

**Bay Area Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors  
November 7, 2007  
Red Lion Hotel – 7 am**

Board Members present: Jenny Bream, Brian Bream Screw Machines; Dick Leshley, Yellow Cab; Joanie Johnson, Sincerely Yours! Antiques; Sherry Yarbrough, Umpqua Bank; Mark Mattecheck, North Bend Lanes; Crystal Shoji, Shoji Planning; Sam Roth, Century 21 Best Realty; Johanna Dillard, Coastal Paper & Supply; Jim Hough, Hough, MacAdam & Wartnik; Brandy Thompson, Cardinal Services; Bonnie Barron, Bay Area Hospital; Eric Farm, Menasha. Others present: Timm Slater, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Pam Cottrell, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Theresa Haga, CCD Business Development; Deryl Beebe Ambassadors; Joyce Jansen, City of Coos Bay, Jan Willis, City of North Bend; Travis Burgher, BnT Promotions; Lila Sweet, Lila's Boutique; Tim Hyatt, Sunset Golf Course.

President Jenny Bream called the meeting to order. Introductions were made around the table. Minutes were approved and seconded.

**Presidents Report** - Jenny welcomed new members Travis, Crystal and Lila. Retreat was good, very informative and eye opening. The Board stands united in their goals. It was nice to hear the individual thoughts from each Board member.

**Executive Director's Report-**

A. BLM O&C Land Management Alternative Endorsement – Timm explained the Management Alternative. The Executive committee encourages the Board's endorsement. The BLM, with its O & C lands, has been a regional partner in the timber supply until the late 1980's with the impact of the Endangered Species Act. The NW Forest plan of the early 1990's was to address this issue plus guarantee harvest levels. It never met those objectives. The O & C act of 1937 governs what happens on these lands, while addressing the needs of other federal laws. Alternative 2 in the current proposal is the preferred alternative. It promotes timber management on 48% of the land base leaving 52% of the land for all other uses. The proposed harvest is half of that in the 1970's. The Forest will still develop more old growth as cutting will not equal annual growth. This alternative will protect fish and their habitat and endangered species. 50% of the timber receipts will go to the counties, equaling about 94% of the current congressional hand out. This will mean real dollars to go toward the national debt and the counties. The letter was approved by the board. It's a good letter which uses expertise and power to voice the Board's stance on this issue.

B. Economic Outlook Forum will be December 7<sup>th</sup>. Local Updates speakers will be Hank Hickox, Bandon Dunes Resort; Jeff Bishop Oregon International Port of Coos Bay; Judith Hansen, Southwestern Oregon Community College; Mike Lehman, South Coast Regional Airport; Bob Ragon, Timber Industry. Home Grown Business speakers will be Donna Gould, Coos Bay Timber Operators; Matt LeDoux, Fisherman's Wharf; Jill Hanson, Hanson-Meekins Animal Hospital. Sponsorship information has been mailed and e-

mailed to businesses. The registration brochure is scheduled to be mailed November 19<sup>th</sup>. Fees will stay the same as last year.

C. Chamber Retreat and Planning Session – Board Goals:

- What does Bay Area chamber of Commerce do for you?
  - Draw together or develop the materials to specify the benefits and value of being an active Chamber member. Then get that word out to members, potential members and the community
  - The Chamber Board will develop or will be provided with, policy positions to address issues of critical importance to Oregon's Bay Area. These responses will be timely for best impact on the issue. For 2008 these will include.
    - o The BLM Western Oregon Resource Management Plans revisions
    - o The State of Oregon development and designation of Marine Reserves
    - o CORP railroad embargo and south coast rail service
  - Membership will attract the new and next generation of business people into the Chamber.
  - Develop and pursue local opportunities based on the upcoming 2008 Olympic Trails in Eugene.
  - Support the Ambassadors planning process, implementation actions and needs for their upcoming 2008 convention.
  - All committee chairs meet twice annually to discuss common goals

A suggestion was made to add the goals to the next Newsletter.

D. Chamber Banquet will be January 26<sup>th</sup>. Ken is thinking of a theme for this year's banquet. Please be thinking of nominations for the awards. Timm announced that Sarah Baker is celebrates her 4<sup>th</sup> year anniversary with the Chamber this month. She has been responsible and instrumental in putting together the Chamber Newsletter and Chamber Quarterly. She ensures that timelines are met on projects like the Profile and Banquet. One of Sarah's newest duties has been membership recruitment and she has done a great job of promoting new members. Sarah has announced that she will be leaving the Chamber. Her last day will be December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Treasurer's Report-** Sherry reports that the Chamber has money in the amount of \$119,066.76. This amount is down from last year, may be due to funds from the Profile are being invoiced this year. In the past, businesses have received a discount if payment was made with out being invoiced. The discount is not an option this year.

**Ambassadors-** Deryl passed out a letter to the board, along with a sheet outlining sponsorship levels for the 2008 Ambassador Convention. Deryl reviewed the hand-out asking businesses to pick a sponsorship that would work best for them and support 2008 Ambassador Convention success. The convention will be October 2 – 5, 2008. Many activities planned. Invitations will be sent to 67 Oregon Chambers and over 500 individuals, through out the state of Oregon. The convention will promote our area, encourage attendees to take self guided tours, shop, golf and visit our beaches. The Ambassadors

are asking for your financial help as well as looking for volunteers that can help. We have the support of 16 businesses so far. There are 31 table sponsors available. It's a great opportunity to show case your business to these visitors to our area.

**Tourism-** Joanie reports that last month the committee had a guest speaker Sharon Comden, the concern being the Chromite truck traffic on Seven Devils road. It is proposed that the truck traffic will be 86 round trips per day, 340 days a year. How is this truck traffic going to impact the Bike route used by tourists? We are not against the trucking, but are looking into the quality of life issues. Request that the Chamber look at best course of action for the community. After much discussion around the table, it was asked would it be possible for the Chamber to support a sub-committee to look into options for raising / finding funds to promote a safe bike route. An idea, Check with ODOT for funds to support a bike lane on Seven Devils Road. This topic was tabled for further discussion at another time.

**CB/NB Tourism and Conventions Bureau-** Mark updated the Board on the ad meeting for the Visitor Guide. This guide will represent the area as a whole, not just Coos Bay/North Bend, but will also include Charleston and Vacation rentals, if they are Chamber members. It is planned to publish 20,000 copies of the guide to be distributed by the visitor centers. Cheryl will contact businesses in Lakeside & Charleston, to be added to the guide before publication deadline. If the businesses are not currently Chamber members, they will be invited to become Chamber members. The new web site [www.oregonsadventurecoast.com](http://www.oregonsadventurecoast.com) will give the Hotels/Motels in Coos Bay/North Bend who pay room tax a picture and advertisement on the web site. Mark asked the Chamber to develop a list on who should be in the Guide. If you have not visited the new web site please log on and take a look. Mark also asked the Chamber to send an advertisement for Holiday lights. This was a suggestion from the ad agency. We are very happy with the agency and their ideas.

**Forestry & Fisheries-** Eric reminded the board that the next meeting is Friday November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7am.

**Leadership Coos-** Pam reports that Leadership Coos third session will be November 13<sup>th</sup>, featuring Business & Industry. She reminds the board to invite interested people to contact her to be put on the waiting list for next year's program. This is such a valuable program; everyone should have the opportunity to experience.

**IBO-** Dick reports that IBO is in need of interesting programs. Today the IBO program will be Charter Communications, 11:30am at The Mill. Attendance has been up. Last week was the first quarterly Government session. The County Commissioner spoke. A great turn out. Good job and thank you Timm.

**Transportation-** Timm shared that there is an article in yesterday's paper on the Airport from our Transportation committee meeting. The airport is building a new Terminal and Control Tower & Taxi Way.

**4 Star Awards-** Johanna reports that nominees are need for 4 star awards. Good service needs to be recognized and reported. Timm will be distributing 4 Star forms at IBO and encouraging members to report “good customer service”.

**Government Affairs-** Timm reports that quarterly forums are planned for IBO. A letter was sent to both Mayor’s to feature cities in January. It is planned to have the mayors/city managers from Coos Bay and North Bend to speak at January’s IBO. The third quarter will be State government, looking forward to hearing from Arnie Roblan and Joanne Verger. The fourth quarterly we will hear from the Federal government.

**City of Coos Bay-** Joyce reports several things are going on in Coos Bay.

1. Master plan- Hollering Place Project
2. First Draft of the revitalization of Downtown Coos Bay
3. Invited board members to attend Downtown Association meeting.

There are many good ideas for the downtown area and a lot of energy.

4. 3 year plan for ODOT Bridge Project
5. Project for next summer- the work that is plan for Hwy 101, how to have the least impact on downtown businesses.
6. New Brochure for Coos Bay. New Facades are looking great.
7. Who owns the waterfront? (A question raised by DSL)

Map next week

Work together

more time to study the information

Legislator looking into this question

Bring to the council attention

**City of North Bend-** Jan reports North Bend doing fine. Work continues with the Home Depot. The City is working on rail crossing improvements, upgrading the railroad crossings at Virginia street and the new crossing. We are on schedule for construction to start in the spring. North Bend Hotel inside demo is scheduled to start this week. Shutters Creek will be used for labor. Hartland will salvage what can be salvaged. The salvage will be sold and the money will be reinvested into the Hotel renovation. The plan is to start on the outside of the Hotel after the first of the year. The City is working with ODOT on pedestrian safety on Hwy 101 and traffic congestion that may be caused by the Bridge project.

**CCD Business Development Corporation-** Theresa reports that things are good at CCD. There are 23 ABA projects. In house is good. CCD will be working on projects in Curry County in 4-5 weeks. We are starting end of the year stuff. Things are very busy.

**Coos Bay - Downtown Association** is selling Holiday wreaths for \$40, the 2<sup>nd</sup> wreath for \$20. Please contact them if you are interested in “Find Santa”, putting together a package to advertise this promotion. Santa will move from shop to shop, shoppers will be given a map with simple clues to find Santa.

**Southwestern Oregon Community College** invites the community to attend focus sessions to provide community input toward program and campus vision for College facilities, offerings, programming, and services throughout

the entire district. Citizens are invited to attend Master Planning meetings the next two Thursdays November 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at the Oregon Coast Culinary Institute. This may be a good opportunity for Chamber businesses to see about student internships. An e-mail will be sent to members to encourage them to attend these focus groups.

**Meeting Adjourned**