

# Little Whale Cove Homeowners Association Annual Report 2024-2025

Our community has enjoyed growth in population, vegetation, marketability and financial sustainability. Volunteerism has significantly impacted solidarity, collaboration, emergency preparedness and environmental enhancement of this amazing community. Here are a few highlights from this past year:

## **Board/Operations**

- Reviewed 2001-2015 Board Resolutions and Policies, eliminating 52 that were outdated, revised, or no longer required
- Revised 45yr old bylaws and CC&Rs to bring governing documents up to legal requirements, and put forth for homeowner vote
- Revised Community Rules to address burning wooden pallets, dog leashes and trucks/trailers length limits on LWC roadways
- Joint Office and Grounds Management Services
   MOU with LWCCOA & IPHCA
- Updated staff job descriptions and hired office assistant
- New Common Area Maintenance Standards, new resolution for Reserves Committee Charter
- Formed a Green Energy Resilience Team to identify and procure alternative energy sources during power outages. Applied and received a grant to study hydrogen cells with City of Depoe Bay. Joe Cannon now serves on the City Council, and continues this effort.
- Welcome Committee connected with homeowners and renters on 27 properties
- Enhanced <u>LWCHA.ORG</u> website
- Set up first use of electronic voting via ElectionBuddy



### **Finances/Reserves**

- Both FY23-24 and FY24-25 operating budget finished in the black. Investment earnings were higher than anticipated. Audited Financials will be presented at Oct. 17 Annual Meeting.
- FY25-26 budget increased only 3% (in line with national inflation rate)
- Approved 3% credit card fee to offset bank charges, and reduced internet fees
- Significantly reduced internet and phone costs
- Revised Reserves Plan and funding model to achieve 70% funding level by 2030.
- Expended \$100,895 from Reserves for projects





### Safety

- Developed an accessible, robust Emergency Preparedness <u>webpage</u> with links to resources, upcoming events, and past programs and activities.
- Formalized Incident Command System (ICS) structure to mobilize Safety Captains, Board and other skilled residents to provide rapid response to emergencies.
- Established Community Radio Service (CRS) communications center in Rec Center 3rd floor Crow's Nest, linking Safety Captains and residents to critical information both within and outside LWC
- Upgraded CRS radio equipment to broadcast more effectively throughout the community via two-wa.y radios on Channel 15.
- Conducted four table top exercises (TTX) with power outage and wildfires scenarios, and developed protocols to manage those scenarios.
- Activated ICS during power outage, and readied in standby following Russian earthquake/tsunami.
- Relocated and stocked Safety Operations Center (SOC now in the Rec Center).
- Partnered with the City of Depoe Bay to include LWC in emergency planning and staging of resources in one of the city's five projected "islands" when disaster strikes.
- Composed a series of articles for Cove Notes to raise awareness of potential threats (power outages, earthquakes, tsunamis and wildfires,) reinforcing the need for residents to procure a two-way radio, prepare Go Bags and amass emergency supplies for 4-6 weeks.







### **Socials**

- Friends of Little Whale Cove (FLWC) hosted monthly events, including: potlucks, dinners, outdoor BBQs and the annual Artisan Showcase - featuring 20 local artists with a catered private opening and public sales day.
- Supported live music performances, highlighting both LWC and other Oregon musicians.
- Held two fundraisers: a chili dinner collecting 165 pairs of socks for Lincoln County Homeless Shelters; and a Halloween-themed drive collecting \$1750 and 805 lbs. of food for the Depoe Bay Food Pantry

# **Facilities/Grounds**

- Installed electric eye at entry gate and removed bypass lane, reducing vehicle incidents.
- Enhanced mailbox with parcel lockers, cement pad, lighting and shelter
- Completed Rec Center fitness room and storage lean-to renovations
- Replaced riding mower, and external lighting at Rec Center
- Replaced Cinder Cone roof, ocean path fencing, and recycle Center cement pad
- Scheduled road repair and improved roadside storm drainage
- Foliage/tree work along roadways & paths for visibility, beautification and EMS access.
- Surveyed and removed hazardous trees
- Contracted new cleaning service for Rec Ctr
- Tracked external construction on Tract D and sewage line extension through forest

#### **Forest Management**

- Conducted educational programs on ecological health, invasive species and fire mitigation
- Removed 16K lbs of invasive ivy and invasive species from Common areas, fire mitigation and fuel reduction for fire prevention in old growth forest.
- Continue to monitor blackberry removal for spot spraying and fuel reduction
- Initiated collaboration with Architectural, Safety

#### The Next Wave... LWC 2.0

We live where the lush coastal forest meets the ocean, atop solid basalt cliffs. But our community's foundation is strongest when homeowners are involved: creating gatherings, working to sustain the ecosystem, and stewarding the investment we all share. Thank you for supporting volunteers, caring for amenities, completing surveys and **VOTING on updated governing** documents!