



## Board Meeting at Loken's Inn Meeting Room September 4, 2023

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

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of the August 7 board meeting were posted on the website. Moved by Jackie, seconded by Jack, to approve the August minutes. Motion carried.

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

1. Checking (.25%) – \$15,114.92 – Changes from last month include \$3.28 interest; a \$100 donation from Mary S.; \$25.67 paid to MiEnergy; \$493 paid for new t-shirts; donations from outside box, one t-shirt and a book for \$124, \$132, \$80, \$58, \$112. There is \$104 yet to deposit. Insurance will be due on November 10, and Jack received a notice that it is going up 8.5% per year for a total of \$2,200.
2. Money Market (4%) – \$13,849.59 (includes \$46.89 interest)
3. CD (12 month@ 4.25%) - \$52,080.50 (includes two interest payments of \$534.45)

Moved by Sally, seconded by Terri, to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Terri, seconded by Kari, to give each board member one of the new RAHS t-shirts. Motion carried. Kari suggested checking with the grocery store, liquor store, and other establishments about selling them.

### Meeting Discussion

1. **Minnesota Historical Society Grant Submission** – The board reviewed the adjustments made based on MNHS grant staff comments. The final application is due September 15. Sally reported the MNHS Historic Resource Advisory Committee (HRAC) would review our submission in October. (However, she has since learned the HRAC meeting will be November 2-3. The meeting will be live-streamed and anyone can listen.)
2. **MiEnergy Operation Round Up** – Donation requests are due in October 2023. Redoing interior of the jail and signage inside and out. Jackie and me write a request for \$500. (We have learned that the application deadline was August 15 and will plan to submit a request before their next deadline on February 15.)
3. **November Campaign Newsletter for 2024** – Terri asked for content ideas in addition to the annual report and fundraising campaign. Terri will start working on it. She suggested each board member write a personal story about why they are on the board or why history is important. Nancy S. suggested putting out to general membership what needs to be done by volunteers. Finding them and coordinating it is a big project.
4. **Ride the Ridges** – The depot will be a rest stop on September 16 for about 230 bicyclists. They have the supplies and people to direct the riders, but it would be good to have representation from the community. Winona Amateur Radio club is in charge of the communications from 8-12. Sally will be there from 10-2 and have the buildings open and sell t-shirts. Nancy and Jack might be able to stop by for a while, but they can't commit to the whole time.

5. **Genealogy Class** – The board discussed the timing, subjects, and location. An evening in November before Thanksgiving in the school’s Forum Room was recommended. Michele Ekern wanted to teach a class for people wanting to create a family tree and one for people who have submitted their DNA. Terri will talk to Michele about holding a beginners’ “how do you start a family tree” workshop, and to Dr. Ben Bernard about holding it at the school on a night when there aren’t sports or other school activities. We will ask for free will donations for Michele’s time. In addition to posting it on Facebook and asking the Valley Voice, Chamber, etc. to share it, we’ll ask the school to include it in their weekly notice to parents.
6. **Sharing History in Person** – Terri asked for ideas for topics and speakers. Earlier in the year we discussed having the Wolfram sisters share stories. Terri asked the board to bring back a list of people who could speak in person or on a video. Bert Boyum was suggested. Roger Colbenson could talk about his and Preston’s pictures of historic Rushford.
7. **Negatives from the Tri-County Record** - Terri talked to Darlene Schobert, and she will let us know when she’s ready to donate the negatives of pictures that Myron took. When Darlene’s ready, we’ll work with Gail Boyum and the Peterson Museum to store them and obtain a grant to scan them to digital files.

**Adjournment:** Moved by Jack, seconded by Nancy, to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. Motion carried.

**Next meeting – October 2, Loken’s Inn, 6:00 p.m.**