

KNND Public interest Programming 2019 Quarter 1

1. Wednesday March 13, Public Safety, Sgt John Cambel Civil Transport Section leader with the Lane County Sheriff's office Beeper Call in talk show hosted by Cameron Reiten 9-10 AM.

As supervisor of the civil transport section, Sgt Cambel talked about the functions of his unit including transporting jail inmates to and from court, to and from other correctional facilities, and serving civil papers.

Much of the work done by Cambel and his staff, involves escorting inmates to court. When an inmate is in court, a transport deputy remains with him or her at all times, primarily to ensure the safety of court personnel. Cambel mentioned that while inmates are physically restrained while in transit, this is not usually the case while they're in court unless warranted by the behavior of that inmate.

Cambel discussed security challenges in the existing 1959 court house. The build doesn't allow for inmates to be brought in and out and be kept separate from court staff, witnesses or victims. Cambel also pointed out that the holding cells do not comply with modern space per inmate requirements and are in poor condition to do their age. Another big problem with the court house, is that many features make the transportation of disabled inmates difficult.

Cambel also discussed the shuttle service used by all 36 Oregon counties to transport inmates to other jails. Twice a week, busses travel to a hub in Marion county where inmates are exchanged. When transporting inmates to and from other states not a part of a shuttle service, Cambel outlined procedures used for flights and road trips.

Cambel also discussed the service of civil papers including stocking and restraining orders, foreclosures. He also noted that he and his deputies are also called on to remove and relocate children involved in custody disputes.

2. Friday March 15, Emergency preparedness, South Lane Fire and Rescue Chief John Wooten, and Division Chief Justin Baird Beeper Call in Talk show hosted by Cameron Reiten 9-10 AM.

In the Wake of a fifty year snow storm that cause widespread damage and power outages in Southern Lane County in Late February and early march, Wooten and Baird discussed the fire department's response to an extremely high volume of calls. Wooten and Baird talked about efforts to ensure staff had the equipment and logistical support they needed to respond to the needs of the community during the emergency. Wooten said that although he was pleased by the overall performance, there were lessons learned that could improve the response to the next emergency.

Answering questions posed by callers, Wooten and Baird discussed proper handling of generators and heat sources. It was mentioned that along with a large number of medical calls, the department responded to multiple house fires that in one way or another were attributed to issues caused by the storm.

Wooten talked about things individuals should keep in their homes. Those items include, batteries and flash lights. Other important items include, food, water, and a heat source.

Wooten and Baird also discussed the planning process underway for the 2019-20 fiscal year. Wooten expressed his satisfaction with the financial condition of the department, and said that all present staffing and service levels should be maintained. Wooten also discussed plans to purchase ambulances with medicaid funding that would be coming to the district.

Wooten and Baird outlined the coming strategic plan that like likely lead to the fire district being reformed. Along with reforming district, Wooten detailed his efforts to implement long range succession planning. He highlighted the importance of having multiple staff well versed in each job to ensure the smooth operation of the department if unexpected changes in key leadership take place.

3. Wednesday February 13, 2019, Public Safety with Lane County Sheriff Byron Trapp Beeper Call in Talk show hosted by Cameron Reiten 9-10 AM.

The discussion with Sheriff Trap began by addressing a letter his office recently received. The letter questioned his office's compliance with a 32 year old Oregon law that prevents local law enforcement from using resources to target people whose only offence is being in the country illegally. Trap expressed confidence that his agency was following the law.

Sheriff Trap also talked about a recent audit with respect to money collected by a levy that specifically funded operations of the Lane County Jail. The county was given a clean bill of health by the auditor. Trap discussed the additional jail capacity made possible by the levy.

Sheriff Trap discussed the ongoing challenges with funding patrol in unincorporated areas of the county,. He stressed the value of the partnerships with local and state agencies. Other unrelated questions posed by callers were answered.

4. Tuesday March 19, 2019, Technology Scams with Ski Felton proprietor of PC Garage, Beeper Call in Talk show hosted by Cameron Reiten 9-10 AM.

The first months of 2019 brought a large number of telephone and computer scams. Felton discussed some of the common scams and the various ways scammers might attempt to steel money or personal information.

Felton mentioned that often scammers target elderly people who are not as accustomed to using technology. Other prevalent scams exploit fears of being arrested by law enforcement for things such as tax debts or supposed failure to show up for jury duty. Also discussed, spoofing, a tactic used by scammers to get people to answer their telephones by making a local number appear on the caller id.

Felton also answered various unrelated technology questions posed by callers.

5. Thursday Feb 7, Public Schools, Superintendent Larry Sullivan Beeper Call in Talk show Hosted by Cameron Reiten and Cindy Weeldreyer 9-10 AM.

Making his first appearance on the program since taking his post in the summer of 2018, Sullivan began by introducing himself to the listeners.

Coming from The Lane Education Service district, Sullivan talked about how an ESD provides specialized services to local districts like South Lane. From there, the discussion moved into budgets. With the Oregon legislature in session, Sullivan spoke about what, in his view, would be needed to fund his district. Although Governor Brown's proposed budget included increased funding, Sullivan said that given his desire to expand certain programs such as CET, the new money was insufficient.

In the fall of 2018, the new Harrison Elementary opened. Sullivan discussed the first few months of operations in the new building. He also addressed a question posed by a caller about concrete cracks that had appeared. Sullivan said that the cracks were caused by stress, but were only surface cracks and did not represent any structural threats.

Sullivan also discussed his goals for the district, the relationship between himself and the board, and answered other questions posed by callers.

6. January 29, Public Power with Emerald People's utility District board Member Ron Davis and budget committee Member Robert Ball, Beeper Call in Talk show Hosted by Cameron Reiten 9-10 AM.

The discussion with Ball and Davis was brought about by a caller questioning Emerald People's utility district's rates and why Epud had been split from Pacific Power. Davis and Ball gave a brief history of Epud and how it began and why it served the areas it served. Davis and Ball also explained differences between a people's utility district, and a private company.

Much of the discussion centered around a three tier rate structure recently adopted by Emerald's board of directors. Under the new rate structure, the KW rates increase as more electricity is used. This was done to encourage energy conservation, but it impacted many low income county residents without resources to purchase more energy efficient appliances and make necessary improvements to their homes. This was expressed by multiple callers who voiced their displeasure with the new rates. Ball expressed his belief that the rates should be revisited.

Ball and Davis spent time discussing how Epud buys much of its power from the Bonneville power administration. Other questions posed by callers were addressed.

7. Monday February 4, 2019, Public Transportation, Cosette Rees director of customer and Specialized Services with Lane Transit district, and Ruth Linos executive director of South Lane Wheels, Beeper Call in talk show hosted by Cameron Reiten 9-10 AM.

Rees and Linos made a joint appearance to discuss the new mobility on Demand ride service. Mod had just been launched as an economical ride share service, and to replace some of Lane Transit District's loops around Cottage Grove.

Prior to Mod, Ltd.'s Route 98 would take riders to Cottage Grove from Eugene. Once in Cottage Grove, the bus would circulate through town, making stops to let passengers off as it did so. With the launch of Mod, Route 98, with the exception of three trips each day, would end at the local Walmart. At that point, riders would need to get off the bus, and call a Mod vehicle or make other arrangements to reach their final destination. Because of the fear that this would greatly lengthen people's daily commutes to and from work, the Mod had been controversial. Linos and Rees explained how the Mod, operated by South Lane Wheels, would use a computer program to get riders around town as quickly as possible.

Ltd and South Lane Wheels had been publicizing a smart phone ap that could be used to call for a ride. Responding to concerns raised by callers who did not want to use an ap, Linos and Rees informed listeners that a South Lane wheels dispatcher would answer telephone calls during operating hours for the Mod.

Linos and Rees also discussed funding for the Mod, and financial reasons for replacing the LTD Loop service.