

**Rossford Business Association**  
**Meeting Minutes – 3/31/10 Meeting**

Thank you to Courtyard by Marriott for the lunch and for hosting the meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** – Our current balance is \$30,496.48. The increase is mainly due to income from the Business Fair registrations and dues. Some of this will be offset by outstanding costs for the Business Fair.

**Wood County Economic Development** – presented by Tom Blaha, Director. Tom discussed a brief history of the Wood County Economic Development Commission and some of the services available to local businesses. Tom explained that their focus is to go after the big projects with the big paychecks, which in turn bring in the smaller businesses. The commission has numerous services available to the small businesses, such as Regional 166 and SBA 504 loans. They also offer small business development center services, employment and training services, information on government procurement, and tourism promotion. Many of these services work in conjunction with the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority. Some RBA members also offered testament to the great resources available through the Commission. If you have further questions, please contact Tom at [tblaha@woodcounty.com](mailto:tblaha@woodcounty.com).

Rex Huffman also updated us on the progress being made on the establishment of a Rossford Convention and Visitor's Bureau. A non-profit is being formed and will be made up of representatives from retail/restaurants, hotel/motel, and leisure/sports businesses. They are looking to the RBA to nominate RBA members for these positions. The CVB will then contract with the City of Rossford to utilize the hotel/motel tax money to fund the CVB. They hope to have this established in the next month or two.

**2010 Business Fair** – All booth spaces for the business fair have been filled and we have a waiting list. We have 76 vendors accounting for 83 booths spaces and will bring in just over \$8000 in sponsorships and booth rental. Booth set up is from 4:30 – 6:30 on Friday, April 9, with the vendor reception (including raffle) running from 5:30 – 7:30. **BOOTH SPACES WILL NOT BE READY FOR SETUP BEFORE 4:30 FRIDAY!**

**We need volunteers to help with fair setup starting at 3:00 on Friday and will also need volunteers for tear down on Saturday, starting at 2:00.** Booth layout maps, the fair brochure and the flyer were e-mailed to the RBA members. Ads are running in the Rossford Record and Perrysburg Messenger, as well as the next issue of the Toledo Free Press. Justin Knierim is coordinating the fair raffle for Saturday. Please contact Justin if you have items for the raffle. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer with setup or tear down, please contact Brenda Schwind at 419-720-4701 or [bschwind@directionscu.org](mailto:bschwind@directionscu.org).

**Other** –

- We are looking into an RBA directory supplement to be sent out this summer.
- Fun at the Fountain – Cindy Hollie-Selz and Angie Jackson will chair this event.
- The RBA Scholarship application is available on the RBA website. We are also considering adding a summer scholarship.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 28 at noon at the Hampton Inn. We hope to see you there!

Respectfully submitted - Brenda Schwind, RBA Secretary, Directions Credit Union

**RBA Mission Statement:**

**To serve and support members of the Rossford business community by sharing business knowledge and talents and capitalizing on the goods and services provided by Rossford professionals to collectively boost commerce and city partnership.**