

Bushnell Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2025

Members Present: Holly Brint, Rene Ford, Cindy Ridle, Austin White, Patrick Osterman, Jessie Havens, Kim Pierce, and Lynn Campbell

Holly called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

The minutes of the July 23rd meeting were reviewed and approved

Treasurer's report: Three debits: Ribbon for cutting; check order; Bushnell Bucks.
No credits. Balance: 20,737.27

Kim is working on updating the Chamber flyer. She is using Canva to create the flyer. Thus far she has a photo on the flyer and a section for purpose, mission, past activities, current activities, and street scape. She will add benefits of membership to the flyer and send to Holly and Rene for review.

Rene will email an updated member list to Kim. Jessie will show Rene and Holly where to find the member list and forms on Google Docs. We will draft an invitation letter and send to all on the list.

Holly, Austin, and Ashton are on the ideas committee. Holly and Austin met to discuss ideas on attracting new members and how we can benefit Bushnell businesses.

The group discussed Bushnell Bucks. In the future they will be turned into the treasurer and a check will be issued to the business. Bruce Lorton at the McDonough Democrat prints our Bushnell Bucks. We will ask that he number them in the future. At present we do not have a fee for Bushnell Bucks. Macomb Chamber makes a lot of money on their Macomb bucks. We discussed a possible 2% fee. We tabled this discussion as we need to determine how many businesses will participate and a new letter needs to be drafted to the businesses. A suggestion was made to contact Marshalltown regarding purchasing these for their employees at Christmas.

Track workers are needed at the railroad tracks each evening of the fall festival. Workers are needed from 5 to 7 every night of the festival and also 7 to 9 on Saturday. The Women's Club will take 1 shift. Kim will contact Superintendent Bob Gound regarding asking groups and organizations at the high school to take a shift. Rene will contact the JFL to see if they are interested in a shift. The chamber pays 75.00 per 2 hour shift for 2 people.

The chamber is responsible for supplying the decorations for the light poles in downtown Bushnell during the holidays. Different groups and organizations (FFA, Rotary, etc.) help hang the decorations. We use greenery and red bows. The bows are attached to the poles

using screws, hooks, and zip ties. The bows need to be replaced, and we have asked Ashton at Chandler's Florist to make a sample bow for us to see at our next meeting. We will drop off a sample bow to Ashton. We will also ask Ashton to look at the pole to see what type of material she needs to include to hang the bows. Ashton has priced each bow at \$10.00.

Our next meeting will be September 16 at 5:30 p.m. We will have 4 or 5 business owners speak about their business and we will have refreshments and a drawing from M & B. Cindy will ask Bushnell Market for a donation of food for the meeting.

We will drive Austin's jeep in the parade and throw candy. Kim and Lynn will make signage for the jeep to give the chamber more exposure. The theme for the festival is "Small Town, Big Heart".

We will update our membership form to reflect the membership fee. The fee is \$100.00 per year for a brick-and-mortar business and \$50.00 per year for seasonal/pop up/food truck/individuals.

We will order t-shirts from Denny King for the chamber. They will be heather gray/ash color with an emblem on the back and Bushnell Chamber of Commerce wording on the front.

Rene will contact Napier Roofing for their ribbon cutting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.