

Metamora Chamber of Commerce

Fall Meeting Minutes – October 13, 2025

In Attendance:

Gary Loar	Marianne Gleckler
Savannah Armstrong	Juliana Clendenin
Debbie Campbell	Carrie Huelett
Michelle Donnelley	Shawn Donnelley
Eric Smola	Dave Sharples
Cheryl Robison	Jeff Truckor
Cathy Mossing	Courtney Kreiger
Kim Smallman	Lee Ann Miller

Call to Order – Marianne Gleckler called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and brief prayer.

Secretary's Report

1. Marianne Gleckler moved to approve the April meeting minutes.
2. Jeff Truckor seconded the motion.
3. All voted yes.

Financial Report

1. Courtney Krieger reviewed the financial report presented.
2. Kim Smallman moved to approve the financial report.
3. Savannah Armstrong seconded the motion.
4. All voted yes.

Welcome New Members – no new members this month.

Announcements

1. Party in the Park – there will be an organizational meeting at Jeff Truckor's on Thursday, December 4th at 6:00 PM.
2. The Annual Meeting will be Wednesday, January 21 at the Catholic War Veterans Hall in Assumption at 5:00.
3. C.A.ST. needs cash donations and items that they cannot get at the food banks. Items include hygiene products, dish soap, laundry detergent, etc. Drop offs can be made at the Library or the Bank.
4. Work is beginning on the 2026 calendar. If your business has special events or celebrations that you would like on the calendar, email them to the chamber no later than November 15.

Business Spotlights

1. FCEDC Future of Fulton County Program – Eric Smola
2. All eight school officials have developed a program focused on preparing kids for the work force. Their focus is the kids who don't have a plan.

3. The program is for juniors and seniors and each school can send up to four students.
4. Students attend their core classes in the morning and the program in the afternoon.
5. 1st semester is dedicated to teaching soft skills such as interviewing, writing a resume, handshakes, etc. Students will also go through certification courses such as OSHAA, AED and more.
6. 2nd semester is dedicated to on-the-job opportunities. Students will be paired with a participating business in the field they are interested in.
7. More information can be obtained by emailing the chamber.
8. If your business is interested in participating in the program, you can reach out to Eric Smola.

Guest Speaker – Cathy Mossing, Village of Metamora

1. Rick Meiring was unable to attend, but the newly formed Tree Commission has been busy over the past year.
 - a. They have inventoried each tree in the right-of-way areas, the park and other common areas where the village is responsible for the trees.
 - b. Their inventory includes tree varieties, condition and current maintenance needs.
 - c. The Tree Commission is also responsible for the planning of our Arbor Day each September. Third grade classes are invited and have a blast. The Gleaners sponsor lunch and the kids then witness the proper planting of a tree and can ask questions.
2. New playground area was completed last fall near shelter c and the t-ball field. Grant money was received, but Anderzack-Pitzen and the local cub scout group and their parents did much of the grunt work.
3. Creek cleaning will resume any time now.
4. The Garnsey bridge failed inspection this year. It is still safe but does qualify for us grants that will cover the bulk of the engineering and construction which is predicted to begin sometime in late 2028. One lane will remain open during construction. This will include a new pedestrian bridge as well.
5. ODOT has been busy on the West Main Street bridge. We hope to have this project complete and the bridge back open sometime in December.
6. The Chamber planters have changed from summer flowers to mums for this fall. Thank you to the Farmer's Wagon for sponsoring the mums. If your business would like to sponsor either of the plantings for 2026, please contact the chamber. A few more planters, butt cans and benches have been ordered for next year to complete the downtown business district.
7. The Village has received a grant to hire a professional to update the Zoning Ordinances and the Comprehensive Plan. Council and the Planning Commission will be reviewing documents presented by Jacob Barnes from Zoning Solutions to be sure they reflect the village's needs. Final approval will come from council via ordinance.
8. Our newest business, DM Creations, celebrated their first anniversary earlier this summer. If you have not stopped by the shop, you're missing out! Not only does she create awesome t-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, koozies, hats, etc. for your favorite team, but Debbie also carries products from other local small

businesses. You can purchase Fischer Honey, Bloponian Studios pottery, Green Bubble Gorgeous bath products and much more.

9. Tru Corner Commons has been busy gutting and replacing apartments in the two-story building at the center of town. As residents move out, Brandon updates the apartments before re-renting. He is also planning some façade improvements to the exterior.
10. ABT Real Estate & Holdings has received a façade grant. This grant will allow them to repair, restore and/or replace the facades of the Farmer's Wagon, Big's Bar & Grill and the old Arkam Office building.
11. Coming in 2026 will be the Wagon Wheel Java & Creamery where you can grab a coffee (with or without that something extra) or ice cream cone.
12. Also joining DM Designs and Wagon Wheel Java & Creamery in the Farmer's Wagon strip will be the Wagon Wheel Flower & Gift. Just like it's name, we will have a local florist and a place to buy some special gifts.

Open Forum – Meetings

1. A few of the attendees preferred morning meetings; most preferred evening.
2. All liked the included mail and didn't mind paying \$10
3. All agreed quarterly meetings were just right.
4. The board will continue to meet eight times (every month except the months that the chamber meets)

Open Form – Projects & Events

1. Cathy reviewed some of the projects/events that the chamber currently participates in
 - a. Planters
 - b. Student Financial Assistance Award Program
 - c. Party in the Park – need more involvement from more members.
 - d. Santa Photos at Koelsch's
2. There were no other suggestions at the meeting, but the board is always open to hearing ideas - - email the chamber or come to the next meeting!

Open Form – Miscellaneous

1. A suggestion for a quarterly chamber newsletter was made by a member. Cathy will be creating a sample to share at the next board meeting. The newsletter can include meeting information, event information, business spotlights and more. It will be emailed to our members, and hard copies will be placed at businesses around town.

Announcements

1. Julianna Clendenin from Bloponian Studios announced that she will transition from creating pottery to sell to hosting pottery sessions where customer make their own creations. She would also be able to host painting events. She will be working out of the house/studio on East Main. Watch her Facebook page for updates and information.
2. Jeff Truckor shared that the local scout group's main fundraiser, which almost solely supports their programs for the year, needed assistance. The board decided to donate \$500 for ingredients and supplies for their pancake breakfast.

The scouts have been the Pary in the Park cleanup crew for the past four years and have done a fantastic job for us.

3. Big's is hosting a Chili Cook off on Friday, October 17 beginning at 4:00.
4. Big's Halloween Party is Saturday, October 18th beginning at 7:00.
5. Eric Smola shared that the "Meet the Candidates" event was successful - - and recorded. You can view the full program on the school website. There are five candidates running for three open spots on the school board.
6. Eric also shared that House Bill 168 involving property taxes will have a huge impact on schools and communities. The school is posting information and links to further information on their Facebook page.
7. Jeff Truckor mentioned the financial impact the decrease in workers at Park-Hanifin has had on both the Charm and Big's. A little bit is a great deal to small businesses in a small town.

Adjournment

1. Jeff Truckor moved to adjourn the meeting.
2. Michelle Donnelley seconded the motion.
3. All voted Yes.