



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, June 10, 2026 - 8:45 AM

Chamber of Commerce Conference Room

Call Meeting to Order - President Debbie Stouffer called the meeting to order at 8:38 AM.

BCCC Mission Statement - The mission statement was read by Burt Mason.

Roll Call -

- Board Present: Debbie Stouffer, Daniel Mares, Danielle Reeves, Chris Davidson, Burt Mason, Rhonda Nachtigall (remote).
- Board Absent: Cody Mayer (excused), Nathan Grave (excused), Stacy Froese (excused).
- Staff Present: Mary Mervar, Dianne Koskinen

Guests and Visitors - Jim Tolan, Ford Center Alberta.

Consent Agenda -

Agenda 6/10/26, Minutes 5/13/26

Discussion: Addition to agenda discussion item C. Support Baraga County events

Action: A motion to approve the consent agenda with one addition was made by Burt Mason, supported by Dan Mares. Motion carried with all in favor.

Board Training - None.

Support Staff Report -

- Dianne: Chamber brochure has been updated. The Chamber is looking into recycling activities in Baraga County.
- Mary: Yard Sale is set with 36 sites on the map.

Action Items -

A. Resignation - Joan Kruzich

Discussion: Dianne read Joan's resignation letter

Action: A motion to accept Joan Kruzich's resignation from the board of directors was made by Chris Davidson, supported by Rhonda Nachtigall. Motion carried with all in favor. A thank you note will be sent.

B. Board Member Appointment - Jim Tolan (to fill Joan Kruzich 3-year term expiring March 2028)

Discussion: None.

Action: A motion to appoint Jim Tolan to fill the board of directors position vacated by Joan Kruzich was made by Dan Mares, supported by Chris Davidson. Motion carried with all in favor.

C. Request for donation - Summer Reading Program

Discussion: Dianne read the request letter.

Action: A motion was made by Burt Mason to donate \$100 to the L'Anse Public Library Summer Reading Program, supported by Dan Mares. Motion carried with all in favor, other than an abstention by Chris Davidson.

Discussion Items -

- A. Chamber Core Values and Strategic Planning - Baraga Bucks remains a good fit within the Chamber's core values; however, the remaining values require revision, and the Chamber's goals should be updated to align with those revised values. The Chamber would like to invite Will Cronin from MSU Extension to the August board meeting to provide guidance during this review process..
- B. Baraga Bucks - Should Baraga Bucks participation be offered to Chamber members or the whole business community? Revisit this topic at the August meeting.
- C. Support for Baraga County Events — Todd VanDyke visited the Chamber office to offer an advertising package in which the Chamber would provide shout-outs or promotional support for selected Baraga County events. The Chamber's current advertising budget does not accommodate this level of paid promotion. In addition to two Chamber members who provide radio advertising, other members offer television and newspaper options. Jim will follow up with Eagle Radio, and Dianne will discuss additional advertising possibilities with Todd. The Chamber is considering a broader, multi-outlet advertising approach to promote Chamber services and activities.

Committees Updates -

- **Next Gen** - no report..
- **PLAN** - see notes in the board packet.
- **Membership** - Zeffy payments are being received along with traditional check payments.

Announcements / Members' Good News -

- Alberta Fest - June 27
- Business of the Year plaque was presented to the Finn's
- Lunch & Learn — Mary Meyers from TV6 will present at the September session. The Board discussed strategies to increase attendance, including reaching out to Lynn Belpedio at BCMH and forwarding the topic to PLAN for additional development.

Next Meeting - The next BCCC board meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, in the Chamber conference room. Closed session at 8:30 AM. Open session at 8:45 AM.

Adjournment -

Action: A motion to adjourn at 9:26 AM was made by Burt Mason, supported by Dan Mares. The motion carried with all in favor.