

**Bay Area Chamber of Commerce  
Board Meeting  
April 8, 2015**

**Board Members present:** Barry Winters, Barrett Business Services; Michele Hampton, Banner Bank; Jayson Wartnik, Hough, MacAdam, Wartnik, Fisher & Gorman; Deena Gisholt, Oregon Pacific Bank; Beth Gipson, Farmers Insurance/Gipson Agency; Rick Skinner, Knife River Materials; Mark Wall, Roseburg Resources; Deborah Rudd, South Slough Reserve Tim Huntley, Knife River Materials; Tom Burdett, BnT Promotional Products; Pam de Jong, Edward Jones Investments; Diane Crawford, Prudential Seaboard Properties; Pam Plummer, Umpqua Bank

**Community at Large Directors;** Theresa Haga, CCD Business Development; Connie Stopher, SCDC; Brooke Walton, Port of Coos Bay;

**Ex-Officio Board Members present:** Rodger Craddock, City of Coos Bay; Barbara Bauder, Bay Area Hospital

**Others present:** Timm Slater, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Pam Cottrell, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Heidi Proett, Oregon Pacific Bank; Jessica Chavez, Cardinal Services.

Rick Skinner called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

Introductions were made around the table.

March Board minutes were approved.

### **President Report**

**Rick reports:** March accomplishments, I was invited to attend the 3 A Basketball Tournament opening ceremonies at Marshfield High School. This is a great event for our area. Kudo's to Heidi Proett and her efforts. Tall Ships presentation at the City of Coos Bay Council Chambers. We have the opportunity to host 12 tall ships in 2017. This would be a huge event and is headed by Tom Leahy. Business After Hours was hosted by Northwest Community Credit Union. The event was well attended. The South Coast Community Fund is moving ahead and is working on their Mission statement. Pam Plummer has been meeting with other Coos County Chambers of Commerce. We are working on developing a County business voice. Our Transportation committee supports the Charleston – Bandon Bikeway. The Legislative Action Team continues tracking bills and monitor legislative action. A teleconference is held the first and third Mondays of the month. This is a great opportunity to speak with our representatives in Salem. A team of seven board members attended OSCC Day at the Capital. This was a very productive day. There are many Bills before our legislators. We ask that you write letters to your representatives and let them know where you stand. They do listen and your letters help to reach a decision.

The Education Committee will host an Extreme Make Over at North Bend High School on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Jayson reports that the focus will be the garden area and building planter boxes. Please bring your gardening tools and join us. A BBQ lunch will follow.

The Tourism Committee, chaired by Deborah Rudd, is putting the finishing touches on the Bay Area Brigade on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Teams representing the Pirates, Bulldogs and Lakers will compete for the trophy for gathering the most trash. A BBQ lunch will follow at the North Bend Fire Department.

The Membership Committee is promoting a new member challenge. This committee is asking the Board and Chamber members to talk to local businesses and let them know why you belong to the Chamber. Oregon Pacific Bank is offering a "Travel Oregon" package to the person who recruits the most new members. Bill Christie, the General Manager of Coos Grange Co Op has provided \$50 gift cards to the first 15 new Chamber members. We want a focus on retention when we are talking with potential new

members. We believe the best way to accomplish member retention is sharing your story as to why you believe in the Chamber and the work that is done for our local businesses.

We are looking for WBC host for the month of April. Barry Winters will host April 15<sup>th</sup>; Pam Plummer will host April 22<sup>nd</sup> and Beth Gipson will host April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Business After Hours will be hosted by ServPro on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

A town Hall with Senator Wyden will be held at the Egyptian Theatre at 10:30 on April 11<sup>th</sup>. This is important to attend and show our support.

### **Executive Director**

**Timm reports:** OSCC day at the Capital was April 1<sup>st</sup>. Seven board members attended, Pam Plummer; Tom Burdett; Deena Gisholt; Beth Gipson; Brooke Walton; Dick Leshley and myself.

Beth reports that it was an excellent day. Great programs and well organized. Deena mentions that there are many Bills that will affect small businesses. These are selling points to talk to our prospective new members about how the Chamber is addressing these Bills with our representatives in Salem.

Pam reports that this trip was a great learning process. She has great respect for our legislators and the work they are doing for our area in Salem. She asks that we show our support and say thank you.

Timm reminds the board that the Legislative Action Team meets four times during the month. This Team is chaired by Tom Burdett and Patty Cook. If you are aware of Bills that affect your business please report them to Patty or Tom. Also Timm encouraged the board to write letters to the Editor to be published in the World discussing your feelings as to how certain bills would affect our local businesses.

Timm shares that the Chamber by Laws are in the process of being revised. Part of the revisions may be adding a third Vice President to the Board.

Wednesday Business Connection will come to an end on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Timm asked the Board to send him their ideas as to how we could "Celebrate your Chamber" at the last WBC.

### **Team Reports**

**Membership:** Heidi reports that a golf tournament is scheduled for September 12 at Watson Ranch. Knife River will provide donuts to start you off and a BBQ lunch when you finish. We are looking for 36 teams. The cost for a foursome has not been decided, which includes carts, green fees and warm up balls. Opportunity to sponsor a hole or a logo sign will be available. This is a huge fundraiser for the Chamber and we are looking for all of the Directors to get involved. This committee meets the third Tuesday of the month at 8AM in the Oregon Pacific Bank conference room. The next meeting will be April 21<sup>st</sup>. We invite others to join us. There are many projects coming up and we can use all the help available.

**Marketing & Communications:** Pam P reports that this committee is working with Allan in developing a new website for the Chamber. This project is coming along very well and will provide many more member opportunities. She asks the board to please "like" BACC on your facebook accounts. Staff has been sharing the newsletter, Chamber Minutes and member announcements.

A new spot in the newsletter is "Business Spot light". The spotlight will provide opportunities for Chamber members to showcase things going on in their businesses.

We are learning "Twitter" and working on a Smartphone conversation so our website will be mobile. Also, this team is working on "branding" for the Chamber. We would like a standardized look for all documentation coming from the Chamber.

**Wednesday Business Connection:** Timm reports that for the month of April we have scheduled to speak at WBC; Chris Culpepper with the United State Coast Guard on April 7<sup>th</sup>; Cranberry Industry on April 15<sup>th</sup>; Travel Oregon on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and FaceRock Creamery will complete the month on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Education:** Jayson reports that another Extreme Makeover is scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup> at the North Bend High School.

A Career Exposure intern is working on a survey to be sent out to our community. We are looking for guest speakers that will come to the middle schools to share information to get kids excited about the future. The focus will be toward 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Natural Resources:** This Team meets the third Friday at the Red Lion.

**Ambassadors:** Jessica reports the Ambassadors are very busy during the month of April. April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Petal to the Metal had their Ribbon Cutting; April 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 PM the Grange Co-Op on S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street will host their Grand Opening; April 18<sup>th</sup> South Coast Family Harbor Co-Op will host their Grand Opening at 1PM; April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:15, Advantage Dental on Curtis Street will host their Ribbon Cutting; and April 30<sup>th</sup> Business After Hours will be hosted by ServPro.

Jessica shared the new lapel pin, designed by the Ambassadors and will be shared at the Convention, "Mission Possible".

The Ambassadors meet the Friday after the first Tuesday of the month. We circulate our meetings to be held at different Chamber restaurants each month.

**Legislative Action Team:** Tom asked the Board to encourage businesses to visit the OLIS Oregon website to stay informed on the Bills in Salem that effect small business. Letters of support do make a difference to our Legislators.

**Business Development & Support:** Pam reports that this committee has reached out to other Chambers in the county. We are looking to impact a number of businesses. The Boom or Bust workshop had 23 attendees. We are working with local businesses to improve customer service. We are working on a program footprint.

We have been attending the Jordan Cove meetings and giving updates to our partners. It is planned to add a segment in the Chamber newsletter.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce is doing great. They will meet with Michael Hinrichs on Thursday at 6 pm at SOCC. This meeting is open to the public.

**Transportation:** Rick reports this committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at the VIC at Noon.

**Tourism:** Deb reports that this committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at the VIC at 8AM. The Bay Area Brigade is scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Teams are coming together for the Pirates, Bulldogs and Lakers. They will be competing for the grand prize of who collected the most trash from their area. Join a team, show your pride, and meet at the new was Historical and Maritime Museum on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and end at Coos Bay Fire Department for a BBQ lunch.

**Leadership Coos:** Pam reports that the topic for Leadership Coos in April is Arts, Entertainment and Recreation. She shared the agenda with the board, starting at the Art Museum where we will hear about our local live theater and music events, followed by a tour of South Slough Reserve, a trip on the dunes with Spinreel DuneBuggy & ATV Rentals and a boat ride on the Betty Kay from the Charleston Marina to Coos Bay Central Dock. Pam asked the board to contact her if they know of someone that would like to attend the program next year.

## **Community Reports**

**Port of Coos Bay & Charleston:** Brooke reports that the annual Oyster Feed will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> starting at noon at Oregon Institute of Marine Biology in Charleston.

A Draft of the Strategic plan for the Port is scheduled to come out in May. There will be 3-4 weeks for comments. We are looking for community support.

The Port continues to work on their Budget process using a new financial system.

The Port also is looking to expand staff. Positions to be filled are Director of Marine and Industrial Operations and Director of Business and more to come in the fiscal year.

Peter DeFazio visited our area. Special thanks to the Coos Bay Bar Pilots who took Port staff and the Congressman out on the boat to get a closer look at the North Jetty. We shared the significance of investing in Coos Bay's infrastructure.

### **Visitor and Convention Bureau:**

**South Coast Development Council:** Connie announced to the board that First Call Resolution (FCR) is scheduled to host a Ribbon Cutting on May 14<sup>th</sup>. This company is growing and looking to fill positions. Connie leaves on Sunday for a trip to Japan. This visit is to help develop a relationship with Japan to support export, tourism and property development. In speaking with the Japanese representative she learned that the Oregonian is read by the Japanese business people, she reminds the board to include the Oregonian when you are writing letters to the World.

Morgan Veterinary has purchased the building on Hwy 101 which once housed the Kings Table. They are interested in bids to remodel.

May's focus will be Buzz on Buzz and Bandon Customer Service and talking about issues.

June will focus on the Bay Area.

**CCD:** Theresa reports Regional Business plans coming from SOCC.

She thanks the Chamber for the Spotlight in the Newsletter for CCD.

**City of Coos Bay:** Timm reports that the council is working on curb appeal projects. The Oregon State University is looking at providing student housing by reinvesting in downtown buildings.

**City of North Bend:** Timm reports the City continues to work on K2 project. Expecting ships in 10 days. April 6<sup>th</sup> the Fire Department hosted the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Pancake Feed. The money made from this event is used to purchase Christmas gifts for children.

There is an Urban Renewal work session planning for the new North Bend Visitor Information Center.

City of North Bend provided \$750 toward the Japan trip for SCDC.

### **Director Updates:**

Brooke reminds the board that Senator Wyden will be at the Egyptian Theatre on Saturday. Please attend and wear your BOOST shirts.

### **Meeting – Executive session**

Executive session skipped. Waiting for financial report from accountant

**Meeting was adjourned.**

