

Minutes - May 20th 2026

JULIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

1. Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

2. Directors: Tyler Stamets, Ashley Garrison, Dana Pettersen(absent), Carmen Longoria, Linda Ross, Lara Koljonen, Joe Breshears, Rhondda Begley, Zora Martinez.

Executive Director: Robin Boland

3. Review & accept April 15th 2026 minutes

- a. Motion to accept with amendments by Linda, 2nd by Carmen. All in favor.
- b. "We got 2 grants one for \$156k and a second NRP solely for the purpose of trash cans for \$5k"
- c. "Di 'photos with Miners' (ARB compliant) should read historically appropriate, there is no ARB compliant miner garb"
- d. "12i Town Hall is cleaned every other week"

4. Open Forum:

- a. **Dennis:** Due to increased roadside fatalities, is seeking support, via letter, from chamber to influence the Department of Transportation to install divider poles to prevent bikers and cars from crossing into oncoming traffic. Specifically at the location between (Ramona to Julian) or, as mentioned, Springview Dr and Inaja curve toward Santa Ysabel. Provided an image from hwy 67 as an example. The Chamber suggested starting a petition to start the initiative.
- b. **Richard & Doug:** Julian Dark Sky Network seeking chamber co-sponsorship for their event this August 15th 3-11pm. This year will be hosted at Julian High School. They will be seeking local businesses and vendors. They are considering charging adults \$5 tickets to help control population attendance and management. They will be limited to the school and library parking lots. They will not be needing a county permit this time. They will require event insurance assistance from the chamber, they will provide the cost. They also ask for assistance providing 6 porta potties and trash receptacles.
- c. **Avery Ellisman:** California State Old Time Fiddlers Association (CSOTFA) proposal to be hosted in Julian. Would need to be hosted in Julian on the third weekend in April. Asks for the chamber to take immediate action to 'court' the board members in order to convince them to bring this event to Julian and to develop a committee that spearheads this event annually.

5. Executive Director Report - Robin Boland

a. Office & Visitor Center:

- i. Applied for SDGE Sponsorship Membership
- ii. Bathroom Repairs for rental on 4th street
- iii. Carpet cleaning
- iv. Grant agreements
- v. Get the Most from your Membership Event (Chamber Workshop) July 16th at 5:30pm in Town Hall

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- vi. Spanish Brochure updates
- vii. Contract for change on copier, went from \$301.05 to \$156.26
- viii. Effort on Mixer attendance to Ilan Lael is supported by personal invitations and social media invites
- ix. Social Media 'boost' for the mixer at Nickel Beer (\$24)
- x. Updated Food Manager Certification from Robin is provided in the kitchen
- xi. AT&T fixed box on main street thanks to Andrew Hayes.
- xii. Elevator maintenance is next week (our permit requires this every 6 months)
- xiii. Currently working on event permits for the music festival and 4th of July parade
- xiv. The hole in the sidewalk
- b. **Chamber Foundation: Dana** N/A
- 6. Architectural Review Board (ARB) - Alec Cotugna**
- a. **Joe Breshears;** ARB Rep for JMA
 - i. Incense Cedar Road Site Plan Permit, not in our district
 - ii. County Enforcement Assistance Report, letter being sent from the community planning grove
 - iii. Monument Sign County Library, the sign is being worked on
 - iv. Sandwich Signs are still in question
 - v. Julian Medical Clinic signs, the font is not approved
 - Tyler suggests Joe asks the ARB to publicly list the approved fonts for all signs for businesses on main street.
 - vi. Marisol's Pie Shop umbrellas will be removed, the planters are too modern and pink so ARB will propose physically moving them for her since she cannot.
 - vii. Goldrush Hotel string lights are not approved, letter will be sent
 - viii. Church has a stucco base fence that is not approved, letter will be sent
- 7. Committee Reports** (written committee reports will be filed with minutes):
- a. **Finance: Zora,** Tyler, Robin, Kelly (bookkeeper)
 - i. Community Valley Bank General account: \$23,089.60
 - ii. Office account: \$2,307.63
 - iii. Property account: \$41,127.00
 - iv. TH Renovation Account: \$1,953.31
 - v. Existing budget document should be reviewed by the board
- b. **Property Management: Tyler,** Dana, Robin
 - i. The former Medical Center is available for lease at \$3k/mo. The interior is in great condition, any prospective tenant would most likely have to spend money to adapt the space for their own. However, if this contributes to the property sitting without lease for a long period of time. The Chamber would likely have to consider remodel costs. The application is for commercial use and is available through Robin and Tyler.
 - Light discussion at the prospect of turning that building into a tourism center for the chamber/town hall, however, the cost and effort would be considerable and would require additional grant funding or other fundraising efforts.

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- ii. 4th street building is turning into a beautifully remodeled restaurant “The Shack House” (name likely to change)
- c. **Membership Benefits: Ashley & Zora**, Linda, Lara, Rhondda, Joe
 - i. Committee Report: Propose (mixers) 2 raffle and dinner at a certain price with RSVP online prior to the event.
 - More effort towards mingling and name badges
 - ii. Merchants Workshops/Community Workshops: N/A
 - iii. Mixers:
 - Reminder: Effective January 2026: Chamber Mixers will be held on the 2nd Wednesday at 5:30pm and quarterly.
 - a. Discussion about Mixer events in 2027:
 - i. (late)Jan: Installation Dinner
 - ii. March, May and October will mixer months
 - iii. July: Merchant Picnics
 - iv. December: Holiday Membership Drive
 - v. Motion to support this schedule by Rhondda, 2nd by Linda, discussion about consideration for September. These months are all in favor.
 - Scheduled 2026 Mixers:
 - a. Nickel Beer: June 10th at 5:30pm
 - b. The Pub: September 9th at 5:30pm
 - iv. Ribbon Cuttings: Marisol’s Pie Shop June 22nd
 - v. New Business Welcome Committee: N/A
- d. **Marketing: Rhondda & Tracy (JMA President)**, Robin, Tyler, Ashley, Joe
 - i. Marketing via Fox News in studio is \$1k, or on location is \$2k. An alternative idea proposed by Rhondda is for us to provide our own media/digital package to be shared with press, etc.
 - ii. KPBS deal would cost \$5,500
 - iii. Carmen will connect Rhondda with a local marketing contact for potential assistance
 - iv. Review Marketing Report Attachment
 - v. Proposal from Joe to raffle sponsorships with other businesses at our Mixers
- e. **Nomination Committee: N/A**
- f. **Scholarship Committee: Lara & Carmen**
 - i. Michael J. Hart Fund Current Account: \$1,465
 - ii. Application accepted from an exemplary student, Chloe, the award will be provided after graduation, the award is \$1k.
 - iii. A chamber representative should attend and award that scholarship at the ceremony if that option is available.
- g. **Chamber Bylaw Committee: Carmen**, Ashley, Robin
 - i. Section 5.3-5.4 Amendment to extend director term to 3 years, as opposed to 2 years. Motion to support this amendment by Rhondda, 2nd by Ashley. All in favor.

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- ii. In order to enact this amendment, the process to obtain membership voting would require developing a website with the ballot and access to the bylaws. The quorum required would be $\frac{1}{3}$ of the membership, an in person meeting would have to be marketed at least 90 days in advance. A proposal from Zora to offer this voting option at the Merchant's Picnic on July 8th would be a great solution if we start communications in advance. The membership could be given until July 30th to respond.

8. Events & Work Groups: N/A

- a. Pathways Wellness Fair: May 28th 4-6pm
- b. San Diego Tourism Event: August 13th 6-9pm at Snapdragon Stadium

9. Chamber Sponsored Events:

- a. Town Square Music Festival: June 6th
 - i. Help needed, reach out to Tyler
- b. Taste of Julian June 27th 12:30-5pm
- c. Merchant's Picnic at Sacred Mountain July 8th at 5:30pm
- d. Julian Mountain Brew Fest: August 22nd
- e. Julian Grape Stomp Festa: September 5th
- f. Sip of Julian:
- g. Community Tradeshow:
- h. Gem & Mineral Show: May 23rd-25th
- i. Country Christmas:
- j. Christmas Market & Sing Along:
- k. Shop Local Give Away:

10. Chamber Co-Sponsored Events & Work Groups:

- a. Model A Club: September 19th

11. Old Business:

- a. Bylaw Revisions; reviewed in Bylaw Committee

12. New Business:

- a. Town Hall Rental Fees: nominal fee added for longer events (Robin)
 - i. A \$60 deposit for cleaning for all rentals. Motioned by Carmen, 2nd by Lara. All in favor.
- b. Julian Dark Sky Network seeking Chamber sponsorship for upcoming event in August (similar to the support we provided last year)
 - i. Discussion about covering half the cost of porta potties. If we are paying for the insurance, we request better marketing and recognition of Chamber sponsorship on their flyers and marketing material. Valid concern over the chamber paying for the insurance, however, Robin suggests that we should provide half the cost of porta potties, cardboard trash cans rental (not insurance). Motioned by Carmen, 2nd by Lara. All in favor.
- c. Fiddle Contest at Town Hall April 2027
 - i. See item 12.d and open forum

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- d. California State Old Time Fiddlers Association (CSOTFA) proposal to be hosted in Julian (see email for context)
 - i. Moved to open forum
 - ii. The proposal was aimed at bringing this event from Lodi to Julian and spending money to court the board members by flying them here to consider Julian as the new location for this event. Tyler suggests we could host our own contest, however, this event in particular would be more well known and already has a following. Though there is some concern about how well the event would perform considering the distance from North CA to here. We are also limited on providing a committee or event volunteers to work the event. However, it is likely all they will need from us is help with aligning lodging, etc. Considering our limitation on event space, the 1st year will most likely see less than 1,000 attendees. However it could build momentum and be successful enough to be hosted in Franklin Park in the next 5 years. Tyler will serve as the host or representative when they arrive.
 - Motion to support making an effort to bring this event to Julian & provide a \$500 budget for flight, lodging, etc. for hosting these representatives by Rhondda, 2nd by Joe, 1 opposed: Carmen, 7 in favor.
- e. Motion to Wildfire Victim's First Coalition Discussion (see email for context)
 - i. Motion by Joe for Robin to sign the letter, 2nd by Zora. All in favor.

13. Anything for the Good of the Julian Chamber:

- a. A big (above ground) power line proposal through Warner Springs by SDGE is being pushed. Directors are aware that public input is being collected, they are trying to force this through. A lot of community effort would be needed to stop this.

14. Adjourned Meeting at 8:55pm. Motioned by Carmen, 2nd by Joe. All in favor.