

**OROFINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2007
PONDEROSA BANQUET ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

President Connie Robison called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. There were 26 members present and 1 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 as presented.

GUESTS

Our guest was our program speaker, Howard Weeks with C-PTPA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Deyo with the Clearwater Valley Hospital Foundation announced that their golf tournament was a huge success and presented the drawing prize of two rounds of golf at Circling Raven to Heather Burnham, winner of the drawing.

Paul Pence with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers announced that usage on Dworshak Reservoir is up with more locals using the resource. There will be three more applications of fertilizer this year and they hope to continue the fertilization project in coming years.

Dennis Harper announced that the Kiwanis Fun Run will take place Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

Thanks to all who participated in TIPS Training.

Last month 5 relocation and 5 tourism packets went out.

Heritage Plaza tiles are still available for \$100 each. Order forms are available at the Chamber Office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Affairs- The committee is continuing meetings on the North-South Trail.

Promotional- 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.

Special Events- A sign up sheet for the Lumberjack Days Beer Bus was passed around. The Bagpipers will be here again this year.

The President's Cup Golf Tournament is full with 30 teams.

Welcome and Membership- No Report.

Economic Development –CCED is working diligently on telecommunication issues. Kuykendall reported that we are hoping for three or four new businesses in the County over the next few months.

GEM- No Report

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No Report

PROGRAM

Programs- September 19, Diane Hairston with the Clearwater Business Committee on their upcoming business seminars, “Drugs in the Workplace”.

Vice-President Ryan Smathers introduced our program speaker Howard Weeks the Fire Warden for C-PTPA and the membership welcomed him with a round of applause.

Weeks started his presentation by explaining why commerce is important to C-PTPA. Protecting resources for the people of Clearwater County and Idaho, C-PTPA helps to prevent the cost of wildfire on almost 1,000,000 acres of land of which 450,000 acres belong to Potlatch and 267,000 acres are State of Idaho endowment lands. The benefit of protecting these lands is from the sale of timber on these lands.

According to Weeks, C-PTPA has great employees whose experience is very valuable. Their retention level is high with an average of 18-21 years of experience.

The reasons for prescribed burning on State and Private Forests in Idaho are hazard reduction, site preparation, new crops and nutrient enhancement as well as overall forest health. Weeks explained that when lighting a prescribed burn, C-PTPA takes several factors into account including the burn type, the weather, the type of fuel, the fire behavior, the ignition type, the ignition timing, the control measures and the airshed. C-PTPA is a member of the Montana/Idaho Airshed Group and must get the go-ahead to do a controlled burn on any given day. They place emphasis on high level of predictability and control as well as take the population into account.

Weeks explained that forest health is at risk without prescribed burns. Prescribed burns also contribute to the productivity of the forests, avoiding catastrophic wild fires as well as controlling the amount of smoke that goes into the air by burning when conditions are optimal rather than have a wildfire place more smoke in the air for a longer duration.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, President Robison adjourned the meeting at 1:07 p.m.

Connie Robison, President

ATTESTED:

Heather R. Burnham, Executive Director