

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

Minutes of the CCRM Board Meeting

May 21, 2019

Rockpile Museum, 6:00 p.m.

A. Call to Order and Introductions

I. Call to Order

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

Present: Museum Board Members: John Daly, Tami Bishop, Sherry Lowell, and Rita Cossitt Mueller

Museum Staff: Director Robert Henning, Registrar Angela Beenken

Absent: Kelcie Hughes

Guests: None

II. Roll Call and Introductions:

Roll call included bits of history; Rita Cossitt Mueller- POW camp along Clear Creek. Her uncle was a guard at the camp located at Claremont, WY. Prisoners worked in the local beet fields, Sherry Lowell- The Gang Plank, historic geologic site that took some 110,000 years to form, Director Henning- Paul Hedren's, Battle on the Rosebud. There were 5-6 newsmen and officers reporting on the battle. Interesting contrasts in perspective by them. Angela Beenken- Clearmont to Buffalo railroad spur in 1949. John Daly- Wyoming 'Session Law' books, 1901 and 1903 editions. Contrasts and uses in interpreting current law with existing laws from earlier days. Tami Bishop- Wool production on the Bishop Ranch in the early 1900s.

B. Approval of Agenda

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

C. Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda was presented:

Approval of Minutes

April 16, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Expense Report

As of May 18th, there are 19 purchase orders from the regular budget to be approved and paid totaling \$8,312.81. There are at least six outstanding receipts from the general museum accounts and 1% account including First National Bank Visa, Office Depot, Campbell County Chamber of Commerce, Walmart, Slattery Enterprises (Paintbrush), and Gaylord Archival that will need board approval following the meeting.

The May 2019 vouchers are as follows:

Historical Folk Toys, LLC	\$411.80
Campbell County Senior Center	\$49.50
Shriver's Salt Water Taffy	\$363.36
Gaylord Archival	\$1,159.70
Robert P. Henry	\$278.40
AASLH	\$210.00
Black Hills Energy	\$290.18
City of Gillette	\$633.66
Henning Mileage Reimbursement	\$33.00
Campbell County Chamber of Commerce	\$35.00
Certified Folder Display Service, Inc.	\$1,458.70
Folkmanis Inc.	\$460.88
Longleaf Services, Inc.	\$539.46
Menards	\$79.00
Vista Leasing Company, Inc.	\$98.00
Rocky Mountain Business Equipment LLC	\$85.69
Joyce Jefferson	\$663.56
Paul Hedren	\$300.00
University Products, Inc.	\$1,162.92

For the month of April, there were 17 vouchers from our regular accounts totaling \$8,409.80 and six vouchers from the 1% accounts totaling \$2,242.90.

Tami Bishop signed the following vouchers after the regular April meeting:

Black Hills Energy	\$426.62
Sue Collins	\$72.00
Henning Mileage Reimbursement	\$31.20
First National Bank Visa	\$775.71
Bear's Naturally Dry Cleaning - 1% Youth	\$66.66
Breanna's Bakery - 1% Youth	\$53.89
CAM-PLEX - 1% Youth	\$1,248.00
Walmart - 1% Youth	\$152.78
First National Bank Visa - 1% Youth	\$156.62
First National Bank Visa - 1% Senior	\$566.95

Late in the month, and in the absence of a board member, Angela Beenken signed the following vouchers after the regular April meeting:

American Alliance of Museums	\$550.00
First National Bank Visa	- \$35.98
Gaylord Bros., Inc.	\$902.27

BUDGET VARIANCE at the end of April 2019
BUDGET VARIANCE as of May 17, 2019

John Daly asked the board if they wished for any items to be removed from the consent agenda. No items were requested removed. Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to approve all items of the consent agenda. Sherry Lowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Collections

I. May 2019 Collections Report

There were ten proposed donations for the museum board to evaluate this month. Donors included: Mary Francis Wolfe of Story, Wyoming, Brenda Petch of Forsyth, Montana, Eda Reno of Wright, Mildred Chambers, DeeBee Worthington, Mary Kelley, Arlene Saunders, Eva Burton of Sheridan, Barb Anderson of Inyan Kara, and the Dixie Lynn Reese Trust. A full report with donors, objects, and recommendations was given to each member.

A motion was made by Rita Cossitt Mueller to approve the staff recommendations regarding the donations with the exception of all items listed under #7. Seconded by Tami Bishop. Discussion: Removal of #7 was due to lack of space. Board asked staff to see if donor would hold items for potential offer at a future date. Motion passed by 3 votes, John Daly voting against.

II. Dixie Reece Painting Collection

a. Temporary Storage Discussion with Commissioners Office

Director Henning, Angela Beenken, Sherry Lowell, and John Daly reported on the meeting with Chairman Bell, Public Works Director Kevin King, Facilities Manager Bill Beastro, and Deputy County Attorney Carol Seeger. They were shown two temporary locations in the county courthouse. John Daly suggested it would be 'safer' to use the second floor space as the commissioners still need to check the actual availability of the basement space the museum representatives viewed due to state employees potentially occupying that space. Director Henning recommended storing the Dixie Reece paintings in the offered space on the 2nd floor near the courts. The commissioners still intend to spend \$80,000 on remodeling the former CC Weed & Pest building for museum storage. All present at tonight's meeting are not in favor of this offering in fear of residual chemicals negatively impacting the integrity of stored museum artifacts.

Tami Bishop moved to accept the Commission's offer of space on the 2nd floor of the courthouse near the courtrooms. Rita Cossitt Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Painting Donation Offer

Director Henning presented the most recent list of paintings being offered for donation.

A motion was made by Sherry Lowell to accept 33 works of art (paintings and drawings) from the Dixie Reece Collection into the museum's permanent collection; seconded by Rita Cossitt Mueller. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Copyright and Licensing Agreement

The Dixie Reece Estate is willing to transfer copyright of the works to the Rockpile Museum. Sherry Lowell made a motion to accept the copyright agreement from the Dixie Reece estate; Tami Bishop seconded it. Discussion: John Daly asked to have the copyright transfer documents state 'without' reservation or limitation (full transfer of copyright). Motion passed unanimously.

Painting donor Barb Anderson wishes to work with the Museum Board for a licensing agreement to make cards out of Dixie's paintings. Board discussed making this licensing agreement very specific in numbers and format. Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to draw up a specific licensing agreement with Barb Anderson for her to make greeting cards using images of the Dixie Reece paintings; Sherry Lowell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Cleaning Funds to the Rockpile Museum Association

The Dixie Reece Trust has offered a \$21,000 donation to assist in cleaning the art collection. Sherry Lowell suggested the 2nd floor storage space in the county courthouse be used for the process. Angela Beenken will have a conversation with a painting restoration expert that is attending the upcoming CWAM conference.

III. Loan Report – Angela Beenken

Registrar Angela Beenken handed out a list of the current incoming loans to the Rockpile Museum and informed the board of her plans regarding renewal or return of those loaned items. This will be an ongoing process to clean up old loans and return those that are no longer needed. This is part of the overall collections inventory and planning project designed to maximize our storage and exhibit spaces.

IV. Storage Update and Discussion

Director Henning asked the board to look at the roughly 235 items accepted into the museum collections earlier in the evening and then explained why it has

become untenable to continue accepting donated items at that pace. There is little to no space to store anything else and the museum staff is unable to keep up with that pace. They need time to inventory and analyze our collections, plan for the future, decide on deaccessions, and make the most of our limited storage space.

The museum staff has asked the Board to consider implementing a collections moratorium for a limited period of time to give them time to “catch up” on what the museum currently has. This would also give staff time to deaccession items and free up space. Discussion by the Board included the downside of making this decision being negative reaction by the public as well as missing out on valuable artifacts offered during a time of no acceptance of items. Tami Bishop asked that if the Board made the decision to put a hold on accepting items for a given time period, that a clear statement created by staff, approved by the Board, be written up and used by all staff and board members. Director Henning agreed to the suggestion.

Tami Bishop made a motion to put a temporary hold on collections for a year beginning May 21, 2019, at which time evaluation of current collections be done, deaccessions continue, and storage space made available; Sherry Lowell seconded it. Motion passed by 3 votes, John Daly voting against.

V. Summer Internship Update

Angela Beenken gave an update on the internship program and what the plan is for this summer. Our 2019 summer intern, Molly, will be arriving from the University of Michigan on May 29th. She has earned honors as an anthropology major. Molly has never been to Wyoming. She will give her final presentation on July 25th.

E. Museum Program/Exhibit Report

- I. Visitation Report – Director Henning reported that visitation was up over 96% in April. The huge increase was due to new staff member Stephan Zacharias’ program at the Ag Expo where he served 755 students. Director Henning told the Board that Stephan was working up a summer program schedule that is to include Saturday interactive presentations to be held at the museum. The Board was very pleased to hear of this educational development.

The Rockpile Museum served **1,562** guests and students in April which was up 766 or 96% over last April. For the year, we are up 786 visitors at a total of 4,456 guests.

- II. Schedule

The upcoming schedule as listed by Director Henning below was discussed.

May 22-25 – CWAM Conference in Gillette
 May 27 – Memorial Day – Museum is Open
 May 28 – CCHS hosts Maggie McCreery-McCoy, 7:00 p.m.
 June 1 – Dance Through the Decades at CC Senior Center
 June 7 – Coffee with the Director
 June 14 – “Too Short to Bind: Dry Farming at Rawhide Butte” – 7:00 p.m.
 June 15 – Bob Henry – genealogical research seminar – 10:00 a.m.
 June 18 – CCRM Board Meeting and Quarterly Mtg. with Commission, 6:00 p.m.
 June 22 – Joyce Jefferson as “Aunt Sally” Campbell, 11:00 and 2:00
 June 25 – CCHS hosts “Wyoming: Home of the Women’s Vote”, 7:00 p.m.
 June 27 – Paul Hedren presents his new book “Rosebud: June 17, 1876” – 7:00
 July 4 – Independence Day Parade and RMA BBQ for Parade Entrants
 July 5 – Coffee with the Director
 July 25 – Internship Presentation – Time TBD
 Aug. 2 – Coffee with the Director
 August 30 – TENTATIVE: Robert to Honduras
 August 31 – Joyce Jefferson as “Mahogany Lou” Marchbanks, 11:00 and 2:00
 Sep. 6 – Coffee with BOARD?
 Sep. 22-25 – MPMA Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico
 Sep. 28 – Archaeology Fair

F. Old Business

I. FY19-20 Budget

No budget letter has been sent to the board yet. Discussion included information from County IT that our request for the museum to receive fiber optic cable has been provisionally approved. This will make a favorable impact on digital capabilities used by museum staff and visitors. John Daly emphasized that the timing for budget work needs to be moved up, so the Board will be able to give more input and be more knowledgeable about the budget as is the board’s responsibility.

II. CWAM Conference Schedule and Volunteers

The update included that it had been quite a week leading up to the opening of the conference with sick people, tour cancellations, bus scheduling issues, etc. But, all is on schedule and adequate coverage by volunteers has been secured which allows museum staff to attend CWAM sessions. A full schedule of the CWAM conference was sent out to all board members.

III. Board Resignation – Official Acceptance

Kelcie Hughes’ resignation from the board was listed as effective May 21st. Therefore, Rita Cossitt Mueller made a motion to accept the resignation of board member, Kelcie Hughes; John Daly seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. The board unanimously offered best wishes to Kelcie and her family in their

transition to Cheyenne. A framed photo of the Rockpile, thank you card, and gift card will be sent to Kelcie.

IV. Board Openings Update

Robert Henning informed the Board that two people had applied at the time of this meeting to serve on the Museum Board.

V. Vision 2040 Update

Director Henning is a steering committee member. There is not much happening yet with the committee nor are there many participants. He encouraged board members to join if interested.

G. New Business

I. Community Outreach

Director Henning reported on museum staff activities in the community. Henning volunteered at the Lasting Legacy for Mother's Day. He and Stephan Zacharias also attended the last Chamber Mixer. Henning and staff member Stephan participated in the Building Bender put on by the Historic Preservation Commission. Robert hosted GALI at the museum.

H. General Discussion

Director Henning shared the need for front desk volunteers. There were no thank you cards to sign this month. Rita Cossitt Mueller volunteered to check with the museum in Broadus, MT, to schedule a proposed Board field trip.

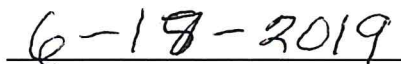
I. Adjourn

The next regular board meeting and quarterly meeting with the Campbell County Commissioners will be on **June 18th** with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

May 21, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Vice President Tami Bishop.



CCRM Board Member



Date



CCRM Board Member



Date