

YACHATS CITY RECORDER'S REPORT

BY NANCY BATCHELDER, CITY RECORDER

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I attended the Oregon Association of Municipal Recorders annual conference in Keizer. One of the highlights of the conference was a field trip to the Oregon Achieves Building. The group was so large that they split us into two groups, and I was lucky enough to be in the group led by the State Archivist. She showed us the original State Constitution and the oldest document they have, which was a contract between cattle ranchers. Taking that tour, and learning of the fire that destroyed the Mill City City Hall and most of the records stored there (just two nights before the conference started), reminded me of the lack of adequate storage Yachats has. Currently the archived records are stored in "bankers" boxes at the water plant. Although there is little risk of fire because it is a concrete building, and they are on the second floor to help protect from flood, there is no climate control and the humidity at the water plant is quite high. During the next year I plan to at least move the records from the old boxes into archival quality storage boxes. But, I am also hoping that some more permanent solution will be found.

I attended a CIS benefits advisory committee meeting yesterday in Newport. One of the topics discussed was the impact the healthcare reform will have on rates. Although the CIS Board will not set rates for the next plan year until spring, they explained that many of the provisions that take effect in 2011 will result in more and bigger claims and therefore premiums will need to be adjusted to cover costs.

The provisions taking effect will include:

- No cap on lifetime benefits
- Children on the policy until 26 (if they qualify)
- Coverage can not be denied for prior conditions
- Preventative screening and procedures will be 100% covered. Currently they are paid at the same rate as other claims and are subject to the deductible.
- Coverage can not be rescinded except for fraud

Under the current contract the employees and the City split the increase 50/50 each year.

I assisted Councilor Rieseck in reviewing and updating the contracts the City has with the PUD and the Chamber for banners on the utility poles. The City has a contract with the PUD for permission to use the poles and in turn a contract with the Chamber since they own the banners. Updating the contracts is one step toward the Beautification Committee's goal of enhancing the downtown core with attractive banners.

Many of the documents that the auditors will need have been sent to them electronically, but we have not yet scheduled the time for their in-house visit. This next month I will be working on the Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) for the audit document. The purpose of the MD&A is to describe the government's overall condition, and provide an analysis of the balances & transactions of major individual funds, variations from the original and final amended budget for the general fund; significant capital asset and long-term debt activity (i.e. major construction & bond issue), and any facts, decisions, or conditions known as of the close of audit field work that are expected to have a significant effect on financial position or results of operation. Although most of the information comes from the budget and accounting records, it is the Council's statement so the draft will be on the November City Council agenda for adoption. The audit is presented to City Council at the December meeting.