

Present:

Corey Cagle
Justin Bristow
Don Garchow
Amanda Milheim
Bryonna Barton
Chris Rupp
Heather Warren
Tim Comer

Executive Director:

Vacant



**October 16, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

Absent

N/A

Guests:

N/A

Meeting call to order by Don Garchow @ 7:37 AM @ City Hall

Next meeting November 20, 2025 @ 7:30 AM @ ER City Hall

Secretary's Report

Don presented the meeting minutes from September's board meeting for review. ***A motion was made by Corey Cagle to accept the meeting minutes as read. Chris Rupp seconded. Motion passed.***

Treasurer's Report

Justin presented the financials to the board. The golf outing had a profit roughly of \$2,300 and Pickleball made a profit of roughly \$3,900 after the donations were made. Once the two sponsorships come in from Autumn on the Island there will be around \$100 profit from the event. ***A motion was made by Chris Rupp to accept the Treasurer's report and seconded by Corey Cagle. Motion passed.***

President's Report

The President Report was led by Don Garchow.

Hometown Family Christmas – The FOX47 Hometown Family Christmas commercials will run through November to December 21. It is a two-week campaign run. City is planning to put together a program of events for the day for the public. Corey mentioned his goal is to have them printed and distributed by November 10. Bryonna suggested a google form for people to fill out for events for the program. The google form would also be posted to Facebook. Glenn Buege is still planning on being the main sponsor of the event and there will be a follow up with them to make sure we are able to use one of their vehicles again. Bill DeFrance will be this year's grand marshal. Amanda will create an event page on Facebook for the parade and share with the city. The event will also need to be linked to the website and Amanda plans to create the flyer in the next week. Creative Escape will provide Mr. and Mrs. Clause again. Choir is confirmed to perform. The banner will be to be hung up in town as well.

Below is the order of events for the night:

It is the **MISSION** on the Eaton Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce to promote and advance the general welfare and prosperity of the Eaton Rapids area so that its citizens and all areas of its business, civic, cultural, educational and farming community shall prosper.

**PARADE
ANNOUNCEMENTS
T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS READING
CHOIR PERFORMANCE
TREE LIGHTING**

Director's Report

The President Report was led by Don Garchow.

Autumn on the Island – This year's event was not as successful as last year and there was a lack of kids in town for Urban Air. It was mentioned people didn't want to carry their pumpkin around across town. It was suggested we have pumpkins on the island next year and keep events closer to the island. It was suggested we avoid having the event on the weekend of Urban Air and have the event Mid October. We will be able to go back to \$10 a ticket rather than \$20. It was voiced that \$20 was too much for a ticket for the event.

Executive Director Position – The member's discussed posting the position on January 1, 2026 after the big annual meeting in December. It was voiced that the Chamber will be more organized and equipped for a new executive director to come in and run everything. The goal is to make sure the director is aware of the pay and that they should have a day set each week for the chamber to be available to the public.

Ribbon Cutting for Pedestrian Bridge on October 23 at 4:30 PM

Don to follow up with new restaurant, Great Lakes, to ask if they would like a ribbon cutting

The next Early RisERs is on Friday, October 24 at Fosters Coffee

The Annual Chamber Meeting was moved to December 18 at Eaton Rapids Medical Center

Meeting adjourned by Don Garchow at 9:20 AM

Submitted by: Amanda Milheim

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