



DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHRIS BOICE

TIM FREEMAN

GARY LEIF

1036 SE Douglas Ave., Room 217 ➔ Roseburg, Oregon 97470

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 28, 2017

Contact – Coleen Haines
Crisis Communications & Community
Engagement Specialist (PIO)
(541) 670-2804 cell
(541) 957-4896 office
cehaines@co.douglas.or.us

Douglas County Hires Veterans’ Services Officer

ROSEBURG, Ore — The Douglas County Commissioners are pleased to announce the hiring of Mary Newman as the new Veterans’ Services Officer (VSO).

“I’d like to thank outgoing VSO Pat Plourd for his years of service. We’re all sorry to see him go, but glad he can work closer to his family,” said Commissioner Tim Freeman, who is the liaison to the Veterans’ Services Office. “Mary comes back to Douglas County with a mountain of knowledge, and is one of the most respected VSOs in the state. Douglas County is lucky to have someone who is so committed to our veterans in need.”

Mary Newman served as the Douglas County VSO for 13 years, and worked in Veterans’ Services Offices in Oregon for over 30 years. Mary commuted to Benton County for over four years, and looks forward to working near her home, again. “My mission is to get the most benefits for the most vets. As a Navy brat, and an Army wife – vets are in my heart, and I’ve been surrounded by the military my whole life,” Newman said.

Douglas County Veterans Advisory Council (VAC) Chair James Little said, “I’ve known Mary for years. Her respect and dedication to veterans shows, as she has increased claim amounts to those veterans she’s helped over her decades of service. We’re really looking forward to having her back!”

Yesterday morning, the Board of Commissioners voted to re-appoint James Little, Tammy Hagedorn, and Cindy Houston to continue serving on the Douglas County VAC; they meet bi-monthly.

About [Douglas County Veterans’ Services Office](#)

The Douglas County Veterans’ Services Office makes a difference in veterans’ lives by providing education and advocacy for veterans’ claims with the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. Partnering with claimants, we make every effort to obtain the maximum benefit to which Douglas County Veterans may be eligible. There are several different benefits available for Veterans and their dependents.

About [Douglas County](#)

Douglas County Government employs approximately 800 full- and part-time employees in a wide variety of jobs. The Board of Commissioners, consisting of three full-time members, is the county’s governing body. They provide a direct link between the citizens of Douglas County and their county government. The Board of Commissioners is responsible for: approving ordinances (county laws); adopting the county budget; setting standards for the use of county property; appointing non-elected officials to boards, commissions, and committees; and oversees all operations of the county.

Regular Board meetings are scheduled for each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. in Room 216 of the County Courthouse. Department head work sessions are held every Monday and Friday in room 219 of the County Courthouse, unless otherwise posted.

###

➔ Information (541) 440-4201

➔ Fax (541) 440-4391
