

**OROFINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2007  
PONDEROSA BANQUET ROOM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Connie Robison called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. There were 19 members and one guest present. Staff included Burnham.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the general membership meeting are now being emailed to the membership with the meeting reminders. The minutes of the general membership meeting were approved with one spelling correction.

**GUESTS**

Our guest was our program speaker, Don Gardner with Fire and Emergency Services.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Kim Nelson with the Clearwater National Forest announced that they will be having a retirement party for Lin Chamberlin on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. A formal invitation with more details will be sent to the Chamber at a later date.

Keith Hanson, North Idaho Chamber of Commerce President updated the Membership on the NICC tour in Bonner's Ferry last week. Bonner's Ferry has been going through a lot of changes and deal with many of the same issues that Orofino deals with. The North Idaho Legislative Tour will be a year from now and Orofino will be included in the tour.

Dennis Harper announced that the High School sports teams will be going from 3A to 2A division because of a higher student population in the Junior class. Cost and safety are a concern. We have gone through the appeals process and Kamiah and Grangeville voted against keeping Orofino in their division. The Board will discuss this issue further at Monday's Board Meeting.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

There will be a Board of Directors Meeting next Monday at noon at the Ponderosa.

Idaho Rural Partnership is doing a leadership training series and one of the trainings will take place in Orofino at the Best Western Lodge at River's Edge on Wednesday October 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$75 and includes lunch. If you are interested, you can register online at <http://irp.idaho.gov>. After today the cost of registration goes to \$100. Customer service and team building are heavily weighted items on the agenda.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Public Affairs-** Committee will meet this month and discuss the north-South trail and the public affairs policy statements.

**Promotional-** The caboose has been removed from the track near Heritage Plaza.

The Christmas Festival is coming up and will take place on November 30 and December 1 this year. The Little Elf Shop is in need of donations and especially need donation

items for men and boys. Elf Shop donations may be dropped off at the Real Estaters instead of the Chamber office because we no longer have room at the Chamber.

**Special Events-** No Report

**Welcome and Membership-** No Report

**Economic Development** –CCED is continuing with ongoing meetings and is very involved in the telecommunications issue.

**GEM-** No Report

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

No Report.

### **PROGRAM**

**Programs-** November 7, Tom Reilly – U.S. Forest Service

Vice-President Ryan Smathers introduced our program speaker, Don Gardner, Clearwater County Emergency Services Coordinator who is also with the Fire Department.

Gardner explained that 9/11 has changed this community by bringing money into the area for Emergency Response Services. He also reported that the community doesn't have enough first responders as volunteerism is down. If we were to have a large fire right now, there may be only three firefighters in town.

Gardner encouraged the membership to have discussions about volunteering with their employees, their families and their friends. He provided a booklet to the membership about disaster planning for small to mid size businesses and spoke about planning for emergencies as well as fire exiting training.

Cyber attacks are also becoming more common and Gardner asked the membership to think about what they have done to protect their records. Gardner also addressed the issue of Pandemic Flu, asking the members how they would function if 60% of their workforce did not come to work. His office has an open door policy and he is happy to provide training for area businesses.

A slideshow which Gardner prepared gave the membership an overview of disasters in Orofino through the years. Photos of fires, floods, and accidents were included in the presentation.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, President Robison adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

---

Connie Robison, President

ATTESTED:

---

Heather R. Burnham, Executive Director