



Olds & District
Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of the Olds and District Chamber of Commerce Meeting

held on August 28, 2026

at Ultimate Safety

In attendance

President Doug Rieberger, Vice President Mike Tomey, Secretary Mary Jane Harper, Treasurer Rochelle Wilson, Past President Murray Elliott Directors , Ben Chrusch, Cindy Smith, Bob Lambert, Office Administrator Darren Wilson.

Regrets Zech Johnson

Following the board member BBQ Doug Rieberger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m

1. Agenda Added item 6.4 Museum Fundraiser

Motion Mike Tomey to approve agenda as amended Carried

2. Minutes- Motion Mary Jane Harper to adopt the minutes of the June meeting as corrected Carried.

3. Committee Reports

3.1 Office Administrator Report- Darren provided highlights.

*Chamber has been successful with the grant application for the Career Fair at Olds College October 28 and February 4. Grant total of \$20,000.

* A few membership enquiries including business in Bowden (A Room with a Pew)

*Current membership at *80 +

*A few non members stil have a presence on Chamber website and he will be removing these accounts.

*Chamber Platform should have a Stop gap allowing Olds Chamber to approve or not when a business puts their information on the site.

* Current phone system does not have voice mail We need to improve this communication system.

*Web site is up to date on upcoming events.

Small Business Nominations forms are on the web site.

Current bank balance of \$102,049.82 with payables at 3,683.25. There were questions about the payables and was deferred until Murray's arrival to provide clarification regarding the Museum invoice. Marketing expenses were \$600.

Financial reconciliation-Bob suggested that the outstanding balance in 2023 of \$36,683. and \$420. 2025 small business award tickets be written off

3.2 Financial Report

Bank Balance \$98,726.47 Payables \$4711.18 which includes the invoice for Golf Tournament. Motion Mary Jane seconded by Bob Lambert to accept the Financial report for information Caarried.

Motion Mike Tomey seconded by Ben Chrusch to approve payment of the payables of \$4711.17 Carried

3.3 Town of Olds Report–Councillor Ben Chrusch provided the following:

* Council has been on a 5 week summer break

*Synapse Data Centre project has been denied by Alberta Utilities Commission

*57 Ave project is almost complete

* Town has asked if the Chamber board minutes could be available thru a link for the general public to view. (Chamber president indicated that he would look into this request).

3.4 Olds College Report- Bob Lambert reported ;

* College had a buy conference season and is now geared up for the coming school year

*Trades building is on track for February 2027 completion

* Bob will investigate the possibility of a tour of the Trades building for the Chamber board members with a possible date of October 21.

3.4 Small Business Awards Committee 30th Anniversary Committee- Murray reported that nominations are coming in for the annual awards and board members need to remind people to submit nominations.

Radio station has interviewed Murray and print news will be coming out this week

Exceptional Customer Service Awards are coming in and still behind in the advertising of the award winners

3.5 Events Committee- Murray reported that golf tournament was successful with an expected profits of \$800.

Mary Jane reported that other than Small Business Week events nothing planned at this time.

3.6 Executive Committee -Minutes for June and July executive meetings were circulated to board members as part of the agenda package.

4. Out Standing Business

4.1 Highway Signs-Darren reported that Opa has paid for Highway signage.

4.2 Xero Books- Rochelle has finished updating financials and is ready to take 2025 Financial for special general meeting

4.3 Bylaw Review- A few items to clean up regarding removal of a director and committee will be ready to present By Law changes for a special general meeting of membership.

Motion Bob Lambert seconded by Jeff Nielsen that a Special General meeting of the membership for the purpose to approve Bylaws and 2025 Financial statements be set for November 5 at 11:30 am Olds Legion. Carried

4.4 Telus Migration of phone system- See Darrens report

4.5 Barb Babiak Spark Plug Award- Board members reviewed the criteria and made some suggestions for clarification of criteria and that the award may not be presented each year. Board members made some suggestions of worthy individuals for the

5. New Business-

5.1 E3 meeting- The E3 Lithium company would like to present to the board and a few dates were suggested which Doug will convey to company representatives. .

5.2 Rachel Notley-Jason Kenny tour- Doug brought forward a request if the Chamber would like to host the tour regarding Alberta Referendum. Following discussion indicated that would not host the tour

5.3. Signing Certificates of Origin-

Motion Cindy Smith seconded by Jeff Nielsen that the anyone of the following board members be authorized to sign Certificates o Origin:

President Doug Rieberger, Vice President Mike Tomey, Past President Murry Elliott, Secretary Mary Jane Harper, Treasurer Rochelle Wilson. Carried

5.4 Museum Fundraiser- Mary Jane provide information regarding a proposed museum fundraiser and that the committee will be looking for organizations to enter a team

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting September 17 at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved President_____ Secretary_____