

**Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting
June 1, 2011**

Board Members present: Dana Webber, Sterling Savings Bank; Renee Middleton, U.S. Bank; Crystal Shoji, Shoji Planning; Lucinda DiNovo, The Mill Casino; Pam Plummer, Umpqua Bank; Clark Walworth, The World Newspaper; Chris Davis, Carson-Davis Oil; Matt LeDoux, Fishermen's Wharf D Dock; Eric Farm, Menasha Campbell; Matt Jarvis, Jarvis Communication; Mark Mattecheck, North Bend Lanes; Jessica Randle, The Human Bean;

At Large or Ex-Officio Board Members present: Joe Benetti, Airport; Paul Janke, Bay Area Hospital; Martin Callery, Port of Coos Bay; Rob Schab, Coos Bay/North Bend Water Board; Theresa Haga, CCD.

Others present: Debra Rudd, South Slough; Rick Keating, Sterling Savings Bank; Timm Slater, Bay Area Chamber.

Eric called the meeting to order and led the Board in a salute of the flag. Introductions were made around the table. May board minutes were approved.

President's Report: Eric reports at the May 3rd Commissioner's meeting, Commissioner Main incorrectly reported the Bay Area Chamber's stand on Oregon Resource Corp. There have been many positive Editorials in the paper showing support for the work the Chamber has done in support of ORC. At Wednesday Business Connection (WBC) today Eric will recap what the Chamber's Legislative Action Team (LAT) has done this year. Eric will discuss our Salem positions and advocacy. Mark Wall will share facts on the county lease issue and Al Pettit will give the high level economic view that activity has on community.

Eric plans to report to both Coos Bay and North Bend city councils twice a year, to keep both Cities updated on the Chamber's activities.

Eric asks the Board of Directors to consider applying for one of the Coos County Advisory Committees. The business community must take this opportunity to get into the process where we can provide information and offer direction to our County Commissioners.

Lucinda reports she attended the Oregon Heritage Conference in Astoria. There are many parallels between Coos Bay/North Bend and Astoria. Astoria's Industry died. They developed a 20 year plan for the area. Today Astoria has an amazing downtown. Astoria has made many accomplishments in the last 10 years. They raised \$80 million to restore their theater and build a museum. We have invited Astoria to share their story with us. Brett Estes and Jay Flint will conduct two meetings, June 15th.

The first will be 9-11:30 in the Salmon, followed by a presentation at a special Wednesday Business Connection (WBC) on the same day 11:30 – 1PM, keying in on how Astoria and Cascadia (once Shorebank) executed the plan. We should celebrate our own heritage. I encourage you to attend these meetings.

Executive Report: Timm reports that Murder at Deadwood Saloon Murder Mystery will be June 4th at Waxers. Tickets are \$25 which includes a western buffet. 28 Tickets have been sold. If you are interested in attending please contact the Chamber office. You will receive your role in the Murder Mystery and tips on costume.

Bi Coastal Media has offered the Chamber a free weekly Chamber minute. We will tape the message on Wednesdays to be aired each Monday morning.

Financial controls were detailed to the executive committee. The committee will review and report to the board.

Team Activity

Legislative Action: Eric reports the LAT session is wrapping up. Our four Legislators have been voting with the Chamber on positions. HB 2700 deals with Linear Project Bill. This bill is important to Infrastructure. This bill should be approved shortly.

Marketing & Communications: Crystal reports the committee is working on a new website.

Timm reports that we have a four part mock-up of it. The initial focus looks good. Our goal is to be online by this Fall.

Tourism: Deborah reports that last week's meeting had 5 people attending. The Quest project is being completed at South Slough and is complete in Coos Bay. The Quest books will be available the Summer of 2011. The books will be displayed at the Visitor Centers.

The bike route is being worked on. Marty is working on a map.

Membership & Development: Timm reports the committee is working on three fund raiser events. The Murder Mystery on June 4th, Taking Care of Business Bowling on August 25th and Monster Bash Halloween Party on October 29th.

Our focus is on a Handshake Marketing campaign in June.

Membership policy is being developed with a focus on conducting a membership drive every other year and during the opposite year, hold handshake marketing drives for building up and retaining members.

Transportation: Timm reports this committee is on summer hiatus and will meet again in September.

Wednesday Business Connection : Timm reports that we just completed a good season. We had sponsors for each month. The 10 minute presentation opportunity was well received. September's focus will be State government.

Ambassadors: Pam reports the Ambassadors had a Ribbon cutting at 2nd Street Studio.

Natural Resources: Eric reports that at July 's meeting Merrill & Ring will talk about Chinese log export ships . This meeting will be July 15th at the Red Lion, 7AM.

Community Reports

Coos Bay –North Bend Visitors & Convention Bureau: Mark reports Oregon Q Care training was available on line to all businesses through a Travel Oregon program.

We had a Mystery Shopper visit our local business. They provided us with a seven page report, which I will send to Timm. The report talks about where the shopper went and reports on experience.

Thirty six business and eighteen employees were contacted. The cost was \$2000.

Clark requested that recognition of good service be sent to the media for coverage.

We continue to work on the coupon book.

Their new Website will automatically connect with Travel Oregon's site.

Budget – Motels ahead

Media tour writers, Prefontaine, Kayak, OCCl, tourism.....

CCD Business Development Corp: Theresa reports that CCD is very busy. We have a loan with Umpqua Bank in Bandon. Community advantage, three year program to allow CCD to do 7A programs like a bank.

We have money to lend.

City of Coos Bay: Crystal reports the City has been working on the budget. There have been no layoffs. The Library Director is retiring. Thursday night there will be a public meeting to see what the public would like to see happen with the library.

The Egyptian Theater is listed as an, endangered place in Oregon. This opens up opportunities for restoration funding.

Bay Area Hospital: Paul reports that the expansion project at the hospital is 30 days into site preparation. Next month excavation and pile driving will begin. Pile driving is planned for late June, 250 piles ranging from 40 feet to 30 feet. There are packages for locals to bid. Hoffman out of Portland is the Contractor. A lot is open for locals to bid on, like site prep; shell; tenant improvements All must follow state bidding guidelines.

Leadership Coos: Rick reports that graduation was on May 10th at the Yacht club. We are working on plans for next year. Some of the items we are working on is developing a new Leadership Coos logo, a presence on the Chamber Web Site and interaction with participants. Please contact Pam with names of interested participants for 2011-2012.

Port of Coos Bay: Martin reports that the Port Ice Plant has been rebuilt and is up and working. The quality of ice is better than that the last 10 years. If enough ice is produced, we will provide ice for recreational fishermen.

A rail vendor fair was last week. There are contracting opportunities, with specialized work and insurance acceptable to railroad commission. Bids are being reviewed; car loadings are planned. It is estimated that 500 cars per month will be loaded. We are looking for Chip cars.

ARG trends short line road operation is being finalized. We are attending Union Pacific meetings for class 1 railroads. Inspection work is being done. Confidentiality Agreements on certain prospects are being worked on. We hope to be able to disclose something soon.

Eric has been attending LNG meetings. We are looking for representation from the Chamber.

Charleston: Matt reports that construction continues in Charleston on the waterline. Englund Marine expansion is done and new their building is fantastic. Halibut season opens June 29th for commercial fishermen.

South Coast Development Council: Eric reports SDAT series meetings begin June 21st and 22nd. This will be a two day event. The first day, we are looking for forty people to get involved in the process. The second day City officials will meet focusing in where to go with SDAT projects. A public meeting with community will take place on that evening.

South Coast Airport District: Joe reports on Airport landing fees. No Coos County local pays a landing fee. This could mean \$120 thousand dollars annually. We have heard some complaints from lower rate users. If they a purchase of \$10 in gas or more, we will offer a \$10 credit toward the landing fee. We are looking at user fees for larger planes. Comparisons were made with other golf resort airports and we were in the middle. Some complaints were from pilots that haven't even landed here. Fee structure will be seen this summer.

Coos Bay North Bend Water Board: Rob reports construction of treatment plant \$8.46 million contract awarded. The General Contractor is James Fowler. He is the same contractor that did the last upgrade.

Lucinda reminds the board that Harley Davidson Lighthouse Run is June 24 and 25. This will bring over 600 bikes and riders to our area. Coos Art Museum is having a Bike exhibit during this same time.

Executive Session

Reviewed 4/30/11 Statement

Meeting adjourned