

Greater Garden Valley Chamber of Commerce

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

6:30 pm

****DRAFT****

Attendees (Members): Kevin Coldani (Individual), Val Jones (GV Land & Homes), Leslie & Ruben Lazo (GV Lavender Farm), Katina Nelson (The Longhorn) Jennifer Schmitt (Crouch Merc), Mary Thompson (Crafty Sweets), Devin Trone (Medicap & GV Market), John Turnbull (Mountain Merch), Samantha Turnbull (Mountain Scoops)

Attendees (Guests): Shawna Martin, Steve Raddigan

Jennifer Schmitt, President, called a meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Pledge of Allegiance recited. Review of previous minutes (October 10, 2025) John Turnbull motioned for approval, Scott Price seconded motion. Minutes approved.

President's Report given by Jennifer Schmitt.

- **GV Winter Wonderland, Light-Up Parade, and Chili Cook-Off.** Very successful event, especially the chili cookoff. Next year, the expectation is that the event will be even more successful.
- **NYE Lantern Lighting** - Lanterns have been ordered and will be available at the Crouch Merc, GV Homes & Land, and Garden Valley Market. Once they arrive they will be available for purchase for \$5/lantern. The chamber will earn around \$4 per lantern in profit which will be used for the general chamber fund. The event will occur at sundown and the chamber will ask Kraig Wees, Past-President, to host the event as he participates annually and is best equipped to handle the event. Discussion about use of funds for Fourth of July, all in attendance indicated that it was best to use all funds raised to cover the cost of upcoming events.
- **Additional fundraiser** - Garden Valley-opoly - the chamber is researching using this fundraiser to raise a large chunk of money for the Fourth of July fireworks. This fundraiser would allow local businesses to purchase a space on the "monopoly" board once all spaces are purchased the company will provide a Garden Valley monopoly game that can be sold for full profit to the Chamber to go toward community events/expenses.
- **November Meeting Cancellation** - The November meeting had to be cancelled due to a scheduling conflict with the GV Senior Center. The Chamber secured space at The Dirty Shame for the meeting, but with so much confusion about where and when the meeting would be held, the Executive Board, made the decision to cancel the meeting. Since the bylaws call for only quarterly meetings, this cancellation is allowed.

Vice-President's Report given by Scott Price.

- Nothing to report at this time

Treasurer's Report given by Mary Thompson. **Bank Balance as of 12/9/25:**

- No new members/renewals in December
- 8 upcoming renewals for January

Monthly Income:

- Chili Cookoff Donations: \$280.00
- Christmas Parade Donations: \$100
- Katja Wees - Square Payment: \$125
- **INCOME: \$505.00**

Monthly Expenses:

- Storage (Nov & Dec): \$170
- SWITA - Website/Social Media (November): \$87.50
- Miller Enterprises (Fourth of July): \$470.00
- Scholarship - University of Idaho: \$500

- NYE Lanterns: \$662.25
- Chamber Phone (4 months @\$55): \$220
- **EXPENSES: \$2109.75**

Secretary's Report given by Samantha Turnbull.

- Paint & Sip Fundraiser will occur on Friday, January 9th at 6pm. \$30 for chamber members and \$40 for non-chamber members. All funds raised will go to the chamber. On non-chamber members the profit will be \$20 per person, on chamber members the profit will be \$10 per person.

Committee Reports - no current committees

Unfinished business - none

The election of At-Large Board Members No current openings

New Business:

- Jen Schmitt -There is a large number of individuals online that are asking financial questions about the chamber. While the financials are available in past minutes on the website, we believe that a full scale event expenses infographic would benefit the community and help people to understand the expenses involved. Currently, none of the chamber events earn money nor do any of the festivals hosted by The Crouch Merc. For the Fall Festival almost \$7,000 was spent on the event, while around \$2,500 was earned from vendors, food trucks, etc.
- Val Jones - Would it be possible to move events back to the smaller park near the Market? In response Jen Schmitt explained that the park area is owned by several people, one owner is represented by TOK Property Management, who was contacted by local businesses indicating that the food trucks in the area are causing their businesses harm. As a result TOK sent an email letting the Chamber leadership know that no food trucks would be able to use the space. As a result, events were moved to the park.
 - TOK then reached out to say the chamber could use the space and have food trucks there during chamber sponsored events only. The chamber decided that since the City of Crouch will not contribute to the chamber events, that hosting events at the park is more cost effective for all involved as every vendor and food truck was required by the chamber to have a City of Crouch Vendor permit (\$20) and food trucks were required to have a vendor permit and pay 2% tax on their sales.
 - Steve Raddigan clarified that the city cannot spend money except on specific outlined areas. While this clarifies where and what the money can be spent on there is still no answer as to how the money collected by the 2% tax actually benefits the business community and the citizens of Crouch.
 - The vendors & food trucks have shared a strong preference to continue to hold events at the park.
 - Past discussions about benefit of festivals. Val Jones asked Katina Nelson if there was an increase in business when festivals were happening to which she replied, "yes".
- Leslie & Ruben Lazo - revisit of the Saturday Market which is under new management. Since the market is not a chamber member/associate, this discussion was tabled for outside of the chamber meeting.

Scott Price motioned for the meeting to adjourn. John Turnbull seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.