

Greater Garden Valley Chamber of Commerce
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

6:30 pm

Attendees (Members): Val Jones (Garden Valley Home & Land), Leslie & Ruben Lazo-remote (GV Lavender Farm), Anthony Perez (Rocky Mountain Septic), Shannon Perez (The Mud Room), Scott Price (Crouch Merc), Jennifer Schmitt (Crouch Merc), Holly & Shelby Stroebel-remote (The Dirty Shame) Mary Thompson (Crafty Sweets), John Turnbull (Mountain Merch), Samantha Turnbull (Mountain Scoops), Kraig Wees (Individual)

Attendees (Guests): Steve Raddigan

Jennifer Schmitt, President, called a meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Pledge of Allegiance recited. Review of previous minutes (February 10, 2026) John Turnbull motioned for approval, Scott Price seconded motion. Minutes approved.

President's Report given by Jennifer Schmitt.

- **Community Concern:** A few individuals have brought up concerns about fire season and the fireworks. Drone show was suggested but the cost begins at 25K which is not within our budget. Chamber feeling is that without the professional fireworks show there would be more at home firework displays which pose a much greater concern for fires. Chamber will consider purchasing a few reusable signs that will encourage people not to set off their own fireworks.
- **City of Crouch Collaboration:** At the last City Council meeting it was evident that collaboration between the chamber and city is not going to be feasible. The City will provide on their own porta potties and trash dumpsters within city limits but will not coordinate with the chamber.
- **Fourth of July:** We spoke with Adam Noakes who will provide the same show as last year with potential tweaks to the show for a different experience. \$20,000 with 25% off if paid by end of April would be \$15,000 so we should be able to pay that when the chamber sponsor renewals come in the beginning of April. Adam will attend the next meeting to provide an update. Chamber will hold a day-of raffle for someone to "Push the firework start button" for the show. Raffle tickets will be sold on the 4th to recoup some of the firework money. The Mud Room will be responsible for catching the ducks during the Duck Races again.
- **Chamber Scholarships:** Should the chamber continue to provide scholarships to GV High School students when these students do not give back into the community? Debate for and against took place. Scott Price motioned that the chamber will "provide a \$500 scholarship to one GVSD senior with the stipulation that they will volunteer a minimum of 5 hours at a chamber approved community event. Volunteer hours must be approved by the chamber and 5 hours must be completed before the scholarship will be paid". 4 Yays 4 Nays - Jennifer Schmitt breaks tie with a yay vote. Motion passes.

Vice-President's Report given by Scott Price.

- **Soap Box Derby** - We need someone that is willing to run this event from 11:00am - 2:00 pm. Last year there were several crashes so the cars need to be repaired. Samantha motions "all soap box derby cars are the responsibility of the owner of the car and must be in proper working order prior to the Fourth. No car that is unsafe can be used on the Fourth" Scott Price seconded motion. Email to be sent to car owners sharing information. Kraig Wees suggested that Steve Semmel could possibly arrange for the sand to be dropped again.

Treasurer's Report given by Mary Thompson. **Bank Balance as of 1/13/26:**

Monthly Income:

- Fourth of July Sponsors: \$1,3000
- Chamber Sponsors: \$1,500 (The Dirty Shame)
- New Members: \$600 (Fidelity Plumbing, Dakota Stallions, GV Car Show)
- Membership Renewals: \$500
- GV Coupon Book (Mountain Merch): \$400
- TOTAL INCOME: \$4,300

Monthly Expenses:

- \$579.52
 - \$432.47 (GV Coupon Book)

BANK BALANCE \$5,004.48

Secretary's Report given by Samantha Turnbull.

- **SWITA Update:** The 2026-2027 Grant Application was submitted and we will find out the grant amount in May.
 - SWITA will only reimburse for advertising campaigns focused on multi-day stays in a region. Fourth of July remains safe as we have a late night event which encourages overnight stays.
 - SWITA will not reimburse for Chamber hosted events (except the Fourth). Chamber funds can only be used in the support of advertising events that promote a multi-day stay. If a business decides to host the Spring or Fall Festival then they can request advertising funds from the chamber and the chamber can promote the event.
 - SWITA grant requirements are ever evolving and the chamber is lucky to be grandfathered in as SWITA usually does not allow for those under two hours from a major city to qualify for the grants.
 - SWITA will also continue to fund influencers, billboards, road signs, and radio/media ads as long as approved by the SWITA prior to production.
 - SWITA funds cannot be used to promote a single business or event, instead must be tourism focused with multi-day stay as the goal.
- **GV Coupon book:** arrives on Wednesday will be distributed on Friday.

Committee Reports - Fourth of July committees will need to be established at our next chamber meeting

Unfinished business

- None

The election of At-Large Board Members - Kyle Trone (GV Market) & Devin Trone (Medicap) currently hold one position. Samantha motioned to separate the two and allow them to hold two spots since they are two separate businesses. No objections from body will be voted on at next meeting. One spot is still vacant anyone has a community minded individual that would like to be on the board at large, please have them attend the next meeting. Must be a chamber member and must be willing to volunteer for community events. Kevin Coldani resigned from his at-large position.

New Business:

- The Crouch Merc is taking over the hanging basket sales for Terrace Lakes this year. Terrace Lakes will NOT be selling hanging baskets. \$40 pre-sale price and \$45 after arrival on May 15th.

Motion to adjourn made by Samantha Turnbull. Seconded by John Turnbull. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.