

Collect. Preserve. Educate.
The Campbell County Rockpile Museum tells the story of the Powder River Basin.

**Minutes for the CCRM Board Meeting and
Quarterly Meeting with the Campbell County Commissioners
March 27, 2018**

Rockpile Museum - 6:00 p.m.

A. Call to Order, Introductions, and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President John Daly, presiding officer.

I. Introductions:

Present: Museum Board Members: John Daly, Tami Bishop, Sherry Lowell, Rita Cossitt Mueller, and Kelcie Hughes. County Commissioners: Rusty Bell, Matt Avery, Micky Shober, and Clark Kissack. County Staff: Commissioners Administrative Director Robert Palmer and County Clerk Susan Saunders. Museum Staff: Director Robert Henning.

Absent: Chairman Mark Christensen

Guests: Jerry Morel, RMA Board Member

II. Roll Call: Each person present gave a brief historical story from their family or some local history. Highlights included:

Tami Bishop shared her research into the stories of local women during WWII. Four women that will be highlighted during the museum's 6th Grade WWII program are Althea Hunter, Bess Mackey, Hertha Semlek, and Ruth Ickes. Sherry Lowell spoke about the rationing game she is running at WWII Day. Rita Cossitt Mueller told a humorous story about her neighbor named Valley Jo and how that name came to be. Kelcie Hughes had read a News-Record article from the 1970s and people were complaining about the state of the roads. It reminded her about how far our community has developed since that time. John Daly spoke about a conflict between Turkey Track and Francis Thar and how his grandfather took both men to town and dumped them off. Director Henning shared his research into Tom Morgan and his horse theft court cases for the Tripp Brothers Ranch. Jerry Morel told a story about how Walt Wilson's wife didn't come to town from Recluse for nine years. Clark Kissack told the story of his Grandpa Boller's brother John and his plane crash while hunting coyotes. Both John and Glen Mills were killed in the crash. Micky Shober shared his father's WWII history. Matt Avery got a call recently that his friend from Michigan that used to come out and hunt had passed away. This friend had survived 3 amphibious landings in WWII and had received 5 bronze stars. Rusty Bell spoke about the Casper Army Air Base and his recent tour with Leadership Wyoming.

B. Approval of Agenda

Board reviewed agenda and John Daly called for changes or corrections. No changes or additional items were presented and the board approved the agenda by unanimous consent.

C. Quarterly Meeting of the Campbell County Commissioners and Rockpile Museum Board

I. FY 2018-2019 Museum Budget

Director Henning reviewed the past year and presented the museum's proposed budget for fiscal year 2018-2019. Bob Palmer and Commissioner Bell suggested that it was unlikely that the museum would receive a vehicle and that the museum should request use of a truck from fleet as needed. Susan Saunders reminded Director Henning to discuss increased revenue from the gift shop. Director Henning stated that gift shop revenue was up by at least 80% over last year. Mr. Palmer did state that the museum gift shop is an unknown gem in our community. Both Tami Bishop and Director Henning believe that we can grow the gift shop further, especially when it comes to books. Jerry Morel suggested that red shale fossils collected on private lands around Campbell County may make a good gift shop item.

Following the report, Commissioner Bell stated that they had asked departments to keep budgets flat and that tough decisions will need to be made. He stated that it may come down to capital vs. operating, but that it is unlikely both requested increases can be fulfilled. Further discussion was held on installing fiber optic cable and the cost associated with such a venture. Director Henning gave the costs that he knew and suggested the Commissioners talk with Phil Harvey from IT regarding long-term savings in hardware due to fiber installation.

II. Commissioner Meeting Schedule with Museum Board

Commissioner Christensen has suggested at a recent Director's Meeting that the quarterly meetings may be reduced to bi-yearly. The Commissioners shared their thoughts on this suggestion and all decided that for right now we would keep the regular quarterly meeting schedule.

III. Highway Crossing Safety Concerns

Board President Daly informed the Commissioners that the board is very concerned with the safety of guests that park across the highway and walk across to the museum. He stated that the board is drafting a letter to WYDOT to make them aware of the problem. The Commissioners agreed that this is a WYDOT issue and that the board should address the letter to the Highway Safety Officer at WYDOT.

IV. Rockpile Museum Strategic Plan

Board reminded the Commission that their work on a strategic plan is an ongoing board project and that this work, along with their forum and survey, are not staff led. Board members shared some initial results from the survey. All agreed that they would have liked more responses and that further forums and surveys will likely be undertaken. One suggestion was an open house style forum rather than by invite. Commissioner Bell liked the open house idea where residents could come in and discuss their thoughts and fill out a survey.

V. Spring Board Training

Commissioners reminded board that they would like each board member to take the board training once per term. The Spring trainings are at the City of Gillette on the following dates and times:

March 28th 5:30 – 8:30 pm

March 29th 1:00 – 4:00 pm

VI. Other Discussion: NONE

VII. Adjourn Commissioners Meeting

Hearing no further business, the Quarterly Meeting between the Campbell County Commissioners and the Rockpile Museum Board was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. by Acting Chairman Rusty Bell.

The next Quarterly Museum Meeting is set for June 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

D. Regular Monthly Meeting of the Rockpile Museum Board of Directors

I. Approval of Minutes

The February 2018 regular board meeting minutes were presented for review and approval.

A motion was made by Rita Cossitt Mueller to approve the February 2018 board minutes; seconded by Tami Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Expense Report

Director Henning presented 15 purchase orders from the regular budget to be approved and paid totaling \$5,129.94 and two invoices from the 1% educational account totaling \$2,403.59.

For the month of February, there were 14 vouchers from the regular accounts totaling \$6,115.27 and two vouchers from the 1% accounts totaling \$1,492.00.

Board President John Daly signed the following vouchers after the regular February meeting:

Walmart	\$118.52
First National Bank Visa	\$955.29

A motion was made by Kelcie Hughes to approve the February 2018 purchase orders signed by Board President John Daly and the March 2018 purchase orders as presented; seconded by Tami Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Collections Report

There were 11 donations for the board to evaluate this month. Donors included: Lloyd Darnall, Brenda Peterson, Charlene Busk, Janet Kobielusz, Kenneth Geer, John James, Staff Collected, John Fitch, Jeanette Wallace of Belle Fourche, SD, Eric Norton, and Diann Avery. A full report with objects and recommendations was reviewed.

A motion was made by Tami Bishop to approve the staff recommendations regarding the donations; seconded by Rita Cossitt Mueller. Motion passed unanimously.

Further discussion was held regarding the calendars donated by Diann Avery. The board felt that there was some level of duplication in the calendars.

Tami Bishop moved to rescind approval of donation #11 from Diann Avery until further information can be received from Registrar Angela Beenken. Kelcie Hughes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Education Report

- a. Visitation Report – The total number of patrons served in February was up from 630 last year to 827 this year for an increase of 197 or 31%. Regular visitors were off, but increases in school tours, programs, and outreach contributed to the greater use. For the year, museum visitation is up by 462 or 43% over last year's pace at 1545 total visitors through February.
- b. Collections/Exhibits Activity Report – The board reviewed a report from Registrar Angela Beenken with information on the summer internship, work-study student, collections volunteers, exhibits, and preservation workshops. No action was taken.
- c. WAC Grant Update – Director Henning reported that the Commission gave their approval for the Museum to apply for a Wyoming Arts Council grant for the Homestead Heritage Festival for up to \$4,000.
- d. WWII Day – March 28th – Director Henning reminded the board that tomorrow is the second annual Rockpile Museum 6th Grade WWII Day and invited

board members to stop by if they were interested in seeing the event. Tami and Sherry are members of the program committee and will be running stations for the event.

V. Schedule

March 28: 6th Grade WWII Day

March 29: Noon Rotary Lunch at the Museum

March 29: Dance Through the Decades Committee Meeting – 2:30 p.m.

April 6: Coffee with the Director at 9:00 a.m.

April 11-15: Robert, Angela, and Cara to CWAM in Cheyenne

April 16: Pioneer School Begins and runs through May 11th

April 17: CCRM Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

April 19: RMA Board Meeting – 2:30 p.m.

VI. Old Business

a. Strategic Planning

1). Compiled Survey Results

All results have been tabulated except for Sherry Lowell's numbers and she brought those with her to turn in. Board will review final results next month. Board noted that some of the ranking questions received strange results. Also, John Daly is unsure if his response was received by Survey Monkey.

2). Restart Online Survey

Board discussed starting the survey again to gain further public input. Questions will need to be adjusted and even trimmed to be more effective. Efficiency and ease of use are key. Board feels that having survey available at museum events is a good way to gather further input. No date was set for any future strategic planning open houses or forums.

Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to use both paper surveys and a new digital survey at museum events. Kelcie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. New Business - NONE

VIII. General Discussion

- a. Agenda Items for Next Month: Board Goals. Tami Bishop will miss the next meeting and will send her board goal ideas in advance. Board would like to know any suggestions for board goals from the staff.
- b. Pizza at Quarterly Meetings – Board was unanimous that they no longer wish to have pizza at the quarterly meetings with the Commissioners.

IX. Adjourn

There being no further business, Tami Bishop moved to adjourn the meeting. Rita Cossitt Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and Board President John Daly called the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next board meeting is scheduled for April 17th with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

March 2018 Board Minutes submitted by Board Secretary Sherry Lowell.



CCRM Board Member



Date



CCRM Board Member



Date