



**Lake County Chamber Alliance
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 23rd, 2015
Lake Sumter State College**

In Attendance

Delegates: Catherine Hanson, Mark DuShane, Jim Miller, Orin Owen, Beth Jenkins, Shananne Cain, Mike Bucher, Chris Mitchell

Delegates Absent: Steve Jenelle, Jerry Cobb, Tom Miranda, Phyllis Buam, Roger Beyers, Don Marx, Davis Talmage

Directors: Ray San Fratello, Sandi Moore, Colleen McGinley, Susan Martin, Sue Kelly

Liaison: Deb Dyer, Debi MacIntyre, Carolyn Maimone, Tim Sullivan, Adam Sumner, Amanda Wettstein (Lake Legislative Days)

Legislators: Jennifer Wiley (Legislative Assistant)

1. Call to Order: (Jim miller) 8:00 a.m.

Invocation	Tim Sullivan
Pledge of Allegiance	Orin Owen

2. Old Business

Lake Legislative Days (Amanda Wettstein)

- Mark Wilson of the Florida Chamber of Commerce will be speaking at the breakfast

Penny Sales Tax (Amanda Wettstein)

- Penny sales tax is not a tax increase; just a renewal of a tax that is already in existence
- League of Cities has given \$15,000 to fund polling
- PAC has been filed (Citizens for Protecting Future) and will begin polling shortly
- Delegates and liaison's shared insight and opinions on penny sales tax
- Consensus of Chamber Alliance supports the renewal of the sales tax and agrees that the community should be educated as to the benefits of renewing the penny sales tax.
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3. New Business

- No new business.

4. Alliance Partnership Reports

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Business Opportunity Centers

- No Report

MPO

- No report

Lake County Commission

- Tim Sullivan reported on the county's position on the penny sales tax. The county can't use tax dollars to educate public on the benefits of the tax. One way to educate the public is to show how the dollars were spent. Penny sales tax goes straight back to the county for projects such as funding the county jail. The tax ends in 2017; the county will want it on the ballot before then. Possible dates are late 2015 or early 2016. Finally, last year \$11 million was given to each entity that benefits from the penny sales tax.

Lake County School Board

- No report

Lake County Economic Development & Tourism

- Adam Sumner reported on the upcoming tourism workshop on February 4th from 2-6 p.m. and he also gave a short update on the new tourism website launching soon. Other updates include a 30-minute T.V. segment filmed by James Cury highlighting what to do in Lake County. Finally, a Major League fishing show will be filmed in Lake County, which will include a hometown highlights section.

HBA of Lake & Sumter Counties

- Caroline Mamione reported that the HBA is opposed to the Penny Sales Tax because of impact fees on builders. She also reported on the Parade of Homes coming February 28th- March 4th.

Be Free Lake

- Debi MacIntyre reported that they are in the process of changing the Organization's name. Be Free Lake is in the process of updating the Quality of Life 2015 and old edition's are available electronically.

League of Cities (LOC)

- No report

Capital Facilities Funding Advisory Committee (CFAC)

- No report

CareerSouce Central Florida (CSCF)

- No report.

Legislators Reports

- Jennifer Wiley reported on the Highway Dedication occurring in Lake County.

Library Foundation of Lake County

Catherine Hanson reported that the library board has not met yet.

5. Adjournment

Adjourned at 8:44 a.m. (Jim Miller)

6. Next Meeting

Friday, March 27, 2015 8:00 a.m.. at LSSC, Building M

Submitted by Hannah DuShane, Lake County Chamber Alliance Recording Secretary

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