

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

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

Those present: Bob Toole, Dave Williams, Patty Cowan, Cass Cahill, Marge Bloomquist, Donna Galbraith, Tina Schowengerdt and Julie Brewer.

Also present: Lynette King, Betty Hadley, Shirley Cortright, Rocky and Mark Anderson.

Bob called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

Julia made a motion to accept the minutes for February, seconded by Patty. Motion passed.

- **Secretary's Report** – Chamber Membership stands at 68. Inquiries down by 4 at 33 total, 17 phone, 7 email and 9 office visits. Mailed out 1 Visitor packs. Website statistics were 39,430 hits, 9,995 page views, 3,712 unique visitors and 424 pdf downloads.

Dave spoke about the Chamber's Fair Book ad for this year, as presented by Lickety Print. Discussion followed, and Patty put forward a motion to re-new the ad at 1/2 page with color at \$160, less 5% if paid for before March 15th (Demolition Derby in red). Seconded by Tina. Motion carried.

PayPal account has been set-up, online access now available to the 1st Security Bank account and bank debit card has been received. PC Memory has been upgraded to 2GB, plus new LCD Monitor. Upgrade performed by John Snell, total cost was \$257.98.

Deer Lodge Brochure application for 50% funds has been signed and is now with Sarah Bannon at Gold West. They meet next week, then hand application over to State for funding approval. We should hear back within the next 2 weeks.

- **Main Street Beautification** – Lynette King was introduced as providing the flower baskets for several years. Ron Scharf joined the meeting and discussion followed on the watering issues from last year, and how best to manage the watering this year. Cass spoke about setting up a meeting between Lynette and the volunteers to explain the best way to water the baskets, with written instructions to be posted on the watering cart.

- **Chamber billboard project** – Therese was not present, but Bob said she has had been working on the project.

- **2011 Territorial Day** – Bob asked for committee members. Donna said she will be out of town on the day, but is interested in being on the committee, together with Marge, Julia, and Cass.

- **Demo Derby Update** – Jan Bender, Patty, Tom Christnacht and some of the drivers will continue to communicate and meet in the future.

- **Old Prison Museums Report** - Julie said the Museums had re-opened on March 2nd, open Wednesday till Sunday 10am till 4pm. Julie will distribute signs for the businesses in town. Discussion followed on the effect of the increasing fuel prices on tourism. The event manager from 'Ghost Lab' on the Discovery Channel had contacted Julie, and they want to do an event in August. This will have a positive effect on Deer Lodge, with an increase in overnight stays, restaurant visits and other local purchases.

- **Powell County Medical Foundation** – Mark spoke about construction of the new Hospital, expected to be complete by Mid June, moving in late July. Mark will co-ordinate with Dave at the office to set up a date and time of a tour of the construction.

-Draft Horse Expo – Betty said they have had their first meeting, things are going very well, and thanked the Chamber for their support. Betty asked about the members of the Chamber, and whether they are aware of the meetings and other chamber events.

- Job Service – Shirley had bought in some of the new Minimum Wage posters, and warned about the companies scamming business and selling posters. The Safety Writer course will be held in Anaconda on March 24th or 31st, still working on getting a course set up in Deer Lodge. Shirley to give Dave the time and place, the info will be posted on the Chamber website and in the office. The Rodeway Inn and the Forest Service building were suggested as possible locations.

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

Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m.