Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce

Regular Session Meeting Minutes

**Date**: July 14, 2025 at 5:57 PM

**Location:** Cross Plains Chamber Office

**Meeting was called to order by** Tiffany Holland at 5:57 PM

**Members Present:** Jake Estes, Susan Schaefer, Kristin Boggs, Raven Smith, Tiffany Holland, Dana Sons, Casie Morgan, Rebecca Smoot, George Mathews

**Others Present:** Ruby Wilke, Hank Ball

**Members Phoned In**: Shelia Blackburn

**Members Not Present:**

**Citizens to be Heard:** Hank Ball wants to get more involved in the community. He presented a concept called Indemnity Insurance in a Raffle or Prize Promotion for us to earn more income. It would also bring more traffic through our little town.

For example, if you're offering a big-ticket prize (like a car, luxury vacation, or a large cash sum), but you don’t want to risk the full financial liability if someone wins, you can:

1. **Partner with a prize indemnity insurance provider.**
2. **Set the conditions for winning** (e.g., pick the correct 6-digit number, make a half-court shot, draw a specific raffle number).
3. **The company pays a fixed premium** to the insurer (usually much lower than the prize value). It is usually 3-15% of the prize value.
4. **If a winner qualifies**, the insurer pays out the prize.

 5. **We earn money** by collecting raffle tickets or tries for shots.

**Minutes from the Previous Meeting:** Motion to approve minutes was given by Kristin Boggs. Raven Smith seconded. The Board voted. 9 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Was presented by Kristin Boggs and Susan Schaefer. The financial report indicated that our total expenses for the previous fiscal year amounted to $57,397.29, while total income was $39,356.80. This resulted in a year-end deficit of $5,475.47. Despite the shortfall, this represents a significant improvement compared to the prior year.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

a. The board discussed the 501c (3). Susan said we need to do a 1023 EZ. We can lowball without any problems. However, there is a fee (probably $500) to do the 1023EZ. Qualifications will take approximately 60 days. Susan will file the 990 at no charge. Susan, Kristin, and Shelia will present at the next board meeting about the finances.

 a. The Board discussed the Grants: Shelia has looked into Downtown Revitalization Programs about the sound system. Also there are small rural community grants out there.

b. The board discussed quick and easy money making ideas. We could do a raffle for the sidewalk sale. We could do a bake sale. Kids bingo is an option but we probably need to do that at the Community Center because it is more kid friendly. Rebecca is going to check and see if the cheerleaders or any school committee is going to do the discount card. Ruby is going to check with TxDOT and see if we can fill the boot. The best time to do that is from Noon to 8:00. We need to check with the FD to make sure there are no problems. Maybe a concert. Homecoming is October 10th.

c. The board discussed the meeting with Debbie. The officers presented their conversation with Debbie, the city Manager. She doesn’t have a place to house us at City Hall. We cannot add a donation to the water bill. We do have her permission to fill the boot. She said we needed to get an amount to present to the EDC to help with the banquet.

d. The board discussed we need to bring in more members. Tiffany mentioned Golson. So everyone needs to see if they know of someone that would benefit from joining the chamber.

e. The board discussed bingo. Our net income for Bingo was $1,081.02. We made $300.00 on the meal deal. The board decided to offer a meal deal during each bingo night and have a board member cook. The following cooking schedule is:

 July-Kristin, Aug.-Raven, Sept.-Susan, Oct.-Jake, Nov.-Dana, Dec.-Casie

 f. The board discussed the multitude of unpaid members. The board has stated instead of constantly after them, we need to tell them that if they don’t pay, then we don’t promote them. Challenge new members to join. We need to give due dates on membership fees.

g. The board discussed the Banquet. Our 35th Anniversary Banquet is set for September 6th.

 a. Committees for the banquet: Theme/Decor: Tiffany, Casie, Kristin, Ruby, Raven. Silent Auction: Ruby, George, Rebecca. Check on Sponsorships/Food: Raven

 b. Hanna Adams will be our speaker for the banquet.

 c. Theme is TBD by the Theme/Decor committee

 d. We need sponsorships. Packets were handed out explaining the Sponsorship Opportunities. We are hoping every board member brings in at least one sponsor. Raven will be following up with everyone.

 e. If any board member can bring in an auction item that would be great. Ruby, George and Rebecca will be in charge of this.

h. The board discussed the Hunters Feed will be here before we know it. If you can collect sponsorships and items, please feel free to do so.

**Adjournment:** With nothing further to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Susan Schaefer. Casie Morgan seconded. Tiffany Holland thereupon called the meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

**Date of Next Meeting August 11, 2025**

**Minutes submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Casie Morgan, Secretary**

**Minutes approved by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Tiffany Holland, President**