## Girard Chamber of Commerce Report Courtesy Chamber Website

Chamber secretary Deb Burnett opened the January 10, 2024 meeting at the Community Center, Peggy and Bill Giles, Vicki Walker, Michelle Hoover, Steve O'Dell, Sara Millard and Janice Smith attending. Carlinville Area Hospital was this month's breakfast sponsor.

Sara Millward distributed copies of the treasurer's report while Deb Burnett stated membership dues letters will soon go out. Burnett reminded everyone the monthly planning meeting for Festival Days is set for Wednesday, January 24, at the Center, focusing on new ideas to generate crowds. She later reviewed the signup sheet for Chamber breakfast meeting sponsors in 2024.

Michelle Hoover announced Courtyard will host a January 26 Puffy Paint Night with everyone welcome; three new residents have arrived, with an estimated 36 spots filled at the facility; a Crispy Crème fundraiser will be sponsored in February; and a 5 p.m., January 23 "Business After Hours" is set at Doc's Just Off Route 66 (scheduled each fourth Tuesday of the month).

Carlinville Area Hospital representative Vicki Walker announced sponsorship of a "Safe Sitter" event, a babysitting guidance program for 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders who may wish to learn how to prepare to stay at home and perhaps babysit. Walker stated there are plans in the works for the Girard facility to be updated; reported very good response for the mobile unit located in Virden as phase one of the project, the new walk-in clinic construction plans still underway.

The next Girard Chamber of Commerce meeting is scheduled for 7 a.m. Wednesday, February 14, with Myrna Bomkamp as sponsor, location to be announced as either Madison House or Community Center.