

Odessa Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of Meeting held January 9, 2007

The January 9, 2007 Odessa Chamber meeting was held at Chief's Bar and Grill. The flag salute was followed by the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting and the Treasurer's report. President Jerry Schafer then took a moment for the room to introduce themselves as many new members were present.

While discussing new business, Jerry stressed the need for more committee involvement in the Chamber. He proposed several committee ideas, including a senior center and retirement center committee, and a roads and highways committee, which would work on a direct route between Odessa and Moses Lake while forming Highway 21 ideas. Other committee ideas are as follows: airport, utilities, youth, down town revitalization, off road, float, website, grant, and fest.

Todd King then spoke briefly about the function of the PDA and the need for the Chamber to help in finding actual leads and marketing new businesses and industries to come to town.

Mark Vlk had an opportunity to speak about his new business, Lincoln Recreation and RV Park, which offers a variety of activities such as paintball and rock climbing.

Ed Hayden also spoke about the need to establish additional trails and roads for ORV use, which will increase the amount of tourist dollars in the community, while possibly creating new business and job opportunities in the area. Jerry suggested that the Chamber write a letter in support for the outdoor recreation, which was approved.

Guest Speaker Allan Peterson, Director of the Center for Business and Industry Services gave a short presentation on the different services the center offers to help get small businesses started, as well as assisting existing businesses with different expansion needs. The center is an offshoot of the Small Business Administration, with the services and consultations offered free of charge.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aimee McKay
Secretary