

**Board of Directors**  
**September 8, 2004**  
**Ramada Inn - 7:00am**

Members present: John Pundt, President; Dick Leshley, President-Elect; Eileen Ophus, Vice President; Barbara Gunnell, Secretary; Chris Christoffer, Treasurer; Johanna Dillard, Immediate Past President; Directors: Bonnie Barron, Bay Area Hospital; Sid Fannick, Business Consultant; Marty Giles, Wavecrest Discoveries; Mike Gordon, Michael A. Gordon, CPA; Renee Middleton, US Bank; Sam Roth, Century 21 Best Realty; Beverly Saukko, Miss Coos County Scholarship Program; Tom Scheideman, Weyerhaeuser Corporation; Timm Slater, Weyerhaeuser Company-Western Timberlands; Sherry Yarbrough, Umpqua Bank; Community-at-Large Director: Martin Callery, Oregon International Port of Coos Bay. Ex-Officio City Representatives: Chuck Knight, City of Coos Bay; Jan Willis, City of North Bend; Ambassadors: Deryl Beebe, Retired. Chamber Staff: Shirley Liberante, Executive Director; Connie Davis, Office Manager. Guests: Robert Braddock, Jordan Cove Energy Project; Dick Vigue, Northwestern Mutual Life; Scott Traylor, Infostation; Brandy Thompson & Louie Liberante, Cardinal Employment Services; Rick Howell, South Coast ESD.

President John Pundt called the meeting to order and everyone introduced themselves and their businesses.

The minutes of the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were unanimously approved as mailed.

Oregon Business Plan - John reported that he and other representatives, from our local area and four surrounding counties, met to discuss common issues regarding economic development, education, and other community concerns. He said that the Bay Area will be hosting the group's next meeting and anticipates that it will be sometime later in the year.

Tall Ships - Shirley Liberante reported that six letters have been sent out inviting Tall Ships to visit our area. She said that we are waiting on a letter from the City of Coos Bay and the Promotions Bureau.

SAIF - Shirley said that the Chamber has signed on to endorse SAIF Keeping and Tort Reform.

Retreat - Shirley reported that the Annual Board Retreat will be held on Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 7-11am at The Mill Casino-Hotel. Breakfast will be served. She asked that everyone submit their goal information to her by the end of September.

Area Promotion - Shirley said that Rachel Raye, featured TV personality on the Food Channel who hosts "How to eat on \$40 a day," will be coming to the Bay Area in mid-October.

Economic Outlook Forum - Jon Richards reported that the first meeting will be held this Friday at 8:30, at the Business Development Center, to develop plans for the upcoming event in December.

Scott Traylor presented Shirley with a check as the Chamber's share of the Information Kiosk/Business Promotion project.

Martin Callery introduced Bob Braddock representing the Jordan Cove Energy Project. Bob is from Colorado

and the firm Energy Projects Development, LLC and he gave a presentation explaining the proposed liquid natural gas project. Bob invited anyone with questions to contact him at his office in the Hub building, Suite 380. His phone number is 541-266-7510, e-mail: [bobbraddock@attglobal.net](mailto:bobbraddock@attglobal.net)  
[www.jordancoveenergy.com](http://www.jordancoveenergy.com)

Treasurer's report - Chris Christoffer said that the Chamber has \$114,000.00 in operating funds that will get us through the end of the year.

Ambassadors - Deryl Beebe reported that the ribbon cutting for the Timber Inn's new sports bar will be tomorrow. She said that this month's Business After Hours will be held at Bicoastal Media and she said that the Ambassadors are still hoping to receive more gift certificates to go into the gift baskets that will be auctioned at the convention.

Tourism - Marty Giles reported that the Tour Route signs are up; the Oregon Tourism Commission will be in town tomorrow and a meeting will be held at The Mill Casino-Hotel.

Economic Development - Jon Richards reported that Bob Braddock will be speaking at the ED meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> and they plan to have time for questions, answers and discussion. He said that he and Martin have asked for local input regarding the committee and Crystal Shoji has volunteered some time. Jon said that Sam Roth will speak at the October meeting about real estate, November's meeting will be focused on construction and the building trade, and the Economic Outlook Forum will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at The Mill Casino-Hotel. Jon said that every year a planning meeting is held and community leaders are asked to attend and give their input prior to the committee preparing a draft agenda. He said that this planning meeting will be held on Friday at 8:30 at the Business Development Center and invited everyone to attend and participate.

IBO Luncheons - Shirley stated that the first IBO Luncheon of the season will be held today at 11:30am at The Mill Casino-Hotel. She said today's speaker will be Hank Hickox of Bandon Dunes, next week will be Gary Rifkin giving a marketing presentation, the following week will feature Sterling Bank, and the final week of September will feature The World Newspaper. She said that the month of October will feature candidates with the first week starting off with John Griffith and Joe Whitsett who are both running for County Commissioner.

Government Affairs - Rick Howell reported that the group will begin forming priorities for legislative action and asked everyone to submit ideas for discussion prior to the actual contact of legislators.

Drugs Don't Work - Dick Leshley reported that the group is continuing to work with the Methamphetamine Intervention Task Force.

Leadership Coos - Connie Davis reported that 28 participants have signed up for this year's class that will start next week. This will be "History" month and will include a history of Leadership Coos by Alan Hoffmeister, an introduction to the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce by Shirley Liberante, Historical film footage of the Bay Area by Mike Smith, Early History of the Area by Steve Greif, Bay Area History 1940's to the present by John Whitty, Local Native American History by Carolyn Slyter of the Confederated Tribes, and a tour of the Historical Society Museum.

Transportation - Martin Callery said that the meeting will be tomorrow and discussion will center on freight mobility and the issues that surround it.

City of North Bend - Jan Willis reported that bids open this week for the wheelchair ramp project; the sidewalk project is continuing; plans are still being formulated regarding the North Bend Hotel renovation project; the grant application for the pier project is due on Friday.

City of Coos Bay - Chuck Knight reported on the new City Manager selection and said that four candidates will be arriving for interviews today and they hope by Friday to have narrowed the selection down to 2. Chuck said that he will be retiring and leaving on Friday for the East Coast.

Charleston - Martin Callery stated that the Seafood Festival was the best one ever, the community support was great and the attendees very appreciative and enthusiastic. He said that in spite of the recent fishing

restrictions there are still some salmon opportunities for the fishermen.

Port - Martin reported that the kick-off meeting regarding the North Spit Rail Spur will be held on Friday. He said that some grant money has been received, other funding is in the works and that he anticipates the project to be under way within the next couple of months.

Shirley thanked Scott Traylor for the Infostation check and invited everyone to take a look at the Kiosk and see the advertising opportunities there. She suggested that anyone interested in advertising contact Scott.

Having no further business, President Pundt adjourned the meeting.