



## BOARD MEMBERS



### **Amber Hoover** **President**

Amber grew up in Belle Plaine and graduated from Belle Plaine High School in 1997. She attended the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa.

In 2001 Amber moved back to Belle Plaine to be closer to her family. Since moving back to Belle Plaine Amber has been employed with Chelsea Savings Bank as a Mortgage/Compliance Officer. Amber is married to James Hoover. They have two children, Nathan and Allison.

Amber has been active with the Belle Plaine Community Development since 2019 as a member of the Organization Committee. She has recently been appointed as a Board Member and is looking forward to this new opportunity to serve her community.



### **Mindy Atkinson** **Vice President**

Mindy and her family relocated to Belle Plaine in 2015. She resides in Belle Plaine with her husband John and son Carter. She has two step sons Christian and Tyler. Christian graduated from Iowa State University in 2022 and Tyler is attending Iowa State University.

Mindy has been in the banking industry for over 20 years. Currently, Mindy works at MidWestOne Bank as the 2VP/Retail Managing officer.

Mindy joined the Belle Plaine Community Development Promotions committee in 2015. She has served many roles since getting involved with the organization. She has been a board member since 2016. She currently serves as the Co-President & Treasurer and is the co-chair of the promotions committee. Mindy has been active in the community since moving to Belle Plaine in 2015. In addition to BPCDC she's involved with Rotary, Library Foundation, and AYSO.

Mindy enjoys the opportunity to help her community grow and create memories.



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### **Heather Carl** **Treasurer**



Heather is a native of Marengo and graduated from Iowa Valley High School in 1992. She graduated with an Accounting Associate degree from Kirkwood Community College and later a Bachelor of Applied Studies degree and additional certificate in Entrepreneurial Management from the University of Iowa.

Heather spent over twenty years in corporate accounting of varying roles before concentrating her efforts on her and her husband's company. Don Carl Trucking was founded in 2014 and specializes in agricultural transportation.

Heather is married to Donny Carl, a life-long Belle Plaine native, and they have five adult children and four grandchildren (plus on more on the way) between them.

She is new to the BPCDC board (April) but has volunteered with various local groups, most recently as part of the Remembering the Derecho committee. The group not only coordinated a town-wide event, but also raised over \$2000) and partnered with the Belle Plaine Nursery to replace trees in our city parks.

### **Judy Schlesselman** **Secretary**



Judy joined the board in 2022 after previously serving on the Organization Committee and volunteering in the BPCDC office. A University of Northern Iowa graduate and Belle Plaine resident since the early 1970s, Judy taught in the local school district, worked at First Lutheran Church and reported for the local newspaper before her retirement. She is currently serving her third term on the Belle Plaine City Council.

Judy and her husband, Jack, raised three daughters in Belle Plaine and appreciate small-town living. They enjoy giving back to the community that has been so good to them throughout the years.

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### **Emma Peebles** **Executive Director**

Hello, neighbors! My name is Emma Peebles, and I am honored to serve as your new Belle Plaine Community Development Executive Director.

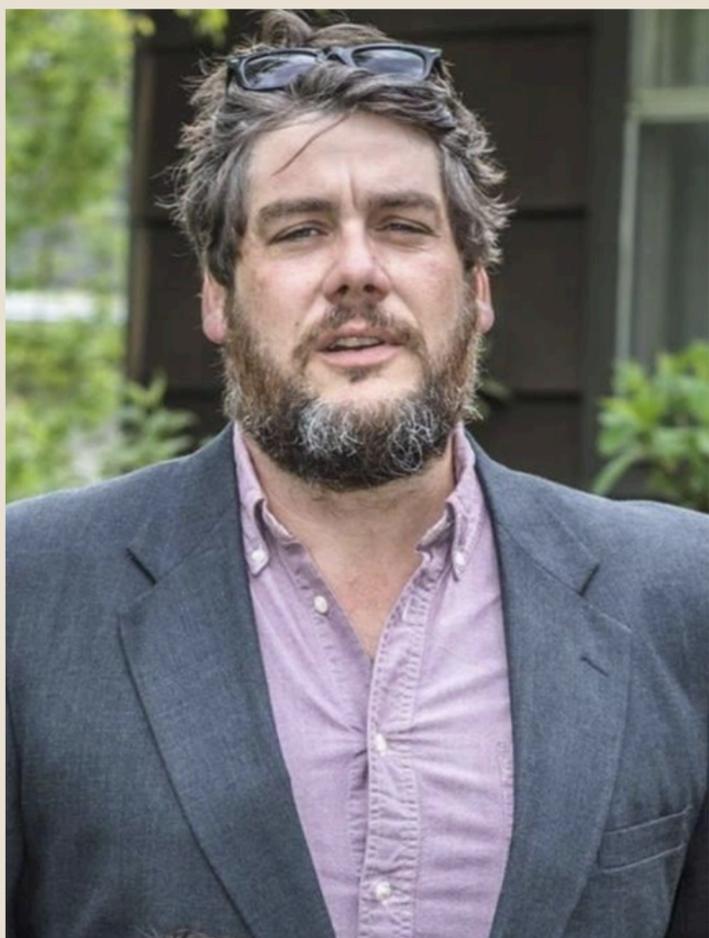
I am originally from Des Moines and my husband from Bratt, Florida, but my family and I spent several years living in different states due to my husband's career in welding. During that time we experienced life in a handful of places before we decided to settle down here in Belle Plaine. We moved here from Flomaton, Alabama in July 2022, where we ran a small business that focused on my husband's love of motorsports through custom designed aftermarket parts.

My husband and I have three wonderful children: Braiden, 14; Henley, 8; and Rhett, 6. During our years of travel, I was a stay-at-home mom, dedicating my time to supporting my children as they grew. Now I'm excited to transition into this new role and contribute to the community that has embraced us so warmly.

As your BPCDC Executive Director, my goal is to continue fostering a sense of togetherness and support in our town. I'm committed to listening to your ideas, working on initiatives that strengthen our community, and ensuring that our great town flourishes to where everyone can connect and grow. Whether it's improving local programs or finding new ways to bring us all together, I'm excited to serve and collaborate with each of you. Please don't hesitate to reach out to share your thoughts or just to say hello – I look forward to getting to know you better as we work together to make our town an even better place to live, work, and enjoy life.

### **Stephen Beck** **Director**

Stephen grew up in Belle Plaine, graduated from BPHS, Kirkwood Community College, and then Grinnell College. Working and living in Belle Plaine provides plenty of motivation to continue striving for the betterment of the community. Stephen accepted the role of city administrator in late 2019 and serves as a representative of the City of Belle Plaine on the BPCDC board.



### **Mitch Jacobi** **Director**

### **Brian Baumgartner** **Director**