

**OROFINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2007
PONDEROSA BANQUET ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President Ryan Smathers called the meeting to order at 12:18 p.m. There were 30 members 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 as presented.

GUESTS

All present were members of the Orofino Chamber of Commerce.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Paul Pence sent along a Dworshak update. The replacement anchor for Big Eddy Marina is in and they are now connecting it to the dock.

Diane Hairston announced that the Clearwater Business Committee is hosting a training session next Thursday in the Idaho Department of Labor Training Room.

Dennis Harper reported that the drawing for the trailer fundraiser for the Community Complex will take place on 4th of July.

September 8th is the date of the Kiwanis Fun Run.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There will be a TIPS training on June 26th at 5:15 at the Ponderosa. The cost for the training is \$25 and regarding the beer bus at the 4th of July and Lumberjack Days, each shift must have at least one person with the training. A sign up sheet is being passed around. Also, there is a sign up sheet for the Beer Bus at the 4th of July event being passed around. Please sign up.

There will be a Board of Directors Meeting This Friday.

I have sign up forms for the River Raft Race available. If anyone is interested in donating items for the raffle prizes, please contact the Chamber Office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Affairs- The committee met yesterday and had a good meeting. The Parks and Recreation representative was there. Alex Irby will be vacating the Region II commissioner seat and the committee feels that it is important to have someone from this area fill it. Clarence Binninger is interested in the position.

Regarding the Dworshak Reservoir fertilization project; water quality is improving. Zooplankton counts are up six times what they were last year at this time. People are catching a lot of fish and it is a great year for Kokanee.

Promotional- The next Business after Hours will take place July 16th at Lewis-Clark Credit Union.

Special Events- The 4th of July committee is planning a Raft Race to take place on the 4th with proceeds going towards next year's fireworks. The committee is looking for volunteers and prize donors. There will be an extra \$1000 worth of fireworks this year and the Burnham family has issued a challenge to local families and businesses, they have pledged \$250 and urge others to donate as well in order to pay for the extra fireworks. JBR Express will be the band for the 4th and will perform on a flatbed provided by Builder's Supply from 7:30 until the fireworks start and then again once the fireworks are over.

Welcome and Membership- No Report.

Economic Development –CCED got funding from the State for 3 more years. This is in part due to the private sector funds pledged which was double what they were last year. They will have a meeting tonight at 6:00 at the Commerce and Labor Office.

Chris Kuykendall updated the membership on the Verizon two day long distance and cell phone outages. The root of the problem was at Teaken and is believed to be resolved now. We are on a proactive aggressive front with Verizon at this point and need to email the Public Utilities Commission's Nancy Hylton at Nancy.Hylton@PUC.Idaho.gov with Verizon issues. A plan has been developed to deliver fiber to Pierce, Weippe and Orofino.

GEM- The committee is rescheduling their next meeting where they will discuss what to do on Highway 12 for tourists. Please send ideas and suggestions to the Chamber office.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No Report

PROGRAM

Programs- The only meeting in July will be on the 18th. The program is a surprise, but you won't want to miss it.

Vice-President Ryan Smathers introduced our program speakers, Monica Jones and Lorna Marion from the Orofino office of Idaho Commerce and Labor. Jones introduced Diane Hairston and Bridgette Kerly who also work at their office.

Jones updated the membership on the deconsolidation of the Department of Commerce and Labor to the Department of Labor and the Department of Commerce. The local office will be known as the Department of Labor as of July 1st; however, there shouldn't be any noticeable changes in services. They will still be there to help meet the needs of businesses.

Jones also spoke about the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Program. The program is designed to help low income youth with an additional barrier to employment. Through the program, the youth are assisted with tutoring and getting their degree. The program also provides summer employment for youth. This provides an opportunity for internships. Work experiences can change lives of those who qualify for the program.

According to Jones, her department also works with kids who are not involved in the WIA Program. She has made presentations at schools and relays ideas that are important to business owners and employers such as good attendance records are important to employers. The career fair in the fall is an interactive way for students to interact with representatives from local businesses and expose them to career options.

Jones and Marion had the membership play one of two games of which the outcomes help them in assisting prospective job seekers. One game had the members identify job criteria in order of importance to them and their scores revealed a compatible career field for them. The second game involved members drawing a pig. The way that the pig was drawn gave insight into the member's personality traits. This method can also be used in finding a good career fit.

ADJOURN

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

Connie Robison, President

ATTESTED:

Heather R. Burnham, Executive Director