GM Minutes 7/2/2025
4pm @ Elk River City & Museum

- **Welcome! 4:05 pm**

- **Sponsor Thank you & Guests/Introductions:**

- **Announcements:** 4th of July events in Orofino and Elk River, Jake Jacobson concerts also at Big Canyon Acres (check web and fb for details); Elk River Museum open Sat 7/5 11-3; Log Inn Beerfest; Tom's live music 2 days; Elk River Park Pavilion remodel/expansion almost complete; Library parking area to be paved for final stage of upgrades with new 'Story Walk'; Elk River Days 2nd weekend of Aug; new cardboard boat race at reservoir for Elk River Days.

- **Economic Development Report - Susan Jacobson:** text provided to present in her absence
  Thank you to all that participated in the Main Street America Workshops and focus groups. A solid framework was presented that all of our communities can implement to increase business successes and community connection whether they have interest in the Main St program or not. Information and strategy for Orofino will be presented from the Main St America team mid Aug.
  CCED will host a business training workshop called the Strategy Guide Map on Aug. 12. More to come. Presenter will be Alan Christensen, a long time business consultant with proven results to help identify opportunities in your business. Looking for apx 3k in sponsorships to keep event costs down, please contact Susan if interested. Alan has presented at SBDC also.
  John Houck, designer, is working on the final details of Orofino Adventure Park Disk Golf Course. CPTPA and IDYCA spent days onsite to assist. Synergo, an aerial challenge course concessionaire, performed a feasibility study for the next phase of the park. They identified the ability to create a 9-line tree to tree zip line course to span the hillside and soar over large ravines, giving great scenic views. Park sponsorships are now available. Call Susan for information.
  CCED is now able to provide some support for businesses seeking ways to increase efficiency using AI. Reach out to set up an appointment.

- **Legislative Representative Report - Chris Goetz:** n/a

- **Executive Director Report:** new members include Hunter Technical Solutions, Brown n Sons Meats, and Wild Camas RV Park
  Outreach: fb 55,577 views, 3,247 followers, 920 interactions; Google 1,486 active users, 10k events, 4,463 views. Reminder to tag the chamber in posts on social media so we can help share.

- **Program/Speakers: Updates from City of Elk River & Historical Society with Museum Tour**
  Christina Bartlett, City Clerk Elk River - Sewer project underway LTHC grant, child pedestrian safety grant put 3 crosswalks in recently and radar speed signs to slow traffic. New walking path is being formed to protect pedestrians on a busy corner. Idaho GEM Grant received for a paved helipad at the airstrip with gravel walkway. Shelly McLamb found funding to build

the new park pavilion 20x30 wood construction with concrete pad, done by volunteer labor. New veterans memorial constructed at the cemetery.

Debbie Manwaring, Elk River Hist. Soc. Secretary - Dave Hamilton, Rhonda Bliss, Barb Smith and Debbie present from the club. 40th year, the museum has moved over the years from an old Potlatch building, to the library building which was the city hall and a room in the old school house before it was closed. In 1995 it moved into the basement of the new city hall. Margaret Flanigan, recognized as one of several residents instrumental in obtaining historical items and information for the museum. State Historic Preservation sites identified for designation on the National Historic Register include Tim Morris house, old Morris Drugstore and the Community Church. The Blessed Trinity Catholic Church building from Elk River is on the registry, now residing in Bovill. CLG meeting July 10 to further discuss these nominations. A historical review was provided by Debbie that can be obtained on request. Visit soon!

- **Open Networking/WrapUp:** discussed at Mixer
    - Need for temporary housing for seasonal workers.
    - Liquor rules-what can the chamber post to the public/members to let them know how much the businesses depend on sales? The price is the same no matter if it is at the Orofino liquor store or Elk River Lodge, but the Lodge depends on sales to keep their license and so does the Log Inn.
    - The Elk River Post Office also depends on sales to stay open. If they don't sell enough stamps or merchandise for shipping they will have to close. This information could help each town's businesses and PO.
    - There is a 14 mile stretch of gravel road between the pavement ends from Dent to Elk River. This was supposed to have been done by the County many years ago. Can we help to get it finished?
    - Hospice and Home Health services are no longer coming to Elk River.
    - Elk River needs better paths/sidewalks for seniors and ADA.
    - Would the Chamber be willing to reach out to partners for discounts to members, like through utility, phone, etc.?
    - Can we put together a Small Business Start Up Packet? I suggested CCED to do this.
    - Chamber asked to be in the Elk River Days parade and have a vendor booth. Erica offered to assist with the kids activities in the park for water slide and bounce house.

- **Next meeting: Sept. 3rd at Weippe Community Center (No meeting in August)**

- **Adjourn to Happy Hour! 4:43 pm Snacks and refreshments provided by Debbie! Thanks!**

Thank you for coming!

Christina Bartlett, Elk River Representative of Chamber Board

Erica Holland, Executive Director