



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 16, 2007

Mount Vernon Mayor Bud Norris announced today that Roy Hari is the candidate that he and the Fire Chief Interview Committee have selected as the next Fire Chief for the City of Mount Vernon.

MOUNT VERNON – Current Fire Chief Steve Abel is retiring after 7 years of service with the City of Mount Vernon, effective May 31, 2007. Chief Abel provided more than ample notice, and the City has been conducting an ongoing Fire Chief search over the past several months. As part of the selection process, a Fire Chief Interview Committee was formed, and they recently conducted interviews with four final candidates. Following candidate interviews, the Fire Chief Interview Committee has highly recommended that Roy Hari be appointed as the next Mount Vernon Fire Chief.

Mayor Norris said, “The Fire Chief Interview Committee is recommending the appointment of Roy Hari as our next Fire Chief, and I fully support that recommendation. Although this position does not require Council approval, I do intend to ask for their confirmation of Roy at the Council meeting on May 23rd”. Norris also said “I want to once again thank Chief Abel for his many years of dedicated service to the City of Mount Vernon. Steve has been very helpful to me during this selection process, and I appreciate his expertise and professionalism”.

Councilmember Joe Lindquist was a member of the Interview Committee, and he said “We had four very good final candidates. Roy Hari interviewed extremely well, and I’m confident he will do an outstanding job as our City’s Fire Chief.”

Roy Hari has been Fire Chief of Oregon’s Marion County Fire District No. 1 since 2000. He began his career with the department as a volunteer firefighter in 1979, and has remained with the Department for 28 years. Hari has extensive experience in the Fire Service as demonstrated by his prior positions as Assistant Chief, Training Officer, and EMS Officer. Fire District No. 1 is composed of 35 career and 96 volunteer personnel, and they respond to fire, rescue, emergency management, Hazmat and provide ambulance transportation.

“I believe Roy Hari is a very good fit for our Fire Department” said Norris. “He has excellent communication skills and brings all the essential qualifications that we desired for our next Fire Chief.” Norris further said “I’m pleased to present Roy Hari to our City Council and community as the most qualified candidate to successfully lead our Fire Department well into the future.

For further information, contact:

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