



**Hawkinsville-Pulaski Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2023**

Present: Tyler Bryant, Jessica Davies, Tiffany Jolly, Michael Dupree, Cami Neisler, Daniel Mullis, Sylandi Brown, Kristin Slayton, Donna Clark, Bobbie Clemons (via phone), and Robert Herman

Absent: Mark Caruso

I. Call to Order

Robert Herman called the meeting to order at 8:17 am and gave the invocation.

II. Vacancy Filled

Maisie Pilkinton from Harris Kuntry Meats has agreed to serve on the board to fill the remainder of Tonya Boyd's seat, expiring 2024. Donna Clark made a motion to accept Maisie's nomination and agreement to serve on the board. Bobbie Clemons seconded. There was no other discussion and none opposed.

III. Minutes

Tyler Bryant presented the April 6, 2023 minutes. They were reviewed by the board. Sylandi Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Kristin Slayton seconded the motion. There was no other discussion and none opposed.

IV. Financials

Tyler Bryant presented the April 2023 financials to the board for review. The financials were reviewed and discussed. Cami Neisler made a motion to accept the financials as presented, Donna Clark seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

V. Chamber Report

As of May 5, 2023 the chamber has 169 members. At the Street Eats events, the Chamber pays \$450 to have hand washing stations and portable toilets available to the public. Due to unknown reasons, the stations were not delivered at the most recent event. County Commissioner, Jenna Mashburn graciously opened the facilities at the county annex for the event and will do so in the future as needed, provided the bathrooms are cleaned and restocked. Don Whitaker has agreed to clean the bathrooms at the county annex for \$150. Concerning the money spent for the portable stations not delivered, Tyler Bryant was able to speak to someone and the Chamber will be credited the \$450. Tyler Bryant would like to save the credit for RiverFest. With \$300 still available in the budget for Street Eats, Tyler Bryant has proposed to the board the chamber invest in banners for the event to advertise and attract more people, as well as pay to 'boost' Facebook posts. Also, having more to do for the children that attend Street Eats is needed. A chalk drawing contest was mentioned. Selling alcohol at Street Eats was also discussed, but there are many steps that would have to be taken which could take several months to get approved. Lunch & Learn was a success with 18 people in attendance and lunch catered by The Rustic Bistro. The chamber celebrated the ribbon cutting of Lilly Fields.

VI. Chamber Report: Upcoming Events

- a. Business After Hours – The Reserve, 5:30-7:30pm
- b. Movie Night (“Cars”) – Broad Street Baptist Church, 7:30pm
- c. Business Community Dinner – S. Lumpkin Street, 6-8pm
- d. Hawkinsville Walking Tour – The Opera House, 10am

VII. New Members

- Lilly Fields
- The Reserve on Commerce
- Golden Bee Apiaries
- Carver’s Country School
- Tom & Sandy’s Horseshoe Restaurant

VIII. New Business

The Cochran-Bleckley Chamber Joint Business After Hours has been moved June 20. The Back to School Bash is July 18 from 4-6pm. Marcus Early and Tyler Bryant will meet to discuss the logistics of the event. The chamber is interested in – and will move forward with— a financial roundtable discussion. The goal is to invite chamber businesses that offer financial services and create an environment for them to share with the public the services provided. Lastly, Robert Herman presented to the board a contract (employee agreement)

between the board and the President & CEO of the chamber. The agreement presented is a rough draft and will be discussed at the June 2 meeting.

IX. Meeting Adjourned

At 9:17 am the meeting was adjourned by Robert Herman. A motion was made by Kristin Slayton and it was seconded by Sylandi Brown. All in favor.