally, we have had one of our long-term staff members and leaders in OPRD selected for a national award. Congratulations go to Kathy Schutt for being selected to receive the 2012 *Distinguished Service Award* from the National Association of Recreation Resource Planners Board of Directors. Each year, the NARRP Board of Directors presents this prestigious annual award to select individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to the outdoor recreation profession.

Please join me in recognizing the contributions of these staff members to the mission of our agency.

### **Employee Recognition Program**

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) Employee Recognition Program supports a culture of continuous improvement by effectively recognizing employee contributions for exceptional teamwork, excellence in normal key tasks, superior performance in expected behaviors, and a high achievement in special projects.

A committee was established to run the program. There were up to (8) awards available for nominations this year, the Director's Award for an Individual, the Director's Award for a Team, the Distinguished Service Award, and up to (5) Centennial Horizon Awards. The committee solicited nominations in the month of November, with (23) nominations received. The committee reviewed all nominations received, rating them based on the criteria for each award. There were many worthy nominations, however (6) individuals rose to the top.

## AWARDS

### Director's Award for an Individual

The award recognizes those individuals who have demonstrated, by efforts and accomplishments, exemplary leadership to the Agency over a sustained period of time. Personal and organizational leadership characteristics and traits demonstrated by these individuals include: integrity, trustworthiness, initiative, innovation, common sense, the ability to effectively communicate, flexibility, a passion for the job, life and personal growth, the drive to get things done, sustained in the face of adversity, support of co-workers and positive team morale, building effective partnerships and relationships, and the ability to inspire and motivate others.

The nominees for this award are: Beth Wilson, Bill Dahl, Christal Florin, Christina Sweet, Dennis Comfort, Ian Johnson, Rhonda Benthin, Tammy Abbott, and Tiffany Hicks

The (2) individuals selected for this award are:

**Tammy Abbott** – Sign specialist and coordinator, Salem Headquarters

**Dennis Comfort** – Park Manager for the South Beach Management Unit

### Director's Award: Team

This award seeks to recognize those individuals who have come together as a team to accomplish outstanding results to positively impact the Agency and its mission. Nominees in this category may be a team working a special project or assignment, or over a sustained period of time in a regular work setting as a regular work team, crew or section. Teams may have external partners or stakeholders as members, but the chartering, leadership and core purpose of the team shall be OPRD-based.

The teams nominated for this award are: Clyde Holliday Management Unit, Nehalem Bay State Park Crew, Jill Nishball & Jimmy Childs, and Valley of the Rogue Management Unit.

The team selected for this award is:

**The Clyde Holliday Management Unit**

The Clyde Holliday MU Crew consists of Park Manager Dennis Bradley and Rangers: Brad Cates, Auther Dickens, Miranda Kane, Christina Sweet, and OC Rebecca Carey. Seasonals: David Davis, Eva Dougharity, Dale Payne, Rella Brown, Judith Bracken and Brian Bradford. Interpretive intern: Kevin Silagi. Host: Tim and Carol Roberts

### Centennial Horizon Awards

These awards seek to recognize those individuals who support the Agency and its mission through their commitment and dedication to the Centennial Horizons as shown in their contributions. Those submitting a nomination in this category could choose from one of the following areas: Safety and Wellness, Customer Service, Process Improvement, All Star Quality, New Employee, Unsung Hero, and Other.

The nominees for this award are: Aimee Buchholz, Glenn Litrell, Kristi Granberg, Rick Ripley, Janel Harris, John Mullen, Taylor Beckley, Karen Neal, and Tiffany Hicks.

There were (3) individuals were selected for this award.

The **Centennial Horizon Process Improvement Award** recognizes employees for their commitment to working smarter and striving to find innovative ways of doing business—improving quality, efficiency, customer service, and morale while creating savings.

This award goes to **Tiffany Hicks** – Office Coordinator at S. S. Stub Steward State Park

The **Centennial Horizon New Employee Award** is to recognize an employee who has made significant contributions to the Department within their first eighteen months of permanent status service.

This award goes to **Taylor Beckley** – Park Ranger 2 at Tumalo State Park

The **Centennial Horizon Unsung Hero Award** recognizes an employee who quietly gets important things done behind-the-scenes.

This award goes to **Aimee Buchholz** – Stewardship Assistant in the Natural Resources Department

### **Distinguished Service Award**

The committee did not receive any nomination for the **Distinguished Service Award** which recognizes an employee who have given at least 25 years of service to OPRD and have demonstrated significant efforts and accomplishments over their years of service. We hope to receive some nominations in the 2012 for this worthwhile award.

Thanks to all the nominees for their good work and congratulations to the winners of this year's awards. The award recipients will be invited to the April OPRD Commission meeting to receive their award certificate and will be allotted \$500 of agency budget to spend within the agency on a project of their choice.

# Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 4, 2012

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Agenda Item: 4 b

Information

Topic: 2012 Legislative Update

Prepared by: MG Devereux, Tanya Crane

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## Background

The Oregon Legislature met between February 1 and March 6, 2012. This was the first annual session, and was limited to 35 days in order to focus on budget and high priority legislative concepts. During this session the legislature considered over 300 bills. OPRD did not advance any legislative concepts this session. The majority of staff effort was directed at watching for any issues that had un-intended consequences for the agency, as well as implications of the budget balancing efforts.

## Session Results

The majority of legislation passed by the Legislature is not anticipated to have implications for agency operations. There are four new laws that are of note.

*SB 1510 Marine Reserves* – This bill designated three new marine reserves near Cape Falcon, Cascade Head, and Cape Perpetua. No rule change is needed by OPRD, as our current rules anticipated action on these areas. The new reserve areas will have minor impacts on OPRD operations in those areas. This bill was passed 25 – 5 in the Senate and 57 – 2 in the House

*HB 4016 Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse* – This bill expanded the definition of mandatory child abuse reporters to include paid staff of agencies and organizations who provide child related activities and services. This bill will require an update to OPRD training procedures to inform staff of the procedures and responsibilities of child abuse reporting. The effect of this legislation will be that all OPRD employees have a personal and professional responsibility to report child abuse, and can be held liable for failure to report suspected abuse. The initial legislation also included volunteers, but was amended to limit the scope to paid employees. The bill was passed 56-0 in the House and 30-0 in the Senate.

*HB 4131 Ratio of supervisors to non-supervisory employees*- This bill proscribes actions for agencies with over 100 employees to move the agencies to an 11:1 supervisory ratio over a period of time. OPRD is waiting for guidance from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) on how to implement the bill. The bill was passed in the House 55-3 and the Senate 27-0.

*SB 1591 – Highway Rest Areas.* This bill expands the number of highway rest areas that are managed by the Oregon Travel Experience, formerly the Travel Information Council. None of the rest areas in the bill are currently being managed by OPRD. The bill was passed in the Senate 30-0 and the House 59-0.

Agency related budget issues in this session were grant application approvals and limitation requests for grants related to the Natural Heritage Area Program, and property acquisition for endangered species protection. The final budget balancing bill included an increase of approximately \$1.7 million lottery limitation; however, the 3.5% budget hold back in the Legislatively Adopted Budget was not returned.

### **2013 Session**

The next session of the legislature will be a full session. At this time the agency does not have legislative concepts in development for this session.

## Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 4, 2012

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Agenda Item: 4d

Action

Topic: Resolution Honoring Brian Booth

Presented by: Tim Wood

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### **Background:**

Brian Booth, the first Chairperson of the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission and founding trustee of the Oregon State Parks Trust, died March 7, 2012 at age 75.

Brian was a giant in the world of Oregon arts and literature. After decades spent raising the profile of Oregon's writers and artists, he became something of a cultural legend himself. He co-founded the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission, created the Oregon Book Awards and related fellowships, and was instrumental to the success of numerous foundations, boards and commissions in arts, letters and health.

Brian Booth chaired the nascent State Parks and Recreation Commission from 1990- 1997, a time in which the agency both grew from a small offshoot of the Oregon Department of Transportation, yet was confronted with long-term, systemic financial problems. He was passionately committed to securing stable, dedicated funding for the park system, and worked doggedly to bring about the 1998 ballot measure that succeeded in dedicating a portion of Oregon Lottery proceeds to state parks.

The thread that wound through Brian's life was his love of Oregon. He treasured its past, and through his passionate advocacy of the state park system, he made it come alive for the future. Brian innately understood that a system of strong state parks is not only good public policy in the here and now, but that it is a treasure that must be preserved for the generations that will follow.

**Be it resolved:** That the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission is honored to recognize and express its gratitude for Brian Booth's remarkable gift of public service to the citizens of Oregon and to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

**Prior Action by Commission:** None

**Action Requested:** Approval of resolution.

**Prepared by:** Jean Thompson