

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

**Minutes for the CCRM Board Meeting**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting - June 19, 2018**  
Rockpile Museum, 6:00 p.m.

**A. Call to Order and Introductions**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by Board President John Daly.

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

Museum Staff: Director Robert Henning

Absent: Kelcie Hughes

Guests: Charlene Busk

II. Introductions: None

III. Roll Call-During the roll call of the Rockpile Museum Board each member and guest presented a brief historical story, object or memory for the group. Robert Henning talked about the district court files he received from the State Archives on the Tom Morgan horse thief case. He pointed out that Alonzo M. Clark was the County Clerk at the time and that he would later become Wyoming governor. Rita Cossitt Mueller presented the account of multiple rebuffs that a Montana town experienced trying to establish a post office. Her relatives comprised the small community and after the many failed attempts to get their town name approved someone said, "Well, that puts the Quietus to that." They sent the name, Quietus, in and their post office was approved. Sherry Lowell talked about Wyoming's state farms in 1925 and a visit by the state superintendent, Mr. Quayle to the one three miles east of Gillette according to the Gillette News. Local experiments with various methods of fallowing were done to benefit the ranchers and farmers. Tami Bishop talked about the three-story building that was on the Bishop Ranch years ago used for sheep shearing. She mentioned the 10-ft long bags that the shorn wool was placed in. Her husband, Blair, at a young age was dropped into a bag just before lunch—the jokesters said they would get him out after lunch. Blair used his pocket knife to cut himself free and was at the lunch table before anyone else to the surprise of the jokesters. John Daly recalled the June 20, 1945, wedding of his parents at Kerns Ranch in Parkman, Wyoming, when the lilacs were in full bloom—different from today's blooming cycle. WWII ration cards for sugar had to be saved up so a wedding cake could be prepared. His parents had met in Laramie, WY, while at UW, however, Daly's

mother's parents met the Daly's for the first time at the wedding since travel was prohibitive. Charlene Busk shared her scanning work on the Drew donation letters and discussed how interesting the change in the English language and spelling has been. Her example was "inclosed" rather than enclosed.

## **B. Approval of Agenda**

Board reviewed agenda and John Daly called for changes or corrections. No changes or additional items were presented. Tami Bishop moved to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as presented, Rita Cossitt Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **C. Approval of Minutes**

The May 15, 2018 regular board meeting minutes were presented for review and approval.

Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to approve the May 2018 board meeting minutes; seconded by Tami Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

## **D. Expense Report**

As of June 19th, there were 23 purchase orders from the regular budget to be approved and paid totaling \$6,668.90. Seven of these were for FY18-19 and were checks needed for the Homestead Heritage Festival. There were at least 6 outstanding invoices from the general museum accounts totaling \$3,936.76 and one outstanding invoice from 1% funds totaling \$776.53.

For the month of May, there were 23 vouchers from our regular accounts totaling \$8,422.72 and one voucher from the 1% accounts totaling \$194.95. Board Member Kelcie Hughes signed the following vouchers after the regular May meeting:

Sue Collins	\$63.00
Black Hills Energy	\$245.26
Office Depot	\$117.98
Tami Waldner, LLC (Home Fire Foods)	\$370.00
Cara M. Reeves - Mileage Reimbursement	\$2.73
Gourmet on the Go LLC	\$132.00
Qdoba Mexican Grill	\$200.50
Walmart	\$64.74
Gillette News-Record	\$495.00
First National Bank Visa	\$200.24
CC Chamber of Commerce	\$560.00
First National Bank Visa - 1%	\$194.95

Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to approve the May 2018 purchase orders signed by Board Member Kelcie Hughes and the June/July 2018 purchase orders as presented; seconded by Tami Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

## **E. Collections Report**

### **I. June Collections Report**

There were 9 donations for the board to evaluate this month. Donors included: Gary Marquiss, L.J. Turner, R. T. Cox, Shirley Powers, Mary Kelley, James Edwards (2), Monica Drew of Billings, Montana, and Diane Hackett. A full report with objects and recommendations was in each board member's packet. Inventories of the larger donation were also included.

Tami Bishop moved to approve the staff recommendations regarding the nine donations; seconded by Rita Cossitt Mueller. Motion passed unanimously.

### **II. Bell Donation by Daniel Rhodes – Tabled in July 2017**

**DISCUSSION:** John Daly would like to see them in our museum collection since we have none like them. Probably one of the bells was for a "bell mare", while another could be a "bell weather" (sheep).

Tami Bishop moved to decline the Rhodes bell donation. Rita Cossitt Mueller seconded the motion. Following some discussion, the motion was defeated unanimously.

A motion was made by Rita Cossitt Mueller to accept the three bells into the prop collection; seconded by Tami Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

### **III. Dixie Reece Painting Donation**

**DISCUSSION:** The entire 70 painting collection may become available to the museum through the future owner and confidante of the late Dixie Reece, Barb Anderson. The museum staff will be making a trip to see the collection and talk with Barb Anderson about the paintings. Several of these paintings hung in the office of Senator Clifford Hansen in Washington, DC, at one time. Reece was born and raised on a homestead in Campbell County. Her paintings reflect the folk artist genre. Board member, Tami Bishop, expressed interest in having the paintings in the museum. Rita Cossitt Mueller, also, would be interested. John Daly believes that if we do not collect items/collections when they become available, in the future they may not be available, i.e., Hans Kleiber collection was broken up.

### **IV. Collections Policy Revisions**

**DISCUSSION:** Director Henning will send files to each board member regarding revisions. One file will have highlighted changes within the current policy wording and the second file will be an updated version of the proposed policy with the changes included. Discussion will occur at the July meeting.

## **F. Education Report**

- I. Visitation Report – The total number of patrons served in May was up slightly from 1,337 last year to 1384 this year for an increase of 47 or 3.5%. For the year we continue to be down 337 visitors or 6.25% over last year at 5,054 total residents and visitors served.

**DISCUSSION:** Director Henning mentioned that by mid-June, the visitor count was 90 persons greater than the year before.

## II. *The Way We Worked* Exhibition and Program Update

### a. PAST PROGRAMS:

Opening on May 19

Artist Roundtable on May 23

Wyoming Humanities/Sam Western on June 1

Coal History at CCPL on June 7

Game Warden History on June 12

Director Henning updated the board on how these events went and noted that attendance for *The Way We Worked* programs has totaled 210 thus far.

### b. UPCOMING:

L&H Industrial History on July 12 at CC Public Library

Homestead Heritage Festival on July 21

## G. Schedule

June 22 – RMA Board Meeting – 2:30 p.m.

July 4 – Museum OPEN 8:00 to 1:00

July 12 – L&H Industrial Program (TWWW) – CC Public Library – 7:00 p.m.

July 16 – TWWW exhibit take-down

July 17 – CCRM Board Meeting and Elections

July 19 – RMA Annual Membership Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

July 21 – Homestead Heritage Festival

Week of July 23: Rec Center Kids Camp

August 21 – CCRM Board Meeting

August 30 – James Fuller “Blizzard of ‘49” Book Presentation – 7:00 p.m.

**DISCUSSION:** Rita Cossitt Mueller mentioned that “Coffee with the Director” was of interest to her husband but the 9 a.m. timeframe was not convenient for working folks. Henning commented that this event had been cancelled for the summer, but would consider the comment on the time for this event.

## H. Old Business

### I. Budget for FY18-19

**DISCUSSION:** The upcoming museum budget reflects an increase of approximately 7.8%. County employees are eligible for up to a 4% raise based on performance rating. John Daly mentioned that the letter from Chairman Mark Christensen addressed to

Director Henning was misdirected since the key areas that were mentioned are actually the Museum Board responsibilities.

## II. Strategic Planning

- a. Second Survey
- b. Schedule/Plan Moving Forward

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed to publish the recently approved second survey on July 1<sup>st</sup> and run it for a 6-week period. At the conclusion of this survey, the board will complete the strategic plan.

## III. Highway Crossing Safety Letter

**DISCUSSION:** Director Henning talked with Michelle Edwards, WYDOT District 4 Traffic Engineer, on June 19<sup>th</sup> at the courthouse. It is likely from his discussion with her that we would not get a traffic light or designated crosswalk, but may get a "Pedestrian" sign. However, upon request from Ryan Shields, Principal Engineer, Geometrics & Studies at WYDOT Traffic Program, Henning emailed multiple dates of upcoming events at the museum so Shields' study could more accurately determine the traffic dangers that our program participants encounter.

## IV. Board Goals

**DISCUSSION:** Rita Cossitt Mueller will attempt to arrange a museum tour for June 28<sup>th</sup> depending on member availability. She, also, commented on "Friends of the Pen" which is a private museum support group for the Rawlins Prison. Rita Cossitt Mueller would like to do professional training as a board even by conference call. Henning offered to bring in topic specific speakers for the board. Director Henning mentioned that Patty Meyers who is on the board at the Jim Gatchell Museum in Buffalo, WY, could arrange a tour and we could talk with their board members about their strategic planning process. Henning thanked our board members for attending numerous museum events in the past month.

## V. GALI Graduation / September 2017 Motion to Reimburse

Henning recently completed GALI class of 2017-18 and received congratulatory remarks from board members. Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to reimburse Director Henning the \$200 which he had paid up front. Seconded by Tami Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

## VI. Summer Internship Update

**DISCUSSION:** Summer Intern Elizabeth Niles is on the job working in the Annex mezzanine to unearth collection items and document them. Museum staff can then evaluate the status of documented items. RMA has provided for her stipend, membership fees and admission costs.

## VII. RMA Dance Fundraiser Results

**DISCUSSION:** Henning reported that the 2018 dance made a \$10K profit in addition to donations paid directly to the Summer Intern fund. Dance goers enjoyed a good DJ, good facility and good steak dinner. The Silent Auction items netted \$4000+. He received numerous positive comments from dance goers about the dance and the new venue.

## **I. New Business**

### **I. New Volunteer – Barb Litzinger**

**DISCUSSION:** Litzinger is our newest museum volunteer and starts training at museum on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **II. Board Applicants**

**DISCUSSION:** The only two applicants for the two openings on the museum board were John Daly and Tami Bishop. Henning received word on June 19<sup>th</sup> that the commissioners chose these two for their second term each. Henning sincerely appreciates Daly and Bishop re-applying for the board and congratulated them on their re-appointment.

### **III. GALI for 2019**

**DISCUSSION:** Henning recommends that staff member, Wendy Legerski, apply for 2018-19 GALI class. The board was in favor of Legerski submitting her application for GALI to the County Commissioners.

### **IV. Thank You Letters to Donors, Exhibitors, i.e., Bennick Photos, etc. from the Board**

**DISCUSSION:** John presented an idea for the museum board to send letters or cards of thanks in addition to staff communication. The board liked the idea.

Rita Cossitt Mueller made a motion that the Museum Board of Directors begin a program sending thank you cards or letters to donors, exhibitors, and other parties that work to benefit the museum. Tami Bishop seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Tami Bishop and Rita Cossitt Mueller offered to compose a sample letter/thank you card for board to consider. Some questions remained unanswered including should the letters include the following: museum logo, mission statement, etc.

### **V. Wyoming Ethics Law and Open Meeting Law**

**DISCUSSION:** John Daly relayed the details of the recent CCH Hospital Board ethics violation. Daly is concerned that our board duly practices our executive session rules as published.

## **J. General Discussion: None**

**K. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Tami Bishop moved to adjourn the meeting and Rita Cossitt Mueller seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned by President John Daly at 7:58 p.m.

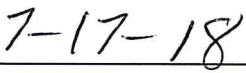
The next regular board meeting and board elections will be held on July 17<sup>th</sup> with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

June 2018 Board Minutes submitted by Board Secretary Sherry Lowell.

  
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CCRM Board Member

  
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Date

  
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CCRM Board Member

  
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Date