



GM Meeting Minutes April 4th, 2018 12pm Ponderosa Conference Room

- **Call to Order:**
Meeting called to order at 12:10pm by President Ann Wright
- **Minutes:**
Jo Moore read meeting minutes, motion to approve as written, Connie Robison 2nd motion. Minutes approved.
- **Guests:**
No Guests announced.
- **Announcements:**
 1. Daniel Hardy with Rotary announced a program Rotary sponsors called RYLA- Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. This is a week-long leadership camp, it is national. Asking businesses to sponsor someone from the age of 18-25.
 2. Monica Jones brought some brochures for the Clearwater Basin Youth Conservation Corps asked her to bring. They work with youth 16-18 to provide summer employment, it is a collaborative effort between the Forest Service, Army Corp of Engineers and Bureau of Land Management to provide meaningful work to young people. 8 weeks over the summer they can work and earn wages, application deadline is April 16th. Applications are online or can be picked up at Chamber of Commerce Office. Last year kids built a bridge, they have painted look-outs, worked on stream restoration, etc.
 3. Jeff with KLER announced Bell Equipment which has offices in Grangeville and Nez Perce will be sponsoring an event called Drive Green Event; they will be bringing down equipment for farming, tractors, side-by-sides, etc. It is a Friday Saturday event. Jeff and Monica will be headed out of town to celebrate Monica's birthday, HAPPY BIRTHDAY MONICA!!
 4. Chris with Clearwater County Sheriff's Office have developed an app, just go to the app store and search Clearwater County Sheriff. The app will send notifications to on road closures, etc. They currently have no way to quickly get accurate timely information to the public so this app will allow information to be disbursed, it will also post to Facebook. Press Release will be out next week.
 5. Diane Hairston announced Little Canyon Shooting will be hosting their Kids Hunt Free Day this Saturday, April 7th beginning at 9am. A full day of hunting for children ages 10-17 that would enjoy a day of pheasant hunting, sport clay shooting, and practice on the 22-rifle range and/or life size targets on the archery range. There will also be hatchery tours, complimentary lunch and ammunition provided by Avista Outdoors in Lewiston. Shot guns will be available for the younger participants or you may bring your own. Members and local sportsmen will work dogs for the hunters and each youth will also be assigned a safety advisor. Visit <https://www.littlecanyonshooting.com/little-canyon-shooting-kids-day/> for more information.
- **Drawing for Free Lunch**

Danny Lund with Wells Fargo won the free lunch.

- **Executive Director Report: Melina Johnson**

I have been working on submitting our Idaho Travel Council Grant, we are requesting funds for our website maintenance for Orofino.com, our riverbank music festival website, and the new website we are currently developing; advertisement funds for riverbank music festival, bald mountain ski hill, fishing and snowmobiling for our winter months; print advertisement for updated city of Orofino maps and winter month recreation; funds for purchase of webcams that can be placed at Dworshak, Clearwater river, downtown Orofino, bald mountain; funds to pay for ICORT Training. Grant has been submitted. Will be working with North Central Idaho Travel Association in the future for grant as ITC has requested we work more closely regionally instead of each town asking for grants individually.

Lots of work has been done on Riverbank Music Festival in getting advertisements, sponsors, rentals, vendors, etc.

- **Committee Reports**

- **CCED – Chris St. Germaine:**

Greetings,

The month of March kicked off with an announcement from US Dept. of Transportation awarding a TIGER grant to Clearwater County for repair of the BG-CM Railroad up the Orofino line and down to Lewiston. There's been several articles about this project in the news media so I won't bore you. We certainly have the facts if you want some. We are looking forward to learning about the Federal Rail Administration process and getting the work done!

Towards the middle of the month we learned that our application for consideration as an Opportunity Zone, as defined by the Tax Cut and Jobs Act (2018), was included in the Governors recommended list. We are still learning about what the Treasury will offer, but in general it's an incentive for development. According to 26 CFR 601.601, "*Section 1400Z-2 of the Code allows the temporary deferral of inclusion in gross income for certain realized gains...*" It will be interesting to learn how we can leverage the Opportunity Zone with other incentives to help build our expansion and business attraction toolbox.

Additionally, mid-month brought us the ID National Laboratory funded 3 D printer. We are still working to get the Solid Works software installed so this new tool can be used to build prototypes. We are thrilled to have this support from INL and the partnership with the Clearwater RC&D, and look forward to having start-ups and existing businesses utilize these new tools.

Throughout the month of March and between spring skiing trips, we assisted six (6) existing businesses with issues, brought opportunities to their attention or helped with regulatory process interpretation to support growth. Our Entrepreneurial support program provided guidance and support to a dozen folks. And we participated in the Mass Timber Conference over in Portland where we learned of some big developments in the construction industry and new regional ventures that will provide additional market demand for our forest products manufacturers and machine/fab shops. Yah Trees!

As always feel free to contact our office if you have needs/issues or questions about our efforts.

Chris

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➤ **Legislative Committee –**

Clearwater County Sheriff Chris Goetz gave update on legislation.

1. Bill HB 335 was passed to lower the unemployment insurance tax and save Idaho employers \$115 million over the next three years, without any impact on the state general fund.
2. Senate Bill 1217 allows department of fish and game to collect credit card fees.
3. House Bill 369 to provide for the Idaho Roadless Rule implementation commission. Idaho has own rule and is now in statute.
4. House Bill 452 amends Idaho Code to allow Airbnb and the sales tax from that will go to the travel and convention tax that goes back to the tourism district.
5. House Bill 463 increases the Idaho Child Tax Credit from \$130 per child to \$205 per child.
6. House Bill 549, legalizing to shoot a deer that you hit with a car, you can also salvage the animal. Sheriff department asks that you call the sheriff department to let them know what you did so if someone calls about a firearms shooting they know what has happened.
7. House bill 533, housing of inmates for county. Inmates sitting in county, the state will now pay \$55 for first 7 days and \$75 after that to give state incentive to get inmates in prison and out of county. State is out of prison beds so that is why they are leaving in county so long and moving out of state.
8. House Bill 405, you can now legally sale something below cost.

➤ **Welcoming's-**

- **Olive's Auto Parts**
Unable to attend☺

➤ **Special Events:**

Community Clean-Up: April 28th



Everything ready to go. Calling list of participants to make sure they are still participating this year.

Chamber Auction: May 4th



Tickets are close to being sold out, only about 50-60 tickets left. Tickets can be found at Banner Bank, LCCU, PIFCU and Chamber Office. Committee getting together this Thursday to get packages prepared and will be placed at banks next week to preview. Back to the 80's, dress up contest. April 15th deadline for early sign up \$500 cash drawing. April 10th committee meeting at The Edge.

Maniac Dam Race: June 9th



Maniac Dam race will happen June 9th, can enroll online, registration form is online on Orofino.com.

Riverbank Music Festival: August 4th

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!!!!

As of meeting ticket sales were at 71. Could be more as physical tickets are at Inland Cellular and no numbers known on that. Haven't begun advertisement yet, just Facebook. Ticket sales should increase this year, staying on budget. Chamber looking forward to this great event.

Melina thanked Matt for his hard work in getting sponsors for our event, a lot goes in to this concert in getting sponsors, vendors, the advertisement, ticket sales, rentals, etc. Matt has put in a lot of hard work and it is very much appreciated!! Thank you Matt Sartini!

➤ **New Business:**

None

• **Program: Speaker: Diane Hairston with the Idaho Department of Labor**

Diane Hairston with Department of Labor:

Thanked us for inviting her to talk about her and her job as a Regional Business Service Person and they projects they have been working on regionally. She has been in this position for about three years now, it was a new position at the time, she is responsible for getting out and developing relationships with all the businesses, what they do, and where commonalities and gaps are. She works closely with Chris St Germaine, Clearwater County Economic Development and with CEDA-, which is the regional Economic development Agency. She partners with U of I and LCSC, the schools, High Schools and Walla Walla Community College to be proactive and address workforce needs. As an example, they are just coming to the end of the first year of a sector grant, they use workforce development funds for these projects. Three or more industry partners get together, they create training programs for the need these industries have in common. They did one for the wood products sector, wood mills. NIC and LCSC partnered with 11 mills to develop training that was needed for all these mills. There were boiler kiln training, Programmable Logic Control training, and fluid power hydraulics training. Impacted about 21 employees in the 4 mill sites in our region. It also allowed LCSC to develop a PLC training they can continue to offer. Another thing they do is to help the youth. We have a youth drain, mostly because of our rural area. So they are connecting industry with youth so they know there are occupations and job opportunities in our area. There is a program called Dream It, Do It Youth Conference, it was a collaborative effort, they had 23 school districts to participate. They have 28 employers and 59 speakers to present to these kids. They were able to talk to the kids about their business, what they do, what they have to offer, the wages, career paths and what a day at that job would look like. Felt it was a successful program and will look at doing it again. She has also been working for about 18 months on the Apprenticeship Idaho Initiative. The DOL got a grant from USDOL to market federal registered apprenticeships in Idaho. Make more pipelines available to attract skilled workers. A federal registered apprenticeship allows a structured training for a nationally recognized certificate, it is a nice recruitment tool. They have been talking with employers about this program. An example would be she worked with Syringa Hospital and they developed a certified medical assistant apprenticeship program. They have existing workers they train to do the work but they are not certified. Finding ways to help bigger picture projects. Chris St. Germaine just handed in an application for a grant, it is a micro grants for up to \$25,000 to help with drug and mental health court. An employability package to help people going through that program to help with entry level employment. Chris can get us more information at a later date. They also work with the High Schools on those micro grants, if they high schools want to buy equipment that will help with skills to be workforce ready. Another program that is being worked on is: Northwest Intermountain Metal-NIM, LCSC got a grant to run this pilot training project, sophomores can do this program, they have some online classes and then hands on work over the summer. Orofino has a large turnout on this project. When the kids get through this program they will work with manufacturers to do some apprenticeships with metal manufacturing companies to connect kids with employers. The kids will be able to stay at LCSC dorms over the summer. They were fully enrolled, a few kids dropped out but they had a

great turn out. This is above their school work so it takes dedication on the kid's part to do the program. They are also touring some of the businesses that they could potentially get a job at.

- **Adjourn:**
Meeting adjourned at 12:53pm