

## *VISION STATEMENT*

**The North Plains Chamber of Commerce represents, advocates and works to strengthen the business environment.**



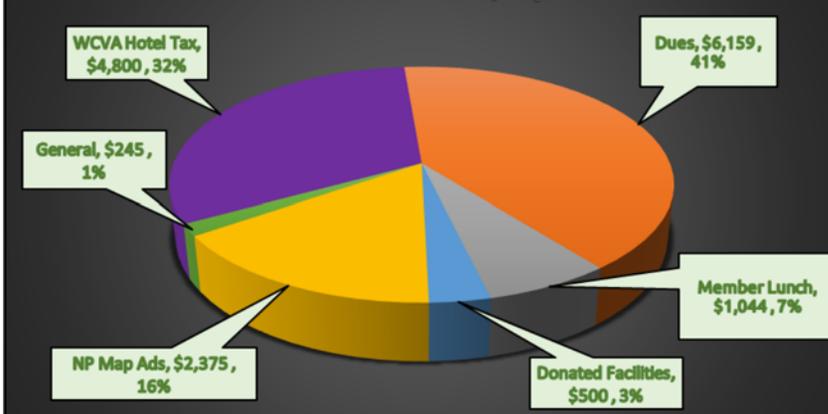
# **2017 ANNUAL REPORT**



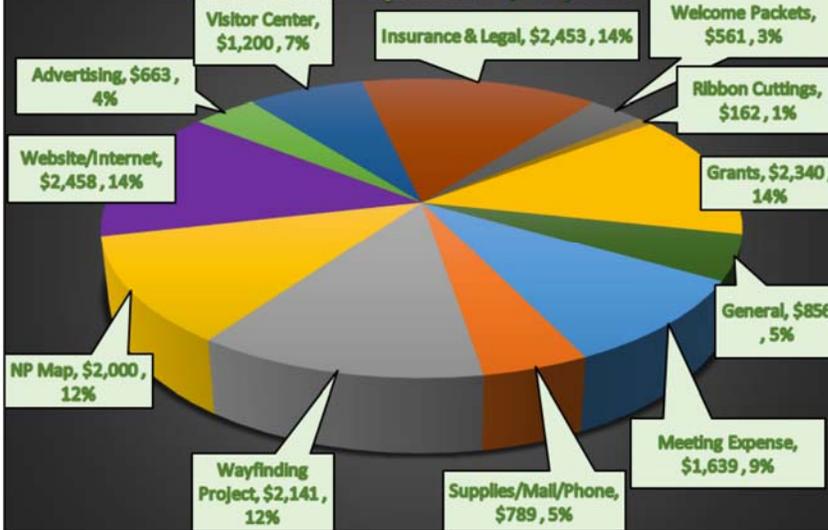
## ***MISSION STATEMENT***

**The North Plains Chamber of Commerce will help create a strong local economy through community promotion, representation of business interests in government and by providing networking opportunities for Member businesses.**

**2017 Total Income \$15,123**



**2017 Total Expenses \$17,261**



**2017 FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Expenses exceeded income by \$2,138. The Chamber accessed Money Market funds for upfront costs for the Wayfinding Sign Project. In 2018, the Chamber will recover \$2,070 with the grant from the Washington County Visitors Association and the City's share of the project costs.

The North Plains City Map Project was profitable by \$375. The major design fees were paid in 2017 and the next printing of the Map will be in 2018.

Website/Internet costs were high due to the final payment of the Website Design Fee of \$1,450. This will not be a recurring expense in 2018.

Membership Dues are up 28% due to the increase in Members during 2016 and 2017.

Advertising costs for 2017 were higher due to the Chamber's participation in the Pamplin Media's Discover magazine published in April, and the Discover map distributed to Travel Oregon centers around the state.

**GOVERNMENTAL INTERESTS**

The Chamber was a 2017 Vision Sponsor to support the lobbying efforts of the Oregon State Chambers of Commerce for the Legislative session.

The Hillsboro School District \$408 million Bond Renewal was on the November General Election ballot. The Chamber supported the Friends of Hillsboro Schools to pass the bond measure which will result in a new elementary school in North Plains and upgrades to the current elementary school.

**NORTH PLAINS MAP PROJECT**

The Chamber worked with an area graphic artist to develop a map for the City, and on the reverse is a map of the area north of the Sunset Highway.

Twenty Chamber Members immediately stepped up to place ads on the two-sided map along with three non-members.

Forty pads of 25 maps each, a total of 1,000 maps, were available to distribute at the Chamber's Visitor Information Center at the Elephant Garlic Festival in August.

The maps have also been included in the Welcome Packets assembled in December.

Only 200 maps were remaining at the end of the year. The map will be fine-tuned and reprinted in 2018.

The Chamber's goal was to sell the ad spaces to pay for the printing. The first printing resulted in an income of \$375 after the major cost was the initial design. Future printings will be at a lower cost to the Chamber resulting in a small profit.

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES

**Welcome Packets** - Chamber volunteers assembled over 250 Welcome Packets in 2017. By the end of the year, over 200 packets were delivered to new residents.

**Main Visitor Center** - There was an 8% increase in visitors to the Chamber's Center located in Kim's Styling Korner. All of the employees in Kim's have greeted customers and helped them find their way.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Chamber provides sponsorship grants for local organizations throughout the year.

In 2017, grants were provided to the North Plains Events Association for the Elephant Garlic Festival, the North Plains Senior Center for two fundraising events and St. Edward Parish for the Annual Fundraising Dinner.

## RIBBON-CUTTING EVENTS

The Chamber celebrated the Grand Opening of Hobson 24-Hour Fitness in April and the Grand Re-Opening of Coastal Vapors Plus after their move to the larger Commercial Street location in November.



Mayor Teri Lenahan helped the Hobson Family cut the ribbon in April.

## WAYFINDING SIGN PROJECT

The Sign Project began three years ago with the thought of removing the "question mark" sign on Glencoe Road and has grown to 12 signs at the City entrance roads. The Chamber and the City's Urban Renewal Agency have partnered in the total \$69,000 project.

In March, the Chamber was awarded a \$35,000 grant from the Washington County Visitors Association for the wayfinding signs around the City.

Chris Lantz, a local resident and graphic artist, was hired as the design consultant and the result will be a cohesive appearance throughout the City.

The design on the top of the signs was inspired by the City's Main Street Mural of the early 1900's steam locomotive. These were cut by a laser water-jet machine by Forest Grove Iron & Industrial Supply, a new Chamber Member in 2017.

The assistance from Dan Parsons, Impact Sign Co., another Chamber Member, has been an integral part of getting the signs designed and produced. All of the signs were ready to be installed in November.

The installation was put on hold after a misunderstanding with the Washington County traffic engineers.

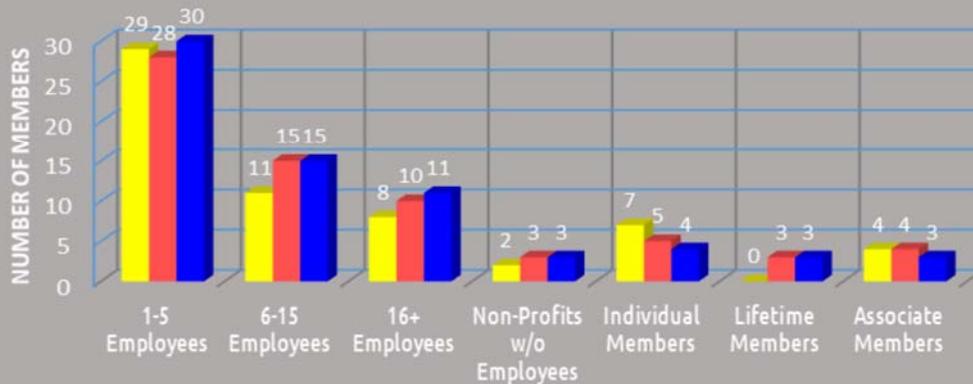
The correct break-away system for the signs is now on order and they will be installed before the end of May, 2018, just in time for the City's Ice Cream Social on June 7th.



Drawing of the City of North Plains Wayfinding Signs.

# Chamber Member Profile

■ 2015 Members = 61   ■ 2016 Members = 68   ■ 2017 Members = 69



## 2017 MEMBERSHIP

Although the number of Members increased by one, there are 8 new Business Members in 2017: Andee McNabb Insurance Agency, Cedar Hills Insurance and Financial Services, Inc., Coastal Vapors Plus LLC, Forest Grove Iron & Industrial Supply, Horning's Hideout LLC, Jewett Cameron Companies, Trail Blazing Corp. and WSC Insurance. The Chamber lost 7 Members due to business closures, retirement and relocation.

## 2018 GOALS AND PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE:** Re-energize the Outreach Committee for the first visits to be completed in the second quarter of 2018.

**TASK FORCE TO ASSIST BUSINESSES:** Using the information gathered by the Outreach Committee, recruit volunteers for a Task Force to establish and implement methods to help North Plains' businesses.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Member retention is a priority along with recruiting new Members in 2018. The Board has set a goal of 10 new Members.

**WAYFINDING SIGN PROJECT:** All of the signs have been manufactured. Engineering difficulties caused a setback in installation. The final solution has been ordered and the signs are scheduled to be installed by the end of May, 2018.

### Governance

<b>President</b> Russ Sheldon <i>Knights of Pythias</i>	<b>Vice President</b> Robert "Butch" Kindel <i>Lifetime Member</i>	<b>Secretary</b> Cindy Hirst <i>Individual Member</i>	<b>Treasurer</b> Stewart King <i>Tri-Star Properties, Inc.</i>
<b>Director</b> Sharon Olmstead <i>Edward Jones Financial Services</i>	<b>Director</b> Shirley Dunlap <i>Lifetime Member</i>	<b>Director</b> Cheryl Matschek, Ph.D <i>The Cheryl Matschek Co., Inc.</i>	