

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

4th Wednesday of the month, August 26, 2026 –MEETING 03:30 PM @ CITY HALL

Board Members Present: Jodi, Denita, Jeremiah, Theresa,

Guests Present:

MEETING

1-Call to Order/Roll Call:

- The meeting was called to order by Jodi at 3:35 p.m.

2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions & minutes

- Additions to agenda:
- Deletions to the Agenda:
- On a motion by Jeremiah, seconded by Jodi minutes approved.

3- Financial Report – Financials - CD Renewals & donations

- AHN Balance: \$
- CD Balance: \$44,839.15
- Total: \$110,799.01 Gross YTD \$134,422.89 Net inc \$6,005.72 On a motion Jeremiah, seconded Jodi, financials approved.
- CD #90105 matured on August 15, 2026. On a motion by Jeremiah, seconded by Theresa, to renew the CD for 10 months at 3.99%.

4- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members:

- Central Lakes College: Eric Hoepfner is the new administrator at Central Lakes College

5- Director's Report-

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6- Old Business

Chamber Event reports & updates:

Networking events

Report - July: Todd County Transfer Station

- 25 people attended. It was very interesting. 95% of the people went on the tour with Mike Eberle.

August 27: Christie House Museum

- Tours will be held after the Chamber after hours. 14 people are signed up.

September: MN Power

- MN National Bank for lunch. September 24th They will tell people how they can save money.

October: LPEDA & TCDC – Manufacturers' Breakfast - LP Packing

- At the Golf Course on October 22nd 7 am.

November 18: LPGE

- They have a speaker coming.

December 16: Open house

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2027 January: Todd County Historical Society??

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Chamber organized events:

Summer Concerts- Reports

- 1420 came to the concerts, 280 on average. Most had over 300 people. Freewill \$3,830, Don Rasmussen came in will donate \$1,000 next year. We made a profit of \$321
- Latino was -\$1,177
- Prairie Days \$2,004 including paying Lu for her time
- Total was \$1,150

Updates & Fundraising: Totals

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A-Z Chamber visits:

- LPCC: Went to Big Cup -
- LP Leader:
- Benning Printing: Picked up the Latino t-shirts
- Chandler Industries: next week

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

Please fill out the NEW Survey

- Fill out the survey for the top 5.

Career Fair – October 13

- Lots of people signing up. Lu uses the surveys from the kids for ideas of who to get.

OPEN Conversation

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7- New Business

Inviting general public to meetings- flyer:

- Lu is including a flyer in the bi-weekly newsletter to invite the public to our meetings listing the meetings for the remainder of 2026 and 2027.

OTHER?

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8- Adjourn:

- On a motion by Jeramiah seconded by Theresa, meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Our Core Values:

Promoting and connecting Chamber Members

Information and Resource Hub

Community enhancement

NEXT MEETINGS: 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