

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

4th Wednesday of the month, May 27, 2026 –MEETING 03:30 PM @ CITY HALL

Members Present: Theresa, Jodi, Denita, Tara and Andy

MEETING

1-Call to Order/Roll Call:

- Jodi at 3:32

2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions & minutes

- Additions/deletions to agenda: To add - Andy is going to talk to us about Insurance during the financials
- On a Motion by Theresa, and seconded by Andy, agenda approved.
- Discussion of minutes:
- On a Motion by Theresa, and seconded by Andy, minutes approved.

3- Financial Report – Financials - Renewals & donations

- Discussion of Financials: We are sitting very well. \$29,000 is for Prairie Days, \$13-14,000 for the Latino Festival, \$13 - 14,000 for Concerts in the Park. P/L comparison we are up from last year \$2,000.
- On a Motion by Tara, and seconded by Theresa, financials approved.
- Andy - It is the exact same coverage from changing from American Family to Advantage 1. The company will stay the same company. The Work Comp will be a different company. It will be slightly cheaper. They are working on the Work Comp policy yet. The reason for the change is that Doug Schmidt and Tyler Graves have both left American Family.
- Balances:
 - AHNB – General Account: \$80,656.81
 - AHNB – CD's: \$44,151.79
 - MN National - Chamber Bucks: \$1,946.17

4- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members:

- None this month. Lu just visited with Midnight Grove - she does websites and photography. She also helps with marketing, blogs, social media. Karrie Strand is originally from Albany. Her family has a farm out by the Grays/Krolls.

5- Director's Report-

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6- Old Business

Chamber Event reports & updates:

Networking events

May 14: Sauk Centre & LPACC at Camphill Village LUNCH

- 50 people attended - only 10 from LP. We did go out 2 years ago.

August: Christie House Museum

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October: LPGE

- Daniel reached out to host

MN Power??

- They have rebates that people don't know about. Unsure about date

Chamber organized events:

Updates & Fundraising: Prairie Days, Latino Festival and Summer Concerts

- Prairie Days: \$27,500 raised. Wrist bands and tickets should come to about \$2500 - 3,000.
- Latino Festival: \$13,150 raised - will still be fundraising.
- Summer Concerts: \$11,333 raised - will still be fundraising.

A-Z Chamber visits:

- Lu has been busy with Prairie Days, graduation and Memorial Day so didn't do visits.

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

Save the Date: May 28, 2026 6-7pm at City Hall: <https://www.cbilpcommunityconnect.com/>
https://www.toddcountymn.gov/news_detail_T12_R62.php

Brainstorm ideas

- Important that the community comes to the meeting with Central Bi and Health and Human Services. Lu with her EDA board they came up with ideas.

7- New Business

Review Board member agreements- NEW Signatures

- Agreement with the board members passed out. Group went over the Board Member Agreement. The Board Members signed the new Board Member Agreements.
- Lu will bring a copy of the by-laws to the next meeting to go over.

8- Adjourn

- On a Motion by Jodi, and seconded by Tara, meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Our Core Values:

Promoting and connecting Chamber Members

Information and Resource Hub

Community enhancement

Welcome New 2025 Chamber Members! (31)

Ona's Alterations LLC – Chasity Arnold (January)

Joann Schroeder (individual - January)

BK Blooms (February)

Prairie View Diesel (February)

Childcare - Tia Nathaly LLC (February)

Initiative Foundation (March)

Lakeland Dental(March)

Northern Pines Mental Health Center (March)

Hearts United (March)

Bolton & Menk (April)

All in Common (April)

Angeles Construction & Cleaning LLC (April)

Northstar Plumbing, Heating & Air (May)

Meadow Place Assisted Living (May)

Long Prairie Health Care Center – Nursing Home (May)

Penmac Wadena (May)

Akira Torres Cleaning (May)

Absolutely Sunshine (May)

Kylie Natural - Hair Products (June)

7 House Bar & Grill (August)
DW Jones (August)
Oasis Skin Grove LLC (August)
Sol de Vida (August)
Angeles Reyes Cleaning (September)
Star Bank (September)
Just For Kix – Long Prairie (October)
Edita's Bar & Grill (October)
Karls Recycling (November)
Ring Studios (November)
Explore the Prairie (December)

Dropped: (16...6 with specific reasons)

Long Prairie Chiropractic – slowing down
Rose City Signs – change in leadership
Flavor Shack
John Wiese Ford
Karina's Creations
VIDA- Vital Interpreting Delivering Access - dissolved
Luna's Country Foods
Battle Lake Outdoor - dissolved
Taqueria Chavez
Wireless World
Penny M-Barbershop
Valley View Assisted Living and Memory Care
Lakewood Health System – Medical Place is a member
Long Prairie Vision Center (Dr. Larson)
Prairie Ridge Inn
All This And More Events with Troy Lounsbury – personal reasons

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

