

Bay Area Chamber of Commerce

Board Meeting

December 7, 2011

Board members present: Eric Farm, The Campbell Group; Steve Sneiderman, Marshfield Bargain House; Matt Jarvis, Jarvis Communications; Jerry Miller, Star of Hope; Matt LeDoux, Fishermen's Wharf; Renee Middleton, U. S. Bank; Al Pettit, Hwy 101 Harley-Davidson; Mark Mattecheck, North Bend Lanes; Brooke Walton, Sterling Savings Bank; Chris Davis, Carson-Davis Oil; Dana Webber, Sterling Savings Bank.

At Large or Ex-Officio Board Members present: Sandy Messerle, South Coast Development Council; Rob Schab, Coos Bay/North Bend Water Board; Rodger Craddock, City of Coos Bay

Others present: Timm Slater, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Carol Yardley, Ambassadors; Deborah Rudd, Tourism; Pam Cottrell, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

Eric called the meeting to order. He led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Introductions were made around the table.

President's Report

Eric Reports: This is the last meeting of the year. We have sold over 80 of the 250 tickets for the two sides of Beef, given to the Chamber as a fund raiser. Eric passed out envelopes to the Board with tickets to sell. A push will be made at Economic Outlook Forum on Friday December 9th, by Eric and Lucinda, dressed as cowboys! The drawing will be Wednesday, December 14th at the WBC. The purchase of one ticket for \$20, gives you two chances to win a side of beef cut and wrapped.

Executive Director

Timm reports: Economic Outlook Forum will be held this Friday at 6:45 AM in the Salmon Room at The Mill. There is a great line up of speakers with John Mitchell, Guy Tauer and Jeff Bishop. Oregon Resource Corporation will give a presentation on "What they are Doing". Frank Hanson, South Coast Office Supply and Bill and Margery Whitmer, Betty Kay Charters are our Home Grown Businesses. We have 27 sponsors this year, down from 29 from last year. I encourage you all to attend.

Director's handbook are ready for a 2012 update, please drop your handbook off at the Chamber office, so your updates may be added.

Wednesday Business Connection has had an excellent Fall run. There are a lot of opportunities for presenters in the upcoming months. Please e-mail your ideas to the Chamber.

Chamber minutes with Bi Coastal Media started last June. The Chamber minute is broadcast on Mondays at 8AM over the seven Bi Coastal stations. We have recorded 27 messages to date.

Two last reminders sell your Beef drawing tickets and attend Economic Outlook Forum on Friday.

Team Reports

Legislative Action Team: Al reports that Ken Messerle is keeping an eye on two bad bills that are in the house. The upcoming session will be dedicated to finance issues. I attended a joint meeting of the Governance and Structure Committees. Four of the 25 County departments responded to the Structure Committee draft report. There has been an ethics complaint filed on the structure committee.

An issue that might be on the ballot next year is the Curry county merger with another County.

Tonight at 6pm there will be a joint meeting of the Structure Committee with the Governance Committee at the North Bend City Council chambers.

Marketing and Communication Team: Steve reports that the committee met last month. We continue to work on rebuilding the Chamber web site. Timm is working with Allan to adjust to our needs. It is a work in progress and is coming along.

Our goals and objectives for 2012 are to continue with our 2011 goals.

This committee will meet next on the last Friday in January.

Leadership Coos: Pam reports that Leadership Coos is going strong with 34 participants. She reminds the board that it is time to start recruiting for 2012/2013 session. If you know of someone who may like to know more about this program, please have them contact the Chamber and have their name added to the contact list. These people will be contacted in early June and asked to make the commitment for the coming up session which will begin in September 2012.

Business Development & Support: Lucinda reports the interviews have been completed. A brochure is ready to be printed by the end of this year. This brochure will have economic contact points, to be used to inform people who are interested in locating or expanding businesses in our area. This committee meets on December 19th at the Port Conference Room.

Tourism: Deb reports that at our last meeting, Jennifer Groth, with the Coos Maritime Center, did a presentation on the new plans for the center. This is a great project and will be a tourism opportunity, as well as plans for a great public meeting space. Katherine Hoppe with the Visitor and Convention Bureau will be the speaker at our January 19th meeting in the conference room at the Coos Bay Visitor Center. Katherine will speak about the VCB (Visitor and Convention Bureau) and SOVA(Southern Oregon Visitor Association).

Deb also announced that the South Slough Reserve has completed their new view tanks. There are three tanks, salt water, fresh water and a terrarium.

Membership Retention: Brooke reports that this committee is focusing on a membership drive and hand shake marketing in the next couple of months.

Transportation: Timm reports that this committee meets at South Coast Business Employment Council offices at noon, on the first Thursday of each month.

Ambassadors: Carol reports that the Ambassadors are working on a new fund raising idea. We would like to host the Beer and Wine Garden during our downtown festivals. We will keep the board advised as we continue to learn about this opportunity.

Natural Resources: Eric reports that this committee meets on the 3rd Friday of each month at Red Lion.

Community Reports

Visitor and Convention Bureau: Mark reports that VCB has completed the update to their web site. Travel Oregon, thru ORB, updates all web pages on the site. There have been a couple of glitches, causing a delay on launching. It is hoped to launch next week.

Mark plans to make a 10-15 minute presentation to the board at the next meeting on the new website. This system is open source and businesses have full control of the content. Businesses look at their businesses.

We are working with a local person on an application for Coos Bay North Bend for I phones.

Bike Oregon has plans to stop in our area and experience the Holidays. This is a 17 day trip from San Francisco and travels up the coast line.

Eric reminds the board that Mark is the chamber representative for the Visitor and Convention Bureau.

City of Coos Bay: Rodger reports that the city is happy with the Chamber's management of the Coos Bay Visitor Center. The contact will be continued. We appreciate Timm and the staff for their work.

The city has good indicators that we will receive a \$3 million grant.

The City is undergoing a retro fit for seismic activity protection next month. The city departments will be moving to modules in the parking lot during the construction. This is a \$2.5 million project.

The Coos Bay Downtown association has filed an application to upgrade their main street program participation.

Waste Water upgrade is planned for Plant Two in Empire. The plan is being evaluated and may save 25% on project.

Eric will present Chamber updates to both cities. He will present to the City of Coos Bay this month and to the City of North Bend next month.

Charleston: Matt reports that Ocean Crab season is open. The first month of the open season last year brought over \$5 million to our local economy.

Matt reminds the board to visit the lights at Shore Acres.

Charleston is having issues with Oregon food bank, there are many people in need this holiday season.

South Coast Development Council: Sandy reports that near shore fishing group is proactive on the Marine Reserves issue and its impact on sport fishing. In talking with people in our area on the impact, the commission from the Port of Bandon and Commissioners survey will be printed in our newsletter this month.

On Monday December 12th, I will attend the Oregon Leadership conference. The focus is on opportunity or impediment for business in our area. The Panel is to evaluate how they may help. Our focus is the Port and regulatory process for development of the North spit.

The Governor's Committee is looking at changes in the regulatory process.

Timm reminds the board that SWOCC Foundation is the sponsor for December at WBC.

Coos Bay North Bend Water Board: Rob reports that the water board project is on schedule and within budget. Everything is going well and is expected to be finished in about twelve months.

The Water conservation plan has been filed. This is significant to the community and our water use for the next 25 years. Timm commented for the Chamber in this document.

Ten students enrolled at SWOCC for the Natural Resource Classes. The final is tonight. This is a two year program that can be transfer to a four year degree.

Eric asked if any other business to be discussed.

Steve: December sports, please show your welcome and support for the Les Schwab Basket Ball Tournament and State wrestling Tournament this week end. Thirty two teams from around the state will visit and stay in our community.

Eric reminds to print and post your welcome window signs.

Brooke: The Ducks won! The Pack Ten hats embroidery was done by BNT Promotions. There will be 3600 more delivered to the Duck Store in Eugene.

Mark: The Attorney General crushed our area and the LNG project. Do we have a rebuttal? What does the board think of a newspaper ad voicing our disappointment with the Attorney General. This ad could include stats like the poverty in our schools.

Steve: There is a trickledown effect with the scrap iron project from Australia that would like to locate on the North Spit location.

Timm reminds the Board that Bob Braddock will speak at WBC next week.

The board broke for Executive session.

The meeting was adjourned after Executive session.