



FOR THE RECORD

Minutes of the OHS Quarterly Board Meeting

July 28, 1999

President Haley called to order the quarterly meeting of the Oklahoma Historical Society at 1:30 P.M., Wednesday, July 28, 1999, in the board room of the Wiley Post Historical Building. Roll call taken by Director Wade indicated the following were in attendance, constituting a quorum: Grace Boulton, Mary Duffe, LeRoy Fischer, Denzil Garrison, Aulena Gibson, Bill Gustafson, Jack Haley, Louise James, Sue Jones, Robert Klemme, Guy Logsdon, Marvin Kroeker, Dan Lawrence, Leonard Logan, Paul Matthews, Ruth Eager Moran, Ken Rainbolt, Dee Ann Ray, Emmy Scott Stidham, Alvin O. Turner, and Barbara Thompson. Excused but absent were Bill Corbett and Eddie Faye Gates.

OHS staff present were director Blake Wade, deputy director Bob L. Blackburn, State Museum director Dan Provo, Historic Sites Division director Bill Lees, and executive secretary Trish Liscom.

Visitors present were Lillian Kroeker, Dr. Lewis Stiles, George Wise, LuCelia Wise, and Henry Greg Garrison.

Dr. James K. DeVore was designated Volunteer of the Quarter and Jeff Briley, Registrar, accepted the award on his behalf. An OHS Board member since 1996, Dr. DeVore recently resigned from the Board.

Motion was made by Sue Jones, second by Emmy Stidham, that the Board extend its appreciation to Dr. James K. DeVore for all he has done for the Oklahoma Historical Society. Motion passed unanimously.

Historic Sites Division director Bill Lees presented [a pin to] Bill Fullhart, Overholser Mansion, for ten years of dedicated service to the State of Oklahoma.

Board member Garrison read the following resolution into the record and moved its adoption. Motion was supported by Emmy Scott Stidham and passed by unanimous consent.

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING REGRET OVER THE LOSS OF OUR COLLEAGUE MARTIN A. HAGERSTRAND

WHEREAS, our fellow Board Member, Martin A. Hagerstrand, was tragically taken from us by an untimely traffic accident on July 6, 1999, which ended a lifetime of service to his Family, State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, he began his formal service to his country in 1934 when he joined the United States Army. From the beginning, he showed talent and promise as a soldier and won his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Reserve Corps in 1939. In 1941, shortly before World War II began, he was called to active duty as an officer, after having served seven years as a high-ranking enlisted man; and

WHEREAS, Martin A. Hagerstrand quickly rose, through his devotion to duty and talent, to become a member of the Personal Staff of General Douglas MacArthur during the first offensive moves against the Japanese on the almost uninhabitable island of New Guinea. And after a most bitter and costly campaign, he was part of the glorious victory of our troops, who

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took the island, which is the world's largest, against the fanatical Japanese foe; and

WHEREAS, while on the jungle-covered island of New Guinea, he met Marion Brown, a beautiful young officer of the Women's Army Corps from Tahlequah, Oklahoma. They met again in 1945 in Manila, Philippine Islands, made plans for a post-war marriage and were married in 1946 in Tahlequah. Of this marriage came a happy and attractive family, which grieves with us over the loss of this remarkable man; and

WHEREAS, after serving in the Pacific Theater throughout a long and strenuous conflict, he served in Europe and in the Pentagon. He graduated from the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and served on the faculty there until his retirement from the Army as a full Colonel; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement from the Army, Martin A. Hagerstrand began his work with and for the Cherokee Nation, developing the tribe into one of the most forward-looking and enlightened of all. Under his help and guidance, the Cherokee Heritage Center was opened in 1967, and the Cherokee Museum in 1975. The family TSA-LA-GI Theater was opened under his leadership in 1969, drawing audiences from the world over, for a ten-year period of time; and

WHEREAS, Martin A. Hagerstrand was elected by the members of the Oklahoma Historical Society as a member of its Board of Directors in 1981 and reelected numerous times after that. He was elected as the President of the Society at a time when much of the original planning for the new History Center was initiated. His steady leadership as President was reflected by the sound planning put into place for the task for bringing to fruition the enormous accomplishment of the authorization of a \$46,000,000 History Center for the people of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Martin A. Hagerstrand has been a true leader in the United States Army, in the Cherokee National Historical Society, and as Chairman of the Oklahoma State Capitol Complex and Centennial Commemoration Commission. And, he has further served as the leader of the Five Civilized Tribes Museum in Muskogee, Oklahoma, having been there working into the late hours on the evening of his death; and

WHEREAS, Martin A. Hagerstrand was first, last and always, a Historian of the first order. His love for his Family, his Country and his State was evidenced by the many years of faithful service and leadership he furnished to each of those entities. He will never be replaced. We can only hold him in our fondest memory;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on this, the 28th day of July, 1999, do hereby state our profound regrets upon the tragic passing of our esteemed colleague, Colonel Martin A. Hagerstrand. We are humbly grateful and thankful for the years of selfless service he gave to his Country, this State, and to this Society. We shall miss his cheerful friendship and counsel.

WE FURTHER HEREBY extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife and family at this time of great loss. Martin A. Hagerstrand will never be replaced, nor will he ever be forgotten.

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Approval of Minutes

On motion of Leonard Logan, second by Guy Logsdon, the minutes of the April 22, 1999, quarterly Board meeting were unanimously approved as corrected. Minutes of the April 22, 1999, Meeting of the Membership were unanimously adopted as mailed on motion of Grace Boulton, second by Mary Duffe.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Aulena Gibson reported the following fund balances for period July 1, 1998, to June 30, 1999: Revolving Fund 200-\$89,235.09; Revolving Fund 220-\$625,601.73; Federal Fund-\$36,386.33; Bond Fund-\$0; 1350B Fund-\$1,589,564.01. There is currently \$1,454,967.31 in Special Projects, which will carry over to the next fiscal year. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

OHS Board Vacancies

President Haley announced there are currently two vacant positions on the OHS Board of Directors. Dr. DeVore's position will be filled by the governor. The at-large position of Martin Hagerstrand, however, is a Board appointment, and President Haley suggested a committee meet and recommend at least two candidates to the Board at the October Board meeting.

Leonard Logan moved that the following committee be appointed to nominate candidates for the Board position formerly held by Martin Hagerstrand and make recommendations to the full Board in October. Seconding motion was made by Denzil Garrison and the vote unanimous: Marvin Kroeker, Chair, Dee Ann Ray, Barbara Thompson, and Emmy Scott Stidham.

Committee Assignments

Revised committee assignments, both core and interim, were distributed, and copies can be obtained from the OHS executive director's office. Motions were adopted to delete the Library Advisory Committee.

Legislative Appropriations

OHS: Executive director Wade said appropriations for the OHS in the amount of \$5,880,000 were approved by the legislature and governor, including the second installment of \$200,000 for operation of the History Center Project. Senate Bill 114 included funding for the following projects: Boley Museum of Black History, Cherokee Historical Society, Chisholm Trail Museum, Chouteau Memorial Museum, Coleman Theatre Museum, the Humanities Council, Mickey Mantle Portrait, Museum of Famous American Indians in Anadarko, Pawnee Bill Museum, Sand Springs Museum, Sod House Museum, Spiro Mounds, Wiley Post Museum, and Fort Gibson. House Bill 1571 divided \$464,000 among the following projects: Five Civilized Tribes Museum, Frederick Rural Heritage Village, Bank Museum in Tishomingo, Atoka Confederate Museum, Music Hall of Fame, Multi-Cultural Project, the Foreman Home in Muskogee, Children's Museum in Seminole, and Fort Gibson Military Park. Motion made by Dee Ann Ray to accept staff recommendations for distribution of the appropriations received. Second was by Guy Logsdon and motion carried unanimously.

Oklahoma Capitol Complex Centennial Commission: Senate Bill 158 appropriates \$285,000 to the OHS from the Constitutional Reserve Fund of the State Treasury for the operation of the Capitol Complex and Centennial Commemoration Commission. House Bill 1565 creates the commission, sets forth its duties and composition, and moving \$60,000.00 from the Department of Central Services to the OHS for commission for travel. Director Wade stated this is the first appropriation given the centennial since its inception in 1996.

Indian Meridian Initial Point: Enrolled House Concurrent Resolution 1032 indicates legislative intent to designate Indian Meridian Initial Point as a historical site and requests the Department of Transportation to establish a suitable road to that site. The OHS can help this project by facilitating the use of TEA21 monies and by getting the local county commissioners involved.

Testing of Oklahoma History: Oklahoma History was eliminated from eleventh-grade testing; however, House Bill 1759 added Oklahoma History as a required subject (one-half credit) for graduation, and it will be required as early as May, 2000. Dr. Blackburn requested the Board consider asking the legislature for funding to teach Oklahoma history more effectively.

History Center Update

Site Acquisition: Comptroller Billy Nichols reported on the acquisition and clearance of the site for the History Center. He said thirty-six of the forty properties have gone through closing, two properties are under contract but have clouded titles, and two acquisitions are still being negotiated. Eighteen of the houses are owner-occupied, but all renters are gone, and Mr. Nichols doubts if anyone will still be living there a year from now. Six lots have been cleared, and nineteen houses are scheduled for relocation, many to the Corpus Christi and Jefferson Park areas. The OHS now has a contract for mowing the vacant lots.

Exhibits and Collections: The exhibit phase is moving quickly, and Dr. Blackburn explained the importance of having an exhibit design consultant hired by September when work is begun with the architects, and therefore a request for proposals is being prepared now for an exhibit design firm. A one-page narrative will be prepared for each exhibit, explaining what the exhibit is to accomplish, the market targeted, and whether or not it is a major or minor exhibit. Dan Provo has accumulated a list of numerous collections around the state, and collecting will begin around October 1, when 20,000 square feet of warehousing facilities will become available.

\$14 Million Bond Fund: Director Wade stated letters stressing the need for the remaining allocation of \$14 million will be sent to Governor Keating, House Speaker Benson, and Senate President Pro Tem Taylor. It will take \$8.6 million for Phase I expenses, and without the additional \$14 million to bid for building construction, the project would halt in January, 2001, preventing the OHS from vacating the Wiley Post building. The OHS will still have to privately raise at least \$3 million. Dee Ann Ray expressed agreement with hiring a construction management firm.

TEA21 Funds: Dr. Blackburn stated one of the goals is to develop a greenbelt park across from the Governor's Mansion. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation is coordinating a master plan for the Capitol Complex to be completed sometime in October, 1999, using TEA21 monies, transportation enhancement funds set aside for both non-competitive and competitive projects. The theme is the reproduction of the Red River supplemented with historical events associated with transportation to fit within TEA21 guidelines. HOK has agreed to complete the site plan on the use of historic markers, historic vegetation, and land forms to tie into the basic design of the History Center site and then take this beyond the conceptual to the actual schematic stage, lacking only the construction documents. The history of oil theme may include the Lincoln Terrace #1 oil derrick at the entrance to the History Center on the corner of Laird and Twenty-third.

Contract Negotiations with Consultants: The final figure will be presented to the full Board at the October meeting.

Special Projects

State Museum: State Museum director Dan Provo prepared a draft of preliminary operating objectives for FY-2000 for presentation to the Board.

Allan Hauser Sculpture: Dr. Blackburn talked about his recent trip to Santa Fe to meet with the family of world renowned sculptor, Allan Hauser, to discuss the possibility of purchasing a major Hauser piece, such as the twelve-foot piece entitled "The Unconquered," for the History Center. In addition to that major piece of art, Dr. Blackburn suggested developing a major exhibit featuring Hauser as the first temporary exhibit of the History Center. The project would be viewed as a special project with outside funding using a planning grant, and staff would be hired specifically for this project. Motion made by LeRoy Fischer, second by Louise James, that a major

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Hauser piece of sculpture be included in the integral plans for the History Center. Motion carried unanimously.

FY-2000 Budget Allocation/FY-2001 Budget Requests

Denzil Garrison moved acceptance of the budget allocation for FY-2000. Second was made by Aulena Gibson, and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Motion was made by Ruth Moran, second by Dan Lawrence, approving OHS budget requests for FY-2001 as prepared, adding the establishment of an eastern Oklahoma regional office. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director/Deputy Director Positions

President Haley read a letter from J. Blake Wade resigning as executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society to assume the position of executive director of the Oklahoma Capitol Complex Centennial and Commemoration Commission effective August 1, 1999. Motion was made by Sue Jones to accept the resignation of J. Blake Wade with deep regret. Motion seconded by Dee Ann Ray and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Denzil Garrison, second by Dan Lawrence, to go into Executive Session under 25 O.S. Supp. 1997, § 307(B)(1) to discuss hiring an executive director and deputy director of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion to reconvene in Open Session made by Denzil Garrison, second by LeRoy Fischer, and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Ruth Moran, second by Guy Logsdon, to appoint Dr. Bob L. Blackburn executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society effective August 1, 1999. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Dr. Blackburn thanked the Board for their vote of confidence and said he looks forward to working together. If passion has anything to do with success, Dr. Blackburn assured the Board the OHS would be successful.

Deputy Director Position: Motion was made by Leonard Logan that the new executive director submit candidates to the deputy director position. These candidates will be considered by a committee to be appointed by President Haley and will make a recommendation to the entire Board at the next Board meeting. Second was made by Dan Lawrence, and the motion passed unanimously. President Haley appointed the following committee: Dr. Marvin Kroeker, Chair, Dee Ann Ray, Emmy Stidham, and Paul Matthews.

Dr. Blackburn spoke to the advantage of studying the administrative structure of the OHS. He explained the dynamics of the OHS leadership team has changed, and the director and deputy positions must complement one another in order to achieve the same successful results. [The OHS should] decide first what skills are needed by the deputy director and then seek to find the person that has those skills.

Dee Ann Ray moved that a committee be appointed to study the reorganization within the Oklahoma Historical Society for possible changes when funding is available from the legislature. Seconding motion was made.

When asked his opinion, Dr. Blackburn responded that he believes the immediate administrative needs can be met with the assistance of current support staff, State Museum director Dan Provo, and an architect with experience similar to Bob Thomas. He reminded the Board that there is an organization plan for the new History Center on record that should be fine-tuned in coming months.

Motion to table was made by Grace Boulton, seconded by Ruth Moran. Roll call vote was taken and the previous motion tabled by the following vote: Aye: 12; Nay: 8.

Committee Reports

Annual Meeting 2000: Chair Sue Jones enthusiastically talked about the upcoming Annual Meeting at Quartz Mountain in Altus, April 26-29, 2000. She has been assured the construction of the new facility will be finished by December 1.

Archives and Manuscripts: No report other than quarterly report contained in the Board material.

Black Heritage: No Report.

Budget and Endowment: No Report.

Education: Chairwoman Thompson reported on the successful reenactment and groundbreaking ceremony for the visitors center at the Honey Springs Battlefield and thanked everyone for attending. Also, the web site had over 131,000 hits during the month of June with the most popular topic being genealogy. Emmy Stidham added her gratitude for the success of the reenactment.

Historic Preservation: Emmy Stidham reported the Historic Preservation Committee met, and the Farm and Ranch celebration recognizing 67 families will be October 3, 1999, at 2:00 P.M. in Enid. The State Preservation Conference will be in El Reno, May 4-6, 2000. One of SHPO's recent tasks was to assist FEMA in scouting the damage path of the recent tornadoes. Only three properties damaged were part of our National Register listing.

Historic Sites: Dan Lawrence reported in the absence of Chairman Bill Corbett. Emmy Stidham moved that the Honey Springs Visitor Interpretative Center be named in honor of Dr. LeRoy Fischer. Seconding motion was made by Dee Ann Ray and carried by unanimous vote.

Indian Heritage: Dr. Lewis Stiles reported on the Indian Heritage Committee meeting, stating Mary Jane Warde has been doing oral histories in relation to the Washita massacre. Dr. Stiles distributed a newspaper article on Wheelock Academy.

Library Resources: No Report.

Museums: Chairwoman Dee Ann Ray said the committee authorized two loans.

Membership: Motion was made by Paul Matthews, support by Louise James, to accept William Menzie of Norman, Oklahoma, as an OHS life member. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Publications: Mary Duffe reported the committee did meet and will soon develop a copy policy.

State Museum: Chair Guy Logsdon reported on the committee and commended Dan Provo on the excellent job he is doing as director of the State Museum.

I-40 Routing

Board member Paul Matthews withdrew his request for Board comments.

Executive Director's Report

Director Wade congratulated Dr. Bob Blackburn on his appointment. He thanked the Board for the statue of Will Rogers and recounted how his family has grown up and expanded during his time at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

New Business

Dr. Marvin Kroeker said he will accept nominations for the at-large Board member position vacated by Martin Hagerstrand.

There being no further business, President Haley adjourned the meeting at 4:55 P.M.

JACK HALEY, PRESIDENT

BOB L. BLACKBURN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR