

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

New Plymouth City Hall Council Chambers, New Plymouth Idaho

June 7, 2017 ~ 7 am

Members and Guests Present – Patrick Nauman, Dan Cummings, Andy Oyervides, Ken Bishop, Adam Brown, Ronald Verini, Randy Griffin, Beth Earles, Dan Greig, Robert Komoto, Ken Hart, Melody Goodman, Randy Frates, Laura Gross, Judy Cordeniz, Shad Bowers, Kyle McCauley, Holly Lyons, Danielle Painter, and Debbie Roeper.

Staff: Kit Kamo, Executive Director for SREDA.

1. Call the Meeting to Order: Chairman Patrick Nauman called the meeting to order at 7:01 a.m.
2. Introductions of Attendees: Chairman Nauman thanked everyone for coming to today's meeting. Multiple communities were represented. All found their way to New Plymouth. We then went around the room and everyone present introduced themselves and the business or entity they are representing.
3. Approval of May 3, 2017 Board Minutes: Chairman Nauman asked if everyone had a chance to read and review the May 3, 2017 board minutes that were sent out. Chairman Nauman then asked if anyone had any questions or corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, Chairman Nauman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ron Verini made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dan Greig. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Financial Update: Treasurer Sandy Hemenway was not able to be at the meeting so Kit Kamo went over in detail the financial handouts for the month of May discussing balances at the end of the month in both the checking and money market accounts, and then totals for month end. Kit explained to the group SREDA has \$28,281.95 in our checking account, \$50,564.08 in our Money Market account for a total checking and savings balance of \$78,846.03. She reviewed the private donations/memberships received from Red Apple, Argus, Zion's, Weiser Classic Candy, Teton Machine, and Malheur Federal Credit Union. Public renewals were from the City of Fruitland, the City of Payette, and the City of New Plymouth. She then reviewed expenses for the month commenting on certain ones as she presented the financial information. After Kit's review and explanations, Chairman Nauman asked if anyone had any questions on the financial report. Hearing none, Patrick then asked for a motion to approve the treasurer's report as discussed and presented. Adam Brown made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as printed and presented, seconded by Ken Bishop. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **City Highlights:**
  - a. Fruitland: Mayor Ken Bishop said that the city has several projects in full swing and has been busy. The street upgrade project on South Pennsylvania is going very well. This is an exciting project for the city as it is the first street improvement project fully funded by the city with no grants or outside funding. Also, the park improvement project is going well. Residential housing growth and business expansion continue to move forward with one new restaurant coming to town.
  - b. Payette: No one was present from the City of Payette so no report was given.
  - c. Ontario: Mayor Ron Verini said the city is working on a plan to utilize the old golf course for camping and RV parking during the upcoming eclipse event. Building permits for rebuilds is going very well. City Manager Adam Brown was recently in

Salem testifying on the proposed transportation bill which could allocate dollars to Malheur County for a transportation loading facility. Many events have been going on in Ontario like Global Village and the Brew Fest. Adam Brown discussed the possible grant to implement a water park in Lions Park which hopefully could begin this fall with completion next spring. Also the city recently received a \$600,000 Brownsville Grant.

City Community Development Director Dan Cummings said the city just approved a \$7 million dollar renovation project from St. Alphonsus for updated patient rooms.

Lastly, the Mayor asked other cities present if they are having problems with graffiti, etc. in public restroom facilities. Others have and one answer seemed to be to install cameras so police can begin cracking down on these individuals and holding them accountable.

- d. Nyssa: No one was present from the City of Nyssa so no report was given.
- e. Weiser: Patrick Nauman provided the monthly update for the City of Weiser. Patrick told the group flower baskets have just been put up on Main Street and two businesses are looking at property on highway 95 near Bi Mart. Right now the city is gearing up for the annual Fiddle Festival.
- f. New Plymouth: Mayor Beth Earl talked about the new updated council chambers and the city's master plan for Kiwanis Park. The city is also heavy into the annual budget preparation. Beth also announced that the city will have RV camping available during the eclipse at the fairgrounds. Then the Mayor thanked the New Plymouth Senior Center for the wonderful cinnamon rolls and maple bars for today's meeting. They were delicious and awesome.
- g. Vale: No one was present from the City of Vale so no report was given.

**Community Highlights:**

- a. Payette: The new local food guide was handed out by Laura Gross, Payette Valley Food Connection. They have 5,000 printed up ready to handout. Also a Payette farmers market will be held at the Payette Eagles Lodge.

**5. County:**

- a. Payette County: County Commissioner Georgia Hanigan was out of town attending a meeting but will be present next month.
  - b. Washington County: County Commissioner Nate Marvin was also at the same meeting.
  - c. Malheur County: No report was given for Malheur County as no one was present.
6. Executive Director Report: Executive Director Kit Kamo began her report by stating that May continued to be busy with meetings with the City of Ontario, Payette County, Oregon Public Broadcasting (2 conference calls and follow up tours & meetings in our region), Washington County, and working on the potential of developing a 2-3 county EDA Rural Development District. Several of the meetings involved budget requests.

A local business requested demographic information on businesses in our region; a consultant requested demographic info on Malheur County compared with Idaho/Oregon; she was requested to provide information to a local company looking at expanding; and she met with the Idaho Departments that fund the Visitor Center to

prepare for the season – The center is open and staffed from 10 am – 6 pm 7 days per week beginning the week before Memorial Weekend through Labor Day weekend. Projects involved following up with Project Fish, Project Spud (new expansion), Project 1000 update (on hold), Project It (new expansion and included site visits to both states); Project Pumpkin (Portland client looking to buy organic seed – connected with one of our growers); Project Explore (new tourism opportunity); and Project Hereford follow up. Project Neighbor received their TRI incentive and their County Property Tax incentives. They had a groundbreaking June 6<sup>th</sup>.



Above left: is Chairman Patrick Nauman awarding a special shovel to Sot Chimonas. Above right: are the groundbreaking celebrities. Notice that State Commerce Director Megan Ronk out performs the “boys” in shoveling a large healthy chunk of earth!

Kit also attended the Pacific NW Economic Conference in Bend where there was a lot of good information and discussion from state and university economists from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Canada. Data shows that the 23 Oregon Rural Counties are starting to make a comeback since the recession. The data also shows that the metro area is way off the charts on their recovery.

Monday, Kit joined Adam Brown (Ontario), Reid Saito (Onion grower/packer) and Judge Dan Joyce in Salem to testify in favor of the Oregon Transportation package. The bill contains help for smaller rural communities as well as solutions for metro congestion.

7. Round Table Discussion: Ken Hart, Vice President for Saint Alphonsus Medical center, updated the group on the upcoming patient room remodel which will include twenty-three new rooms. They will start in July and the project will take approximately one year to complete. Ken said the hospital just recently completed the surgical and OB renovations which both turned out very nice. Ken also mentioned that one of the hospitals main priorities is to attract, hire and retain qualified doctors. He was pleased to announce the hiring of three new doctors. Ken then discussed the Treasure Valley Tech Program which includes Payette, Fruitland, Ontario, Vale, Nyssa, Adrian and Harper. Ken sits on the board and discussed the programing which includes welding, automatic system controls, and allied health. This is a great program for local high school students. Then Ken said the hospital Foundation recently awarded ten \$1,000 scholarships to kids throughout the valley all of which will be studying some type of health care. These will be much appreciated.
- Judy Cordeniz, CEO of Lifeways in Ontario, updated the group on several things going on at Lifeways. On June 29<sup>th</sup> they will be holding a Mental Health First Aid for Youth

training at TVCC. This is a great course for everyone as recognizing crisis levels in youth is critically important. Judy then discussed the eclipse and the challenges of operating clinics with appointments during this time. She discussed several of the challenges. She then said Lifeways will be purchasing space in Caldwell which has previously been leased. She is also very proud of their new sixteen bed facility in Hermiston which will be open in November. Lastly, Judy announced to the group her planned retirement no later than the first of the year. After retirement she plans to stay very busy.

Guest Randy Frates asked a question about how many people will be attending the area to see the solar eclipse. Patrick Nauman replied saying that the newest numbers of visitors for the eclipse in Weiser is projected to be around 60,000 to 70,000 people and up to 350,000 in the tri-county region. Traffic on I-84, highway 20-26, and highway 95 could be greatly impaired both prior to and after the event. Weiser now has thirty charter and school buses coming to the event. Much more discussion ensued. The State of Idaho is planning a countdown sixty days prior to the eclipse event and also has a website for viewing - <http://commerce.idaho.gov/eclipse/>

Holly Lyons, Zions Bank, mentioned that they will be working on the “Paint the House” project in New Plymouth next week.

Kyle McCauley, Cascade Natural Gas, stated they have openings for summer help in Ontario and the requirement is that the individual must be enrolled in College for fall term. Danielle Painter, City of New Plymouth Administrator, announced that the city has a part time summer job as well for students. They must be at least 16 and the job involves mowing for the city.

8. Adjournment: Chairman Patrick Nauman then adjourned the meeting at 8:05 a.m. Patrick then stated our next meeting will be held on July 5, 2017 at Saint Alphonsus Hospital in the Snake River Room beginning at 7:00 a.m.

#### **Calendar of Events**

June 7, 2017	SREDA Monthly Meeting – City of New Plymouth, City Hall
June 8, 2017	OEDA Summer Conference – Florence, OR
July 5, 2017	SREDA Monthly Board Meeting – Saint Alphonsus, Ontario, OR
July 17-21, 2017	NW Community Development Institute, Kristen – Boise, ID

*\*\* All SREDA Monthly Meetings are open to the public\*\**

Minutes prepared by Randy Griffin, SREDA Secretary