

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

Minutes are from the February 3rd, 2011 meeting held at 12 noon at the Broken Arrow Steakhouse.

Those present: Bob Toole, Dave Williams, Cass Cahill, Therese Hunt, Marge Bloomquist, Jim Cameron, Donna Galbraith and Julie Brewer.

Also present: Laura Rotegard, Betty Hadley and Mark Anderson.

Bob called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

Therese made a motion to adopt the minutes for January, seconded by Donna. Motion passed.

- **Secretary's Report** – Chamber Membership stands at 58. Inquiries up by 17 at 37 total, 23 phone, 7 email and 7 office visits. Mailed out 2 Visitor packs, with 33 pdf downloads. New website statistics, with 41,646 hits, 10,574 page views and 5,503 visitors.

Dave read out a letter from the Deer Lodge Valley Conservation District, thanking the Chamber for the donation of a Monte Dolack framed and matted poster to the Annual Livestock Seminar.

Dave requested online access to the checking account, and to have a debit card linked to the account. Discussion followed. Donna said a daily limit can be set on the card. Julie made a motion to issue a debit card, limited to \$200 per day, seconded by Marge. Bob said that the trust and verify system would still apply, whereby board approval would still be required for all major purchases. Motion passed.

Dave requested the setting up of a PayPal account for the Chamber, mainly to facilitate online shipping to obtain cheaper rates for mailing Visitor Packs, etc. Permission requested to add the checking account to PayPal. No set-up charge or monthly fees. Also, it would allow the Chamber to accept online credit card payments for event registration or membership dues. Julie mentioned that Dave uses the same system for all of the Museums shipments. Motion moved to set-up a Chamber PayPal account by Julie, seconded by Jim. Dave was asked to provide a PayPal printout to each monthly board meeting. Motion passed.

Dave's investigation on the PC replacement showed that Windows 7 did not have drivers for the office printers. Therefore, it was recommended that the Chamber does not replace the office PC at the present time, but instead upgrades the memory and replace the monitor with a new LCD monitor. Total cost will be approx. \$250. Donna made a motion that the Chamber spends a maximum of \$300 on a computer upgrade. Cass seconded. Motion passed.

Update on the Deer Lodge brochure. 50/50 funds application needs to be with Gold West by the date of their March meeting. 90% of the ads have been agreed upon. The total cost of printing 50,000 copies, with Certified Folder distribution, and shipping of 5,000 copies from the office, comes to \$7,279.45. Less 50% is \$3,639.73 less ad revenue of \$2,000 leaves \$1,639.73 cost to the Chamber. Jim had approached Montana Correctional Enterprises (MCE) but they do not have the equipment to publish brochures at the current time. Five bids have been received, 3 need to be sent to Gold West and they pick the lowest.

-**Christmas Stroll Report** – Since Tina and Patty were not present, it was agreed that the Stroll report be held off until next month's meeting.

- **'Welcome to Deer Lodge' sign billboard** – Project committee to be headed by Therese, Chamber has paid the annual rent on the billboard. Mike Tillo graphics has bid on the new sign.

- **Main Street Beautification** – Cass spoke with Mayor Frayley and told her about the Chambers decision to hold off from committing any funds towards the new banners. Joyce had spoken last Fall to Steve Stryker and the trees will be pruned in the Spring. Cass to confirm with Steve.

Comments from last year were that the baskets need to be bigger. Cass to talk with Lynette from Eastside Greenhouse.

**-Grant-Kohrs Ranch Report** – Laura reported numbers the same as last year. A trainer had been hired for the young workers.

**-Draft Horse Expo** – Betty said more info about this year's event will be available after their upcoming meeting. She thanked the Chamber for their support. Laura said an application has been submitted for Con Warren to be inducted into the Draft Horse Hall of Fame.

**- Old Prison Museums Report** - Julie said the Museums will re-open on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, a lot of work has been done on the Gift Shop, the Pen and the Wardens House. Acquired by the museum, the Wardens House has been restored and an Open House is planned for April 1<sup>st</sup>. Looking for the right commercial/retail business to rent the facility. On Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup>, the PCMAF will be holding a social at the Pen, a fundraiser for the Veterans to finish their Cemetery. From 1pm to 4pm, chocolate and big band music for \$5 admission.

**-Powell County Medical Foundation** – Mark spoke about the new Hospital, construction expected to be complete by Mid June, moving in in July. A new Prayer Room will be built, sponsors are being sought, a low cost way to become part of the hospital. A professional chef has been hired. Looking to set up an auxillary team, to great people when they come into the Hospital. A Dinner is being planned pre-opening, including a tour. Mike asked if the Chamber wanted to take a tour of the facility, hard hats would be required. Mark will co-ordinate with Dave at the office to set up a date and times.

Motion to end meeting proposed by Therese, seconded by Marge.

Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.