



Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry

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No.12/2025/1573

22nd March, 2025.

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Executives Committee of the Chamber

Date and Time: 28th February, 2025 at 11:30 AM
Venue: Mian Parvez Aslam Hall
Participants: Mr. Usman Shaukat (President in Chair)
Mr. Khalid Farooq Qazi (SVP)
Mr. Fahad Barlas (VP)
Mr. Saqib Rafiq (Immediate Past President)
Mr. Mohammad Badar Haroon
Mr. Afzaal Saeed Butt
Mr. Bilal Javed
Mr. Muhammad Imran
Mr. Muhammad Samiullah
Mr. Rahman Ullah Khan
Mr. Kamran Saeed
Mr. Attique Ahmed Malik
Mr. Tahir Taj Bhatti
Mr. Waseem Ahmed Minhas
Mr. Ali Waqas
Mr. Hamza Munir
Mr. Ayad Afzal Sheikh

Not Participated: Mr. Bilal Maqbool
Mrs. Falak Anjum
Mr. Uzair Zahid Bakhtaweri
Mr. Akhtar Amin
Sardar Tanveer Sarwar
Ms. Naureen

The 5th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Chamber started with the recitation of Holy Quran by Mr. Mohammad Badar Haroon.

The house offered prayers for the swift recovery and continued good health of Mr. Akhtar Amin (Member Executive Committee) and house also offered Fatiha prayers for all the deceased members.

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“Empowering Business”



Mr. Usman Shaukat welcomed all the Executive Committee Members for their participation in the meeting. Later the President started the proceedings according to the following agenda points which were circulated vide letter No.12/2025/1051 dated 21st February, 2025.

Res. No.34: To confirm the Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Executive Committee held on 18th January, 2025.

Mr. Usman Shaukat, President RCCI announced the agenda item No. 1 for approval.

Mr. Mohammad Badar Haroon added that it was discussed that the meeting Minutes will be send as soon as possible. It was not decided that the minutes will be sent one week prior to the meeting.

Mr. Muhammad Imran also added that minutes may be sent as soon as possible so that everyone is able to gave input on time.

Mr. Mohammad Badar further highlighted that Coffee Morning with Ms. Yasmin Dadabhoy was held after the Executive Committee meeting held on 18th January, 2025 whereas it is mentioned in the minutes. Secretary General clarified that the name of Ms. Yasmin Dadabhoy mixed with Ms. Maria Suleman which will be corrected in the minutes.

Decision

The minutes of the 4th meeting of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 18th January, 2025 were approved by Mr. Mohammad Badar Haroon and seconded by Mr. Afzaal Saeed Butt. House also accorded a unanimous approval for the Minutes of the 4th Executive Committee Meeting.

Please read the last paragraph of page 3 of the previous minutes (4th meeting of EC held on 18th January, 2025) as under:

President also briefed the other meetings like meeting of SIFC regarding new economic zone, meeting with Core Commander Rawalpindi. He also briefed about coffee morning with Ms. Mariah Suleiman which was widely attended. President appreciated the Women Chambers and the department's members including Ms. Sigma Shamoon and Ms. Muniba.

Res. No.35: To consider the applications for the Chamber's Membership of the firms/companies mentioned in the attached list.

President announced the agenda item No. 2 for approval.



Mr. Afzaal Saeed Butt added that the new membership as compared to the previous years is reduced. We should diagnose the reasons as why the membership is gone down. The comparison is as under:

<u>Last Year (Feb 2024)</u>	<u>Current Year (Feb 2025)</u>
248	180

Decision:

The total of 139 applications for Associate Class and 41 applications for Corporate Class were approved by Mr. Bilal Javed and Mr. Muhammad Imran and seconded by Mr. Muhammad Samiullah and Mr. Rahman Ullah Khan. House also accorded a unanimous approval.

Res No.36: To overview the activities from last Executive Committee Meeting till date

President Mr. Usman Shaukat congratulated Mr. Haroon Ihsan Piracha for assuming the Charge as Chairman ISEREIT. House also passed a resolution to tribute the services of Retired Chairman Mr. Zahid Latif Khan and appreciated his services as Chairman ISEREIT.

A recently held seminar held in Chamber by TDAP was briefed by Mr. Bilal Javed Khan on furniture sector. President also congratulated him for opening new outlet in Golra Islamabad.

Mr. Kamran Saeed briefed a recent seminar on Plastic Bags which was recently held in Chamber on 12th February, 2025. President also appreciated the role of Mr. Kamran Saeed for the plastic bags awareness campaign and problems faced by the business community.

President briefed the recent visit of KPK Chamber and revive Pakistan event at Governor KPK House. He also appreciated Mr. Muhammad Imran Chairman of the event and his team alongwith the department and Executive Committee. Chairman Mr. Muhammad Imran thanked everyone for their maximum participation. He appreciates President, SVP, VP, Secretary General and all members of the Executive Committee for their support to make this event successful.

Res. No.37: To discuss monthly financial statement of Chamber

President Mr. Usman Shaukat briefed the financial position to the house and informed that total revenue collected during the past one month was Rs.7,061,950 /- and expense incurred was Rs.5,290,328/-.



Decision:

Mr. Kamran Saeed and Mr. Attique Ahmed Malik approved and Tahir Taj Bhatti and Mr. Waseem Ahmed Minhas seconded the summary of total revenue and expenses for the month ending month of January, 2025. House unanimously approved the details of revenue and expenses.

Res. No.38: To discuss the Annual Renewal of RCCI Membership

President requested all Executive Committee members for their active participation in the renewal process. As the last dates of Renewal coincide with the Eid holidays, we must all put in extra effort this year.

Mr. Saqib Rafiq said that first ten days of Ramzan are normally very weak as members don't show up. We might have to observe extended timings for members facilitation during Ramzan. After detail discussions house approved the following office timings:

Monday to Thursday & Saturday:	From 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Friday:	From 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Sunday:	Closed.

After 10 days of Ramzan, timings for Facilitation / Membership & Accounts departments:

Monday to Thursday & Saturday:	From 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Friday:	From 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Sunday:	Closed.

President informed the house that so far total number of 1492 members have renewed their membership. Their detail is as under:

1. Associate Members	1155
2. Women Associate Members	35
3. Corporate Members	288
4. Women Corporate Members	14

Total:	1492

He further requested the house to assist and renew the Membership from their respective sectors.

Res. No.39: To discuss the upcoming events of RCCI

President Mr. Usman Shaukat briefed the upcoming events of Chamber, which are as follows:



- Iftar Distribution from 1st Ramzan.
- Visit of Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister in the Chamber on 5th March, 2025.
- Iftar Dinner in the honor of Ambassador at Islamabad – 11th March, 2025.
- Charity Iftar Dinner Pakistan Sweet Home at Gymkhana- 8th March, 2025.

Res. No.40: Approval of RCCI Staff Matters

House approved the following staff matter:

- Regularization of the Service of Mr. Hamid Kiyani as Finance Officer w.e.f. 5th November, 2024.

Res. No. 41: Any other point with the permission of the Chair.

House congratulated Mr. Mohammad Hanif Abbasi on assuming the charge of Federal Minister for Railways.

During the discussions over the construction of Display Centre, President briefed the overall construction and appreciated the role of Chairman Mr. Mohammad Nasir Mirza. House also appreciated his services for the construction of Display Centre.

Mr. Mohammad Imran suggested that one day recreational trip once or twice in a year be arranged with the staff and Executive Committee Members which will boost the moral of the teams. President and House appreciated the idea.

Mr. Rahman Ullah Khan suggested that local tours also be arranged as we visited Kartarpura and Khewara Salt mines in the past. Mr. Rahman Ullah also requested a meeting to be arranged with FBR officials to discuss the problems they are facing in their trade.

Mr. Tahir Taj Bhatti suggested that some festivities be arranged in the local bazars and markets to boost up the shopping trends. President requested him to come up with some ideas so that we may plan something accordingly.

Mr. Mohammad Badar Haroon asked about the recent change in Trade Act and asked if the Elections are coming up this year. President replied that according to the existing law the elections may appear this year but we are already in discussion with government in different forums to defer the elections till 2026 and restructure the tenure to one year and hopefully we will compelled them accordingly.

Mr. Mohammad Samiullah said that we have launched an internship program leading to Job and hired youngster from different walks of life. Chamber may take up this program under the banner of RCCI and jointly we can work together for providing jobs to the youngsters.

Mr. Afzaal Saeed Butt said that we should reduce the fees for delegation. President said we are already working on it. He further said that we should also ease down the Membership criteria as we require new members as well. Mr. Saqib Rafiq replied that we have to strict somewhere regarding membership as many fake cases are applying Chamber's Memberships.

Mr. Ali Waqas said that notices of Professional Tax are served and pasted on closed shops which is disrespectful and we should talk to the authorities alongwith although the amounts are very low.

Mr. Kamran Saeed that that the conversion of Raja Bazar into Pedestrian Street is not acceptable as its not a general shopping bazars but a whole sale markets which required frequent loading/unloading through Commercial Vehicles.

He raised concerns regarding the closure of routes leading to Raja Bazar, implemented by the district administration to designate the area as a pedestrian-only zone. This decision has caused significant inconvenience, particularly for market laborers, whose tasks now take up to five hours instead of the usual one hour due to restricted vehicle access.

Additionally, the parking facilities in Nimak Mandi are inadequate to accommodate the approximately 8,000 to 10,000 shopkeepers in the vicinity, many of whom own motorcycles and vehicles. As a result, customers face considerable difficulty in finding parking spaces in the already congested areas.

Given that Raja Bazar serves as a crucial wholesale market, with supplies needing to be distributed to various cities, the attendees urge the authorities to reconsider the traffic plan and reopen the closed routes to facilitate smoother business operations.

Mr. Hamza Munir suggested that the fee or China delegation should be reduced.

Mr. Attique Ahmed Malik said that the fee for the delegation should be segmented so that the delegation may now under which head fee charge.

Mr. Bilal Javed said frequent meeting are required with Bazars and stake holder to have active interaction. President replied that we have already planning different interactive session. However his office may be approach any time without waiting Executive Committee Meeting.

House appreciated Mr. Usman Shaukat for donating the medicines of worth rupees 15 Million to NDMA to be transported to Para Channar.

Since there was no other point, the meeting was adjourned with vote of thanks to the chair.



(Irfan Manan Khan)
Secretary General