



GM Minutes March 6, 2019 12pm Ponderosa Conference Room

- **Call to Order:**

President, Ashley Steinbruecker, called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

- **Minutes:**

Connie Robison, with Wells Fargo Bank, read the minutes and made a motion to approve as written. Bobbi Samuels 2nd the motion. All were in favor and minutes were approved as written.

- **Guests:**

Sarah McGrath, Mountainfilm Tour, and Mike Hanna, Regional Director for Senator Risch's Office.

- **Announcements:**

- Clearwater Valley Hospital has a Suicide Awareness Gate Keeper Training that is happening at the Fiesta En Jalisco Banquet room on March 11th- at 7:00 p.m..
- The Nez Perce Tribes 5th issue of the new paper came out today and is available at today's meeting.
- Miller Marine has not closed their doors, they are just going through a huge expansion right now. Stop by anytime.
- Orofino Rotary Club is accepting nominations for "Citizens of the Year". Nominations are due by March 15th.
- Chris and Dale Barger – We are here on behalf of the Clearwater Boat Club; we are a local non-profit group bringing the Jet Boat Races back to Orofino on June 14th-16th, 2019. Friday night will be a boat show, letting the public come down to meet drivers and navigators. The boats will run from Ahsahka to Greer eight times on Saturday and six times on Sunday. We cannot make any money off of this, nor can we charge to get into this event. This show will cost anywhere from \$25,000 to \$35,000 for a two day show. We are looking for everyone to get behind us and help us out as we still need a few more permits and things to work around before it's approved. We are asking for letters of support to help in this approval process. Thank you!

Keith Hanson with Hanson Garage made a motion that the Chamber of Commerce write a letter of support for the Jet Boat Races. Bobbi Samuels 2nd the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

- Mike Hanna-Regional Director for Senator Risch’s office out of Lewiston and is here to support the other presenters today.
- Sarah McGrath – Mountainfilm on Tour visits Orofino bringing a selection of culturally rich, adventure-packed and incredibly inspiring documentary films curated from the Mountainfilm festival held every Memorial Day weekend in Telluride, Colorado. The festival is held at the Rex Theater on March 14; the shows will explore the themes connected to Mountainfilm’s mission: using the power of film, art and ideas to inspire audiences to create a better world. Tickets will be available at the Rex Theater Box Office the day of the show.
- **Drawing for Free Lunch:** Our lucky winner for the free lunch drawing was Chris Barger.



- **Committee Reports**

- **CCED – Chris St. Germaine’s Report:**
 - **Update from Chris**

Holy powder month – February provided those of us who enjoy nothing better than swishing down mountain slopes, along a forest road and across snow fields with miles of smiles, great skiing and snowmobiling all across Clearwater County!

It’s a good thing because as economic development we took a few cold – low blows ... February 6, 2019 the Orofino ShopKo was on the list of facilities to be closed; Snap Fitness closed and pulled out its equipment; and on Feb 28 Farmers Insurance corporate office decision impacted rural offices and they closed shop... darn the luck.

In rural communities we have to be tough and in rural development we need to see the world as a glass half full. Sometimes it’s tough, but we have to look at these challenges as opportunities. Regarding the Farmers & Snap Fitness closures – we now have a beautiful office space and fitness space on Hwy 12 to market and show to perspective businesses looking to expand, get into a more visible location or to investors looking for some prime location for a professional office or to repurpose the site with Opportunity Zone funds. The Shopko closure glass needs a bit more water added, so we have been working with the property owner, Capital Growth (Nashville. TN) and together we are reaching out to perspective retail tenants. Our focus is on retailers because we know our communities (Peck – to Kooskia; Weippe – Pierce) need a convenient location for purchasing everyday items so we don’t have to make the dreaded drive to Lewiston. In summary folks, we are working diligently to find a Shopko replacement!

Additionally, February activities included helping seven (7) folks on new business ventures; working with six (6) existing businesses/employers to keep and expand them; and we are facilitating a few infrastructure improvement projects.

- **Legislative Committee:** No Report

- **Welcoming's**
No new welcoming.

- **Executive Director Report: Tessa Mullinix**

MEMEBERSHIP INFO:

We still have membership dues coming in and so far we have 87 paid members. I will be sending out 2nd notices this month.

RE-LOCATION PACKETS:

I sent out four re-location packets in the month of February to the following areas; North Carolina, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington. I get calls a few times a week inquiring about Orofino and what we have to offer.

iCONTACT

iContact is an email platform used for marketing and I will continue to use this for all communications to our general members posting announcements, reminders, minutes, etc.

COMEDY NIGHT:

Comedy night was a huge success, selling out for the show. The comedians were funny and seemed to enjoy themselves as well. I see the chamber continuing with this event in the future as it benefited not only us but also our community members.

I want to thank LCCU & Best Western Lodge for selling tickets, Lahni Ireland for taking tickets the night of the event, and Tanna Zywina for the set-up of the room, and also all those who helped spread the word and shared the event on social media.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP – April 27th

Lahni Ireland, Ryan Smathers, and myself met a few weeks ago to start the planning of the Community Clean-Up. This week I will be sending the news releases to the paper and posters will be distributed later this month.

MANIAC DAM RACE

The Maniac Dam Race is scheduled for June 1st and planning is underway. Lahni Ireland, Ashley Steinbruecker, and Connie Robison are on the committee for this event.

CHAMBER AUCTION – May 3rd

The Auction Committee has met three times and the committee is working steadily on the solicitation list. Posters have been distributed around town and sent in to the Tribune. The poster is also published on our website and on our social media platforms. Tickets are on sale at Banner Bank, P1FCU, LCCU & at the chamber office for \$40 dollars each. The purchase of a ticket includes one catered dinner and one free drink. Dinner this year is catered by Fiesta En Jalisco and drinks will be served by the Best Western Lodge. If you purchase your ticket(s) before April 15th, you will be entered in to win a \$250 cash prize. Donations are starting to come in and we are very appreciative.

CHIRSTMAS LIGHTS

I want to thank Lahni Ireland, Matt and Ashley Sartini, Robert Baugh, and Luke Winterringer with Public Works for helping take down the Christmas Lights. The weather didn't cooperate or help much in the breakdown of lights but it will be a quicker process next year.

TRAVEL GUIDE

The chamber purchased a page in the North Central Idaho Travel Guide and the advertisement looks great! You can take home a magazine today or stop by the chamber to pick one up.

VACATION GUIDE

We will be putting an ad in the Tribune Vacation Guide and the artwork is being created as we speak for this advertisement.

PYRO-MANIACS

I was able to meet with a few gentleman with the Pyro Maniacs for the 4th of July Fireworks Display and will be in touch with them again for budget and display options.

NCITA

I will be attending a session tomorrow in Lewiston for our ITC Grant Application Process as well as attending a presentation from the North Central Idaho Association Tour. This will be my first meeting with both groups and I look forward to meeting and learning from them so I can bring back useful information.

RIVERBANK MUSIC FESTIVAL

This year the board has decided that we will step back for a year and re-evaluate this event and its future in Orofino. We are looking into other ideas and events that will benefit our community and the chamber.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPEN POSITION

We currently have an open position on the Orofino Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors in which the board of directors will appoint a candidate to fill this opening. This announcement was emailed out to general members and anyone interested was asked to email the Executive Director by March 1st. The Board will meet and go over all interested candidates.

- **Special Events:**

- Community Clean up
 - April 27th



- Annual Chamber Auction
 - Friday, May 3rd, 2019



- **New Business:**

None

- **Guest Speaker:** Tony Snodderly, Regional Director for Senator Crapo on “Contacting Your Senator’s Office” and Clinton Daniel of Congressman Fulcher’s Office.

Clinton Daniel, Regional Director for Congressman Fulcher gave us an update on Congressman Fulcher, who at the time has been in office just over 60 days and took office right in the middle of the government shut down. We have opened an office in Coeur d’Alene, Lewiston, and Meridian and of course our office in Washington D.C. My role is to reach out to organizations such as this and make myself accessible.

Clinton Daniel provided a hand out for anyone interested in attending the Military Service Academy Days hosted by Idaho Congressional Delegation which list a few different dates in different areas of Idaho. Daniel’s also provided a hand out of the Idaho State Legislative Members.

Tony Snodderly talked with the members of the chamber on “Contacting Your Senator’s Office”. Tony asked who knows the difference between a U.S. Senator representing the State of Idaho and an Idaho State Senator.

A U.S. Senator representing the State of Idaho does their business in Washington D.C and a State Senator does their business in Boise. One is dealing with state issues and the other is dealing with federal issues.

What are the ways you can contact your congressional offices?

- Personal email
- Email directly from their webpage
- Schedule an appoint with a senator or the staff from their webpage
- Telephone
- Mail
- Office Visit

We can also help you with any questions you have regarding a federal agency. You will fill out a privacy form that can be picked up in our office or printed from the webpage.

Lastly, Tony added, “Orofino is a happening place. Your leadership is outstanding; don’t take it for granted but expect it! This community is completely supportive of one another, your leaders of tomorrow are in good shape. This community is awesome, don’t wait for people to show up, invite them to show up. Be a collaborator which you already are, find out how to help someone. Show off your natural resources. You have Dworshak and 4 million acres of forest land around you. Beautiful Country! Last but not least, make it happen!

- **Adjourn:**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 p.m.