



FOR THE RECORD

Minutes of the OHS Quarterly Board Meeting

July 28, 2004

President Denzil Garrison called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 1:30 P.M., Wednesday, July 28, 2004, in the Boardroom of the Wiley Post Historical Building, 2100 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Roll Call

Bob Blackburn called the roll. Members present: Alex Adwan, Jack Baker, Thomas Brett, Roger Bromert, Bill Corbett, Thalia Eddleman, LeRoy Fischer, Denzil Garrison, Bill Gustafson, James Kemm, Marvin Kroeker, Dan Lawrence, John Mabrey, William Pennington, Ken Rainbolt, Sally Soelle, Emmy Stidham, Barbara Thompson, and James Waldo. Members excused: Aulena Gibson, Jack Haley, Louise James, Leonard Logan, and Shirley Nero. Staff present: Bob Blackburn, Robert Thomas, Dan Provo, Terry Howard, Tim Zwink, and Geneva Little. Emeritus Board members Ruth Moran and Lewis Stiles also were in attendance.

Swearing in of New Board Members

Since all participants were not available at this time, President Garrison moved to the next item on the agenda.

Special Presentation to the Board by Nazih Zuhdi

Dr. Zuhdi, a pioneer in open-heart surgery, presented an implantable bypass mechanical heart to the Oklahoma Historical Society. Dr. Blackburn introduced Leland Gourley, a pioneer journalist and public servant, who accompanied Dr. Zuhdi. A PowerPoint presentation was made of a dog living solely on the mechanical heart.

President Garrison returned to the previous item on the agenda, swearing in of new Board members. Justice Yvonne Kauger administered the oath of office to three new Board members, Thomas Brett, James Waldo, and John Mabrey.

Presentation of Volunteer of the Quarter Award

Bob Blackburn presented the Volunteer of the Quarter award to Sharon Fisher and the Swing Low Sweet Chariot performers. Ms. Fisher recruited performers and directed the live radio broadcast of "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" in Oklahoma City on KOMA in February, 2004, and in Tulsa on KRMG in June, 2004. The play was first broadcast live on KOMA in 1937.

Presentation of Check from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation

Bob Blackburn reported that the Oklahoma Historical Society had been a partner for several years with the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. State Museum of History employee Sherri Vance submitted a request to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation for a grant to purchase a special events software program to be used in the History Center. Ms. Gayle Farley from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation stated that the trustees voted unanimously to award the grant to the Oklahoma Historical Society and presented a check for \$4,020 to Dr. Blackburn.

Approval of Minutes

Jack Baker asked that a correction be made to the April 22, 2004, Quarterly Board Minutes on Page 4, Paragraph 2, regarding the fee schedule. To be added: Sup-

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port groups for the Oklahoma Historical Society such as the Friends of the Archives and the Oklahoma Genealogical Society will use the facilities free of charge. Jack Baker moved approval of the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Emmy Stidham, approval was unanimous. LeRoy Fischer moved approval of the April 23, 2004, Meeting of the Membership Minutes as submitted. Seconded by James Kemm, approval was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report and Review of Private Funds by Investment Account

Emmy Stidham reported total invested and cash at the State Treasurer's Office to be \$2,223,447.27 Salomon Smith Barney Fund total is \$171,263.84. Federated Fund total is \$167,081.06. The Oklahoma City Community Foundation Endowment Fund is \$377 743.00. Total cash and invested funds are \$2,940,565.17

Executive Director's Report

Report on Legislative Session: Bob Blackburn reviewed the legislative summary. The OHS received \$10,452,253 in the general appropriation bill for FY-05, which is an increase of \$1,604,859 over the FY-04 appropriation. The increase was in general operations (\$1,528,359) and in special projects (\$76,000). A large portion of the increase is for bond payments; across-the-board pay raises for employees effective January 1, 2005; for filling vacant positions in the field; and for building a new interpretive center at Fort Towson to house the exhibit for the riverboat wreck in the Red River. Senate Bill 1347 Art in Public Places, promoted by the Oklahoma Arts Council, passed this year. The bill requires that 1.5 percent of any construction budget appropriated by the state must be placed in a set-aside fund for public art. The Oklahoma Historical Society will facilitate the process with an oversight committee at no expense to the OHS other than Dr. Blackburn's time. The Arts Council has provided some money to get the project underway. More information will be available at the October meeting.

Summary of Actual Expenditures for FY-04: Bob Blackburn reviewed the document of Actual Expenditures for FY-04 and explained the program areas and the source of funding for each.

Bob Blackburn continued with agenda item 8d.

Consideration of Budget for FY-05: Bob Blackburn reviewed the Projected Expenditures document for FY-05 and explained the following changes: In the M&S Group, \$100,000 was added for repair and maintenance for museums and sites to take care of some much-needed roof projects around the state. The increase in personnel represents the staffing plan that will be considered later in the meeting. The \$4,000,000 in 1350B will be spent from the fund-raising drive this year. The total allocation for FY-05 is \$15,687,280. LeRoy Fischer moved approval of the FY-05 budget as presented. Seconded by Bill Gustafson, approval was unanimous.

Bob Blackburn returned to agenda item 8c.

Consideration of Goals and Objectives for FY-05: Bob Blackburn stated that the Goals and Objectives had been reviewed at the committee level. Several changes occurred in the broad program area. Dr. Blackburn summarized the major changes. The biggest change in the Administration Division include an endowment fund campaign that will be introduced in addition to the capital campaign going on at the present time; a request will be submitted to the legislature again this year for a dedicated stream of revenue of \$9 million on an annualized basis that will be placed in the Heritage Tourism Trust Fund; and a request will be submitted to the legislature for operational funding for the History Center. In the Research Division, Internet capabilities for the Encyclopedia must be designed; digitization of Volumes 21-40 of *The Chronicles* for the web site must be completed; and the move to the History Center must be organized. In the Outreach Division, plans are to add a new program at Old Central comparable to the Campbell Center in Indiana for training museum professionals; negotiations will begin to create affiliate status at No Man's Land Museum and T.B. Ferguson Home; the staff will organize and implement plan-

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ning-team procedures so a team will descend on a site and work with local staff to begin and finish projects. At the Oklahoma Museum of History, the goals include finishing exhibits; moving collections; expanding the network of partnerships; building the staff from nineteen to twenty-eight; and implementing a volunteer program. Barbara Thompson moved approval of the Goals and Objectives as presented. Seconded by Bill Corbett, approval was unanimous.

Consideration of Staffing Plan for FY-05: Bob Blackburn stated that the staffing plan for FY-05 is to fill the following vacant positions: Accountant I in Finance; Development Officer in Administration; Maintenance Supervisor at Murrell Home; Maintenance Supervisor at Fort Washita; Maintenance Supervisor at Honey Springs Battlefield; Maintenance Supervisor at Pawnee Bill Ranch; Collections Specialist at Oklahoma Territorial Museum, Collections Specialist at Pawnee Bill Ranch; Interpreter at State Capital Publishing Museum; Interpreter at Cherokee Strip Museum; Interpreter at Fort Gibson; and Facility Manager at Old Central.

Equivalent funding for three additional field positions will be set aside for temporary and seasonal employees at Sites Service Center, Honey Springs Battlefield, Sequoyah Home Site, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Drummond Home, Chouteau Memorial, Ferguson Home, Pioneer Heritage Townsite Center, Western Prairie Museum, Overholser Museum, and contingency needs statewide.

Equivalent funding for 1.5 full-time employees will be set aside for the following temporary and part-time employees in the Research Division: Micrographic Technician, Newspaper Preparation, Cataloging Assistant, and Editorial Assistant.

Additional funding will be used to make the following adjustments: promotion of three field staff members to be directors of Homes, Military Posts, and Museums; reclassification of four headquarters staff members to complete reorganization plans; equity adjustments for three unclassified employees and three classified employees; restoration of state funding for four positions at the Oklahoma Museum of History, which were paid from private funds the past year and restoration of state funding for a half-time employee at the Route 66 Museum that was paid from generated revenues the past year. Approval of this staffing plan will leave a contingency fund of approximately \$50,000 to \$75,000 for emergency needs and programmatic support. Dan Lawrence moved approval of the staffing plan as proposed. Seconded by LeRoy Fischer, approval was unanimous.

History Center Update

Construction Update: Robert Thomas reported that the fireproofing is 90 percent complete; hollow metal doors and frames are complete; finish hardware is on hand, metal stud framing is 55 percent complete and all material is on hand; drywall installation has begun; all basement walls have the first coat of paint; elevator five is operational, elevators one and two are near completion; rough-in plumbing is 95 percent complete; the fire sprinkler system in the administration wing is 85 percent complete; the HVAC equipment is installed or on site; 40 percent of the light fixtures are purchased and stored; electrical work is 35 percent complete. Construction is 45 percent complete; time is 50 percent elapsed; the budget is \$16 million; and the project is \$250,000 below budget. Work has begun with the interior designer. The budget of \$2.7 million for interior work is approximately 20 percent over budget at this time. Mr. Thomas made a PowerPoint presentation of construction in progress.

To allow time for Dan Provo to set up his presentation, President Garrison moved to agenda item 10.

Committee Reports

Annual Meeting: Emmy Stidham reported the 2005 Annual Meeting would be in Muskogee, Oklahoma, April 21-23. A preliminary search of facilities and program material has been completed.

Development/Endowment: Emmy Stidham stated Tim Zwink would give the committee report later in the meeting.

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Historic Preservation: Emmy Stidham reported the 2005 Historic Preservation Conference would be in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Preparations are well underway. The 2004 Preservation Conference was in Shawnee and was a huge success.

President Garrison returned to 9b on the agenda.

Report on Collections and Exhibit Development

Dan Provo reported that exhibit development was moving forward. Five or six of the major exhibit components are out for bid. The opening bid date is August 19, and includes the millwork, the wall panels, graphic production, exhibit pieces, audio/visual and IT hardware, and a variety of those components. Still to come are mounts and mounting for the artifacts, mannequins, and model making. Components for the lighting system are yet to be bid. The bid for floor covering is out right now. Several of the exhibits have been forwarded to Haley-Sharpe for final graphic design. The first draft of text and the first edit for the exhibits on culture and the arts, weather, clothing, quilts, kitchens, education, farm and ranch, and the entire Native American gallery have been sent to Haley-Sharpe, and design work has begun on those. There are over 800 graphic panels throughout the whole building. Each graphic panel will have four different levels back and forth between the State Museum team and the Haley-Sharpe team. The donation of a christmas tree, twenty-six feet tall, weighing 20,000 lbs., and valued at approximately \$360,000, was received from Downing Wellhead, which is not yet constructed but is on site. Manhattan Construction is currently pouring support pads for the christmas tree and for a couple of vehicles in the oilfield exhibit area.

Haley-Sharpe is currently working on signage for the building and will return in early September with a full building signage program. Dan Provo made a PowerPoint presentation of some of the images of the graphic elements of the building.

Report on Fund-raising

Tim Zwink gave an update on fund-raising activities. The Kirkpatrick Family Fund provided a grant for archivists to work on the Kirkpatrick Family Archives; the Oklahoma City Community Foundation approved a grant for events coordination software; the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation verbally approved a grant for "A Centennial View of Oklahoma: An Educational Project."

Grants in development include a proposal to the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation and a proposal to Southwestern Bell Foundation for the Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History project. The 2005 calendar topic is Oklahomans at work, and the 2005 coin topic is Oklahoma's Indian heritage. Work is underway on both projects. Royalties received on both the calendar and coin projects total \$1,313. The Monogrammed Bricks project has raised \$109,900 to date and continues to grow. The OHS Board Endowed Chair Campaign has generated \$12,000 to date. The Memorial Limestone Pavers project has generated \$8,000, and the Memorial Benches project has generated approximately \$7,750. The Postcard Mailing project has generated \$66,085 and meets the \$50,000 challenge grant from the Kerr Foundation. Another mailing is planned within a week or two. Plans are to get into planned giving. The Oklahoma City Community Foundation has shared ways in which they provide support in this area.

President Garrison returned to 10d on the agenda.

Committee Reports

Outreach: Bill Corbett reported that for the first time in three years, staff would be added to Museums and Sites. In addition, there will be an increase in funding to Museums and Sites to help pay bills. At the Annual Meeting in April, the Board approved the reorganization of the Sites and Museums Committee that materialized into the Outreach Committee and that reorganization seems to be working quite well.

Indian Heritage: Lewis Stiles reported that plans are underway for a Camp Holmes Reenactment, April 2, 2005, at Fort Washita, which will be the 170th anni-

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versary of the Camp Holmes Treaty. Dennis Zotigh, Jeff Moore, Dan Provo, and Bruce Fisher attended the regular Smithsonian Affiliates meeting in Washington, D.C. Dennis Zotigh represented the Oklahoma Historical Society as a resource for the *National Geographic Magazine* project (September, 2004 issue) and the *Encyclopedia of the American Indian*, 11th edition (2004 issue). Jack Baker, Dennis Zotigh, and Mary Jane Warde taught classes in Enid and Woodward at the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Teachers Workshops. Mary Jane Warde was asked to present "Indians in Sports" during the Pawnee Veterans Homecoming weekend, July 4. A commemoration of the exact time and date of the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark documents has been proposed for August 19 in the Capitol Rotunda. The Otoe-Missouria Tribe and other Oklahoma tribes that encountered Lewis and Clark will be invited to attend as well as the governor and the OHS Board of Directors. Mary Jane Warde attended the regular meetings of the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission and the Chickasaw Foundation.

Mr. Stiles thanked the Board and the OHS staff for the kindness shown to him and his family upon the loss of his wife, Board member Frances Stiles.

Dan Lawrence also thanked the Board and the OHS staff for the kindness shown to him and his family upon the loss of his wife, Irene.

President Garrison read a letter from former Board member Bob Klemme upon the loss of his wife, Doris.

Oklahoma Museum of History: Marvin Kroeker reported the staff of the Oklahoma Museum of History continued to work in an amazing fashion considering the amount of work to be done and asked that Board members refer to the Quarterly Report for specifics.

Publications/Membership: Sally Soelle reported Publications had completed the second phase of digitizing *The Chronicles*. Work will begin on phase three, which will be the full text of Volumes 21–40. The cost has been reduced for the last phase of the project to \$7,000–\$10,000, compared with \$16,500 for the earlier phase. There is no shortage of articles being submitted for publication in *The Chronicles*. The Encyclopedia project is actually beginning to wind down as work funded by the NEH grant is completed. Details are in the Quarterly Report. The Electronic Data Center at OSU has now received 25 percent of the entire book, which will be on the Internet for twelve years. The project is seeking corporate funding to keep the staff on board for an additional six months to complete the work. Memberships continue to decline, but the decline is somewhat less than the previous quarter. The division is working to get lapsed members back. Members of *Oklahoma Today* were targeted, which yielded 175 new members. Plans are to work on a regional membership drive that will begin with areas one and two, which is the northeast part of the state. Sally Soelle moved to approve Harold C. Stuart, Jensen Beach, Florida, as a life member. Seconded by Emmy Stidham, approval was unanimous.

Research: Bill Pennington reported there was an opportunity to raise money for the Research Division through Heritage Quest, an online computer service. He moved to offer up to 500 patrons remote access to Heritage Quest resources at fifty dollars each a year. Seconded by Jack Baker, approval was unanimous. On October 29, at 5:00 P.M., the Research Library will be open all night. For forty-five dollars, a person can research all night.

Consideration of a Replacement for the Board Position Vacated by the Death of Frances Stiles

James Kemm nominated Paul Matthews for the vacant position on the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors. Seconded by Barbara Thompson, approval was unanimous.

Consideration of New Appointments to Committees

President Garrison announced the following committee appointments:

Research Committee: Bill Pennington, chair, Jack Baker, vice-chair, Jack Haley, Aulena Gibson, Roger Bromert, James Waldo, and Bill Welge from the staff;

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Historic Preservation Committee: Emmy Stidham, chair, Sally Soelle, Louise James, John Mabrey, and Melvena Heisch from the staff;

Outreach Committee: William Corbett, chair, Dan Lawrence, vice-chair, Bill Gustafson, Leonard Logan, Ken Rainbolt, Shirley Nero, and Kathy Dickson from the staff;

Publications/Membership Committee: Sally Soelle, chair, Alex Adwan, LeRoy Fischer, Thalia Eddleman, Marvin Kroeker, and Mary Ann Blochowiak from the staff;

Oklahoma Museum of History Committee: Marvin Kroeker, chair, James Kemm, vice-chair, Barbara Thompson, Thomas Brett, John Mabrey, Bill Gustafson, and Dan Provo from the staff;

Executive Committee: Denzil Garrison, president, Aulena Gibson, vice-president, Emmy Stidham, treasurer, Jack Haley (past president), Marvin Kroeker (past president), LeRoy Fischer (elected), James Kemm (elected/past president), Bill Gustafson (appointed), Leonard Logan (appointed), and Bob Blackburn from the staff;

Development/Endowment Committee: Aulena Gibson, chair, Bill Gustafson, James Waldo, and Tim Zwink from the staff;

Nominating Committee: Bill Corbett, chair, LeRoy Fischer, Jack Haley, James Kemm, Marvin Kroeker, Bill Pennington, Sally Soelle, and Barbara Thompson;

Evaluation Committee: Marvin Kroeker, chair, Aulena Gibson, Emmy Stidham, and Jack Haley;

Indian Heritage Committee: Lewis Stiles, chair, Jack Baker vice-chair, Bill Corbett, and Mary Jane Warde from the staff;

Annual Meeting/Awards Committee: Emmy Stidham, chair, Bill Corbett, Jack Baker, Shirley Nero, and Mary Ann Blochowiak from the staff;

Confederate Room Curator: Mark Lea "Beau" Cantrell;

Union Room Curator: Mark Lea "Beau" Cantrell; and

Burkhart Trustees: Members of the Executive Committee.

Emmy Stidham moved approval of the committee appointments. Seconded by Bill Pennington, approval was unanimous.

Consideration of Salary for the Executive Director

Bob Blackburn explained that three years ago the secretary of Personnel Management did a study of all state agency directors. The yearly salary of the executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society was recommended at \$90,456.00; the current yearly salary of the executive director is \$72,000. The chairmen of the appropriation subcommittees agreed with the plan and changed the legislation to allow the OHS Board of Directors to make an adjustment. On the last day of the session, however, a bill came out of leadership and was passed that limited all agency directors to the same \$1,400 raise as state employees. The bottom line, based on an opinion from the senior assistant in the Office of the Attorney General, the last bill has precedence over the provision that was put into the statute. In the past, the OHS Board did not vote on the executive director's salary because it was in the appropriation bill, but this year the Board must approve the salary. Bill Pennington moved to approve the \$73,400, as capped by the legislature for the salary of the executive director. Seconded by LeRoy Fischer, approval was unanimous.

Bill Gustafson moved to ask Drew Edmondson, the attorney general, for an opinion relative to the executive director's salary. Seconded by Barbara Thompson, approval was unanimous.

New Business

Bob Blackburn announced that *Oklahoma Magazine of the Oklahoma Heritage Association* published by the Heritage Association had an article written by Kathy Dickson on OHS Museums and Sites.

Lewis Stiles announced that Representative Ellis from Valliant and Senator Rabon from Hugo introduced legislation that passed designating US 70 from the Ar-

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kansas/Oklahoma boundary through I-35 as the Choctaw/Chickasaw Trail of Tears Memorial Highway. There will be eighteen pieces of signage installed along the highway in the future.

There being no further business, President Garrison adjourned the meeting at 4:03 P.M.

DENZIL D. GARRISON, PRESIDENT

BOB L. BLACKBURN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Full text of Volumes 1–20 and tables of contents for Volumes 21–80 of *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* are available (free of charge) online in a searchable database at <<http://digital.library.okstate.edu>>.