

Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

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AGENDA : Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

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Current Executive Board Members:

Chair: Jodi Dixon, Vice Chair- Jeremiah Zahnow, Secretary/Treasurer- Denita Wisniewski

Board Members: Todd Ecker, Andy Otremba, Chris Amundson, Teresa Sorenson, Tara Stanek

4th Wednesday of the month, July 22, 2026 –MEETING 03:30 PM @ CITY HALL

Members Present: Jodi, Denita, Teresa, Tara

MEETING

1-Call to Order/Roll Call:

- Meeting called to order at: 3:35 by Jodi

2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions & minutes

- Agenda additions/deletions: Added Tara as a Board Member to the Board Member list.
- Minutes: additions/deletions: none
- On a Motion by: Teresa Seconded by: Jodi Minutes approved.

3- Financial Report – Financials - CD Renewals & donations

- AHNB – General Account: \$67,308.40
- MN National – Chamber Bucks: \$3,627.05
- AHNB CD's – 44,151.79
- Financials Comments: Gross profit \$125,882, YTD - Expenses \$102,659 Income \$23,948. On a Motion by Jodi, Seconded by Denita, motion carried to Approve financials.
- Contract for EDA portion of Lu's job: Lu met with the EDA Board suggested a 4% raise to Lu's pay for the EDA. The raise will be approved by the City Council at their next meeting.
- CD #90106 (\$16,791.31) and CD #90107 (11,194.20) matured on July 15, 2026. Comments: Motion made to renew CD #90106 to a 5 month term at 3.95% and CD #90107 to a 10 month term at 3.99% specials at American Heritage Bank . On a Motion by Seconded by: Denita a motion was made to Jodi. Motion carried.

4- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members: NONE

5- Director's Report-

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6- Old Business

Chamber Event reports & updates:

Networking events

July: Todd County Transfer Station

- July 23 - 7-8 Tour will be at 8 am last 30 - 45 minutes. 18 people have signed up, and some may come without signing up.

August: Christie House Museum

- Lawn of the Christie House - August 27th at 5:30. Will include a tour of the Christie House.

September: MN Power

- Will talk about the regular things they do. Rebates, etc. Will be held at MN National Bank on September 24th for lunch.

October: LPGE

- On October 22nd at the high school in the morning.

November: Todd County Historical Society??

- November 19th - will be held at the museum.

Chamber organized events:

Summer Concerts- Reports- need volunteers for August 4th

- August 4th - Teresa and Jodi will be helping.

Updates & Fundraising: Latino Festival and Summer Concerts

- \$1500 left to collect for the Latino Festival. Lu will do free will donation and the \$3 wrist bands. Need workers for 9 to 11. Lu's sons will take that shift if necessary. Concerts are going very well. 300 to 350 in attendance for the concerts.

A-Z Chamber visits:

- Thorsons: Lu went out there, and took pictures. She also went to Benning Printing. Took pictures. Lu went to LP Leader and took pictures too.

REMINDER: 1.2 Million - Central Bi meeting & Health and Human Services

Please fill out your Survey

7- New Business

Career Fair – October 13

- Lots of work to be done

OPEN Conversation – DMV support through WAVE started July 17, 2026

- WAVE opened on July 17, 2026 - Wesley speaks Spanish, and was able to help a lot of people.

8- Adjourn

- On a motion by Jodi seconded by Teresa, meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Our Core Values:

Promoting and connecting Chamber Members

Information and Resource Hub

Community enhancement

NEXT MEETINGS: August 26, Sept 23, Oct 28, Nov 18 (early due to Thanksgiving), Dec 16 (due to Xmas)

Welcome New 2026 Chamber Members!

Garden of Love/Jardín de Amor

GoTacos

J Brothers Mechanical Plus

La Dulcería by Jenny

Mediqwest- Central MN

Midnight Grove Marketing, LLC

Todd County Historical Society & Museum

Vitality Living of Long Prairie

Viva Restaurant & Bar

Membership Benefits

- Promotion via Facebook,
- Electronic Sign on HWY 71 & Email
- Free website & FB job listings
- Newspaper announcement of your NEW membership
- Monthly Networking Opportunities
- Phone Referrals
- Bi-Weekly emails: Chamber News, Upcoming Events
- Membership Certificate and decal
- Chamber Bucks promotion- Keep it local
- Online Membership Directory
- Member brochure, business cards and flyer display in office lobby
- Career/Job Fairs and other employee search and retention programs
- No cost participation in Trick or Treat

Community Benefits

The Chamber organizes and fundraises for the following events & initiatives:

- Monthly Networking
- Prairie Days
- Latino Festival
- Career Fair
- Community Gardens
- Downtown Flowers & Deco
- Harmony Park trees & scrubs
- City Wide Garage Sales
- Homecoming Parade float prizes
- Halloween Trick or Treat
- Bright Light Festivities
- Arts & Craft Show
- Outdoor Rink
- Public Forums

Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

2026 Strategic Goals

Increase Chamber Membership

Secure **15** new members in either Long Prairie or the surrounding area.

Show non-members the value of membership by introducing them to the Chamber Website, Facebook page and Membership Benefits flyer.

Retain Current Membership –

Make members feel valued by visiting and calling. Focus on connecting with at least 5 dormant members each month to check-in and remind them of the available membership benefits.

Promote and share business events and content via the chamber website, Facebook, GMLP Breakfasts, radio, emails etc.

On going

Brand the LPACC as the information Hub of Long Prairie

Send out **Bi-weekly** emails utilizing direct links for advertisements and events.

On going

Update the chamber website monthly to ensure it is an efficient and effective way to connect the community with resources

On going

Organize Networking events monthly