



## GM Meeting Minutes - November 7th, 2018 12pm Ponderosa Conference Room

- **Call to Order:**

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

- **Minutes:**

Danny Lund read meeting minutes and made a motion to approve as written, John Goffinet 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

- **Guests:**

Rex and Lahni Ireland.

- **Announcements:**

Jo Moore made an announcement for the Clearwater Memorial Public Library Foundation. They are auctioning off an elaborate catered dinner for 8, can be planned for any time. Contact the Library to place your bid.

- **Drawing for Free Lunch**

John Goffinet won the drawing for free lunch.

- **Executive Director Report: Melina Johnson**

I was offered a job at Debco and have resigned at the Chamber so we are in the process of trying to hire a new Executive Director. I have been trying to keep up on Chamber while starting my new job so things don't fall behind.

Christmas Festival – Have started decorating the park with Christmas lights, Bingo cabana is ready, Toby Atkinson has been going down in the evenings and decorating, he has almost all the Gazebo and bathrooms done and then will begin working on the trees. P1FCU will be decorating Cannon Park and CVH & SHN will be joining forces to decorate Heritage Plaza. Christmas Festival is a free event, currently no fundraiser is attached to the Christmas Festival so if we want to see more lights in the park we need to have donations either in lights or cash to purchase lights. Flyers are out but not all have been hung up around town.

City Maps – just need logos brought in so we can begin printing city maps.

County Maps – have spoken with Elk River, Pierce and Weippe to see if they want to work with them to get a county map. Have asked them to sell ads to pay for.

Web Cams – just need to get correct web cams purchased, we have power and wi-fi donated for each web cam for Dworshak Dam, Clearwater River and Main Street. Web Ink will help get live stream feed on website.

Comedy Act coming up in February, this will be a fundraiser, Valentine's Day, more info coming soon.

- **Committee Reports**

- **CCED – Chris St. Germaine:**

Update provided 11-12-18:

Greetings on a clear crisp fall day in Clearwater County, ID! The Economic Development team acts as a support space for those interested in starting a business or purchasing an existing business; we work to support communities with infrastructure needs/issues; our efforts include networking existing businesses to resources – which could be funding,

suppliers, market and industry data, access to workforce development resources, in navigating the system, and... in general if business has a question we strive to find answers or to develop solutions. We work to respond when outside business leads come around to get them connected to available properties that suit the need. Our team includes folks from the private & public sector and we act as an advisory group to County Commissioners.

The month of October was filled with a variety of activities:

- We are working hard at learning more and more about the County's Opportunity Zone designation – it could be a great tool for our area if we can figure out a way to attract folks with Capital Gains \$ they are looking for a place to invest in
- We are currently supporting 5 businesses with efforts to support Retention and Expansion of them
- With support from USDA Rural Development we brought a Solidworks & 3 D Printing workshop (Oct 1-4) to Orofino to get our innovators up to speed on how to utilize these tools we have and that are available for use (Need a prototype or model? We have the tools!)
- The ED staff is working diligently on several infrastructure projects (going after grant funding to support) – roadway; campground; public safety & recreation space developments around the County
- We provided information and data for 4 folks considering starting a new business venture

Our office is located at 217 Frist St, Orofino; our phone number is 208-476-9829 and our email is [ecodev@clawatercounty.org](mailto:ecodev@clawatercounty.org) don't hesitate to contact us with an idea or a challenge; we aim to please!

Christina St Germaine

Director

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➤ **Legislative Committee** –  
Thank you to all who voted.

➤ **Welcoming's-  
Innovative Electric Services:**  
Kelly and Mindy with Innovative Electric Services, just opened up here in Orofino about a month ago, has experience in residential, commercial and industrial. They heard there is a huge need in the area so that is why they have opened up an office here, they are currently living in Lewiston but trying to purchase property and relocate here.



**Women's of St. Theresa's**

Jo Moore, a member of Women of St. Theresa's accepted membership plaque for group. They always try to be a part of the community and want to join to be a part of the community and support community, membership involves all of St. Theresa's Catholic Church.



**Right At Home Care:**

Could not be present at this meeting, will try to get at another meeting.

➤ **Special Events:**



Christmas Festival is scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We will also be doing the open houses and window decoration contests that happened last year. Winner will receive Santa at their business. The business provides a drawing.

➤ **New Business:**

None

• **Program: Speaker: Lynn MacEachern with Rotary to explain Public Diplomat and Exchange Student Program.**

Lynn MacEachern, past president of Rotary, advised she would explain citizen diplomacy and how the foreign exchange program is part of that. She will have last year’s host and the current year’s host speak on the foreign exchange student program and their experiences.

Citizen Diplomacy has always been an important part of our foreign policy and we as individual Americans have a responsibility in this. Citizen diplomacy’s slogan is “one handshake and one smile at a time”, this remains in the US State Department. It’s not just policy makers, we have a responsibility to share with people we meet who we are and what we are about. One of those ways is to interact with the exchanges students in our communities. Rotary’s first exchange student was in 1982, Casey Walrath and she went to Mexico. The first inbound student was Fernandao Diqueros and he came here in 1981. In past almost 40 years they have sent 32 HS students to 19 countries and we have hosted 40 students from 20 countries. We as a community are doing a remarkable job. Lynn’s daughter spent her senior year in Ecuador and she has hosted two gentlemen. Lynn provided a list of students who have come and gone.

Lynn had a video but was unable to play it due to technical difficulties but explained a bit about the video. The video was of a young woman from Nebraska who was an exchange student to Japan. She is an American, got on a plane and went to Japan, she says imagine being 17 years old and getting off an airplane in a country you have never seen with a geography you have never seen, a language you do not speak and as you stand there and look out you see these people with a big sign with your name and these people you have never met are beaming. It is a very profound moment for these young individuals and these families that are accepting them into their homes. Both lives are forever changed.

Lynn had the host families speak on why they wanted to be a host family, what they had to do to get ready to be a host family, what surprised them the most about having an exchange student, what their toughest challenge was, how has being a host parent changed you, and what advice would you give to someone interested in looking at being a host family. If you are interested in being a host parent I would highly recommend you contacting a previous host family for additional information. Lynn explained the 4-D’s rules of exchange students, no drinking, no driving, no dating, and no drugs. You can’t put holes in your body that you didn’t come with, etc. If a kid gets hurt here, it becomes an international incident so they have these rules to prevent as many problems as possible.

• **Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 1:02pm.