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NORTHWEST MISSOURI FINANCIAL WOMEN MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MEETING November 12, 2009

The November meeting of the Northwest Missouri Financial Women was held on Thursday, November 12th at the Old Hoof and Horn in St. Joseph. Bank Midwest hosted the meeting. President Cindy Wilson called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. There were 34 members/guests present.

Cheryl Bilby gave the invocation and all enjoyed a delicious meal.

The program for the evening was a festive Christmas celebration. Bank Midwest did a great job planning the events for the evening including a holiday goodie and recipe exchange, fundraiser for Second Harvest Food Bank and Salvation Army donations, along with some clever gift opening games.

The October 2009 meeting minutes and treasurer's report of \$5,351.17 were previously circulated to the group; a motion was made by Mari Ferguson to approve as mailed. Melissa Medsker seconded the motion and the motion to accept the minutes and treasurer's report was approved.

Old business included reminding the group that we are hoping to start up a website for the organization after the first of the year. If anyone has any interest or expertise in helping with this, please contact one of the officers.

New business included the discussion of new nametags. It was proposed that we keep the look of the new nametags exactly like our old nametags. This would allow the organization to continue using the old nametags for those who already have one and only purchase new nametags for those that do not have one yet. If there are any old members that do not have a nametag, please let an officer know so that we may get one ordered. In other business, the question was asked: **What is the purpose of Northwest Missouri Financial Women?** Numerous members volunteered answers on what they felt as the most important. As stated by our articles of incorporation, our organization formed for the following purpose: to develop leaders and educate members on issues that impact professional women. It is the organization's intent to help women become better leaders, more knowledgeable employees, and to create a network with other members in similar careers. Most of the members who expressed their interpretation of the organization's purpose said that the most valuable aspect is networking. The organization fosters relationships between members which leaves competitiveness at the door and allows members to work together with a common interest. This relationship follows each member to their individual employer. In the example of banking, outside of our meetings members are able to work together and share information more readily between banks because we know each other on a personal basis.

Announcements included Cheryl Bilby's plans to retire at the end of April 2010. We wish her the best in her retirement. We also wished Jaren Taylor a very happy birthday.

Future meeting dates:

February 11, 2010	Nodaway Valley Bank
March 11, 2010	UMB Bank
April 8, 2010	BTC Bank

With no further business, Cheryl Bilby made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Jenna Wells. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Gockel, Secretary / Treasurer

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Treasury balance as of November 30, 2009 \$5431.17