

# Wahkiakum Chamber of Commerce

## Board Meeting

April 09, 2025/ 1030 Hours/ River Street Meeting Room

### Attendees:

Robin & Kim Heron	Bob Jungers
Steve Carson	Garrett Radcliff
David Olson	Joe Baker
Kim Howell	Dan Lorenzen
Kay Walters	Rosalinde Wilson
Todd Souvenir	Ryan Murillo
Marissa Schillios	Brandi Beedle

### Agenda:

Call to Order – 10:31 Steve Carson, President

Need to add pioneer cemetery & Rosalinde Wilson to agenda

Postpone approving minutes, as not yet added online.

Treasurers report:

Edward Jones Account Update: Our \$106K 6-month CD matured on 3/31/25 with a value of \$108,352.04, a 4.45% annual return. With approval of the Finance and Executive Committees, a \$108K 12-month CD was purchased on 4/8/25 with Goldman Saks Bank NY, with a yield of 4% at maturity on 4/8/26. Our current “cash” balance with Edward Jones is \$752.07.

ADO FY25 Monitoring Meeting: Yesterday, Ryan, Garrett and Kim participated in a meeting with Diane Divens, WA Department of Commerce ADO Program Manager. The purpose of the meeting was to review our ADO Invoicing for compliance with proper accounting practices and ensure that our billing is for eligible expenses only. Diana was impressed with

how we are tracking our ADO expenses in Quickbooks (using the ADO Class) and provided us with guidance to ensure we remain compliant with ADO Program requirements. Diane also provided some ideas for “best practices” that would better position us, such as creating or beefing up policies around marketing & media, procurement, financial accounting and personnel management.

RFP for Accounting Services Update: We have received 2 responses to our RFP. Kim is waiting until after April 15<sup>th</sup> IRS tax deadline to reapproach at least one other firm who indicated they were interested in providing services, but did not submit a proposal due to tax workload. In the meantime, Kim is continuing to work with our current bookkeeper to keep our books updated. An end of Quarter 1 finance report will be presented at the next Board meeting.

## Old Business:

Wahkiakum west presented last month on the tv show they are putting together.

- Motion made by Kim Howell to approve the request from Willapa Harbor Chamber/Wahkiakum West (WW) in the amount of \$35,000, rather than their requested \$45,000. Seconded by David Olson.
- Discussion followed to clarify this investment is to support the Columbia Coast TV series/app, already streaming on Roku and Amazon that is intended to promote Wahkiakum County tourism with an expected life cycle of 5, possibly 7 years. Show sponsorship \$11,500. \$12000 would give high quality footage for 5 years. Production services are 11,500 including a long commercial and 13 shorter commercials for social media. 1.7mil over 5 years ROI. Goal is to bring visitors to Columbia coast.
- Motion was approved with one nay vote by Bob Jungers.

## New Business:

Hotel/motel request:

- South Sound Traditional Inuit Kayaking event:
  - Attempted last year at vista park. Family friendly, kayaking safety, kayak’s role in indigenous cultures. Asking for \$500 for advertising and lodging. 22 sites. June 6-8.
  - Motion to approve Todd Souvenir. Seconded: Bob Jungers
  - Motion passed unanimously

Pioneer cemetery:

- Headstones have been reset. Need to rededicate. The last time was in 1966. Camber can't do a stand-alone event. Would like to set it as part of Bald eagle Day. 1700 on July 19 is intended time for the dedication. Need a printed program and a flyer. Can we have a chamber subcommittee to get speakers and facilities support

Next Monday at 1000 is next BED committee meeting. Can you (David) meet with them to discuss further.

Todd mentioned a lot of locals have standing plans and it may not be a great time for them to attend.

Rosalinde Wilson advised the Women's Club is sponsoring a Emergency Preparedness tabling event from 11-3 t at the Hope Center.

- Have 14 tables so far. Emergency Preparedness Event to bring together emergency response resources.
- Would like Chamber to supply 150 bags to hand out to attendees. Ryan take a look and come back with a quote. Seems likely can do it within the existing budget.

## Director Report:

Recognition to Garrett. Have been doing member recruitment. Have had 5 new members since last month. In good spot for memberships increasing.

Hook the Hawg update:

- Fishing was poor. Only 1 fish caught all weekend.
- Sent out 9 checks. Had to get creative and ended up doing a raffle for the remaining prizes.
- Participants were happy with how the event was handled despite the poor river conditions.

Cowlitz EDC did a presentation of using AI in Canva.

- Received positive feedback and requests for follow-up class.

Garrett attended the commissioners meeting and presented info on ferry centennial/Hook the Hawg

Member management.

- It is currently done on a single spreadsheet.
- Need a newer platform. It would improve relations and follow-through with members.

Current objectives are to continue vendor recruitment for BED, new members, Spar is trying to do some grab and go food for bald eagle day.

### Public comment:

David Olson Meeting with the Washington Paul Revere's 250<sup>th</sup> committee. Hang 2 lights on home or business to commemorate Paul Revere's ride. Chamber is listed as a local participant. It is about communities uniting and protecting themselves

Bob Jungers posted letter to the PUD website regarding acquisition of town water system to help with mis-information and questions residents may have.

Meeting adjourned at 11:29