

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
APRIL 14, 2010
Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce
Civic Center Public Conference Room
12:00 Noon

CALL TO ORDER – Section 1

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Banks at 12:17pm. Present were Treasurer Jones, Directors Brock, Bump, Chavez, Christoffersen, Flanagan, Harrell, and Pistorosi. President Moss arrived at 12:30p. Absent was Past President Scroggins.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Section 2

Ryan Jones, InHouse Placement Solution, spoke regarding his discussion with the Interim City Administrator Varney regarding the Chamber acting as a conduit for any business opportunities the City may have. Mr. Jones asked Manager Flanagan to advise if she had been contacted by a City representative regarding his discussion. Manager Flanagan advised she had been contacted by Chief Varney requesting the Chamber to send e-blasts to members when bids were being sought. However, to date no emails had come from the City regarding bids on upcoming business opportunities the City was requiring. Mr. Jones expressed his goal was to insure that local businesses are given the opportunity to know of bids and service requirements of the City before they go to businesses outside the City. Councilmember Alexander was present and noted that the Council's goal is to offer needed services to the local businesses first and he believed the next bid, not counting day to day operational needs, would be City Legal Services. Manager Flanagan also noted that she is working with City Staff on the water meter project in an effort to conserve water by using local businesses who offer discounts for plumbing repairs and supplies as well as lawn sprinkling parts and systems.

Charlie Altekruise, North Fork Mono Rancheria Public Relations Consultant, addressed the Board to follow up on his April Board Meeting Public Comment. He noted following the April Meeting he was requested by Larry Pistorosi to send him a letter to outline the Tribe's request. In addition, Vern Moss mentioned following the meeting that the Chamber is trying to maintain partiality. To restate the Tribe's request - they ultimately are asking for a review of the position the Chamber took to a "neutral" position for the Highway 99 Project. We are asking for a win-win-win situation where the Chamber supports projects that bring economic growth to the area. This is especially important during this economic environment, a simple statement that the Chamber supports any project that is being jobs and economic grown to this community and area is requested. This statement would support the mission and purpose of the Chamber. Basically the Tribe would like to understand is why the Chamber chose to change their position to take a neutral position on the Rancheria Highway 99 Project or a retraction of the neutral position. It is felt that the reasons for the change from support to neutral in the October 30, 2009, letter to the Tribal Council are unclear. Avis Punkin, Tribal Council member, thanked the Board for their time and consideration of their request for clarification.

CONSENT CALENDAR – Section 3

Action: Ratify Minutes and Attendance of March 10, 2010, Board of Directors Minutes and Board Attendance

Motion was made by Director Flanagan, seconded by Director Jones, to approve the Consent Calendar. No discussion. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Section 4

- 4.1 San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Presentation Request – no response due to not qualifying according to the numbers of employees.
- 4.2 Open Primary Campaign Support Request – Director Brock reviewed and since Cal Chamber does not support. Following discussion; consensus was no speaker.
- 4.3 Yes on Prop 16 Coalition from PG&E Support Request – Director Brock explained the purpose of the proposition and some questions about 16. Following discussion the Manager was directed to send the information to all Directors for their individual review because no consensus was reached.
- 4.4 Candidate Pombo Speaker Request – due to Candidates Forums thank you but no thanks.
- 4.5 Charles Altekruze, North Fork Rancheria Consultant Position Change Request – emails sent to all Board Members. Directors Bump and Christoffersen and Treasurer Jones asked that a copy of the email be forwarded to them.
- 4.6 Children’s Hospital of Central California Resolution supporting Water Safety Month – Manager noticed addressed to City Council so gave notice to Council Member Alexander
- 4.7 Meg Whitman’s Building a New California Plan brochure
- 4.8 High Speed Rail Meetings - Merced 4/28 and Madera 4/29, both nights 4-7pm

REPORTS – Section 5

Administrative Reports

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Jones asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the financial reports. **Motion was made by Vice President Banks, seconded by Director Christoffersen, to accept the Treasurers Report as presented pending approval by an Audit. No discussion, motion passed.**

Manager Report:

Manager Flanagan reported a new member, Marty Buttram Electric, joined since last meeting. Nineteen members renewed 2010 membership since last Board Meeting. Chowchilla Computer Internet Satellite closed doors April 1st due to lack of business.

Buttram Electric will be submitting a bid on adding or repairing the outlet boxes on the Robertson light poles. We will also give the other electrician who did past work for the Chamber an opportunity to bid also. Director Chavez asked to include in the bid request that the day/night signal box be checked to see what the cost would be to repair the non-functioning boxes. Director Chavez also asked to request a cost of using solar to light the decorations as part of the bid rather than using PG&E.

Manager Flanagan advised that the Central Valley Business Incubator wants to partner with the Chamber to offer an “On-line Business Planning Course” to our members. Due to being a rural city the \$99.00 fee could be reduced or waived. This is being offered because a number of banks are requiring business plans before giving loans. There is no cost to the Chamber. Consensus of the Board was to proceed with partnering with the CVBI and offer the course to our members.

Manager Flanagan requested Directors to attend and be greeters, etc., at the two Candidate Forums on April 14 and 15 at the Fairgrounds Little Theater. Wednesday is State wide candidates and Thursday night is the County wide and Supervisor District 2 candidates.

Manager Flanagan stated that PG&E has informed her that they have funds that they wish to use to partner with the Chamber on a local community project. The funds and project fit is for a recycle equipment program

for community events. This equipment would then be loaned to community organizations and non-profits for their events at a nominal fee to pay for the cost to replace the clear trash bags. There should be no cost to the Chamber other than the handling of the program. Consensus of the Board was to proceed with the project with PG&E.

Committee Reports

Working:

Golf Tournament:

Vice President Banks reported that flyers are out to a number of businesses and he will be working from a list that Co-Chairperson Pistoresi has from previous tournaments to contact persons. Concerns were voiced by various directors that comments were made about the 2009 Tournament not starting with a shotgun start and players had to wait. Vice President Banks noted that because the number of players was very low, the clubhouse decided to start them out in 10 minutes intervals. Vice President Banks requested that Directors help drum up teams and sponsors to make 2010 bigger and better. Also the Committee is seeking high dollar sponsors like other golf events have so special sponsorship letters are going out to a number businesses and people; suggested also get flyers to Muni & Country Club as well as Mariposa Winery. Vice President Banks will have a list for Directors at next meeting to help with raffle prize soliciting.

Car Show

Director Flanagan stated his is partnering with the Old Cars Magazine owner to get free advertising for our car show. Added the Pony Class and still need to speak with a local man and hear his music at a 1/3 of the cost of past DJ's.

Ad Hoc:

2011 Boat Races Fact Finding

Vice President Banks reported no further action since last meeting but requested the Manager to notify Mr. Wolin that all players have been contacted but there are concerns regarding liability and profitability. However the Lions Club is working and Mr. Wolin should have the

Grant Application for Community Event Fact Finding

Manager Flanagan stated that a Madera County Community Grant application can have more than one project listed in the application as long as both are itemized separately. Also noted was that the application cannot include on-going operation costs or salaries. Discussion followed regarding projects for the grant including the Berenda Reservoir gate, park area, restrooms & boat docks; annual block party; city parks improvements; score board at Wilson Gym, etc. Consensus was to partner with the City to apply for a Sports & Leisure Park Improvements & Upgrades and Wilson Gym Scoreboard grant. City contacts will be Peggy Haupt & Joe Roman.

Welcome Center

Treasurer Jones introduced a copy of an MOU brought to the meeting by City Council Ad Hoc Member David Alexander requested the City's proposed MOU with the Chamber be reviewed. This MOU is the City's response to the MOU the Chamber sent to the City Council in December.

Director Flanagan motioned, seconded by Director Brock, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between and City of Chowchilla and the Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce regarding the Chamber office and City Welcome Center be approved and the President given authority to sign for the Board. Following discussion regarding pros and cons a voice vote was taken: Vice President Banks, yes; Director Brock, yes; Director Bump, yes; Director Chavez, abstain; Director Christoffersen, yes; Director Flanagan, yes; Director Harrell, yes; Treasurer Jones, yes; President Moss, yes. Motion passed with one Director abstaining.

6.0 OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

8.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Haupt advised that now that her duties through the transition and now settling down she plans to attend the Board Meetings as often as possible. Treasurer Jones asked if Ms. Haupt will be able to give the Board updates from the City and Peggy responded that was her intent as Public Information Officer to bring information and answer questions regarding City matters and if she does not have the answer she would report back at a latter meeting as appropriate.

8.1 State Candidate Forum – Tonight, 4/14, Fairgrounds Little Theater 6-9p

8.2 County-Wide & Dist 2 Supervisor Candidate Forum – Thursday, 4/15, Fairgrounds Little Theater 6-9p

8.3 Collette Vacations' Ireland Tour Slide Show Presentation, 4/20, Chamber Office, 6 p.m.

8.4 Minturn Huller Solar Project Dedication & Lunch – 4/22 12:00 Noon

8.5 Tenaya Guild Fashion Show Brunch, 4/24

8.6 Manager Vacation, 4/30 & 5/3, Chamber Office Closed

8.7 Mayor's Prayer Luncheon, 5/4, Life Change Church Faith Hall, 11:30am, contact Ms. Haupt for seating.

President Moss mentioned the Chowchilla-Madera County Fair May 13-16 and encouraged Directors to support the Fair because of the partnership being developed. Manager Flanagan advised a sign-up list will be sent soon to sign up for coverage. Ms. Haupt advised the City will have a booth next to the Chamber's booth.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Moss requested a motion to adjourn.

Vice President Banks motioned, seconded by Director Harrell, to adjourn the meeting the Board Meeting at 1:32pm. No discussion, motion passed.