

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

Minutes of the CCRM Board Meeting

April 16, 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, Museum Educator Stephan Zacharias

Absent: Kelcie Hughes

Guests: Charlene Busk and Sandy Holyoak

II. Roll Call and Introductions:

Roll call included bits of history. Robert Henning showed pictures of the Bethlehem Church, Easter 1919. John Daly spoke of a 1968 spring storm that resulted in disastrous losses of livestock. Tami Bishop shared the history of Gillette's Catholic Church which began serving the community in 1907 out of the local section house. Rita Cossitt Mueller shared the name and details of a 1st grade boy thought lost in the Gillette flooding in the spring of 1972. He was discovered safely. Stephan Zacharias told about three women shepherdesses hired in 1918 by rancher, B.J. Reno. They herded a band of 2,500 sheep and were thought to be the first of their kind out west. Sherry Lowell spoke of all the local/regional history she had learned from John Daly on the trip to the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Mt. Charlene Busk told us that the radio show, Fibber McGee, first aired in 1935 on this day. Sandra Holyoak told of how her grandmother and youngest daughter herded a band of 2,000 sheep south of Rozet during WWII because of the shortage of male herders.

B. Approval of Agenda

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

C. Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda was presented:

Approval of Minutes

March 19, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Expense Report

As of April 16th, there are 7 purchase orders from the regular budget to be approved and paid totaling \$4,845.11. There are at least nine outstanding receipts from the general museum accounts and 1% account including First National Bank Visa, Walmart, CC Chamber of Commerce, Office Depot, Gaylord Archival, Slattery Enterprises, CAM-PLEX, Breanna's Bakery, and Bears Dry Cleaners that will need board approval following the meeting.

The April vouchers are as follows:

Rocky Mountain Business Equipment	\$377.23
Vista Leasing Company	\$98.00
Longleaf Services	\$183.63
Profile Display, Inc.	\$544.00
City of Gillette	\$734.34
Lestz Wholesale LLC	\$788.50
Office Depot, Inc.	\$2,119.41
Menards	\$395.66
Angela Beenken Fuel Reimbursement	\$97.21
All-American Publishing	\$350.00

For the month of March, there were 17 vouchers from our regular accounts totaling \$6,865.49 and three vouchers from the 1% accounts totaling \$1,146.29.

John Daly signed the following vouchers after the regular March meeting:

Walmart	\$179.14
Spring Hill Press LLC	\$650.00
Home Fire Foods	\$325.00
Cara Reeves Mileage Reimbursement	\$19.72
Home Depot	\$13.94
First National Bank Visa	\$1,816.33
Walmart - 1% Youth	\$67.34
First National Bank Visa - 1% Youth	\$430.95
Gourmet on the Go, LLC - 1% Youth	\$648.00

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. Discussion included John Daly questioning the legality of removing items from or adding items to the agenda as it relates to the open meeting laws of the state. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Collections

I. April 2019 Collections Report

There were five proposed donations for the board to evaluate this month. Donors included: Diane Hackett, Arlene Bryant, Ken Geer, Tom Butler, and Staff Collected. A full report with donors, objects, and recommendations was in each board member's packet.

Discussion: After reviewing the April 2019 Collections Report, John Daly wondered about the need to accept two hard hats. Director Henning explained that one hat would be placed in the permanent collection and the other in the education/prop collection. John Daly also inquired about storage space for props.

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

E. Museum Program/Exhibit Report

I. Education Report

A written education report from Museum Educator Penny Schroder was reviewed. Comments were made on the success of the museum sponsored WWII day for CCSD 6th graders. Feedback was given by Sherry Lowell and Tami Bishop on the availability of volunteers. They felt they had enough volunteers for their stations. It was recommended that the timeline of securing volunteers be moved up to as soon as a date for 2020 is chosen, staff begin the process of finding helpers. Stephan Zacharias will represent the museum at the AG-EXPO by hosting a station for 3rd graders that highlights the process of getting wool from the sheep to clothing.

II. Visitation Report – The museum served **1476** guests and students in March which was up by 147 or 11% from last March. For the year, visitation is up 20 visitors at a total of 2,894 guests.

III. Exhibitions Update

Exhibitions update included the extension of the *Dear Folks* exhibit through the summer and into the fall, much to the delight of the board and guests present at the meeting. Director Henning gave further updates on upcoming exhibitions.

IV. Schedule

The upcoming museum event schedule was reviewed. It was noted that the following needed to be added: May 28th, CC Historical Society hosts Maggie McCreary McCoy who will give a lecture on medical advancements from medieval time to present that were born out of necessity of war, June 28th, CC Historical Society hosts "Wyoming: Home of the Women's Vote" program. Late

July, the CC Historical Society is working on securing grant funding for a bus trip to Ft. Fetterman and the Jim Gatchell Museum.

Apr. 18 – RMA Board Meeting, 2:30 p.m.

Apr. 23 – Ag. Expo for 3rd Graders at CAM-PLEX

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 7 – Coffee with the Director

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 and Quarterly Mtg. with Commission, 6:00 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

Aug. 2 – Coffee with the Director

Sep. 6 – Coffee with _____

Sep. 22-25 – MPMA Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico

F. Old Business

I. Strategic Goals Discussion and Adoption

Discussion included the changes made in response to staff input. John Daly does not think the goals are specific enough or measurable. He is concerned that without measurability, the strategic plan is weak. He suggested the staff might work on each goal in isolation, each department showing how their work contributes to achieving that goal. Sherry Lowell pointed out the goals are not linear in nature. She suggested using a program like Excel to chart progress of the museum departments in attaining strategic goals. Tami Bishop questioned working the goals in isolation and thought the objectives listed under the goals are where the accountability is found. By adopting this plan, staff and board members use these goals and objectives as a filter for all decisions concerning the museum. Stephan Zacharias stated that he would use the goals and objectives holistically when planning museum events. A motion was made by Rita Cossitt Mueller to adopt the Strategic Plan; seconded by Sherry Lowell. Motion passed with three yes votes (Cossitt Mueller, Lowell, Bishop), one no (Daly).

II. FY 19-20 Budget Approval

John Daly brought up the need for the budget to be presented earlier by Director Henning so that the Board might have more discussion and adjustment time before it is due to the county. Director Henning proposes having a budget ready

to review by the Board at the February 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Rita Cossitt Mueller to approve the budget for FY 19-20 as submitted by Director Henning; seconded by Sherry Lowell. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Museum of the Rockies Follow-up Discussion

Sherry Lowell mentioned the spacious lobby area. The flow of the museum was not so smooth as she and John Daly got lost at one point in the visit. Tami Bishop was impressed by the partnerships the MOR has forged within their community and surrounding area that strengthens their educational programs and opportunities. The MOR has lots of pre-school programming based on supporting research. Stephan Zacharias found the fieldtrip helpful in giving ideas on how to tell the story of the Powder River Basin through time. Director Henning talked about the extraordinary storage area of the MOR and how unusual it is and how it allows the staff to “do whatever they want with storage like that.” He felt the history exhibits were lacking but the MOR staff knows it. After visiting this museum, Director Henning is confident that we can tell our story ~ it is that unique...we need to convince funders of this. John Daly echoed how the storage of the MOR is fantastic. They have a lot of furniture in their collection. He was not impressed by the small kids exhibits and felt the Yellowstone exhibit was sorely lacking. They have no restaurant. The paleontology was awesome, the guide had a PhD, was filled with technical knowledge but presented in an engaging way. He senses the organizational structure of the MOR is a hodge-podge with no clear hierarchy of decision-making. The gift shop was heavily weighted toward children. Our guest, Charlene Busk, asked about the size of actual exhibit space to which none of us could answer. Fundraising was discussed by John, Sherry, and Robert on the drive home.

IV. CWAM Conference Schedule

Robert Henning gave an overview of the upcoming conference list of events. He encouraged board members to be at the museum on Thursday, May 23rd for a meet and greet of attendees.

G. New Business

I. Board Resignation and Board Openings

Kelcie Hughes has submitted her resignation from the Board effective May 21, 2019. The county commissioners will be advertising this partial term and one other open seat. John Daly encouraged board members to solicit interested people and spoke of the downside to term limits, that being the loss of institutional knowledge.

H. General Discussion

I. Thank You Letters for this Month - The board signed some twenty letters.

II. Other:

Discussion by John Daly included the following:

Volunteers – ask them to become expert on a given subject. IE: Maggie McCreary McCoy, historic medical advancements through war. Use these experts for outreach programming.

Use of physical audits – The Rockpile Museum is not ADA compliant. IE: hearing assists, parking, wheelchair accessibility. Use these deficits to bring pressure on the commissioners for financing.

Develop relationships – IE: AVA for exhibiting with saleable objects at the gift shop, plein air events at historic ranches or sites.


Wool exhibit – make a permanent exhibit.

I. Adjourn


There being no further business Sherry Lowell moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Rita Cossitt Mueller, meeting was adjourned by Board President Daly at 7:50 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on **May 21st** with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

April 16, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Vice President Tami Bishop.




CCRM Board Member



Date



CCRM Board Member



Date