

**Bay Area Chamber of Commerce  
Board Meeting  
February 2, 2011**

**Board Members present:** Eric Farm, Menasha Forest Products; Lucinda DiNovo, The Mill/Casino; Renee Middleton, U.S. Bank, Pam Plummer, Umpqua Bank, Jessica Randle, The Human Bean; Dana Webber, Sterling Savings Bank; Pam de Jong, Star of Hope; Jerry Miller, Star of Hope; Gary Rifkin, Fiddlesticks Gifts; Steve Schneiderman, Marshfield Bargain House; Matt Jarvis, Jarvis Communications; Clark Walworth, The World Newspaper; Matt LeDoux, Fishermen's Wharf; Brooke Walton, Sterling Savings Bank; Tina Milburn, Hough, MacAdam & Wartnik;

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

**Others present:** Dick Leshley, Yellow Cab Taxi; Deborah Rudd, South Slough Reserve; Joanne Moss, Bay Area Mailing Connection; Carol Yardley, Ambassadors; Pam Cottrell, Bay Area Chamber; Timm Slater, Bay Area Chamber.

Eric called the meeting to order. Introductions were made around the table. Minutes for January 2011 Board meeting were approved.

**Presidents Report:** Eric reports that the Awards Banquet was a great success. There were over 200 in attendance. We presented awards to Tom Rumreich, Citizen of the Year; Dick Leshley, Business of the Year and Clark Walworth received the President's award from Lucinda. Jenny Bream was recognized as the Ambassador of the Year. The food and entertainment by Coup d' Bop was great. Thank you to those who participated in the opening ceremony. This year it was noted that people stayed after the event to mingle and visit. The event ended timely and made over \$500 for the Chamber.

A report from the Executive team was handed out regarding the decision to hire a lobbyist ( Report attached to minutes). The Executive Team approved the LATs request to hire Coast Consulting LLC/ Ken Messerle to represent the BACC as its lobbyist. Ken has been providing services to the BACC free of charge for about a year and is willing to provide the discounted rate to help the Chamber continue to move forward with our business advocacy program. Ken was hired February 14, 2011, on a one year contract with a 60 day cancelation clause. This year we will pay for these services with targeted donations and fundraising. Al Pettit and Eric Farm led the targeted donation effort and have secured seven commitments totaling \$3250. They intend to reach our goal of \$6000 within two months. Ken's duties will include represent the BACC at both the state and county levels during the period of the contract. The Chamber will have full access to Ken's "Bill Tracking" service which we will use to monitor any legislation in Salem. He will also facilitate and coordinate BACC trips to the capital. Ken consults for The Port of Coos Bay, The Coquille Indian Tribe and the Oregon Resources Corporation.

Timm reminds the Board of the bi-weekly legislative tele-prompt sessions and encourages all to attend.

**Marine Reserves-** Matt reports that the Marine Reserve recommendation committee is ready to vote on the proposals that were taken to town hall meeting in December. Their vote on the next step will be to designate a new Reserve proposal or no new Marine Reserves. Next meeting is March 16<sup>th</sup>. The Chamber Board represents our membership. Matt is looking for guidance as to what is the Chamber's position. Have your votes e-mailed to Timm by the end of February. We are being asked by other community groups on what the Chamber or business community stand is. Matt will take our decision to these other groups.

Considerable discussion went on. The Chamber needs to make a stand and decide what is best for business

**Executive report:** Timm reports that our Chamber bylaws outline the position of Community at Large Director. Currently in these positions are Martin Callery, Port of Coos Bay; Theresa Haga, CCD; Angie Jacobson, Pacific Power; Rob Schab, Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board; Sandy Messerle, SCDC and Joe Benetti, Coos County Airport.

Our by Laws read “The Board of Directors may, at its discretion , appoint non-voting Ex-Officio Directors to represent such government or community organizations as it shall deem proper. The City Administrator of the City of North Bend and the City Manager of the City of Coos Bay are Ex-Officio Directors on a continuing basis. The Board of Directors may also appoint up to six voting Community At Large Directors to serve a one-year term or through the end of the current the Chamber year, whichever occurs first. This Directorship may be renewed or replace annually.”

I am looking for a motion to elect the current six Community At Large Directors.

The question was poised to ask the current Directors if they are interested in continuing to participate on the Board.

Eric explains that Ex-Officios are not voting board members, Community at Large are voting members. A motion was made to accept five Community at Large positions. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed to approve 5 Community at Large positions.

We held our Team Meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January. A list is being passed around the table. Directors are asked to sign up for the Team they would like to join. The Directors were reminded of their responsibility to serve on at least one team.

There are dates open in March and April for Wednesday Business Connection (WBC). If you have ideas on topics or speakers for WBC please contact Dick.

Discussion on the 10 minute spot at WBC, ideas shared on how to help members to be comfortable to use these 10 minutes. It was decided that the Membership Team will look at adding information to our new member packets and mentorship program.

Timm asked for a resolution on minutes to update our signature card at Sterling Savings Bank. The Board approved removing Sherry Yarbrough and Ken Croes and adds Eric Farm and Renee Middleton. Approved signers are Timm Slater; Lucinda DiNovo; Eric Farm and Renee Middleton.

## **Committee Reports**

**Legislative Action-** Eric reports that our next meeting is 7AM at SWOCC. Your questions are due tomorrow. We request that the board attend this meeting.

Information is coming by the end of the month for Chamber day at the Capital. March 10<sup>th</sup> is Oregon Chamber Day at the Capital.

**Membership Development & Retention-** Joanne announced that the Team’s next meeting will be February 15<sup>th</sup>, Noon at BAMCAM.

**Marketing & Communication-** A tag line was shared with the Board. “ Our Business is to help Business”

**Business Development & Support-**Lucinda announced that pictures from the Awards Banquet were provided by Memo Jasso at Brown’s Studio and may be seen on Facebook.

**Transportation-** Pam reminds the board the February meeting has been canceled. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> we will tour the Isthmus Slough Bridge project..

**Tourism-** Deborah reports Will meet February 17<sup>th</sup>, 8AM at Sozo’s

## **Community Reports**

**Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board** – Rob reports Boat Basin drive water main replacement has gone out to bid. This will increase fire water flow to that area.

**CCD**- Theresa reports that they have money to lend. Come see us.

**City of Coos Bay** – Rodger reports that we will be looking at Downtown Visioning on February 24<sup>th</sup> at the Coos Bay Library at 6PM. You are invited to attend.

**Charleston**- Matt reports there are a lot of renovations to the downtown area. Charleston Crab feed will be February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Old Charleston Elementary School.

**SCDC**- Sandy reports that the next step on the SDAT will be looking at projects. We will report more as that progress.

There are programs available through the State of Oregon the contact person is Chris Clafin.

Also SCDC has contracted with an agency to add Tools for Business their web site. Sandy plans to draft information to be printed in BACC newsletter about both of these items.

Meeting adjourned to Executive Meeting

