

**Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes**  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**January 20, 2010**  
**Charlie's Pizza – 12 noon**

**Attendance**

**Guests:** Cassie Billman, River Billman, Tracy Puryear, Jasen Bronec, Dave Jacobson, LeAnne Kavanagh, Brian Kavanagh, Bryce Harman, Scott Gage, Mayor Doug Embody, Marla Embody, Glenda Billman, Rick Billman, Jerilee Wilkerson, Ray Christians, Tom Shock, Lee Shock, Marilyn Dunk, & Elaine Mitchell

**Directors:** Jeff Billman, Stephanie Browning, Robert Carette, Treasure Berkram, Virginia Harman, Gloria Taylor, Dawn Barrett, Scott Laird and Carson Dunk.

**Directors Absent:** Josh Larson and Tippy Burtch

**Executive Director:** Amy Overstreet

The annual meeting was called to order by President Jeff Billman shortly after 12 noon at Charlie's Pizza.

The minutes from the previous meeting were presented for approval. Robert Carette moved to approve the minutes as presented and Virginia Harman seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Scott Laird distributed the 2009 Financial Report explaining the Cut Bank Chamber had another great year financially. The ending cash balance of \$49,373 was up \$10,579 from last year. Scott noted the year-ending figure did not include the disbursement to the NRMC Auxiliary for their portion of the Trees & Keys fund raiser since that payment was made in January. The Chamber also holds a \$20,000 CD that matures in August of 2010.

Elaine Mitchell of Utterback Accounting performed the financial review of the Chamber's business for FY 2009 and reported everything was in order. The Chamber chose to have Elaine review our books this year instead of Val Vermulm due to the direct conflict of Val being Jeff Billman's (Chamber President) sister. Gloria Taylor made a motion to approve the financial review and Scott Laird seconded the motion.

President Billman took a few minutes to thank the out going board members and officers: LeAnne Kavanagh, ex-officio; Mike Bruch, Vice President; Scott Laird, Treasurer; and Gloria Taylor, Secretary. Scott and Gloria will remain on the board for another year. Newly elected directors and officers include: Virginia Harman; Vice President, Treasure Berkram; Treasurer; Stephanie Browning; Secretary; and Carson Dunk, director.

Jeff gave an overview of the Chamber's operations in 2009. The Chamber membership increased again up to 159 from 151 in 2008. The Chamber took on a few new tasks for 2009 as well: assumed responsibilities of the Business Appreciation Picnics, completely redid our website, a welcoming committee was started, totally

rejuvenated the Visitor Information Center, “Shop Cut Bank” promotion, added LED Christmas Lights to Main Street and courthouse, completed new wading pool/splash park, Chamber Gift Certificates and the Chamber Up after 5 socials.

Looking ahead in 2010, Jeff has set several goals for the Chamber which includes: increasing membership to 175, purchasing a much needed shade over the stage at the City Park, continuing to combine efforts with the Lewis & Clark Committee and the All-School Reunion Committee to have a successful turnout at both events this summer. Other goals including expanding the Gift Certificate Program, partnering with the CBDC and the City in order to retain current business and attract new ones to town and completing the CTEP project at the Visitor’s Center. Jeff also wants the Chamber to continue to work together with other organization to promote the town.

Ex-Officio LeAnne Kavanagh expressed her appreciation to Jeff for the great job he did in continuing to move the Chamber forward in 2009. Mayor Doug Embody gave positive comments toward the City and Chamber working together in 2009 and is looking forward to the same relationship in the future. Rick Billman expressed his thoughts of bringing a friend or other business owner to our Chamber Up after 5 socials.

In closing, President Billman thanked everyone for coming and for their continued support.

The meeting was adjourned around 12:45 p.m. on a motion by Scott Laird, which was seconded Gloria Taylor, and approved.