



BMCC PENDLETON
2411 NW Carden Ave. ♦ PO Box 100 ♦ Pendleton, OR 97801
(541) 276-1260 ♦ www.bluecc.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 20, 2017

Contact: *Casey White-Zollman, Vice President of Public Relations*
541-278-5839, cwhitezollman@bluecc.edu

Wallowa County SBDC expands business services with addition of two new business advisors

ENTERPRISE, Ore. – Blue Mountain Community College’s Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has hired two new business advisors for its Wallowa County location in an effort to expand its services. Kristy Athens and Dennis Sands began work in the SBDC’s Enterprise office earlier this month.

SBDC business advisors provide confidential one-on-one advising to small business owners at all stages of business development. Business advisors for SBDC are current business owners or have owned businesses in the past, so they have a breadth of knowledge and experience to share.

Athens has a master’s in Food Systems and Society from Marylhurst University, and is the author of *Get Your Pitchfork On!: The Real Dirt on Country Living* (Process Media). She has been a freelance writer, editor and project manager for more than two decades. Athens’ areas of expertise include start-up businesses, public relations, traditional and online marketing, and alternative financing. She is excited to work with Wallowa County business owners.

“Wallowa County is a very special place that requires people to be flexible and creative in order to find success,” Athens said. “I love helping others formulate a plan to make a life here.”

Sands worked for 42 years in sales and owned several small businesses, including a business brokerage where he assisted small business owners with purchasing and selling businesses. This experience gave him real insight into the rigors of owning a small business, and he’s ready to share that knowledge.

“I love small business owners,” Sands said. “It is a tough, but rewarding career, and I think helping an owner succeed is a reward in itself.”

Wallowa County SBDC is located in the Wallowa Resources building at 401 NE 1st St., Ste. 13, in Enterprise. To schedule an appointment or for more information, please call 541-278-5864 or e-mail sbdc@bluecc.edu.

###

BMCC BAKER COUNTY
3275 Baker St.
Baker City, OR 97814
(541) 523-9127

BMCC HERMISTON
975 SE Columbia Dr.
Hermiston, OR 97838
(541) 567-1800

BMCC MILTON-FREEWATER
311 N Columbia Dr.
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862
(541) 938-7176

BMCC MORROW COUNTY
PO Box 939/300 NE Front St.
Boardman, OR 97818
(541) 481-2099