

Sibley County Historical Society
700 Main Street
Henderson, Minnesota
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 23, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

Attendance: Joy Cohrs, Diane Fredin, Becky Briggs, Verne Schlueter, Holly Harjes, Del Quast, Shirley Black

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by President Joy Cohrs at 5:20 pm.

Agenda: Approve/deny Agenda:

- Added:
 - Orkin Pest Control
 - Mail Items Received
 - Newsletter Mailing

Motion to accept the Additional Items to the meeting agenda was made by Diane Fredin, seconded by Becky Briggs.

Minutes: Approve/deny September 2025 minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Shirley Black. Second by Diane Fredin. Passed.

Treasurer Report: Approve/deny October 2025 Treasurer Report:

Reports Prepared by Treasurer Tom Frauendienst and presented by President Joy Cohrs in Tom's absence.

Noted:

1. There was an increase in membership payments received. Discussion: With the last newsletter a message was sent out for those with delinquent membership payments. It was good to see this was successful with the membership payments received.
2. Question on Report was presented by Diane Fredin
 - a. Annual Meeting and Microfilm – felt to have been paid for by Charles' gift, but it was not noted in the usage list for his donations.
 - b. Museum Admission on Treasurer's Report (Under Income)...should say Admission/Donations.

Treasurer Tom will be made aware of the above.

A motion was made by Verne Schleuter to approve the Treasurer's Report. The second was made by Diane Fredin. Passed.

Old Business:

1. Roof Replacement Activity:

- a. President Joy Cohrs had a zoom meeting with John Beatty, Design Reviewer, with the Minnesota Historical Society Programs: Grants, Historic Preservation, Historic Partnerships and Dale Johnson (he wrote the grant for the Gaylord Pavilion) Suggestion from John was that the State will not approve a slate or a tin roof due to the cost. He suggested looking at a synthetic/resin material, which may be approved easier. Joy showed the board an example of what this type of roofing would look like.

Also suggested from that meeting:

1. Construction Drawing will be needed for a big dollar grant.
 - a. Suggestion: Apply for a small grant to pay for the construction drawing. Joy contacted the company that did the assessment work for our last grant. They are willing to do the construction drawing.
2. At the meeting, it was suggested that we apply for 2 grants to cover the large amount needed for the roof.
 - a. One for the roof
 - b. One for the Tuck Pointing of the chimneys

There was some discussion on doing two grants versus one grant, with the consensus of trying for one large grant.

3. Four (4) bids for tuckpointing of the chimney have been received. The bids range from \$3,900 to \$148,800. The companies bidding disagreed on the amount of work to be done. Thus, some bid on 7 chimneys, 6 chimneys and 5 chimneys which is reflected in the wide range of bids received.
 - a. The MHS felt we should do the roof first, then the chimneys. The consensus with the board is that we would do the chimneys first, then the roof to prevent additional traffic on the new roof.
4. Discussion on what we will do if we do not get any grant money. We would have to look at other avenues, including asking for assistance from Sibley County.

2. **Fall Cleanup** – Six people were in attendance. Shrubs were trimmed, Cabin was cleaned, the cabin received some repairs (the holes & shingles were fixed). Thank you for the work done!

New Business:

Jeff DuCharme – Special showing was done by Jeff. The family provided a \$50 donation.

Collection Committee- the following items were reviewed and discussed.

1. Assortment of paper items – including miscellaneous old calendars.
2. Antique Iron Metal Cobbler Shoe /Repair Stand/Anvil Child/Adult Shoe repair/making – Joy read the accompanying letter.
3. Butternut Machine. Joy read the accompanying letter.

The collection committee would like to keep all the above items. Motion was made by Diane Fredin to bring all the items into the process for bringing these into the museum collection. Verne Schleuter seconded the motion.

4. Diane presented a Gaylord book which is for sale for \$25. Diane received the book from the Winthrop Library.
5. Shirley Black asked about the Barn book. She has had a couple of requests for it. Discussion about the reproduction of this book ensued. Shirley will look into the Martin Luther College Print shop to see how expensive the printing of the book would be (266 pages).

President Joy Cohrs, read some correspondence the museum has received.

1. Lynelle Brant send us \$150. \$100 for the cabin maintenance, \$25 for membership for the current year and \$25 for membership for the upcoming year.
2. A \$25 donation was received for the Zempel Family research done by Ruth Ann Buck.

Orkin / Pest Control

Mice have been a problem in the museum this fall, mainly in the basement. Tom will call Orkin again, but it was noted that we all need to pitch in to assist with the mouse removal on a regular basis when Orkin is not here."

Next Meeting

The next two regular meeting times both fall on holidays. After discussion it was decided we will combine the November and December meetings and hold a meeting on Thursday, December 11th.

Newsletter

Diane Fredin asked the board if it can be considered to drop the newsletter for people who have 2022 and 2023 Delinquent memberships. This is approximately 30 newsletters. Diane will put in a last notice to those members in the upcoming newsletter.

Yearbooks

Henderson School yearbooks have been offered as a donation to the museum. The board agreed to accept the yearbooks into the museum.

Verne Schleuter presentation for a newsletter idea.

Verne presented an article from a recent Successful Farming Magazine which had a segment in it called "Tools From The Past", which had a mystery tool for readers to guess what the tool was. Verne noted that tool in this article was one that the museum has. The Board agreed this would be a good addition to the newsletter.

Request for tour of the Cabin

There is a family coming to get a tour of the cabin. Ruth Ann Buck will guide the family.

Sunday, October 26th is our last open Sunday of the 2025 season.

Adjourn – the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm. Becky Briggs made the motion to adjourn; Verne seconded the motion. Passed.

Respectfully Submitted

Shirley A Black, Secretary