



GM Agenda June 6th, 2018 12pm Ponderosa Conference Room

- **Call to Order:**

President Ann Wright called meeting to order at 12:06pm.

- **Minutes:**

Ashley Steinbruecker read meeting minutes and made a motion to approve minutes as written. Ann Wright 2nd motion. Meeting minutes approved as written.

- **Guests:**

Kathy Pence introduced Keith Nichols, he is the new broker at The Real Estaters, and he bought the business April 1, 2018, they are updating and modernizing the office. Elizabeth introduced Diane with Century 21 is new to the area. Jeff Jones introduced Ashley Joye with Clearwater River Casino, Jeff and Ashley were on the swim team back in the day.

- **Announcements:**

Ashley Steinbruecker announced CVH Foundation Fundraiser date has been set, it will be a combination moonlight ball and wine & beer tasting for October 27th.

- **Drawing for Free Lunch**

Ashley Joye from Clearwater River Casino won free lunch.

- **Executive Director Report: Melina Johnson**

Auction:

Was a big success: looks like we made over \$20,000. 2 outstanding payments needed.

Website:

Vanessa has been working on content for the website, been making sure all information is accurate. Need pictures to put on website, if anyone has some good pics of Elk River, pierce peck Weippe. Working on Weippe info now. Have been through all other towns.

Will be meeting with outlying contacts in the next week and getting website information submitted to Stephanie for development.

NCITA:

Attended meetings with NCITA middle of May – They will be doing our ITC grant this year. They are working on ways to build membership, they are gaining online followers, they are very excited about their progress and we hope they can be very successful which will help us also. If anyone is interested in becoming a member let me know. Will be doing a membership drive in a few months. They still need one more board member from Clearwater County.

Hanging Flower Baskets downtown have been placed and watering has commenced.

Will be attending an Inland Northwest Partners training in Hayden June 19th, conference is about the future of retail in a digital world: crisis or opportunity. Economic impacts, strategies of community success, regional case studies, growing small town economies.

On UFO committee – attended meeting yesterday, went over memorial tree project, still have about 6 spots around town for trees, after that will have to re-evaluate how they will do the memorial tree project. Went out and cleaned up brush along Hwy 12 out past subway they determined would be a fire hazard.

Maniac Dam Race: This weekend, just met before this meeting, everything is set for Saturday.

104 racers registered as of today

Riverbank Music Festival:

Everything is ready, not much to do until just before concert. Posters/stickers will be distributed this week and next. A ton of advertising will go out June and July, hopefully you will hear and see everywhere. Billboard will be up in Lewiston on Monday.

- **Committee Reports**

- **CCED – Chris St. Germaine:
Latest from Chris: 5/18/18**

It seems as though spring has finally sprung; nature's Easter lily, Trilliums (*Trillium Ovatum*) finally appeared in our wooded areas and in our yards daffodils, tulips and flowering trees are giving us a blast of beauty and the rains have certainly provided us with vibrant green hillsides along the Clearwater River and its tributaries.

In economic development much of April gets dedicated to project funding: we submitted proposals to USDA Rural Development to hold SolidWorks workshops to help innovators learn how to best use the new tools we have at the office (Sledworks & Sindoh 3D printer); we have proposed to USDA to fund 10 MacBook's to facilitate our partnership with the INSPIREID group (www.InspireID.com) as they deliver local course on coding; in partnership with the Clearwater RC&D and U of I we hope to fund a updated 2 Degrees Northwest artisan guide & web presence; and complimentary proposals to the ID Dept. of Labor Workforce Development Training Fund and to US Bank were submitted to expand a workforce development effort we expect to begin piloting in partnership with our Problem Solving Court system this summer.

By now many of you have heard about the County award of the TIGER grant to work on rehabilitating the rail line to Jaype. We are working with the County Commissioners to learn the Federal Railway Administration processes and requirements (some might call them hoops) so we can get this project going and trains rolling again. The railroad, BG-CM is a major partners in this project and we have formed a pretty good team to hop & jump through the hoops.

Our efforts to support existing businesses in April helped navigate DEQ & EPA process (more hoops), to identify possible resources to help with expansion and efficiency improvement projects and to connect our businesses with others for market opportunities and diversification.

Our efforts to support new ventures is always interesting and gives us an opportunity to learn new things as we find answers to questions. We worked directly with four folks interested in starting new ventures, we held a 'Business Boot Camp' workshop where seven folks participated; and the Writers/Publishers group is meeting monthly (4th Thursday, 3-5 pm at the Adult Learning center- upstairs VFW) and information can be found at www.meetup.com/igniting-Innovation or on the group Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/ignitinginnovation/

Although business attraction is not a big part of our program, in April we provided community and site information to three unique businesses from afar and hosted one site tour.

As always, feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information about our efforts.

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Updated Report from Chris as of 6-4-18
Spring Greetings!

The spring of 2018 has been one of the longest –strongest runoffs of the Clearwater River I can remember in many years. I was commenting to a friend that the Greer Rock has been under water for over a month now. And, just this morning I saw a riffle forming at its tip and noticed that river had started to recede a bit (evident by logs hung up in bushes along the river bank). Water – a critical component for life - is an asset we are certainly fortunate to have in good supply throughout much of Clearwater County. Not only do our sources provide for our municipal and personal drinking systems but also supports a fishery that provides a significant contribution to our economy. We recently had a conversation with the folks at ID Fish & Game about the economic value fishing provides in rural Idaho communities; according to ID F&G angler surveys (2011) approximately \$ 7.2 million is spent in the Clearwater County economy annually. We will be looking as ways we can update these data to document the increased activity from bass tournaments at Dworshak and the impacts of Campbell’s Pond, Elk Creek, Deyo & Deer Creek Reservoir.

During the month of May the economic development office was a buzz with site visits from two outside businesses; we are working with 2 existing businesses on expansion projects; there are a variety of community development projects underway (trails/trailheads, water/sewer system needs; and we received funding to kick off a workplace readiness project to build skills within the underemployed and unemployed population. Additionally, we have reached out to partner with the U of I, the Innovation Collective & Apple to deliver a app development training in our community. This partnership, INSPIRE ID, I a great opportunity to provide individuals with wealth generating tools and skills to become part of the technology economy. Check out this opportunity at www.inspireidaho.com

Feel free to contact our office 208-476-9829 if you have questions or business issues; we’re happy to help!

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➤ **Legislative Committee –**

No Report

➤ **Welcoming’s-**

○ **My Sweet Escape**

Welcomed My Sweet Escapes, Kourtney and Lance Eckman just opened last week. They want to provide a place for kids to come, make memories and have a place to escape and enjoy themselves. It is for all families and all budgets, kids can come and get something for a quarter. They are open Tuesday through Saturday 12-9pm.

➤ **Special Events:**

Maniac Dam Race: June 9th



Maniac Dam Race is This Saturday, still time to sign up, can even sign up the day of the race. All is set and ready for Saturday.

Fourth of July Celebration:



Posters were just printed and will be distributed on Monday. Will have community float, Rotary BBQ at 5, National Anthem at 5:30 and Amish Rake Fighters will begin at 6pm, playing until fireworks show at 10:10pm.

Riverbank Music Festival: August 4th

Not much new to report, ticket sales still happening, 1-5 new tickets sold each day. Need to set another meeting. We have one new vendor, now up to 3 but expect more when it gets closer.



➤ **New Business:**

Ashley Joye from Clearwater River Casino is looking to get out in the community more and get involved, here to check things out and see what is happening.

- **Program: Speaker: Bill Warren from Clearwater County Extension Office**

Bill Warren with the Clearwater County Extension Office wanted to share information on wild fire and risk reduction. Provided a publication on how to reduce fire hazards for the homeowner. Copies will be available at the Chamber office. Bill indicated the embers from a wild fire is the largest hazard and the publication doesn't really cover that but otherwise it is the best publication he has seen for homeowners.

We live in an area that is very prone to wildfires, we live right in what they call lightning alley, we get lightning storms and our summers get hot and dry creating a very dangerous situation for wild fires. In the early 20th century there were a lot of acres burned but has continued to increase, also the size of the wild fires have increased. Things are forecast to get worse, predicted to have over a 500% increase by mid-century. Reasons are due to climate change and the fact that there is just a lot of fuel on the ground. The lower elevation forests used to be sparsely forested but now we have overgrown forests with a lot of dead trees, we also have species change and the forests are mostly populated with are trees that burn quickly and are more susceptible for disease. This season is predicted to be a bad fire season, they are predicting below normal precipitation and above normal hot weather. July, August and September is predicted to be very high fire danger, even though our snow pack this year has compared to years that were low fire years.

Wild fire crews are not trained to put out house fires, they would need to call someone else to take care of that. To reduce your risk of home fire hazards you should move your shrubbery away from your home, embers can spark these shrubbery and catch your house on fire. Foundation vents need to be covered with nonflammable vent covers. Dry grass around your home is dangerous. Flammable patio furniture should be replaced with nonflammable furniture. Decks on your home are a hazard, lots of us have them but that can increase your fire danger. Having your winter wood pile next to your home is not a good idea, the fires and embers can ignite that and that will quickly catch fire and therefore catching your home on fire. Gutters and window wells filled with leaves need to be cleaned so the embers cannot ignite those.

- **Adjourn:**

President Ann Wright adjourned meeting at 12:47pm.