

# October 2023 Chamber Mtg

October 11, 2023 | River Street Meeting Room, Cathlamet Washington



<b>Minute Taker</b>	Steve Carson (SC) <sc@clnw.com>
<b>Attendees</b>	Alysse Weiler (AW) <aweiler@wahkiakum.us>, Dan Lorenzen (DL) <dlorenzen@wahkiakum.us>, Shannon Britt (SB) <skamokawaresort@yahoo.com>, David Olson (DO) <david.olson@townofcathlamet.com>, Robert Stowe (RS) <stowe@townofcathlamet.com>, Richard Erickson (RE) <villacapahom@aol.com>, Steve Carson (SC) <sc@clnw.com>, Marissa Schillios (MS) <mschillios@bankofthepacific.com>, Dan Westlind (DW) <westlind@wwestsky.net>, Sam Shogren (SA) <sam@wahport2.org>, Sherrill Bollen (SB) <skbollen@cni.net>, Todd Souvenir (TS) <port1t@cni.net>, Marissa Schillios (MS) <mschillios@bankofthepacific.com>

	Type	Note	Owner	Due
1. Call to order	INFO	The meeting called to order at 10		
2. Approval of minutes	DECISION	Approved by the board		
3. September Budget	TODO	A motion was made and approved to have the executive board members meet to review and report on the organization's financial state, including year-to-date numbers on budget and profit and loss statements.		
4. EV Charging Status	INFO	Mayor Olson requested the chamber have a ribbon cutting in the next month once the charger is ready for use.		
5. Hiring Updates	INFO	The executive board met recently to discuss staffing needs for the chamber. It was decided that we will be advertising for an assistant director position to work with Alysse (Executive Director) on a part-time basis. The opening will be listed on Indeed, local papers, and Employ Wahkiakum.		
6. DOC& CWCOG Mtg	INFO	<p>Alysse reported on the meeting with Steve Dunk from the Department of Commerce. We overwhelmed him with interest with representatives from the two ports, town, PUD, Computer Link NW, and the chamber. Overall, we were a little disappointed with his lack of familiarity with the County's geography and political locations. However, we are encouraged by the contact and opportunity to connect us with the DOC and other resources for grants and opportunities for economic development in our community.</p> <p>Alysse also reported on the Wahkiakum Council of Governments meeting yesterday where groups talked about their current projects.</p>		
7. ADO Contract	TODO	Alysse presented the ADO Business Plan for 2023-2025. The Performance Measures Targets seem reasonable and the next step is to outline our Initiatives for the report. The initiatives are projects that directly benefit local businesses and include recruitment, retention, expansion, and start-ups. There is a matching requirement that can be fulfilled with in-kind services.		
8. Economic Development Discovery	IDEA	Alysse presented a possible need for an economic development committee to help foster projects with local businesses (farms). Sam suggested having the 2 ports, the Town, the County, and others share their strategic plans for growth would be a great starting point. Richard shared that there is an Economic Development plan already approved by the County Commissioners that should be used as a template for future plans.		

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<b>9. Art District Update</b>	INFO	Dan Westlind shared that the PUD declined to have a mural painted on their building on River Street. He has identified a couple of opportunities for art walk paths in the community including an ADA-accessible path around the Wahkiakum Museum, but this is a two-year project. The current project has reached a bit of a roadblock but Alyse proposed having Dan work with the Blooms committee (Beautification Committee) to see if they can work together on this project.		
<b>10. Port 2 News</b>	INFO	Sam shared about a Kayaking Symposium that they are hoping will come to Vista Park in coming years. He also advised that the VP cabin was included in an auction last year with a positive response. The auction is coming around again and he is looking for gift certificates to include in this years "basket"		
<b>11. Neewollah</b>	INFO	The event preparation continues and is on schedule. She requested people share social media posts advertising as we hope to promote this outside the area. There is a radio ad promoting coming to Wahkiakum County for a fall staycation.		