

Our Mission: To be a valid and dynamic link between local business and the community.

- 1. Meeting was called to order at noon by President Danielle Magnin.**
- 2. Member Spotlight - City of Oconto Falls/Oconto Falls Fire Department**
- 3. Introductions and membership updates: Ginny** - Stay safe on the road around farm equipment and please wave. **Ashley** Lioness Fall Meat Raffle coming up, Avenue of Lights letters went out via email and usps, if you need one, reach out. **Chique** Machickanee working on getting trails ready for snow season. **Katie** OEC - October is co-op month. Bag Lunch to go on Election date with drive through and order forms going to businesses. Proceeds support charities. **Ashley** - NEW CU - today is International Credit Union day, stop out for cookies, flyers, calendars. Have been collecting supplies for the Humane Society and will be donating at the end of month. There will be food trucks from 11-2 at all locations. **Selena and Kasey** - Encompass, headstart fully in swing and still enrolling. **Lisa** Miotke, Utilities Energy Services Manager, provided information about programs, reach out to her with questions. **Destiny** - Pro Wireless/Cellcom: Black Friday Sales start 10/22 through 12/2, tiered with each week having a different phone on sale. iphone14, iphone 15, iphone 16 Samsung S24 are eligible for free if on the unlimited plus plan. Working on launching internet solutions. November 11th is projected launch. **Joan**, Packerland and Writer to the Rescue: Bill nominated and received Mission Magazine Faith that Works award featured in Nov/Dec issue. Looking for nominees for next year. Abrams Spotlight productions. 24-hour theater with Halloween Theme. Friday, October 25th starts at 7p with warmups and then write a play to perform the next day. For ages 16 and up. Show presented the next day for \$5 admission. Abramsspotlighttheater.com Seussical first two weekends of November (40% sold out). Godspell, The Play the Goes Wrong, Ghost Tale for Mystery Dickens Junior. **Bonnie** McSwain - Machickanee Cross Country Ski Club. First meeting (open to anyone) Monday, December 9th at Abrams Town Hall. Four evening/afternoon events are coming up as well. Had a lot of logging this year and working to get trails back in shape. **Ken** - FFA Alumni: fruit and local product sale is underway. Orders due November 11th, delivery of Dec 18th. St. Anthony's Trunk or Treat 4-6 in the parking lot. Saturday is the Meat Raffle at Steel Moose for St Anthony School. Christmas wreath fundraiser orders due November 8th with delivery November 23rd. Breakfast with

Santa in the planning stages for St. Anthony. **Dean** - Oconto Falls School - go on the website, many activities going on. Friday is the last home football game. Golf had member go to state. Volleyball and Cross Country coming to a close. PIE in the face event took place at OFES last night. Evacuation drill took place today if you saw students walking out and around town. Middle School is ~65% complete, ahead of schedule, under budget, going great. **Adam** Ascher Janitorial - very busy with carpet, window, post construction cleaning. Added some commercial accounts - thanks for support! **Bonnie** Johnson, Sr. Center and Home Respite. Phone Call daily service to check in, day center inside the senior center to drop off loved ones when you go to work or need to run errands, in-home care. All are volunteers and it is very hard to get volunteers to go into people's homes. They go in and stay with and keep company to give the caregiver an opportunity to get out and relax. In search of volunteers for phone or in-home care. Senior Center trying to raise money to upgrade the downstairs so it can be used for cooking classes, exercise classes, etc. **Emily** Flagstar Bank - rates have been changing with deposits going up and loans going down. scouting - eagerly awaiting another Eagle Scout appointment this year. Find a Cub Scout to purchase popcorn from if you haven't yet. Have Packer tins this year! **Jackie** - Konkel accounting. Tax season extension wrapped up Tuesday. Still taking accounting clients. **Ellen** Pritzlaff - Operation Christmas Child - November event, but starting to pack the shoeboxes now. 220 million people from 170 countries reached. November 18-25 is collection week. Back table has brochures with guidelines for gifts. Feel free to take one and share with others. **Scott** - Cellcom: fixed wireless internet is residential, does not operate on cellphone towers. Offered in rural areas where fiber is not available. \$49.95 unlimited usage. Not a hotspot, a full residential router. Please reach out to Scott with updates for welcome signs. **Debbie** - Senior Center will be sending out 2nd annual fundraiser letters to businesses. **Danielle** - NewView flyers distributed for next week's open house on Wednesday and some job openings. **Ginny** - myvotewi.gov to register to vote before elections.

4. Reports

- a. Secretary - approved as distributed
- b. Treasurer - report provided: Telephone and insurance bills are annual and were just paid. Membership time is coming up. Annual budget was also provided. We will be voting on it in November.
- c. Chamber Bucks - Don't forget about Chamber Bucks as an option for Holiday gift giving!
- d. City Administrator - It is budget time. Preliminary budget out and posted November 12th 5p is the public hearing. The city will be borrowing \$2.1 million for major things such as

Columbia Street. October 28th will be the Open House about the project. Bids were \$200 thousand low. Anticipate timeline to start in early spring. Will be working with (stahl? of Luxembourg). Street sweeper and other equipment have been aged. Looking at doing private contractors and doing things in house. Looking at a 4% increase. Need a new squad car and equipment upgrades. City Hall is turning 25, so the heating and cooling system, roof need updates. Recycle Center road changes being made. Ashley provided that some really exciting park projects and fencing, playground equipment are also included. Peter stated that old equipment will be moved around to other places. A small amount of equipment costs \$130k. Upgraded bathrooms with flush toilets and running water at West Side beach. Today the high school tech ed kids are working on concrete around the bathrooms at Memorial Field to make it ADA compliant. Dean provided that the instructor of those students is Dave Heisel.

- e. Library - Rachel Pascoe shared that there are shoeboxes at the library. Toys for Tots box is already in the lobby as well. Playgroup and Storytime is Monday, Tuesday respectively 10:30 am. November/December sewing class dates released yesterday and have 2 spots open for Saturday December 2nd Bowl Coozie class. Elnilda updated display for Dia de los Muertos. If you know of any Latin or Hispanic families that would like to contribute to the showcase, they are more than welcome. Will be at the Trick or Treat Trail with books and candy to give away. Senior friendly technology classes begin in November. Don't have to be a senior, sign up ahead of time, pay anything, or attend all three. Also at Trunk or Treat at St. Anthony's. Now collecting craft supplies for craft supply exchange which will take place in November. Early access tickets for Friday 8th if you donate. Anybody is welcome for free on 11/9 from 9-noon. Library will be a stop for the Grinch Main Street event with a photo booth, crafts and scavenger hunt stop. Ken asked about the County budget impacts to the library. Rachel is optimistic that there are funds in the city budget to cover that.

5. Events

- a. Leadership Oconto County: Christine - last seminar was in Mountain talked about decision making CESA 8. Presentation projects, went to McCauslin Golf Course with lunch and presentation. Wisconsin Tourism presentation and then Mountain Fire Tower. Some made it all the way up, some didn't.

- b. Trick or Treat Trail - 539 kids registered as of this morning. Made some changes to the parking situation and proactively planning for safety. There are 29 vendors. Thanks to all that help. If you are a vendor and run out of candy, donations have been made.
- c. Community events - Drop in Ceramics class at OFES FACE tonight. S&S will host their 9th annual Stop and Shop vendor event Nov 2nd noon to 4. There is a semi trailer collecting items for hurricane victims at True Value parking lot this weekend. NHS is collecting as well at the game this Friday.

6. Unfinished Business

- a. 2025 Concerts - Save the Dates!
 - i. June 20, 2025: Carbon Road
 - ii. July 25, 2025: Drive West
 - iii. August 15, 2025: Warden
- b. 2025 Meeting Hosts: sign up passed around
- c. Board of Directors Nominations: reminder that our November meeting will be elections and looking for new members. All positions are up for nominations; there are 7 positions on the board. 2 will be vacant. Terms starting January 2025. Let the board know if you are interested in being placed on the ballot.

7. New Business

- a. Potential Fundraising: Some of our biggest fundraising events are concerts, due to weather this year we had to cancel two. We are looking for some additional opportunities for fun, please let us know. We are open for what our membership is interested in.
- b. Potential Projects: We were able to cross a lot off our to do list: City Signs, Bike Racks, Trailhead signs. We are looking for ways to better our community. Please reach out and share ideas. Bike repair stations were suggested.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 21st, **noon**, held at Grace Lutheran Church

Communications:

Electronic welcome signs: ocountofallsscott@gmail.com

Newsletter, social media, website (including employment opportunities):

ocountofallschamber@gmail.com