

**Annual Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 10th, 2022 @ 12:00pm at The Rural Collective & Via Zoom**

**Call to Order:** Kat Weinert called the meeting to order at 12:05pm and declared a quorum.

**Present:** In Person: Cassidy Blade (GS Publishing/Adams Country Record, Realizing Rural), LeAnn Fitch (Dakota Plains Federal Credit Union, Dakota Prairie Helping Hands), Tyler Erickson (Erickson Heating & Air), Grace Wolff (Hettinger Public School), Jessalyn Bachler (Adams County Soil Conservation District Advisor), Jasmin Fosheim (Adams County Development Corporation, Realizing Rural), McKenzie Sigvaldsen (Diamond S Meats, Coyote Country Realty, Dakota Buttes Visitors Council, Adams County Development Corporation), Kat Weinert (Kat Weinert Photography, Lost Creek Cattle), Jacki Christman (JC Farms, JC Country Store, Dakota Buttes Visitors Council), Ted Uecker (Uecker Yards, West River Health Services Foundation), Josh Raab (Top Coat Autobody, Hettinger Golf Association). Via Zoom: Pam Burch (The Peacock Mercantile).

**February 2021 Annual Board Meeting Minutes: Ted Uecker made a motion to approve the minutes from the 2021 Hettinger Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. Jessalyn Bachler 2nd. Motion carried.**

**2021 Financials:** McKenzie detailed income and expenses as noted on the 2021 financial report (see attached). McKenzie noted profitability in 2021. **LeAnn Fitch made a motion to approve the 2021 Financial Report. Grace Wolff 2nd. Motion carried.**

**Committee Reports:**

**Ag Banquet:** Kat Weinert shared that the 2021 Ag Banquet shifted to an Ag Appreciation Week due to COVID and the inability to host in-person celebrations. Advertising for Ag Week included sponsored ag producer spotlights on the radio, individual contact with school members and students, and “coffee and a treat” at multiple locations throughout Adams County. The Ag Appreciation/Banquet in 2022 includes aspects from 2020 & 2021 including week-long events as well as the banquet in 2022 named “Boots & Ballgowns”.

**Chamber Banquet:** Cassidy noted the 2021 banquet was a virtual awards ceremony celebrating our businesses in a different capacity than previous in-person gathering. Cassidy noted the 2022 Banquet is shifting back to an in-person celebration with participation and co-hosting by the Mini Chamber.

**Helping Hettinger Day:** Jasmin noted over 12 projects were completed and 150 people volunteered at Helping Hettinger Day in 2021 assisting in the beautification of Hettinger and community vibrancy.

**4th of July:** Kat Weinert, Josh Raab, and Jacki Christman assisted in the planning and execution of the 2021 4th of July celebration. Kat Weinert noted high attendance in activities and entertainment in 2021. The Noon Meal shifted to a sack-lunch style free meal versus buffet style due to COVID restrictions. Additionally, Kat noted high attendance at the magician and hypnotist, and Jasmin noted continued struggles with the inflatables in regards to staffing and communication. Kat noted Tris Munsick was the live entertainment provided. The committee received positive feedback from the community regarding the entertainment options.

**Rodeo:** Jacki Christman noted a huge year for the Adams County Fair & Rodeo in 2021. She noted the rain in the morning required some adjustments, but shared that it proved to be one of the most profitable and high attendance years in 2021. Pam noted positive feedback regarding food sales at the rodeo, and thanked the board on behalf of The Peacock Mercantile for providing that opportunity to local restaurants.

**Pitchfork Fondue:** Jasmin noted Mike Marion sold over 400 tickets for this year’s Pitchfork Fondue, and received positive community feedback on hosting this event. Jasmin noted ticket prices were raised from $20 to $25, which helped offset the higher price of food. Ted Uecker mentioned keeping ticket sales in mind for the future as well as re-evaluating the food to reduce costs at the event.

**Wake Up Santa/Christmas Promotions:** McKenzie noted a great year for Wake Up Santa, including nice weather, positive feedback on hosting laser tag, and excitement regarding the ribbon cutting for Top Coat Autobody. McKenzie noted possibly needing to purchase new lights for the Main Street Christmas Tree because someone hit the south side of the tree.

**Event Dates & Committee Chairs:** Jasmin noted she will reach out to absent board member(s) and inquire about which events they would like to be part of. Jasmin reminded the board members of Committee Reports, which have helped streamline meetings in the by past recapping committee progress and detailing what the committee needs from the board. 2022 Committee chairs and members include:

**Ag Appreciation/Banquet**, January 10th-15th, 2022: (Co-Chairs) Kat Weinert, Jessalyn Bachler, Jacki Christman, Hannah Nordby

**Chamber Banquet**, February 26th, 2022: Cassidy Blade (Chair), Grace Wolff, Ted Uecker

**Helping Hettinger Day**, May 15th, 2022: Jasmin Fosheim (Chair), Jessalyn Bachler

**4th of July**, July 2nd-4th, 2022: Kat Weinert (Chair), LeAnn Fitch, Josh Raab, McKenzie Sigvaldsen, Tyler Erickson, Jacki Christman

**Rodeo**, August 4th-6th, 2022: Jacki Christman (Chair), Jessalyn Bachler, Pam Burch

**Pitchfork Fondue**, September 11th, 2022: Ted Uecker (Chair), Mike Marion, Josh Raab, Pam Burch

**Wake Up Santa**, November 25th, 2022: McKenzie Sigvaldsen (Co-Chair), LeAnn Fitch (Co-Chair), Pam Burch

**Director’s Annual Report:** Jasmin noted the completed Annual Report for 2021 as well as the accomplishments and celebrations throughout the year (see attached). Jasmin invited board members to share the annual report with community members and business owners, and noted she will be sharing the annual report on the website as well as via email.

**The Rural Collective:** Jasmin noted The Rural Collective was profitable in the first year of operation, generating over $1,000 in profit.

**New Business:**

**Board Member Expiring Terms:** Jacki Christman, Pam Burch, Ted Uecker. All members expressed interest in continuing service on the Hettinger Area Chamber of Commerce. **Josh Raab made a motion to appoint Jacki Christman, Pam Burch, and Ted Uecker as Chamber of Commerce board members. Jessalyn Bachler 2nd. All named board members accepted. Motion carried.**

**Elections: President: Jacki Christman nominated Kat Weinert to serve as President of the Hettinger Area Chamber of Commerce in 2022. Josh Raab 2nd. Kat Weinert accepted. Motion carried. Vice President: Cassidy Blade nominated Ted Uecker as Vice President of the Hettinger Area Chamber of Commerce in 2022. Josh Raab 2nd. Ted Uecker accepted. Motion carried.**

**Other:** Other discussion included board member discussions regarding the 2007 Hettinger Centennial books. Ted Uecker noted the possibility of gifting the centennial books to either each graduating senior or each student at the school. Jasmin noted keeping a few copies at the 125th centennial as requested from previous volunteers & book authors. Ted mentioned notifying existing volunteers and authors of the future plans for the remaining centennial books. Pam and Kat discussed gifting a book to the nursing home and Mini Chamber members. After discussion and in the interest of time, McKenzie will add “Centennial Books” to the 2022 February regular meeting agenda. Other discussion regarding the Ag Appreciation/Banquet included the Chamber absorbing the Ag Banquet in a financial capacity, as well as promoting Chamber memberships to the ag community on TTO, mailings, and other avenues.

**Next Meeting:** February 7th, 2022 at 12:00 pm via Zoom & The Rural Collective

**Meeting adjourned: Josh Raab made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Grace Wolff 2nd. Motion carried.**