



**Smithville Chamber of Commerce  
Membership Meeting Minutes  
Sept 11, 2019  
Smithville United Methodist Church  
Sponsored by Citizens Bank and Trust**

The meeting was called to order by President Starla Janes at 11:55 am.

The invocation was given by Rev. Rebecca Mulford followed by a moment of silence honoring Patriots Day. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kenny Tromp.

**Meeting Minutes**

The August 2019 minutes were presented for approval. Dan Hartman moved that the minutes be approved as presented, Cary Singleton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**

The July 2019 treasurer's report was presented for approval by treasurer Dave Marsh. Harley Morlock moved that the treasurer's report be approved as presented, Tammy Liber seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Member Introductions**

Chamber members introduced themselves and the business or organization they represent. All guests in attendance were also introduced and welcomed.

**Program: Sponsored by Citizens Bank & Trust**

Pam Davis of Citizens Bank & Trust opened the program. She introduced Shirl Nichols with the Smithville High School FBLA program and allowed Shirl to share what is happening with FBLA.

Shirl shared that there is only 6 degrees of separation between you and success. Four years ago she stood in front of the Chamber body and in front of her classroom to admit that she was not sure what she was doing but she wanted to start a coffee business. In a short time, through networking and making connections, they figured out how to run a successful coffee shop called The Warrior Grind.

Another idea Shirl had is the Green Tie Affair. This is their highly successful miniature version of the “Shark Tank”. Programs like these have challenged the students which has resulted in tremendous success in FBLA competitions. One student, Robert Schwin, was the National Champion Future Business Leader and 9 students from Smithville went to national competition in San Antonio where they won gold medals.

The next venture is to take the Warrior Grind idea and put it on wheels as a coffee trailer. The city has donated a trailer for them to use and a generator has been donated as well. A unique coffee blend, “Be A Warrior”, has been created with help from The Roasterie. FBLA students placed at different tables throughout the room took a few minutes to ask for advice and share needs regarding the coffee trailer idea.

Shirl informed us that the Green Tie Affair will be Dec 13<sup>th</sup> this year, our help is needed.

### **Executive Director Report – Carol Noecker**

In honor of those who were affected by 9/11, Carol asked Jeff Bloemker to share his experience of that day with us.

Jeff worked at the White House as a staff member in the security department. He shared a riveting story about what was happening that day in the capital, including how his team worked to keep the vice president and many others safe. The plane hitting the pentagon personally affected his team resulting in a dramatic change in their office environment and attitude. Jeff said that the somber realization of what happened that fateful day developed strength and inner fortitude within the country’s leadership, their security team, and the nation as a whole. Because they were working around the clock through an extremely stressful situation, the security staff was highly encouraged to take time off to avoid depression and refocus on what is important. Jeff ended by encouraging us all to return to the attitude of 9/12, an attitude of unity, resolve, and pride for our country.

Carol thanked Jeff and then spoke about chamber business.

She shared that there are 2 new members this month: Ashlock Home Inspection Service with Richard Lowe and LSCV CPAs with Rhea Paulette representing.

Carol also informed us of the following upcoming events:

State of Community Dinner on Thursday, Sept 12<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are available for \$10.

BBQ Bash is on Sept 28<sup>th</sup>.

Bunco Bash is Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> at Ladoga Ridge Winery.

### **City of Smithville Report – Cynthia Wagner**

Cynthia shared the following information on behalf of the city:

The inaugural State of the Community dinner will be on Thursday Sept 12<sup>th</sup> at the High School.

The Community Strategic Planning process continues with the “Think Tank” reconvene

The Marketplace building project has 4 new building permits now.

The household hazard waste drop off is on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>.

Bids are out now for the Amory Road repair project.

## **Smithville Public Schools Report – Michelle Kratofil**

Michelle reminded everyone that this is suicide prevention week.  
Eagle Heights Elementary School received an award for their use of collaboration space.

### **Old Business:**

Plans for the Chamber of Commerce building facelift are moving forward. We are putting out bids this week for the project.

### **New Business:**

There was no new business to discuss.

### **Special Drawings**

Dennis Brewer won the cash drawing which he donated to FBLA. Maria Looman won the Citizens Bank \$25 gift card.

### **Special Announcements**

Special announcements were made by chamber members advertising future events and activities in the Smithville community.

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.**