

MINUTES
November 9, 2011 Board Meeting
Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce
Civic Center Public Conference Room
12:00 Noon

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Pistoresi at 12:12p. Present were: Vice President Jones, Treasurer Bump; Past President Moss; Directors Christoffersen, Fall, Flanagan, and Harrell. Absent were: Directors Brock and Rose. Guests were Marty Piepenbrok, Leo Grafx Designing & Engraving and Marissa Corona, Horizons Unlimited.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Tina Wozniak and Cody Dixon of Passentino Anderson presented an overview of the Pacific Valley Adura Solar project at Road 12 & Avenue 25.

President Pistoresi moved to 6.0 of agenda, item deferred from October Meeting, re endorsement of the Adura Solar project.

Motion was made by Past President Moss, seconded by Vice President Jones, to send a letter in support of the Pacific Valley Adura Solar Project as requested. Discussion followed, motion passed.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Ratify Minutes and Attendance of October 12, 2011, Board of Directors Meeting.

Motion by Past President Moss, seconded by Director Flanagan, to accept the Consent Calendar was presented.

4.0 CORRESPONDENCE

4.1 Merced Comm. College Invitation to Advisory Committee Meeting on 11/18/11

4.2 Darin M Camarena Health Centers, Inc., Trees for Charity Fund-raiser on 12/3/11

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 City Update:

City Administrator Mark Lewis updated on the City's action regarding the High Speed Rail Project on impacts of A2 with a letter from the Mayor regarding tax loss, transportation impacts, etc. Mr. Lewis noted the City may hear from the CAHSRA by 12/8 Board Meeting which route may be chosen.

Working with Department of Corrections regarding potential transition of one women's prison into a men's prison; held a couple of meetings with CDCR, have taken CDCR to court on a CEQA issue, CDCR asked for an abeyance and are in discussions with CDCR. The tolling agreement runs out and another meeting is scheduled for today; the City is waiting to learn if CDCR will formally announce moving forward with the transition. It is believed CDCR is moving towards being except from CEQA; however the City council is

dug in and wants to protect the community and ready to take further action to stop the transition.

City Administrator Lewis noted the City is on line with the budget; working on EDC projects and continues to intersect with the Chamber office on a few of these, he hopes the Chamber move is successful for the Chamber and the community, and concerns regarding the affects of the High Speed Rail and the potential prison realignment is the focal of the City Council.

5.2 Administrative Reports

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Bump reviewed the monthly financial reports. Treasurer Bump asked the Manager for clarification on the Tri Counties accounts regarding the Welcome Center.

Motion was made by Director Flanagan, seconded by Director Christoffersen, to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Following a brief question period; motion passed.

Manager's Report:

Manager Flanagan stated one new member, Chowchilla Chatter, joined since the last meeting. Sue Byers of Chowchilla Chatter is organizing a "Shop Chowchilla First" promotion; shop stores that display the poster to win store prizes and the grand prizes.

Manager Flanagan reminded Directors of the Tri Counties Business After Hours Social on Nov. 17 at 5:30p as well as Dr. Mark Davis has requested a ribbon cutting at the grant opening on November 30th at 5:30p at his new office on Trinity Street.

Manager Flanagan noted that the Madera County EDC met with her to discuss the City Revolving Loan Fund availability for Chowchilla. The EDC has requested businesses that might be interested in low cost loans to help expand or develop their business.

Manager Flanagan thanked the Directors who helped move the Chamber to the new office at 137 South Third Street.

5.3 Committee Reports

Nominating Committee Report:

Treasurer Bump presented the names of the members suggested for the nomination ballot. Deadline for acceptance to be placed on the ballot is November 9th. The ballots will then be mailed to the membership for voting. The committee will count votes on Tuesday, November 29.

Awards & Installation Dinner Committee Report:

Director Harrell advised the committee met and picked the awards to be listed on the nomination form that will be sent to the membership on 11/9. The Committee will meet the first week of December to review the nominations and present a list to the Board at the December Meeting. The Award Dinner will January 14, 2012, red, white & blue theme.

November Workshop (PG&E):

Director Christoffersen noted that Manager Flanagan had arranged with PG&E to provide a free workshop on "How to save on your business & ag electric bill" on November 15th, 8:30 am in the Public Meeting Room of the Civic Center. An ad will be placed in the Chowchilla News to invite all businesses and ag related businesses to attend.

Valentine Wine Express:

Manager Flanagan inquired if the Board wants to do the VWE will be on 2/11/12. It is a good fund raising and a lot of fun. Board consensus was to begin preparations.

6.0 OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Support of Pacific Valley Solar Project:
Item moved following Public Comment for action.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Review Draft of 2012 Budget

Manager Flanagan presented a draft copy of a 2012 budget. Board Members were asked to review the line items prior to the December Meeting per the By-Laws.

7.2 Accept Letter of Resignation from Past President Moss

President Pistoresi reported that Past President Moss submitted a letter of resignations effective 12/31/11.

Motion made by Director Fall to accept Vern Moss' letter of resignation. Discussion followed re not accepting to adding a Parliamentarian/Associate non-voting Director position. **Motion was rescinded by Director Fall and item was deferred to the December meeting with Manager Flanagan to provide more information on a non-voting Director position.**

7.3 Board Vacancy Recommendation

President Pistoresi recommended that John Scurfield, Chowchilla Fairgrounds Manager, to be appointed to fill the remainder of Past President Moss' term per the By-Laws Section 8, Vacancies, effective Jan 1, 11. Item was deferred to the December Meeting due to deferment of 7.2.

7.4 Christmas Season Support, Santa versus Candy Canes

Manager Flanagan inquired if the Board wanted to host a Santa during the 2011 Christmas season or provide candy canes to the Lions Club Christmas Tree Lighting program for Santa's visit. Discussion followed with consensus of the Board to provide the candy canes for Santa at the Lions Club Christmas Tree Lighting on 12/3/11. Manager Flanagan was instructed to contact the Lions Club

7.5 Quickbooks Credit Card Business Services

Manager Flanagan commented that from time to time some people want to pay with credit cards for event tickets and inquired if not having a credit card limit sales. Quick Books has a credit card program that does not have a set up fee or monthly fee. Cost 2.7 to 3.7% per entry. Discussion followed with Manager Flanagan instructed to obtain more information on the use of debit cards with Visa/MC logos as well as if a separate credit card checking account would be needed to help balance fees versus income.

7.6 Strategic Planning Meeting Proposed 1/18/12 Date

President Pistoresi suggested to the Board that the Strategic Planning Meeting be held one week later on 1/18/12 cancelling the regular January Board Meeting on 1/11/12. The January 18th date would allow the Board Members installed on January 14th to be active participants of the planning. This item will be placed on the December agenda for action.

8.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

8.1 City Council Meeting, 11/8 7p

8.2 Manager Days Off – 11/10

8.3 Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park & Chamber office closed, 11/11

8.4 Tri Counties Bank Business After Hours Social – 11/17

8.5 City Council Meeting, 11/22, 7p Civic Center

8.6 Thanksgiving Holiday, Chamber Office Closed, 11/24 & 25

8.7 Dr. Mark Davis Grand Opening 5-7p & Ribbon Cutting, 11/30 5:30p

8.8 Managers Vacation Days 12/1, 2 & 5

Added to announcements were the Lioness Lions Harvest Festival, 11/12, and the Circus at the Fairgrounds 11/11- 11/13.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Pistoressi asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Past President Moss, seconded by Director Christoffersen, to adjourn at 1:30p.

Motion passed.