Okauchee Area Business Association

MINUTES: Tuesday, March 3, 2026

I. Call Meeting to Order 12:00 Noon, Pledge of Allegiance

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: The Scholarship Program

One “Future Business Trades” and two “Culinary” scholarships were awarded. The recipients and their families were introduced. Each recipient spoke briefly about their background, accomplishments, and future plans. Thank you Sandy Schick, Deb Groskopf, Patty Napgezek for working on this program.

II. Previous Meeting Minutes - APPROVED

III. Treasurer’s Report - APPROVED

IV. Introductions: Guests and New Members

1. Mike Martin from Sign Are Us. Local, independent DIGITAL billboards. For local businesses to advertise. Facing east/west on I-94 & Hwy F. And also on Hwy 26.
2. Ryan Suchocki from Florence Heating & Cooling. New HVAC business in Okauchee across the street from the American Legion. Commercial and Residential Air Conditioning, Furnaces, Custom Ductwork, Kitchen Equipment.

V. Lunch provided by: Kick Switch Joe Agathen. Thank you!

VI. New Business & Committee Reports

1. President’s Comments
   - Thank you to all who have paid their 2026 dues.

2. Prom
   - BLUE MOON OVER OKAUCHEE is the theme. New this year: a photo booth and a signature drink. Need donations for the Raffle Basket. Please take a flyer to hang in your business or on your car.

3. Flower Program and Pots for Businesses
   - Please talk with Jen Smith for more information. Hanging baskets and the Round About Planting plans are underway.

4. Changing to a 501c3 from a 501c6
   - Still questionable if we would qualify as a charitable organization based on our current mission statement and bylaws. Is a BID a 501c3? Can a BID and a TIF coincide? Are we promotional versus charitable? We are

trying to generate money to help Okauchee businesses be more successful. Do we pursue this or not? Do we want to be a BID? No decisions made. Still researching these questions.

5. 2026 Memberships Update
   - Down 20, maybe 15 members YTD.

VII. Open Floor to Members

VIII. Next Meeting Date – April 7th

IX. Meeting Adjourned TIME: 1:00pm

Committee Chair

- Scholarship: Chair Sandy Schick, Deb Groskopf, Patty Napgezek
- Marketing & Membership: Chair Jen Smith, Barb Millard, Ashley Bielik, Briana Smith
- Community Development: Erik Mullett, Hans Weissgerber, Bob Hultquist, Tim Michelic, Jeff Herrmann
- Budget Committee: Chair Deb Groskopf, Gale Zastrow, Patty Napgezek
- Strategic Planning: Erik Mullett, Ashley Bielik, Jen Smith, Zack Poker, Joe Agathen, Joe and Ellen Hennes, Diane Fenske

2026 OABA Meeting Calendar	
January - No Meeting	July 7, 2026
February 3, 2026	August 4, 2026
March 3, 2026	September 1, 2026
April 7, 2026	October 6, 2026
May 6, 2026	November 3, 2026
June 2, 2026	December 1, 2026