POWELL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Minutes are from the September 6th, 2012 meeting held at 12 noon at the Broken Arrow Steakhouse.

Those present: Bob Toole, Dave Williams, Julia Brewer, Tina Schowengerdt, Patty Cowan, Jim Cameron, Therese Hunt, Darryl Barton, Marge Bloomquist.
Also present: Sandra Salisbury, Shirley Cortright and Laura Rotegard.

Bob called the meeting to order at 12:03

- Approval of Minutes – Patty proposed a motion to accept the minutes for June, July and August 2012 as presented. Seconded by T. Motion passed.

- Chamber By-Laws – Bob reminded members of the Chamber By-Laws that state that the Chamber be non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-sectional and non-political.

- Clark Fork River Celebration – Sandy Salisbury was present today to represent and talk about the Clark Fork River Celebration, taking place in Deer Lodge on the 28th and 29th September. Put on by the Watershed Restoration Coalition in conjunction with Montana Tech. Lots of money being spent in this area for restoration of the river, $200M over the next 10 years. Wanting to inform people about Deer Lodge, and the impact the clean-up will have in this region. Billboards are up on the highways, paid advertizing done through the river radio and Silver State Post. Plan on an event next year. Ted Dodge is asking for Chamber support in applying for grant funding for next years event, due by the end of September or October. BBQ competition has only one participant at this stage. 20 vendors so far, most via Craigs List. $40 inside the cells, $50 in the yard. $25 to enter the BBQ comp., plus able to sell their BBQ. Sponsers for BBQ, film festival, etc. and Silent Auction items required. Hope to bring in 1 to 2,000 people, a big deal for Deer Lodge. Film festival at the Rialto during the afternoon. The Chamber will send out a blog/email newsletter to subscribers asking for sponsors, donations, etc. Sandy will go to all Deer Lodge businesses next week to ask for sponsors, donations, etc. Deadline extended to September 15th. T said Lickety Print had not been asked to print the posters and booklets as Sandy had been led to believe.

- Secretary's Report – Chamber membership stands at 81. Inquiries were up last month at 153 total, 56 Phone, 12 Email and 85 Office Visits. Three Visitor Packs mailed out. Website hits were up overall, with 72,589 hits, 18,958 page views and 5,194 unique visits. PDF downloads were 868, up 139, mainly due to the Demo Derby rules and regs.
Dave had been contacted by Kristen from Investigation Discovery Channel asking for actors for a show called 'Stolen Voices, Hidden Secrets'. They will be filming in our area from September 15th – 20th. Dave had suggested Kristen contact the Cutlers Brothers amongst others, and was told to get the info to John Snell.

- Other Business – Bob spoke about the new superintendant at the Grant-Kohrs Ranch had been announced as Travis Poulson from Texas, showing up in a week or two. Chris Ford will be in charge in the interim. (Laura arrived late and informed the meeting that Travis is only going to be temporary, for about 4 months. Park Service are unable to appoint a permanent Superintendant until their admin database system has been upgraded)
Milwaukee Ave will be chip-sealed tomorrow, Friday, from 7 am and 7 pm. No parking on street from main to underpass, or they will be towed at owners expense.

- Demolition Derby Review – Successful, congratulated Tina and the politicians on selling a record number of 50/50 tickets. Gross income was $18, 680, expenses came to $9,381, 25% of profit goes to Fair Board, the final profit was $6,974. Bob has been contacting all of the drivers for their opinions and info for next year. A final meeting will be held soon. Patty said this was the 2nd year they haven't had drivers storming the crows nest complaining about judging decisions. Judging is now much

smoother than in the past. Looking to expand the Herby Derby, need to address the issue with Chrysler Imperials. Heats were divided up by type of car, trying to put the bigger, heavier cars together. The drivers objected, so changes may need to be made next year to clarify the situation.

- **Chamber Banquet -** Coming up, Board of Directors need to start thinking about selecting a Chamber Member of the Year. Bob has several speakers in mind, making sure it is after the election, due to our By-Laws. Any ideas let Bob know. Prison Wardens, State Governors, etc. have been speakers in the past.

- Other Business – Jim spoke about getting ready for the Christmas Stroll.
Patty said since we are going to loose some of our members later this year, we need to work on getting the new businesses to sign up. Dave gave Patty a copy of the Chamber brochure, giving info on what the Chamber does, etc. Jim suggested having pictures and words from members, saying what the Chamber does for them and why they are members. Tina said that brochures do not work for her, she prefers to be visited in person, and spoke about a welcoming committee to visit with new business owners.

- **Grant-Kohrs Ranch** –Laura spoke about the temporary Superintendant, Travis Paulson. Bob asked about Pumpkin Sunday, and Laura said that everything is gearing up for the event on 21st October, also the first day of hunting season. The Hutterites have quoted a price of $1.10 per pumpkin, delivered, same as last year. Patty proposed a motion for the Chamber to pay $770 for pumpkins, Julia seconded, and the motion was carried. Julie Croglio is the contact person for the event this year. The Chamber applauded Laura for her work at the Ranch.
T and Julia said they were willing to cook and sell food and drink at the Pen on that Sunday, to raise funds for the Chamber. The Board agreed to look at paying for food, etc. T & Julia will report back on the costs. Sandy said everyone comes at 1 pm for apple cider, 150 people, done by 4 pm. Maybe talk to Julie at the Ranch about promotion, or maybe set up nearer the Ranch.

T moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jim. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.