



**SREDA Board Meeting
October 1, 2019
Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Fruitland, Idaho**

Directors, Members & Guests present:

Patrick Nauman, Jeff Williams, Rick LaHuis, Sandy Hemenway, Ken Bishop, Cathy Yasuda, Adam Brown, Larry Hogg, Craig Jensen, Georgia Hanigan, Dan Greig, Bob Komoto, John Breidenbach, Torie Ramirez, Tina Newsome, Angie Goodwin, Alicia Cavazos, Charlotte Fugate, Jenny Hemly, Corey Evan, Blas Guerra, Tobin Dixon, Norma Ramirez, Lyman Fisk, Sean Hunter, and Dave Winder.

Staff: Kit Kamo

1. Chairman Patrick Nauman called the meeting to order at 7:05 a.m. Patrick welcomed everyone to the Tuesday meeting.

2. Introductions of Attendees: Chairman Nauman asked everyone present to introduce themselves and the business or entity they were representing. This month's meeting was held at FMTC Conference Center, Fruitland, where we enjoyed coffee, pastries and fruit.

3. Approval of the September 3, 2019 Board Minutes: Chairman Nauman asked if anyone had any questions or corrections to the August minutes as emailed out. Hearing none, Chairman Nauman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Larry Hogg made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, second by Jeff Williams. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Chairman Nauman then asked for the Financial Report which was presented by Sandy Hemenway. Sandy went over in detail the financial snap shot for the month of August discussing balances at the end of the month in both the checking and money market accounts and total for month end. Income for the month of August was \$558.33 – this included the annual membership renewal from Kalyn Hochstrat, monthly memberships from Zions, and Red Apple. Total operational expenses for August were \$7,939.83. The Visitor Center balance (which is used for next year's operations through 6/30) is \$15,316.76. Chairman Nauman asked if there was any update on the repairs at the center. Kit stated that a well in the area had tested high in fecal coliform and they assumed it was coming from the visitor drain field. So the center is closed until they figure out what to do. Representative Judy Boyle has been working with ITD and trying to get the center open again. Not sure if it will. Chairman Nauman then asked if anyone had any questions on the financial report. Hearing none, a motion to approve was made by Bob Komoto and seconded by Rick LaHuis. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Business Update from Farmers Mutual Telephone Company: Dan Greig, FMTC, gave an update on their business, stating that they are now nearing 100 percent completion in the fiber optic coverage of the area north of the freeway to the Payette River, with plans to continue with our construction into the Nu Acres study area. Dan stated that the FMTC is now in a position to submit paperwork for Fruitland to be declared a "Smart Rural Community" with a gigabit capable internet bandwidth to all



locations in the Fruitland coverage area. This will make Fruitland the 1st city in the state of Idaho to have this honor!

Dan talked about the new Snake River Transit bus making its rounds in the valley. FMTC is helping to sponsor the bus.

6. City and Community reports:

Fruitland Community: Ken Bishop, The Biz Zone, reported that the Fruitland Family Fun days was a great success. He thanked all the public support given especially St. Luke's and Saint Alphonsus as principle sponsors. He also said that the town continues with a lot of construction.

City of Payette: Councilman Craig Jensen said that Payette has a bunch of stuff going on right now. Mayor Jeff Williams reported that the Payette Cruise Night was great. He said the change in format doing away with the A & W cruise on Friday night was a concern to some folks. They are working on getting something similar in the future. Mayor Williams also said that some folks have their Halloween lights up, specifically mentioning a location near the Arctic Circle which are quite bright when it's dark.

City of Ontario: Manager Adam Brown said that they are wrapping up part of their downtown beautification project as much as they can until spring construction when they have plans for more benches and baskets. Adam said the city was notified that they were awarded a grant from Travel Oregon which will help with new signage in the downtown area. The city is working with LS Networks to get fiber out to the airport for TVCC's aviation program. Adam then discussed the plans for enhancing security cameras in various locations around the city which will give the police the ability to view the activity from their cars. Adam reported that the city was awarded a wastewater grant to extend the lines to the airport and they are working on a new taxi way design project. He also reported on the progress of the River Trail. This will go from the Fruitland Snake River Bridge north to State Park by the Love's exit. Heinz Kraft has agreed to do a land swap for the trail and Walmart is asking the city to go through the imminent domain process for their strip of land. Adam invited everyone to the Downtown Trick or Treat party from 3:30 pm – 6 pm on Halloween night. Additionally, the city has just issued its 8th new housing incentive permit. The Border Board has passed their housing incentive plan as well and the city will tweak their incentive to go along with the Border Board's plan. The downtown and Market Place are all full so commercial is going well. There were 69 land use actions and 8-10 annexations. Not all of them are related to marijuana.

Ontario Community: John Breidenbach said that they have had several essays turned in for the Winter Wonderland Parade and will be announcing the theme soon. He also noted that Lions Park is getting a new gazebo. John is working with the Eastern Oregon Visitors Association and sponsoring a hospitality training at the Clarion Inn. This is in conjunction with the group involved with the Four Rivers Farm Loop Map for Payette and Malheur Counties. The farms will get signage as well as this specialized training. While the trainer is in town, John has extended the training to include the hotels as well.

City of Weiser: City Councilman Larry Hogg updated the group on the remodel of the old King's building. It should be ready for the hospital to move in after November 1st. There is an effort to clean up the old Odd Fellows building and there is a new store downtown called Art Bond. The owner is offering classes for kids and adults. There is a new/old



restaurant opening on 7th Street called the Cook Shack. Larry mentioned that there are 3 new folks running for Mayor this November as the current mayor is retiring. There are 5 people running for city council. Much humorous discussion ensued regarding one of the highly qualified candidates being the councilmember himself.

Weiser Community: Angie Goodwin and Alicia Cavazos reported that there will be a trick or treat program put on by the Illustrious Onionskin players. Following that there will be a kid's carnival at the Vendome and also the farmers market. The trade show went really well for its first year. There was a steady crowd and they are hoping to do it again next year. In other Weiser news, there will be 2 candidates' forums, one on October 9 and one on October 17.

Nyssa Community: Torie Ramirez presented the Nyssa Chamber updates. Because of the reload center, Nyssa is seeing a lot more interest in new business coming to town and it's already affecting the way the chamber and the city are planning for the future. It is sparking a lot of conversation about making this up a better place to live. Focusing on Main Street is their first priority. Additionally, the new business, Launch, has opened its doors. It's a new stem location and also a conference center that people can come use for computer space.

No reports for the cities of Fruitland, New Plymouth or Vale.

7. County:

Payette County: Commissioner Georgia Hanigan reported that they put funds in their budget this year for an updated comprehensive plan. This could be a complete rewrite of their comprehensive plan. The P & Z department had a booth at the Payette County Fair and at the Fruitland Family Fund days. They surveyed the local folks and there was an overwhelming response to preserve agricultural land.

Washington County: Commissioner Lisa Collini was attending a meeting in Boise.

Malheur County: No report given.

8. Executive Director Kit Kamo:

Kit included a written report in the board packets (**please see attached report**) and also reminded the board and members about the SREDA Annual Meeting & Dinner on Wednesday, October 23, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. in the Snake River Room at the Saint Alphonsus Medical Center in Ontario. Please enter on the emergency room side (west side) and go down stairs. Everyone is welcome to join us, but please RSVP to Kit or Patrick so we have a head count. Jeff Williams agreed to have the regional housing report again and there will be some other data presented as well as the annual report. At this annual meeting we will elect 3 board member positions, one At Large, one Business, and one Elected Official.

Kit mentioned that the SBA office in Boise was looking for information on Veteran owned businesses for Veteran's Day in November. Please refer to Kit's attached report for more information.

Kit talked about Project SNY in more detail. This is a Western Oregon business that is looking for commercial property in Payette and Washington County, as well as the Lewiston and Mountain Home area. They want to purchase empty properties and remodel them and get them filled. If you have ideas, please let Kit know and she'll get you more info.

Kit also encouraged the group to attend the MADE HERE Expo and Job fair, sponsored by Southwest Idaho Manufacturing Association, on October 16 at the Idaho Ford Center. This is



a wonderful trade show for the whole family. During the morning hours, students from many schools attend to see firsthand what kind of jobs there are in our valley. Later in the day, the event is open to the public. Kit also mentioned that many of the board members received an invitation to the reception the night before.

Kit continued with information and a handout (newsletter) about TVCC's Dual Credit program for high school students in the region. The list of schools/towns and associate's degrees that are available are impressive. This is a great way to help train our new emerging workforce!

Kit reported that the long time McCrae Heating and Plumbing business has new owners, Gabriel Knickerbocker & Partners. They will keep their business in Payette under the same name. Ken Bishop mentioned that they are also veteran owned. Commissioner Hanigan said that they also do appliance repair.

Kit reported that Project Salsa (Rodriguez Bakery) has now moved their baking operations from Malheur County to Fruitland. However, they have not yet set up their retail store. They are located in the old Coca-Cola building. They now have a modernized bakery and tortilla plant. This is exciting as they had several locations that they could've gone to, such as Caldwell, but the SREDA team (including the City of Fruitland) have been able to keep them in our area.

Kit mentioned that the Idaho Department of Commerce and other cities and counties are having a phone meeting about a grant to get the Region 3 Development District back up and running. Commissioner Hanigan and Mayor Williams will be following up with this group. At this time no matching funds are needed for this US EDA project.

Kit also talked about the project Pie in the Sky, explaining that it has to do with Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, UAV's. The company came to Ontario and met with TVCC, local pilots and the city. Adam Brown said that there is a possibility of them working with the TVCC Aviation program and by adding a couple of classes, they could certify these special pilots. There are some sites that might work well for the UAV training areas as well. SREDA sponsored the site visit, although Kit was out of town at the time.

9. Round Table Discussion:

John Breidenbach announced that the Ontario Area Chamber of Commerce will be meeting at the Veteran's Advocates building through the end of December for their weekly luncheons. They are looking at possibly rotating every 3 months. If you know of a location interested in serving up to 100, please let him know.

Jenny Hemly, Idaho Department of Commerce, talked about upcoming trade shows and what Commerce can do to help businesses at those shows through grant funds. There are a couple of international shows, the energy show in Florida and the Shot Show in Las Vegas.

Lyman Fisk, LS Networks, gave an introduction about his company, which is fiber optics in Oregon, Washington and Northern California. Lyman is the Eastern Oregon representative and has been working in the Ontario area. LS Networks has 8,000 miles of fiber and is ready to focus on the rural areas so they have access to fiber. They may expand in 2020 to the Idaho side.

Dave Winder, Cushman & Wakefield, introduced himself and has been working in our area. He currently has 4 properties available including Payette's Steve's Home Town Motors, and Hunter's Gate Plaza, and in Weiser he has the old Waffleberry's location and the plaza at 701 East Commercial.



Blas Guerra, the Idaho Department of Labor, said his organization is providing more locations to serve the citizens of Idaho in our areas on a rotating schedule. This approach will provide more service to our customers, when and where you need it. Find us at these locations and times: Payette – Mondays, Payette Public Library, 24 S. 10th St., Office hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Payette – Tuesdays, Payette Public Library, 24 S. 10th St., Office hours: 1 to 5 p.m. Cambridge – Wednesdays, Cambridge Senior Center, 40 N. Superior St., Office hours: 1 to 4 p.m.

Weiser – Thursdays, Weiser Senior Center, 115 E. Main St., Office hours: 1 to 4:30 p.m.

Weiser – Fridays, Weiser Senior Center, 115 E. Main St., Office hours: 8:30 a.m. to noon

Blas also talked about the annual Thanksgiving Turkey Trot walk and run at TVCC.

Blas reported that there is an Oregon-Idaho Job Fair on November 14, 2019 at the TVCC Gymnasium in Ontario. If your business would like to have a booth, please let him know (or let Kit know). This is a joint effort with TVCC, Idaho Department of Labor, and Worksource Oregon as well as others.

Cathy Yasuda, TVCC Foundation Board, reported that classes started on Monday and that both new and returning student numbers are up. The new student orientation went well and they are looking forward to a great year. Cathy informed the group that they plan on breaking ground on their new 13,000 sq ft Career Technical Education (CTE) Center in January and the goal is to open by Winter Quarter 2021. Cathy reminded everyone that the annual TVCC Gala will be on November 2, noting that last year they raised \$120,000 for scholarships.

Bob Komoto, Four Rivers Cultural Center, spoke on upcoming events and said that there will be a Scottish band October 9th, a Saxophone quartet on October 24th and a Cirque de Soleil type show on December 6.

Angie Goodwin, Horizon Home Health and Hospice will have their grand opening at their new Fruitland location (the old Apple Bin) on October 3, Thursday at 4:30 pm.

Dan Greig mentioned that FMTC will be holding their Customer Appreciation Day on Friday, October 4th from 4 pm – 6 pm.

The annual SREDA meeting and dinner will be held October 23, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm at Saint Alphonsus in the Snake River Room. Please RSVP to Kit or Patrick.

10. Adjournment: With no other business discussion, Chairman Nauman then adjourned the meeting at 8:04 a.m. and networking continued.

Minutes prepared by Dan Greig and Bob Komoto, Co-Secretaries.