

**POWELL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Minutes are from the December 13th, 2013 meeting held at 12 noon at the Broken Arrow Steakhouse.

Those present: Bob Toole, Jim Cameron, Dave Williams, Linda Spaulding, Therese Hunt, Darryl Barton.
Also present: Donna Galbraith, Colter Kelly, Jacque Lavelle and Shirley Cortright.

Since we did not have a quorum, a full Board meeting could not be held.
The meeting started at 12:05 pm

- **Job Service** – Shirley spoke about the change to the GED, called HISAT. Handed out stickers to go on the minimum wage posters, regarding the increase to \$7.90 from January 1st 2014. There will be a SW Job Fair in Butte on May 14th targeted for Veterans. The next Safety Workshop Program is on January 28th at 10 am in Anaconda. Could bring one to Deer Lodge if there is a demand.

- **Grant-Kohrs Ranch** – Jacque thanked the Chamber for being able to buy 700 pumpkins for Pumpkin Sunday. They had the largest ever turnout this year, shortly after re-opening after the Government shutdown. Last month the Montana Cup 8k run gave the Ranch their highest ever November numbers in history. Other Special Events would be welcomed. The Holiday House Tour had lower numbers this year, only 65. The DLDG Home Tour was up against the Ranch, cooperation needed between the two groups next year. The Powell County Planning board has received a River Trails Conservation Assistance Grant from the National Park Service. Need a Brains Trust to talk about a public meeting. The Chamber should be represented, next meeting is from 10 am till 1 pm on Friday January 10th, Brian Bender is the coordinator. We talked about the Chamber Board meeting, scheduled for the 10th January due to several board members not being available on the 3rd. Need to possibly move our Board meeting from 12 noon start to 1 pm on Friday 10th. Darryl said he would be happy to represent the Chamber at the River Trails meeting and report back to the Board.

- **Old Montana Prison** – Dave reported that all Museums will close on Monday 16th December, last day is Sunday. Re-opening early March 2014. The Christmas Festival was good, numbers lower due to cold weather and other events going on. John was happy with the funds that were raised for the event.

- **Draft Horse Expo** – Bob reported that Betty appreciated everyone's help, numbers were good, net profit higher than previous years.

- **Christmas Stroll** – T said that despite cold temps the crowds were decent, enthusiastic, excited for the parade. We did everything we could to make it a great stroll. Some negative feedback, but unable to please everyone. Some businesses said they had good traffic, Lickety Print, Steele's. ACE Hardware had their best numbers ever. Bob said there was a lot of events scheduled against the Stroll, Garrison Snowmobile Meeting, Winter Ball. Ladies Night and DL Health Center events were up against the Festival on Friday. Word needs to get out on communicating and working together. 75 people went through Cutlers Theater, problems with their heaters. Only one table at the Elks. Advertise the Stroll Meetings and open it to the public in October, to cut down on the complaints. Jim suggested setting up a Monkey Survey on the Stroll, get it out to members in advance. Donna suggested more children's events, decorate or make something. Get businesses involved more, stickers from stores to put in a book, or something similar. Bob said the buttons should not be out for sale more than 10 days before the Stroll, takes away from the excitement. T had heard from JR that the decorations are getting worn, do we want to look at getting new ones. JR will let us know when they are taken down so we can look them over and make a decision. T will report back. A dozen or more floats took part in the parade, Rocky had expected more. The streets were packed.

- **Other Business** - Dave requested vacation over Christmas/New Year, closing the office from 3 pm on Friday 20th December, re-opening at 10 am on Thursday 2nd January 2014. Board members approved. Next Board Meeting to be held on Friday 10th January 2014

Meeting was adjourned at 13:03 pm