

# Metamora Chamber of Commerce

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## Summer Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2025

### In Attendance:

Shawn Ferguson  
Sue Woodring  
Mary Jo Fischer  
Shawn Donnelley  
Cheryl Robison  
Rosie Truckor  
Kathy Sharples  
A.J. Schroeder  
Marianne Gleckler  
Savannah Armstrong  
Gary Thompson  
Betsy Woodring  
Kent Helm

Joe Woodring  
Cathy Mossing  
Michelle Donnelley  
Jeff Truckor  
Larry Truckor  
Dave Sharples  
Beverly Engler  
Nancy Schroeder  
Tracy Pixley  
Courtney Kreiger  
Judy Snyder  
Rick Woodring  
Judy Snyder

**Call to Order** – A.J. Schroder called the meeting to order with a brief welcome and the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Secretary's Report

1. Jeff Truckor moved to approve the April meeting minutes.
2. Marianne Gleckler seconded the motion.
3. All voted yes. Betsy Woodring voted no.

**Financial Report** – none available.

**Welcome New Members** – no new members this month.

### Announcements

1. Party in the Park Update
  - a. 2024 was a challenge. The weather didn't cooperate on Friday night and Saturday morning, which resulted in less attendance, fewer cars and tractors and a late start. There was also a large graduation party and wedding in our area on Saturday night.
  - b. Sunday was drastically affected by Father's Day.
2. Party in the Park Financial Report
  - a. Courtney distributed the financial report for 2024.
  - b. Overall, we weren't down much from 2023 considering the challenges we faced.
  - c. If anyone has any questions regarding the report, please reach out to Courtney.

### Business Spotlights

1. Oak Valley Reality – Mary Jo Fischer

- a. Mary Jo has been in real estate for 30 years; 29 with Disalle Reality.
- b. In 2024, she received her broker's license and joined Oak Valley as an associate broker.
- c. She is licensed to sell in Michigan which allows her to represent lake properties at many of the popular lake spots.
- d. Oak Valley is growing fast and currently has 15 agents.
- e. Mary Jo has business cards if anyone is interested.
2. Shawn Ferguson – Tomahawk Printing
  - a. Tomahawk Printing has been around since 1938. Shawn and his wife purchased about 10 years ago.
  - b. Their primary business is commercial printing – business cards, letterhead, brochures, flyers, etc.
  - c. They produce the Evergreen newsletter, materials for St. Mary's Meats and all of our material for Party in the Park.
  - d. The printing business is a challenge and requires branching out in different directions. Recently, Tomahawk has started printing signs.
  - e. They have recently invested in new machines to accommodate sign printing and use an alu panel system where a vinyl adhesive is placed over aluminum.
  - f. Tomahawk prides itself on personal experience and they also offer free delivery within a 50 mile radius.

**Guest Speaker – Gary Thompson from Regional Growth Partnership**

1. Gary has an extensive background in economic development and recognized Shawn Ferguson for being a mentor.
2. There are three reasons to promote economic development: to create wealth for individuals, to create wealth for companies and to create wealth for communities.
3. When everyone thrives, you have vibrant, healthy and strong communities with residents and businesses who contribute to its success.
4. There are three types of economic development projects that RGP focuses on: retention projects that try to keep existing businesses in our area, expansion projects for existing businesses and attraction projects that actively seek to bring new businesses into our area.
5. Northwest Ohio has lots of attractive assets to help bring in new businesses. We have plenty of water, electricity, gas, roadways (turnpike, I-75, etc.), railway, airports, shipping and more. We also have a wide range of living opportunities from condos downtown to farms in our outer areas and everything in between.
6. Gary advised that the best thing communities can do to prepare for growth is be ready. Know what Metamora can offer new businesses and what we want from new businesses.
7. Gary also talked about economic and demographic data reports that are available for any given community. He shared some statistics from the data report for Metamora. Very interesting.

**Workforce:**

- There are 364 jobs in Metamora as of 2024, which is a 1.4% increase from 2019, with another small increase projected to occur by 2027.
- The 3 largest sources of inbound commuters to Metamora are Swanton, Delta, and Sylvania.

-Residents in Metamora commute to work in Toledo, Sylvania, and Perrysburg more than any other town in the area.

-There is a net commuter level of -355 people, meaning 355 more people commute outside of Metamora than people who commute in.

#### Industry:

-Construction (128 jobs) and Manufacturing (93 jobs) industries are responsible for the largest amount of employment in Metamora, respectively.

-Construction has also seen the largest amount of growth in employment, 32 more jobs in 2024 than in 2019.

-Manufacturing and construction make up a vast majority of the GRP of Metamora (35.4% [\$17.97M] and 32.7% [\$16.60M]).

#### Major Employers:

-Anderzack-Pitzen Construction Inc (~99 employees)

-Evergreen Local School District (~148 employees)

-Luma Electric (~69 employees)

-Parker Hannifin Corporation (~52 employees)

-This only includes businesses with over 40 employees.

#### Job Postings:

-Parker Hannifin is the largest source of job postings in the area, with 24 unique job postings over the last year (June '24-June '25).

-The most sought-after occupation was Production Workers, All Other with 20 unique postings over the last year.

-The three most sought after specialized skills were workflow management (13% of postings), bloodborne pathogens (12% of postings), and calipers (12% of postings).

-The most sought-after common skill is communication, with 29% of postings mentioning it.

**Open Form – nothing**

#### **Adjournment**

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