



## Year End Update

**Joseph OR, Jan 25, 2010** - Community Bank announced today 2009 earnings of \$3.47 million. Over the year, the bank grew by 11.8%, and ended the year at \$355.6M in total assets. On-going positive earnings are a key indicator of a bank's safety and soundness.

"Given the current condition of the banking industry, we are pleased to end 2009 with positive results", said Tom Moran, President and Chief Executive Officer. "Community Bank's commitment to our customers and communities, coupled with the hard work of our employees contributed to what we were able to achieve during 2009."

Community Bank also provided the following highlights on the year ending December 31, 2009:

Community Bank ended 2009 with total deposits of \$313.2M. This represents deposit growth of \$36.4 million, or 11.7%, over a year ago. "Our healthy deposit growth during 2009 is a reflection of the confidence and trust our customers place in us," said Moran. "This growth is critical," added Moran, "since a growing deposit base allows us to make more loans in our local communities."

Community Bank added two new branches in Heppner, OR and Clarkston, WA during 2009.

In 2009, Community Bank gave back more than 2% of earnings to local communities in the form of charitable donations and sponsorships. This includes over \$6,000 in food and cash donations to local food banks over the holiday season.

### Loans and Credit Quality

Total loans reached \$241.5 million at the end of 2009, representing growth of \$12.4 million or a 5.2% increase from the end of last year.

"We are committed to continue lending in our local communities," said Anthony Tarnasky, Chief Credit Officer. "Our consistent focus on conservative lending standards and working with local customers has kept credit losses in our loan portfolio at a manageable level."

### Capital

Community Bank continues to be well-capitalized from a regulatory standpoint. At year end, the bank's Tier 1 leverage ratio was 8.58% and the total risk based capital ratio was 13.02%, far exceeding the minimum regulatory standards of 4% and 10% respectively. Capital is a bank's cushion to protect against losses.

In closing Moran said, "As an independent bank, we are not required to release our year-end results to the public. However, with the recent closing of several banks in Oregon and Washington, we wanted to assure our customers and communities that we are safe, sound and committed to being here for you during these challenging economic times."

### About Community Bank

Headquartered in Joseph, Oregon, with \$355 million in assets and 160 employees, Community Bank is the bank subsidiary of Community Bancshares, Inc. The bank offers a full range of personal and business banking services throughout its 17 full service branches in Eastern Oregon and Southeastern Washington.

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