

**Monticello Jasper County Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors Meeting March 5, 2015**

Present: Kathy Mudd, Linda Simmons, Leah Dumas, Tony Lewis, Alma Abbott, Peggy Billerman, Pam Mayer, Stephen Soulen, Mike Newton, Carol Atkinson, Dana Leach

Absent: Karen Degges, Tracey Nelson, Carol Ann McMichael, Skip Davis, Tibia Williams-Banks, Lyndsy Holman

Welcome and Call to Order – Kathy

Invocation – Stephen

Pledge of Allegiance

Addition to Agenda: item g. Appropriation Request from Jasper County – Motion by Peggy to approve agenda with addition, seconded by Tony, all approved.

Motion by Peggy to approve February Minutes, seconded by Tony, all approved.

Motion by Linda to approve Treasurer's Report, seconded by Carol, all approved.

Old Business:

- Membership Drive – as of March 3, received \$11,570 in membership – already ahead of total for the entire year last year.
- Deer Festival Update – Parade Entry Registration on website, Shriners have been invited to participate, Logo Contest taken to schools, next meeting is Thursday, March 12th at 6:00 pm. Band competition being planned which will bring more people here ... all bands will participate in the parade.
- Community Conversation – date not confirmed

New Business:

- Restaurant Guide – A handout has been prepared to give to tourists and to include in the welcome packets. This lists all restaurants in the county including contact information and hours of operation. Discussion on possibly introducing a new membership rate for restaurants ... further discussion required.
- Reese Home – by consensus, the Chamber joins the Development Authority of Jasper County and the Downtown Development Authority in support of tourism and this project.

- Resource Tour – Ranger Thomas Dozier and Liz Caldwell with the US Forest Service are going to give a tour of areas in the forest that need to be promoted with tourism. Monticello Methodist Church will provide a church bus for travel. If interested in participating, contact Pam. Pam will advise of date.
- Jasper Jubilee – first meeting will be held Tuesday, March 10th at 5:00 pm
- Golf Tournament – April 29, 2015. The application is ready, the course has been reserved, and a committee meeting will be held at 2:00 pm today, March 5.
- Farmer’s Market – Packets are ready to mail, the season begins May 2nd and ends October 31st (28 weeks). Discussion on charging vendors so that funds would be available to promote the events. Proposed fee categories:
 - Market Day – Pay by Week ... \$5.00 per week (\$140.00 per season)
 - Season Pass ... \$70.00 (\$2.50 per week)
 - Package ... \$121.00 per season (\$30 Chamber Membership, \$56 Season Package Pass, \$35 Annual Deer Festival Booth)Motion by Mike to approve the proposed fee categories, seconded by Linda, all approved.

Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting will be April 2, 2015.

Submitted March 16, 2015
Linda Simmons, Secretary