



Happy New Year's West Richland Chamber members,

My name is Darrell Toombs, and I am your new board president. For those of you that do not know me I am the Manager of the Yoke's Fresh Market in Pasco. When I managed the Yoke's in West Richland, I was active with the chamber helping with Hogs and Dogs and serving on the board. When I transferred from West Richland I still stayed connected to the chamber, serving on the Hogs and Dogs committee. I found I missed serving on the board, so I came back last February and here we are.

Looking to the New Year there still is quite a bit of uncertainty. As much as we all would like to get back to "normal" it's hard to plan ahead. The board has decided to schedule Hogs and Dogs and Cool Desert Night for June with a backup date later in the year in the event restrictions are still in place. The board is also discussing our monthly lunch meetings and what those might look like now and down the road. During these discussions we thought it would be a good idea to get your thoughts and opinions. The board has discussed alternatives to having traditional meetings. Zoom meetings, conference calls, and recorded presentations have all been discussed as options. These ideas bring a new set of challenges to the board and staff to execute them successfully so we thought it would be a good idea to ask the membership if you see a value in perusing these types of options. The board is committed to supporting its members by providing useful and productive benefits.

We are looking for input from the membership. Do you think some form of a modified monthly meeting would be beneficial? What would you consider to be worth your time and energy to participate in a modified meeting? How often are these meeting beneficial (in person or modified)? I think we all would agree that a major benefit of the monthly meetings is the face-to-face networking. This obviously would be hard to replicate with the current restrictions in place but if the membership sees a benefit to pursuing other options we want to do so.

I look forward to serving as the board president this coming year and look forward to your feedback. Please respond to this email by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Sincerely, Darrell Toombs



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