

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

## **Minutes of the CCRM Board Meeting**

**March 19, 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

Absent: Kelcie Hughes

Guests: Sandy Holyoak and Tom Butler

#### **II. Roll Call and Introductions:**

Tom Butler told us about an endurance horse race run from Gillette to Douglas, WY in 1947-1949. Two winners of the race were J.W. Moore and Gerald Butcher. Rita Cossitt Mueller shared how her mother enjoyed the recent museum's outreach program on sheep. Rita also shared her experiences working for FEMA during the Spring of 1972 flooding. She showed a picture of flooding near Wagonwheel Elementary and told of how a search was conducted for a missing school student feared to be drowned. The student was located safely at his home. Tami Bishop shared a quote about the hard winter of 1919 by Eric Rule, a homesteader near Recluse. Sherry Lowell told of the US Navy changing from coal to oil and how a corresponding federal law loophole allowed the Midwest Oil Co. operating out of Midwest, WY, to gain great advantage, at least temporarily. The government established the minerals' royalty fund at this time. Robert Henning had a photo from the winter of 1919 showing John Cook feeding cattle on his homestead near the North Pumpkin Butte. John Daly told the history of vigilantes in Cheyenne, WY in the 1880s.

### **B. Approval of Agenda**

Board reviewed agenda and John Daly called for changes or corrections. Director Henning requested Tom Butler be added to the agenda. President Daly put Mr. Butler on the agenda at Item# C2 following the Consent Agenda at C1. Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as amended, Sherry Lowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## C1. Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda was presented:

### Approval of Minutes

February 19, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2019 Quarterly Meeting with Commissioners Minutes  
March 15, 2019 Strategic Planning Workshop Minutes

### Expense Report

As of March 16th, there are 11 purchase orders from the regular budget to be approved and paid totaling \$3,861.36. There are at least four outstanding invoices from the general museum accounts and two outstanding 1% requests including First National Bank Visa, Home Depot, Lestz Wholesale, and Walmart that will need board approval following the meeting.

The March vouchers are as follows:

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Gourmet on the Go, LLC        | \$158.40 |
| City of Gillette              | \$805.83 |
| True West Publishing Inc.     | \$610.00 |
| Samuel K. Phillips            | \$90.00  |
| Vista Leasing Company         | \$98.00  |
| News-Record, Inc.             | \$150.00 |
| Music Service Center          | \$220.00 |
| Action Lock and Key           | \$49.21  |
| Henning Mileage Reimbursement | \$31.38  |
| ULINE                         | \$721.00 |
| Black Hills Energy            | \$927.54 |

For the month of February, there were 14 vouchers from our regular accounts totaling \$3,456.94 and four vouchers from the 1% accounts totaling \$1,594.13.

Museum Director Robert Henning and Registrar Angela Beenken signed the following vouchers after the regular January meeting:

|                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Walmart                             | \$26.41  |
| Home Depot                          | \$22.92  |
| Menards                             | \$51.70  |
| First National Bank Visa            | \$991.22 |
| Walmart - 1% Senior                 | \$49.89  |
| Walmart - 1% Youth                  | \$25.46  |
| First National Bank Visa - 1% Youth | \$843.78 |
| Glendale Parade Store - 1% Youth    | \$675.00 |

John Daly asked the board if they wished for any items to be removed from the consent agenda. Tami Bishop requested that minutes from the March 12, 2019 quarterly meeting with the county commissioners be pulled for an opportunity to correct some errors. Sherry Lowell seconded. President Daly placed the March 12<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting minutes at D1 prior to the Collections Report at D2.

Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to approve all remaining items on the consent agenda as presented; Sherry Lowell seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

## **C2: Tom Butler – Museum District Petition**

Tom Butler explained the preliminary procedure for filing a petition for the creation of a museum district. He asked board members if they would sign up to be part of a future museum district board. All members present indicated their willingness to do so. Tom Butler has spoken with members of the Wright Museum requesting they also join us in this petition effort. He is meeting with either Robert Palmer or one of the County Commissioners to fill them in on where he is in the process. The board members thanked Tom Butler for his work, effort, and vision toward having a museum district created to provide future funding for the Rockpile Museum.

## **D1. Approval of Minutes – March 12, 2019 Quarterly Meeting Minutes**

Tami Bishop presented some corrections to the minutes from the March 12, 2019. After discussion and recording the changes, Rita Cossitt Mueller moved to approve the minutes as amended. Sherry Lowell seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

## **D2. Collections**

### **I. March 2019 Collections Report**

There were six proposed donations for the board to evaluate in March. Donors included: Don Spielman, Eva Burton of Sheridan, John Daly, Kraig Ogden, Jim Edwards, and Chris French. A full report with donors, objects, and recommendations as well as a detailed inventory of the Spielman donation were in each board member's packet.

Discussion: Director Henning recommended that the board determine provenance before accepting the W. Bern military rifle due to its poor condition. John Daly commented that we could accept it to be used as a 'trading item' at some point.

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

## **E. Museum Program/Exhibit Report**

### **I. Education Report from Museum Educator Penny Schroder**

The Education Report from museum educator Penny Schroder was reviewed. Comments were made about the meeting Ms. Schroder had with CCSD's Troy Zickefoose about increased school district funding for the WWII event sponsored by the museum for CCSD 6th graders. The outlook wasn't too promising. Requesting a Rec Grant was mentioned. Sherry Lowell volunteered to check into

it. Tami Bishop suggested an effort by CCSD's Kelly Hawkinson and Penny Schroder to secure grant funding would be the best avenue taken.

- II. Visitation Report – The museum served **604** guests in February which was down by 223 or 27% from last February. For the year, we are down 127 over last year's pace. Much of this decrease is in school tours, programs, and outreach. Regular visitors are up.

The board was disappointed in the lower numbers shown for school tours, programs, and outreach. Director Henning explained that the different timing of programs from year to year might be the primary reason for the lower numbers.

### III. Exhibitions Update

- a. Dear Folks: Letters Home From WWII

Exhibits Update discussion began with Chair Daly saying what a good opening program, Dear Folks, was. People seemed to really enjoy the panel discussion that night. Our guest, Sandy Holyoak, remarked on the enthusiastic reception despite the bitter cold that night. She would like to see the exhibit left up through the Summer into early Fall. The board members agree with her sentiments and are recommending the exhibit be left in place until early Fall. This exhibit is much more unique to our history than a traveling exhibit. We feel it would be well received by tourists as well as locals. If there are other traveling exhibits the staff would like to showcase, would there be peripheral areas to use?

- b. Exhibition Schedule - Director Henning updated the board on the proposed exhibit schedule moving forward.

### IV. Schedule

Mar. 21 – RMA Board Meeting, 2:30 p.m.  
Mar. 26 – CCHS Meeting: Miss Indian America Pageants – 6:00 p.m.  
Mar. 27 – WWII Day at CAM-PLEX  
Apr. 5 – Coffee with the Director, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
Apr. 10 – Senior Outreach – WWII (Sandy Holyoak, Greg Bennick)  
Apr. 11,12 – Visit to Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Montana  
Apr. 13 – Wyoming POW Camps, 10:00 a.m.  
Apr. 18 – RMA Board Meeting, 2:30 p.m.  
Apr. 23 – CCHS Meeting: Women and the Myth of the Fetterman Fight – 6:00  
May 3 – Coffee with the Director, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
May 16 – RMA Board Meeting, 2:30 p.m.  
May 21 – CCRM Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
May 22-25 – CWAM Conference in Gillette  
June 1 – Dance Through the Decades at CC Senior Center  
June 8 – Oral History program at CCPL  
June 14 – “Too Short to Bind: Homesteading at Rawhide Butte” – 7:00 p.m.  
June 15 – Bob Henry – genealogical research seminar – 10:00 a.m.

June 18 – CCRM Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

June 27 – Paul Hedren presents his new book “Rosebud: June 17, 1876” – 7:00

## **F. Old Business**

### **I. Strategic Plan**

A summary of the working meeting held earlier in the week by Kelcie Hughes, Sherry Lowell, Tami Bishop, and Director Henning was given. Attention was given to staff comments and questions about the strategic planning document. Those in attendance took the comments into serious consideration. Some wording and comments were used, others were not. The board genuinely appreciated the staff's involvement with the process of developing the plan. We thank the staff for their input. Chairman Daly will compose a letter of thanks to be given to the staff. We as a board have a job to expand our vision of the community's museum and feel that the document we have worked on will reflect our commitment to this.

### **II. FY19-20 Budget**

Director Henning is finalizing the budget and would like to send the drafts of the budget via email to the board for comments.

### **III. Museum of the Rockies Visit – April 11 and 12**

At this time, room arrangements have been made for staff and board members to stay at The Lindley House, a historic B & B in Bozeman, MT. Gas will be paid by the county for John and Angela. Director Henning encouraged us to send him any questions or specific topics that we'd like to discuss during this visit with the Museum of the Rockies staff.

## **G. New Business**

### **I. Quarterly Meeting Follow-up**

No talk of a new museum was brought up. John Daly would like the issues of railroad vibration to collections/exhibits to be added as reason against building at the current site. Commissioner Bell asked Director Henning to contact Kevin King to discuss storage concerns. Robert followed through with the request and was redirected to Bill Beastron, Facilities Manager for Campbell County. Mr. Beastron met with Director Henning about a plan to renovate the old Weed & Pest building for our storage usage. As a museum group, we are all concerned with the effect residual pesticide usage would have on artifacts we collect.

### **II. Potential Hold on New Accessions**

Director Henning brought up the idea of a temporary hold, possibly 6 months, on new accessions. John Daly and guest, Sandy Holyoak, both felt this to be too

drastic of a move and that it will be off putting to potential patrons. Rita Cossitt Mueller thought that as long as we've been discussing this, maybe it is the time to make a decision. Tami Bishop moved that a 6-month temporary hold begin on accepting new accessions. Sherry Lowell seconded it. Discussion began by Rita Cossitt Mueller saying she would be in favor of this motion if there could be a 'hinge' in place that if a really valuable item was offered during this time period, the museum board could accept that. Tami Bishop didn't feel comfortable with this caveat, saying it would be too subjective and we could up compromising future offers by patrons and she withdrew the motion on the floor. Rita Cossitt Mueller moved that the board get stricter on accepting staff recommendations on accessions due to limited space available. Sherry Lowell seconded. Sandy Holyoak questioned how this affects the collections' plan. Director Henning indicated this gives staff more time, more space, affords a more thoughtful approach. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

## H. General Discussion

### I. Thank You Letters for this Month

The board signed thank you cards to Bryan Cloud, Eric Barlow, and the Dear Folks participants/panelists.

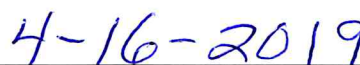
### I. Adjourn

There being no further business President John Daly adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on **April 16<sup>th</sup>** with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

March 19, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Vice President Tami Bishop.

  
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CCRM Board Member

  
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Date

  
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CCRM Board Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date