

Limon Chamber of Commerce
General Power Hour Meeting
September 11, 2025

Called to order at 12:03 pm.

Board Members Present: Jake Herrera, Joy Johnson, Alison Arnold, Penny Pearce

1. Pledge of Allegiance, host recognition and thank you.
2. Jake announced that the meeting is being recorded.
3. Approval of Minutes: Joy announced a revision that came from James Martin. James Martin made a motion “to assemble a committee of business owners to brainstorm ideas to bring back to next month’s meeting for the rebrand, reboot or strategic plan.” Alison Arnold made a motion to accept the August 14, 2025 minutes with this revision, James Martin seconded, motion approved by vote.
4. Filing of Financial Reports: Teresa has determined that we will have enough money to make it through 2025. Raejean Palko asked how the number of members in 2025 compared to 2024. It was later reported that there are approximately 58 members this year; 76 members in 2024. James Martin made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report, Troy McCue seconded, motion approved by vote.
5. Board Reports
 - a. Suspension of Chamber
 - i. After hearing the feedback during the August 14, 2025 general meeting, a vote will not be brought forward.
 - ii. Jake Herrera acknowledged the motion that James Martin made at the end of the August 14, 2025 general meeting and announced that a committee has been formed consisting of Jake Herrera, Alison Arnold, Donna Metcalf, Trey Ford, Lem Scarborough and Cindy Tacha.
 - iii. James Martin found someone who will conduct a workshop at a cost of \$1,500. The Chamber doesn’t have the money for that.
 - iv. Raejean Palko emailed a video to Jake Herrera that shows how the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce did a reboot. He encouraged all board members to watch it; Jake Herrera will email it out.
 - v. The committee will need to determine what businesses get for being a Chamber member.
 - vi. Jake Herrera is hoping that the committee will hold two meetings before the October meetings.

- vii. James Martin asked how many phone calls are being received at the Chamber phone. The answer wasn't known. James suggested that that phone can be eliminated and calls would go to the library.
- viii. James Martin asked about putting business advertising on the billboards.
- b. Board Vacancies
 - i. Joy Johnson and Teresa Bauman have resigned effective December 31, 2025.
 - ii. Raejean Palko asked about term limits. Jake Herrera answered that it is unknown at this time. He added that that needs to improve and that Katie Zipperer is researching minutes to find the answer.
 - iii. Raejean Palko asked if the committee will address the election issues and will establish a term limit/election system.
- c. Car Show
 - i. Joy Johnson reported that there were fewer vendors and less foot traffic.
 - ii. Raejean Palko reported that feedback she heard regarded having the cars separate from the vendors and that food vendors didn't stay for the concert.
- d. Christmas
 - i. The date is December 6th and the Chamber is partnering with Downtown Limon for the event.
- 6. Round Table
 - a. Cindy Tacha reported that the Work Force had an open house at Morgan Community College where virtual career exploration was available. They have a new staff person.
 - b. Morgan Community College reported that they had held summer camps with a decent turnout.
 - c. Donna Metcalf announced that Tri-Town Arts had gotten grants and are doing free art workshops on September 26th and 27th in Limon, Hugo and Genoa.
 - d. Donna Metcalf shared that for Elizabeth's Christmas event everyone works together and booths are manned by different organizations. She wants good foot traffic for our Christmas event adding that streets will be barricaded.
 - e. Raejean Palko stressed that communication is extremely important for events. She is using 150/250 to publicize events. Organizations can send events to her. She has a goal to put events on tourism's calendar.
 - f. Troy McCue reports that there have been lots of changes in business ownership in Limon and Hugo. He asked that members let he and Raejean Palko know of anyone who is interested in coming into Lincoln County. Their services are free. There is a new restaurant going into former Alex Traverna's. Alison Arnold asked about the status of the Chinese restaurant. Troy McCue answered that it is on hold.

g. James Martin reported that there may be an increase in lodging tax on the ballot in November for Lincoln County.

7. Events in Chronological Order (**BOLD are Chamber Events**). Let us know about events not listed - Sara Mae Lancaster, 828-243-7681, saramaesacco@yahoo.com
- a. October—Strut Your Mutt!, 7:30 am in Hugo
 - b. October 4—Wine Walk, Whiskey Flight and Beer Flight plus Back Alley in Hugo
 - c. **December 6--Christmas event in Limon**

Adjourned at 1:07 pm.

Future Meeting Details

October, date TBD - Board Meeting

October 9th - Hosted by John Sullivan at the Metcalf School House

November, date TBD - Board Meeting

November 13th - Hosted by Limon Heritage Museum at the museum

December, date TBD - Board Meeting

December 11th - Rural American Realty at the Metcalf School House