**Cotter Gassville Chamber of Commerce**

**July 21st, 2015 General Meeting Minutes**

Called to order by President at 8:00 am

Attendees: Jane Hatchet, Gary Flippin, Paula Flippin, Gwen Khayat, Debbie Gamble, Jan Pietz, Margi Beaver, Tanya Bagwell, Michele Linehan, Don Sharp, Donna Cordonnier, Jane Darr, Debbie Wamock, Jim Terrell, Schuyler Brower, Mayor Braim, Jayme Nicholson, Marcia Taylor

Jayme Nicholson, the Baxter County Tax Assessor, was our speaker. Jayme is in her third year of the position and on her second term. She has a Level 4 Appraisal Designation with 240 hours. Baxter County is currently using a contract appraisal company to do the property assessments. 2015 is the third year of a five year reappraisal cycle. Property will begin to be reappraised in 2016 for the 2017 tax cycle. Ninety percent of the money from real estate taxes goes toward our schools.

The Assessor’s Office becomes involved in the following situations:

* Land is split
* Property changes ownership
* A homestead credit is applied or taken off
* Application or removal of a tax freeze for senior citizen’s 65 or older
* Property settlements or divorces
* Subdivision plots
* Boat docks are considered real estate
* GIS Mapping of the county
* Flyovers for pictography are done every three years for a cost to the county of $60,000 to the assessor’s office.
* Assuring the public has access to the county data online
* ARCounty Data is updated monthly

Property sales on land with past dues taxes occurs every year, properties are 3 to 4 years in arrears and last owner has 15 days to make good on the property.

The BSA 2015 White River Canoe Race will be in Cotter on July 23rd. The Chamber needs to provide coolers, tables, banners, water, watermelon, Ice (from Debbie Gamble & Jane Hatchet). Volunteers are Tammy, Jane Darr, Jim Terrell, Donna Cordonnier, Debbie Gamble and Margi Beaver.

The Chamber has approved advertising in conjunction with the White River Marathon for Kenya in Bass Pro’s Outdoor Fitness Festival in Springfield, MO which reaches 30,000 people.

Superintendent, Don Sharp, announce, there will be a School Board Election on Sept 15th with two of five positions open. There are two applicants for the two year term, Jimmy Morgan and Reed Tucker; and three applicants for the five year term, Luke Walker, Grant Dearmore and David McBee.