



Place: Romers Banquet Hall

Date: 10/11/22

Members present: John Yoder, Michelle Dues, Eydie Kremer, Josh Schmackers, Sharon Rindler, Randy Grapner, Doug Timmerman, Frank Urwin, Karen Romer, Jackie Muhlenkamp, Amy Wendel, Lori Moorman, Michelle Guggenbiller, Kim Baumer, Lisa Niekamp-Urwin and Tracy Hamsher

President John Yoder called the meeting to order.

Randy and Doug discussed the continuation levy for the sales tax to support the general fund and county jail. This will not increase the current sales tax of 7.25%, so no increase in our sales tax. The jail is now 15 years old and some of the systems need to be maintained/upgraded. They discussed the standards they need to meet as dictated by the state, which includes the number of staff that's required. They have a total of 76 employees which include the workers at the jail. The Sheriff's office is open 365 days/year. The revenue for the sales tax was discussed, this is shared by all visitors purchasing anything in Mercer County. If the levy fails, the jail will still be funded but the general fund will be depleted. The election is November 8th.

Minutes from the September 7th, 2022, meeting were approved following a motion from Lisa and seconded by Sharon.

John said there'll be a SOCA meeting with Will Roberts on November 15th at the Depot in Coldwater at noon. He will be discussing health care, workers compensation and other opportunities. A flyer will be sent to all area Chamber members to encourage attendance.

Kim said we have 18 business for the holiday open houses, prizes valued at \$6,600. Dates are November 11th thru the 13th. Poster and mailers are coming soon. Top prize will be around \$1,500. Winners will be drawn at our next Chamber meeting on the 14th.

Pot of gold was won by Dour Timmerman who donated it back to the Chamber.

Combined drive info was mailed.

Michelle motioned to adjourn, and Josh seconded it.

Next meeting Monday November 14th 5:30 PM. It will be at Romer's Party Room. We will draw the holiday open house winners at this meeting.

Eydie Kremer
Chamber Secretary