



## Board Meeting at Loken's Inn Meeting Room April 3, 2023

**Call to order:** President Terri Benson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members Jack O'Donnell, Jackie Becker, Nancy Snyder, and Sally Ryman were also present. Kari Meyer and Anne Spartz were unable to attend.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of the March 6 board meeting were posted on the website. Moved by Jackie, seconded by Jack, to approve the March minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jack reported the following balances as of March 31, 2023:

1. Checking (.25%) – \$14,981.26 (Thrivent donations from Jackie and Angela Colbenson totaling \$496; many other donations from the mailing; expenses were gas \$211, safety deposit box \$25, phone \$118.43, security system quarterly \$72, mailing 22.95) We have a bill from Ace hardware for Jan-March \$74.39 that includes paint, brushes, fire alarm, etc.
2. Money Market (4%) – \$13,619.69
3. CD (12 month@ 4.25%) - \$51,000 (already seeing \$400 interest)
4. Dairyland Co-op \$2,500 donation request submitted by Jackie and Sally; no indication of how often they review donation requests
5. AcenTek Foundation \$10,000 grant request submitted; their foundation board meets in May
6. Received \$500 from MiEnergy Operation Round Up

Moved by Nancy, seconded by Jackie, to approve the treasurers report as presented and to authorize payment of outstanding bills. Motion carried.

### Meeting Discussion

- Fillmore County History Partners – A written recap of their quarterly meeting on March 20 was reviewed; Terri will keep copies of notes in a file at the depot.
- The Houston Area Museum is opening May 11, and it was suggested we go see it when it opens that week.
- Hart Store – Jack, Nancy Rustad, and Terri met with the Wolfram sisters. They have display cases made by Johnny Arndt that they will donate and possibly some of their customer appreciation gifts. There are 3 cases available, 2 can fit in the school house for storage and displays. The glass is cracked in the third one. Sally said the broken one could be stored in her garage until we have a place for it if necessary. Jackie said Tony can move them. Sally moved, Nancy seconded, that we move forward with acquiring them. Motion carried. Jack will talk to Tony about moving them. The Wolfram's have Red Wing pottery customer appreciation gifts. They also have an ice cooler. We don't have much from a dry goods store like this, and Terri will follow up about potential donations. In addition to showing the group items from the Hart Store, they shared many stories from years when the store was open. *Idea: invite them to tell stories at an event at the depot.*
- T-shirts – It was decided to reorder Rushford Lager shirts in sizes we're missing; Sally will check inventory and order.
  - New shirts – Ideas discussed are noted below, but there wasn't a resolution about what would sell, and this item was tabled until the next meeting.

- Native American trails with river and bike trails too – FROM INDIAN TRAILS TO IRON RAILS – need to find where the other 5 trails went – even if cleaned up would be busy and difficult to read
- Snowmobile doctor – would others be interested, wrong season
- Ski jump – wrong season
- Magelssen Bluff – would people buy it
- Old fire hall with firemen in front
- Rushford bottling company
- Something for depot restoration – work on ideas for this
- Outreach to our community
  - Email – survey on best way to reach out had low response
  - Terri sent an article about tonsorial industry and Rushford barbers for April’s monthly email; Sally will post it on the website too.
  - May ideas – Sally has an article about the Underground Railroad ready to go on the website; Terri will use it for the May article.
- Marketing to our community – We will table reaching out to businesses until after the grant to fix the foundation is received in November.
- Repair & Preserve Fundraiser – “track” board should be done this week
- Eagle Scout project update – Jonah Buchanan has raised all the funds for the project and needs to fill out the project plan before he can buy supplies. He would like to do the frames this month, probably on a weekend. Then they will build the sidewalk shortly after that. Finally, they will do the landscaping in late May after the last frost date.

**Adjournment:** Moved by Sally, seconded Nancy, to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Motion carried.

**Next meeting – May 1, Loken’s Inn, 6:00 p.m.**

#### FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

**May: Rushford Days**

**June: Genealogy classes**

**July:**