

**CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL  
Agenda Staff Report**

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
November 5, 2013	

TO: Mayor Shoji and City Councilors

FROM: Jackie Mickelson, Executive Assistant *qm*  
Through: Rodger Craddock, City Manager *rc*

ISSUE Proclamation on Restoration Efforts at the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery

BACKGROUND

The City of Coos Bay is the register owner of the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery which was established in 1888 by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The cemetery has been included in numerous Memorial Day remembrances, and it is the final resting place of at least 70 veterans with 59 of them who had served during the Civil War. The Sailor-Soldier monument was erected by the Owen Summers Camp No. 7 of the Spanish American War Veterans to honor members of Baker Post No. 8 of the Grand Army of the Republic, and it was dedicated on Memorial Day, May 30, 1915 on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War.

To honor Oregon's thousands of soldiers and veterans, the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department is now offering funding to help restore veterans' memorials. The City of Coos Bay desires to recognize their heritage and the significance of this monument to this community. By approving the proclamation, it will formalize this desire.

ADVANTAGES

This will aid in the success of the endeavors to apply for an Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD) Veterans' and War Memorial Grant

DISADVANTAGES

None.

BUDGET

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

If it pleases the City Council, consider approving the proclamation involving restoration efforts at the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery.



# Proclamation

***WHEREAS**, the City of Coos Bay is the registered owner of the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery, established in 1888 by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and*

***WHEREAS**, the cemetery has been the focal point of numerous Memorial Day remembrances, and is the final resting place of at least 70 veterans, 59 of whom served during the Civil War, and*

***WHEREAS**, the Sailor-Soldier Monument was erected by the Owen Summers Camp No. 7 of the Spanish American War Veterans to honor members of Baker Post No. 8 of the Grand Army of the Republic and was dedicated on Memorial Day, May 30, 1915 on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War, and*

***WHEREAS**, the City of Coos Bay desires to recognize our heritage and the significance of this monument to this community, and*

***WHEREAS**, the City of Coos Bay also recognizes the commitment of Gene Melton to this community, currently serving the City as a Council member, and previously serving the City of Eastside as City Councilor, Chief of the Eastside Fire Department, and as a reserve police officer at the Eastside Police Department, and his commitment to his country serving in the U. S. Navy, and his commitment to veterans serving with the AMVETS, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Forty and Eight, and the American Legion, currently serving as the honorary Commander of the American Legion Bay Area Post No. 34, and*

***WHEREAS**, in an effort to honor Oregon's thousands of soldiers and veterans, the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department is now offering funding to help restore veterans' memorials,*

***NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City of Coos Bay with the sponsorship of the American Legion Bay Area Post No. 34 and the American Legion Auxiliary of Bay Area Post No. 34 to follow the lead of Gene Melton in service to community and country and support the efforts to restore the missing features of this Sailor-Soldier Monument in the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery, erect a new interpretive plaque, and, to aid in these endeavors, to apply for a OPRD Veterans' and War Memorial Grant and,*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Coos Bay with the support of the community will rededicate the Sailor-Soldier Monument on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its dedication on May 30, 2015.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Crystal Shoji, Mayor of Coos Bay, do proclaim May 30, 2015, as*

***Sailor-Soldier Monument Re-dedication Day***

*in Coos Bay and encourage all Coos Bay residents to join in this observance.*



*In witness thereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Coos Bay to be affixed on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2013.*

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*Crystal Shoji, Mayor*



Photo of the seven oldest Civil War veterans at the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, G.A.R. State Convention, 1926 (Coos Historical & Maritime Museum #988-P35)



Photo of the seven oldest veterans attending the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremony, 2005

One of the unique features in the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is the 10-foot tall Civil War monument. This monument was constructed locally and consists of a 4-foot tall base of cast concrete topped with a 4-foot square block of gray granite. An 1861, 3-inch ordnance rifle is set vertically in the granite with five ft. of the barrel exposed. Originally, the ordnance rifle was topped by an 8 in. seacoast Howitzer ball, and a Howitzer ball was located at each corner of the granite block; only two of the projectiles remain.

Unlike many other Civil War monuments, where the central feature might be the statue of an archetypal soldier, the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery's monument features a Civil War-era artillery piece donated by the state of Oregon. The 1861 3-inch ordnance rifle arrived without a field carriage -- the veterans solved the issue of how to mount it by setting it vertically in a concrete base. The bronze plaque set into the base reads "DEDICATED TO THE SAILOR-SOLDIER DEAD ERECTED BY THE EVENING RECORD 1915," and was cast locally, probably at the Coos Bay Ironworks. A closer examination of the plaque reveals certain hand-made characteristics. The letters are straight-sided with variations in size and form, such as the prominence of serifs, indicative of letters cut individually by hand from wood. Also, the background does not show the stippling that would be more typical of a commercially produced item. Although the number of Army veterans outnumbered the Navy veterans buried in the cemetery, it is interesting that "Sailor" precedes "Soldier," perhaps as a nod to the area's maritime connections. Despite the advance planning, finishing the monument before Memorial Day was difficult as the ordnance rifle only arrived the Wednesday before the dedication was to take place. The hurriedly completed monument was unveiled on May 30, 1915, serving as the centerpiece of Marshfield's Memorial Day exercises.

# HONOR THE DEAD

## HUNDREDS GATHER TO PAY MEMORIAL DAY HOMAGE

G. A. R. March in Parade—Every Grave in Cemetery is Well Decorated and Cannon is Received

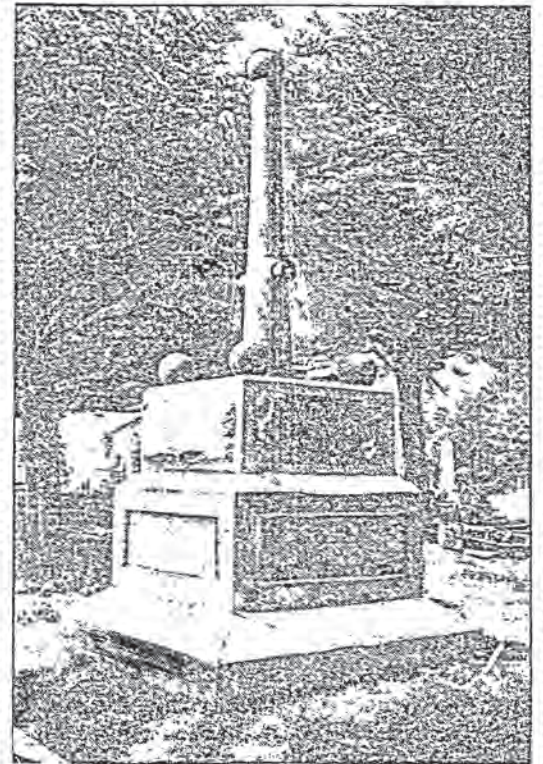
In the line of march again the veterans filed to the I. O. O. F. cemetery, there to witness the unveiling of the cannon, presented by the Sons of Veterans to "Our Soldier and Sailor Dead."

### Every Grave Decorated.

About the little spot in the cemetery there gathered a host of people. Not a grave in the entire area was left neglected. On some the flowers had been distributed in profusion.

Coos Bay Times, May 31, 1915, p.2

### MARSHFIELD NEWSPAPER PAYS TRIBUTE TO SOLDIER AND SAILOR DEAD.



#### MONUMENT PRESENTED TO VETERANS.

MARSHFIELD, Or., June 3.—(Special).—During the Decoration day observances here last Tuesday a monument to the soldier and sailor dead was presented to the Sons of Veterans and the Grand Army of the Republic by the Marshfield Evening Record, following the parade and ceremonies.

The parade was led by the Evening Record fife and drum corps of 22 pieces.

The monument is erected in the Oddfellows' Cemetery, where there are many unmarked graves of soldiers and sailors of the Civil War. The cannon and shot were donated by the Government and the dedication was made in 1915, although the monument was not then finished. One side of the monument has a bronze tablet with this inscription: "Dedicated to the memory of the soldier and sailor dead by the Evening Record." The plot surrounding the monument is seeded and well kept. The cannon ball at the top of the structure is 17 feet from the base.

# SAILOR-SOLDIER MONUMENT



The Sailor-Soldier Monument is pictured above left as it looks today, missing three of the original five mortar balls. The plaque on the monument is shown below it. To the right, is a digital rendition of the restored monument. The bottom photo includes a digital rendition of the proposed plaque that will provide additional information about the monument. The plaque is shown on the granite slab available for this project and is flanked by bronze medallions comparable to those that will be used.

## Veterans' and War Memorial Grants

In an effort to honor Oregon's thousands of soldiers and veterans, Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD) is now offering funding to help build and restore veterans' and war memorials. Regional or local governments that have a cooperative agreement with a nonprofit veterans' organization are eligible for project funds. Projects must be placed on public property owned and controlled by a government entity.

### Sailor-Soldier Monument Restoration

The City of Coos Bay with the sponsorship of the American Legion Bay Area Post No. 34 and the American Legion Auxiliary of Post No. 34 will apply for a OPRD Veterans' and War Memorial Grant. The funds would be used to restore the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery's "Sailor-Soldier Monument," erected in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Civil War in 1915. The monument, originally consisting of an 1861 3-inch ordnance rifle and 8 inch seacoast Howitzer balls, currently retains only two of the five original projectiles. The missing Howitzer balls will be recast from extant examples, an interpretive plaque will be installed, and the monument will be rededicated May 30, 2015, on the 100th anniversary of its dedication and in honor of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

The grant requires a 20% match, 10% of which must be in cash.

Expected costs:

Purchase of 3 replica 8-inch mortar balls*	\$194 each,+ shipping	\$ 762
Purchase of 2 bronze medallions	\$ 24 each, + shipping	\$ 68
Grand Army of the Republic		
Spanish-American War		
Purchase of commemorative plaque		\$ 721, including shipping
bronze, approx. 10" x 18"		
Georgia gray granite slab, 13" x 40" x 4"		\$ 568
Re-tooling granite slab		
Installing granite slab		
Landscaping		
Total:		\$2119

At the current time (10/29/1013), we are still for a few bids and estimates. Including all the materials needed to complete the installation and have it prepared by May 30, 2015, the total cost would be expected to be between \$3000 and \$4000. A final grant report is required by April 30, 2015.

\*In continuing with the tradition of the locally constructed monument, we hope to have the replacement mortars reproduced here at Morrison Studios. A mold would be made of one of the existing mortar balls. The metal replacements would be cast using the mold. If that is not possible, we have located a source, Paulson Brothers Ordnance Inc. in Wisconsin, that can supply suitable replacements that have been cast from authentic mortar balls.

# VETERANS & WAR MEMORIALS GRANT

## 2013-2015 BIENNIUM

OREGON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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The Veterans' and War Memorials Grant Program was created and established to provide funding assistance to non-profit veteran's organizations for the construction and restoration of veterans' and war memorials. The program will help honor Oregon's soldiers and veterans by commemorating their service to the country.

Grants must be submitted through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Grants Online program. There will be one grant cycle in the 2013-2015 biennium.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION:** Awards have ranged \$14,000-\$80,000.

**MATCH:** The Veterans' and War Memorial Grant program provides, subject to the availability of funds, for up to 80 percent funding assistance with a minimum of 10 percent cash. Match may include budgeted funds, donated funds, value of equipment use, donated materials, volunteer labor, planning or any combination thereof. The project sponsor may provide the remaining match by planning work done prior to project authorization or planning, construction, or restoration work performed following project authorization. Planning work includes research, design, engineering, environmental, and site survey for any construction or restoration project.

**BUDGET INFORMATION:** Bids and estimates strengthen the grant request when applicable.

**GRANT REPORTING AND PAYMENT:** Awarded projects will be the subjects of binding agreements between the State and the applicants. Typically, grant funds are dispersed on a reimbursable basis. Details of payment arrangements and grant reporting will be provided at the time of award.

### GRANT TIMELINE:

Deadline – Nov. 8, 2013 (11:59pm)

Notification – Mar. 1, 2014

Reporting deadline – Apr. 30, 2015

### ELIGIBILITY, CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES:

#### ELIGIBILITY

- **ORGANIZATIONS:** Local governmental entities are eligible to apply. The governmental entity must partner with veteran organization. Local governmental entities include cities (municipal corporations); counties (political subdivisions); metropolitan service districts, park and recreation districts, and port districts. Partner veteran's organizations must meet the following criteria:
  - A. Represent veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America;
  - B. Were established for the purpose of supporting or recognizing veterans;
  - C. Have an established membership, that includes officers, and bylaws; and
  - D. Are physically located in Oregon or have a Chapter that is physically located in Oregon.



- **SITE/LOCATION:** To be eligible for a grant, veterans' and war memorials must be placed on public property owned and controlled by a government entity. A government entity is a body of government, whether district, local, state, or federal, that owns or leases the property on which the project is to reside.

The named government entity must agree to the memorial's siting and maintenance for not less than 20 years from completion of the project.

For a construction project, an applicant must demonstrate that the government entity that owns or controls the public property will accept the memorial on that site. For a restoration, an applicant must demonstrate the government entity that owns or controls the public property will authorize restoration activities on the memorial.

- **PROJECTS:** The types of eligible projects include construction of a new memorial or restoration of an existing memorial. A memorial is a monument or place designated to commemorate or preserve the memory of wars involving the United States of America or to honor veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Maintenance projects are NOT eligible for grants.

**CRITERIA:**

- The capability of the applicant to carry out the proposed project.
- The effectiveness of the proposed project to recognize veterans and wars.
- The level of commitment to long term maintenance of the memorial.

**PRIORITIES:**

- Projects with a well-prioritized, clearly explained work plan with an appropriate level of detail and realistic cost estimates.
- Geographic diversity.
- Project readiness, including matching dollar share in-hand.
- Projects that are part of a long range plan.

**REVIEW:** The Local Government Advisory Committee will review all grant requests and make funding recommendations to the OPRD Director.

**REGISTER ON TO APPLY ONLINE:** Visit the OPRD: Grants Online at [www.oprdgrants.org](http://www.oprdgrants.org) to request an account and receive your login. Register for only one login per organization. Please use the instructions for OPRD: Grants Online which can be found at [http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/GRANTS/pages/veterans\\_apply.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/GRANTS/pages/veterans_apply.aspx).

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION:** Once you have a login, you will be able to submit your application. You can enter information, save, log out, log back in, enter more, etc. as many times as you would like before you submit. Instructions for OPRD: Grants Online visit our website. <http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/HCD/FINASST/Pages/grants.aspx>

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS:** The following questions will appear on the online application.

- Brief Project Description – Please limit this to 80 words and be specific.
- Finance – Please see the OPRD: Grants Online instructions for more detail.





- Project Budget - use categories: contractor/consultant; volunteer time; employee; travel ; materials & equipment; printing, publication, design, etc.; other.
- Funding Source - use categories: organizational funds (include staff time, operations, donations), in-kind donations, volunteer time. Enter matching grants individually.
- What is your organization’s financial need for this project?
- How firm is your match – have funds, volunteers and in-kind donations been committed for this project?
- How will in-kind donations be used for the project?
- What is your organization’s ability to meet long-term financial responsibilities?
- Project Description – What are the primary goals and objectives? What is the timeline?
- Project Need and Value – What veterans or war does this recognize and how does it accomplish this? How is the memorial unique in the community? Does it recognize veterans who would otherwise go unrecognized? How does it different from other veteran and war memorials in your community?
- Project Specifications – List specific activities – quantity and scope. Describe how the memorial will be restored or constructed? If the project is a restoration, does the work plan follow standards that promote the long-term preservation of the memorial?
- Project Management - Describe who will do the work and who manage the project.
- Community Support and Organization Support – Does this project have support and involvement of the local community? What organizations are involved? In what way are veteran organizations or veterans involved in the project? Include letters of commitment.
- Long Term Commitment to Maintenance – Describe long-term plan for care and maintenance of the memorial. Who will provide the maintenance and what is the anticipated cost?
- Photos and work plans are required.

**ASSISTANCE:**

Grant questions and OPRD: Grants Online assistance: Kuri Gill, [kuri.gill@state.or.us](mailto:kuri.gill@state.or.us), 503-986-0685.

