

A Little History of the Grimes Chamber of Commerce

Did you realize that our local Chamber of Commerce has been around for 20 years? Here's a little information on how it all began two decades ago...

On June 21st, 1995, Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Iowa Secretary of State officially forming the Grimes Area Chamber of Commerce. John P. Jennet (City State Bank) was the man who signed those documents and he was also the first President of the organization.

The first official Board of Directors was comprised of eleven dedicated citizens and community leaders including:

John P. Jennet
Dr. Doug Ellingson
Becky Coons
Marie Hutcheson
Maxine Grove
Kelley (Mesinger) Brown
Dan DeCarlo
Cheryl Arganbright
Jeff VanHouten
Lee Preuninger
Deb Waters-Cross

This year (2015) we celebrate the foresight and work of those who were involved early on in the establishment of the original organization. Because of their efforts, the organization has worked diligently, with the help of its many members and investors, to focus on the retention and expansion of the Grimes business community, while also sponsoring many activities that have provided great benefit for both the members and citizens.

This organization has a proud history and has, together with the help of our friends, accomplished much over the past 20 years. It is an honor to work for such a wonderful organization in a community with a proud past and a very bright future.

Brian Buethe, Executive Director
Grimes Chamber & Economic Development
January 2015