

BREMEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

minutes of the October 24, 2024 meeting

The Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce met at noon at the Rushcreek Pub & Grub. Those attending: Krista Ankrom, Alyssa Barnecut, Jay Boyd, Marilyn Boyd, Lydia Coakley, Brenda Carney, Vince Carpico, Cole Gordon, Toni Harper, Sue Henwood, Rich Lines, David Maple, Dee Mowry, Sue Schmitz, Ken Shoffer and guest, David Weber, Denise Wingard, Heather Yontz, Stephani Young and speaker Tracy Thompson.

Vice president Rich Lines opened the meeting in the absence of David Foltz and introduced Tracy Thompson of the Bureau of Workman's Compensation. This is a program that covers 75% of Ohio workers; premiums paid by the employers are based on their payroll figures times the risk classes their workers face. The BWC will do a confidential inspection of the work place and make recommendations in regard to industrial hygiene and safety. The BWC has no enforcement power. This means its worth is based on management and employees buying into and supporting its recommendations.. Lifting and over-exertion claims are the most prevalent; transportation has the most fatalities. Concerns include hearing loss and indoor air quality, especially carbon monoxide levels, as well. BWC offers members **safety talks** to employees and **safety grants** to businesses for equipment that will increase productivity and decrease injuries. The latter cannot replace an employee and must be kept at least one year. Participation in **safety council's** presentations with speakers, updates on regulations and equipment, and networking opportunities can earn a business a 3% premium rebate.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved as e-mailed on a motion by Dee Mowry, seconded by David Weber and carried. The treasurer reported the following account balances:

checking:	\$2 565.65
money market	7 909.79
CD	12 831.90
CD	14 200.31
CD	5 303.20

The report was received on a motion by Marilyn Boyd, seconded by Dee Mowry and carried. The unclaimed funds request is still in limbo.

Thank you notes were read from Bremen Community Methodist Church for the donation in support of the *Breakfast 4 U* program for middle school students and from youth for the purchase of market ducks and turkeys at the junior fair

auction. The chamber thanks David Foltz for representing us at the auction. David Weber moved that the chamber donate \$500 to the Bremen Area Food Pantry, amended to \$1000 and seconded by Marilyn Boyd; motion approved.

Announcements:

Brenda Carney - The new chamber directories were distributed, and it was suggested businesses begin now to take pictures that could be used in next year's.

Toni Harper reported the Scarecrow contest ended with a total of 16 entries.

David Weber - **Perry County Housing Coalition** hosted a successful fund raiser, thanks to auctioneer David Foltz;

Krista Ankrom - **Rushcreek Feed and Supply** is hosting a safety training with the fire department, and other businesses are welcome to participate.

Vince Carpico - **Workforce** development training is also available, perhaps as a chamber program.

The next meeting will be the chamber's annual one, open to the public with presentations by the village, township and school district, as well as election of executive board members by the membership.

The meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schmitz, secretary