



BARAGA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Our mission is to grow, enhance, and support a vibrant business climate through leadership, professional development, and community involvement.

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, August 13, 2025 - 8:45 AM

Chamber of Commerce Conference Room

Call Meeting to Order - President Debbie Stouffer called the meeting to order at 8:43 AM.

BCCC Mission Statement - The mission statement was read by Dianne Koskinen.

Roll Call -

- Board Present: Burt Mason, Debbie Stouffer, Daniel Mares, Joan Kruzich, Danielle Reeves, Cielle Waters-Umfleet, Nicole Acciacca
- Staff Present: Mary Mervar, Dianne Koskinen
- Board Absent: Cody Mayer, Nathan Grave, Jamie Smith, Chris Davidson

Guests and Visitors - Fran Whitman, Judy Bozicevich

Consent Agenda -

Agenda 8/13/25, Minutes 5/14/25, Email motion 6/11/25

Discussion: Additions - Action item (C) Donation request KBIC Domestic Violence Walk and one correction to the closed session minutes of 5/14/25.

Action: Motion to approve the consent agenda with one addition and one correction by Burt Mason, supported by Cielle Waters-Umfleet. All in favor.

Board Training - None

Support Staff Report -

- Thank you letters presented from BASH, Camp 911
- E & M Consulting contacted the Chamber about creating a Chamber business guide. This will be sent to PLAN committee for review.
- Quick Books cost is \$115 per month.
- Iron County Economic Alliance sent a letter of request to support their Halloween events. The Chamber will not pursue this.

Action Items -

A. Board member resignation

Discussion: Letter of Resignation from Jamie Smith was presented.

Action: Motion to accept the resignation of Jamie Smith from the board of directors by Burt Mason, supported by Cielle Waters-Umfleet. All in favor.

B. Webmaster hire

Discussion: Janelle Dawson suggested at \$35 per hour, as needed.

Action: Motion to hire Janelle Dawson on a contractual, as needed basis at the rate of \$35 per hour by Burt Mason, supported by Joan Kruzich. All in favor.

C. Request for donation - KBIC Domestic Violence Walk

Discussion: The Chamber donated \$100 in 2024.

Action: Motion to donate \$100 to the KBIC Domestic Violence Walk by Nicole Acciacca, supported by Cielle Waters-Umfleet. All in favor..

Discussion Items -

- A. Bingo - Members of the bingo committee are attempting to be placed on the KBIC gaming commission meeting agenda for August 21, 2025. In the event that the KBIC will not allow the Chamber to hold bingo games at the Whirl-I-Gig, the Chamber will explore other venue options including American Legion Post 144 in L'Anse.
- B. ATV ride - Insurance has been purchased. Pasties have been ordered. Guides will be the same as last year. No apparel will be offered for sale. Three groups are filling up (A-19/25, B-24/25, C-24/25). Burt is working with the DNR..
- C. Strategic planning - Board of Directors are asked to submit one possibility for a new board member. There are ten current board members with room for 5 more.
- D. Dynamo grant - One application has been received.
- E. Lunch & Learn calendar - January will feature KBOCC with Joan Kruzich, February is open, March will feature Aura Homeopathy with Colleen Harris, April is open, May is open. A suggestion was made to reach out to the BCEDC and the Baraga County Historical Society (BCHS). Lunch & Learn will be moved to the third Wednesday of the above listed months.
- F. Golf tournament - Dianne gave an income and expense report. Teams competing were fewer this year. The Chamber thanked Dianne and Mary for their hard work. Next year it will be held on July 18, 2026.
- G. KBOCC intern - Joan will be working on this and will report the status at the September meeting.
- H. Loyalty program - Twelve businesses participated. Two loyalty cards were returned to the Chamber.
- I. Art auction - The Chamber has been offered Rik Moilanen's art collection as a donation. The Chamber would sell pieces by silent auction in person at the Chamber, online, and on internet selling sites such as ebay. The Chamber will look at the pieces and consult with art experts before accepting the collection.
- J. Website metrics and business directory - support staff will meet virtually with Platypus to view the new directory on August 18. Mary will report metrics in September.

Committees Updates -

- Dynamo: Discussion item (D).
- Next Gen: Glow golf will be on Saturday, August 16 at 7 PM.
- PLAN: see notes in board packet.
- Membership: Approximately 90 of 140 renewals have been received..

- Scholarship: A suggestion was made to send letters in September to recipients with instructions and the deadline (January 31) to submit documentation.
- Bingo: Discussion item (A).

Announcements / Members' Good News -

- BCHS will be having a rummage sale on August 22-23 from 9 AM until 5 PM at the museum on US41 in Baraga.

Next Meeting - The next BCSC board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, in the Chamber conference room. Closed session at 8:30 AM. Open session at 8:45 AM.

Adjournment -

Discussion: None.

Action: Motion to adjourn at 9:47 AM by Burt Mason, supported by Dan Mares. All in favor.