

*Richland County Historical Society      October 28th Minutes  
Brewer Library*

*Attending: Ken Thiede President Jay B. Mueller Secretary, Nick Studnicka,  
Jerry Bower, Crystal Foley, board members.*

- 1. Call to Order by Ken at 12:30 pm*
- 2. APPROVE agenda      Agenda approved*
- 3. Secretary's report.*

*Motion to approve the minutes for November Jerry made a motion, second  
by Nick.      Motion passed.*

*4. Treas. Report*

*Paul was unable to make the meeting so the Treas report for this meeting  
will be on the next agenda.*

- Frames were purchased for use for the school.*

*5. Old Business*

*A. October newsletter/insert*

*Ken thanked Crystal and Jerry for the work they did on the newsletter. It  
was also noted that stamps have risen in cost.*

*B. Ken stated that membership is on the rise, mostly on the lifetime side.  
Over 48 people have asked about memberships.*

*a. Ken asked the board to approve having Green Holiday Gifting cards to  
be printed by Hynek printing not to exceed \$100.00. Motion by Jerry  
second by Nick.      Motion carried.*

*b. 172 people visited the school this year.*

*c. A discussion on how to use our Facebook and gmail to better the  
organization along with the Gift cards. One newsletter will have a word  
search for kids.*

*d. Ken stated that he is stepping up the promotion of the school thru  
pamphlets and the newsletter.*

*The board discussed the gmail, how to make it more user friendly.*

*C. The web site will now have the board's agendas and minutes.*

*D. The painting of the front of the school along with discussion about siding  
will be. More details will be presented at our April meeting.*

*E. The board was informed that the head of the German Warehouse has  
stepped down and Barry Z. will take that position. Until they get settled our  
partnership is on hold for the time being.*

*F. Ken informed the board that there would be 2 signs, one replacing the old one. They should be installed at the beginning of 2024 season. Ken tried to contact Marty the tourism for Richland Center After many tries to talk with him have failed, so that relationship will end.*

*G. The progress of opening an antique ag equipment on Akey grounds such as getting Randy Olson on board and prepping the land.*

*H. Ken wants to have the board members sell calendars for raising funds. Each board member will have to sell five calendars. There will be pictures of different one-room schoolhouses from Richland County. We are also going to step up selling more ornaments this year.*

#### *6. New Business*

*A. Ken asked to install Aaron Dettman as copy editor for the Akey newsletter. That request was granted.*

*B. The board was informed that we have to have directors insurance. Ken is working on this project. The board confirmed the Ag Exhibition additions.*

*C. Pest control for Akey. They have been trying to get a hold of Bobby Duel, with no success. I relayed to the board that Mr. Duel might have retired. Jay will contact Bert Duel and see if he will take his dad's clients. He is employed by Will-Kill.*

*D. The board accepted the donation of a desk from Kites School – Netz Family.*

*7. Adjourn        Motion to adjourn by Crystal second by Nick. Time 1:40 pm*

*Respectably submitted by  
Secretary Jay Buchanan Mueller*

**Agenda for the bi-annual Board of Directors meeting  
October 28th, 2023 – Brewer Library– 12:30 p.m.**

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Approve agenda**
- 3. Secretary's report**
- 4. Treasurer's report – frames purchased**
- 5. Old Business**
  - A. October newsletter/insert 15.3**
  - B. Membership #'s – \*\* statement to businesses**
    - a. April approved Green holiday GIFTING**
    - b. Comp to visitors this past summer**
    - c. ? Facebook & postcards**
    - d. Pamphlets & promos \*\* also Kids search**
    - e. Gmail usage**
  - C. Website \*UPDATING – add agendas/minutes**
  - D. Painting / siding the school museum**
  - E. Warehouse status**
  - F. Signage status**
    - 1. County Tourism – follow up**
  - G. Ag exhibit Proposal**
  - H. Fundraisers – ornament & calendar**
- 6. New Business**
  - A. Discuss 'copy editor' position**
  - B. Directors Insurance**
    - 1. Confirm Ag Exhibit addition**
  - C. Pest control at Akey Museum**
  - D. Kites school desk donation**
- 7. Adjourn**

*Richland County Historical Society      April 22, 2023 Minutes  
Brewer Library*

*Attending: Ken Thiede President, Paul Wiertzema Treasurer,  
Jay B. Mueller Secretary, Keith Ruetten.*

*1. Call to Order by Ken at 12:33 p.m.*

*2. Approve agenda*

*Motion by Keith to approve agenda, second by Paul, motion passed.*

*3. Secretary's report.*

*Motion to approve the minutes for April, motion by Paul second by Keith.*

*Motion passed.*

*Note two donations non \$. Denny Jax and Deb Ferguson contacted the R.C.H.S. about their mother's Helen Jax estate of historical items.*

*The items in the collection include Richland County Plat books along with several scrapbooks along with some items about Richland City that no longer exist. There are also archaeological and Indian artifacts reports from the D.O.T. in the family's possession. Also Denny has purchased calendars of the brewery that was located in Richland City. The Jax family has some concerns about the collection if R.C.H.S. no longer existed. The family was informed that the items would be catalog and a copy will be stored at The County Room at the Brewer Library. The collection will be on display at the Akey School. If something should happen to the R.C.H.S. the collection will be returned to the family. The notes also have been amended to send a letter of appreciation to the Jax family. Motion to approve the donation along with the amendments by Keith, second by Paul, motion passed.*

*4. Treas. Report*

*Paul stated the balance in checking is \$33,748.69. The funds are at B.M.O. Harris Bank. Paul is looking into moving the funds from B.M.O. to other banks to diversify and get more interest from our funds. It was proposed thru a amendment that R.C.H.S. hold \$8,000.00 in the checking account, which would be for operating and upcoming special projects for the school the remaining money would be put into C.D. at different maturity dates such as 1 year to 5 years or 3-months to 60-months. The rates for C.D.s are 4 to 5 percent interest. The same person that did our taxes will again do them this year at no cost. Motion by Ken to approve motion along with the amendments, second by Paul, motion passed.*

## 5. Old Business

### A. April newsletter/insert

Ken stated that he mailed out 162 newsletters, which doesn't include ones given out by hand. Aaron Dettman has been a tremendous help with getting the newsletter produced

B. Ken asked the board to come up with the names of 6 people each to recruit new members. The names will be given to Ken and said he will make contact with the people on the list. Jay made the motion to approve Ken's recommendation, second by Paul. Motion passed. It was noted that membership is on the rise.

C. Website "History Moments" Barb Cody reported that the Akey website has links so that you view history about our county. History Moments will be on WRCO and in the Observer.

D. The school's cleaning date is Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. A sign up sheet for this summer to be a curator at the school.

E. Painting of the school building. Ken reported that Todd is booked solid so he proposed to do some sprucing up with a little painting. Ken asked for \$200.00 for paint and brushes to get it done. Motion by ken to approve and second by Keith motion passed

### F. Signage.

1. Paul revamped the old sign to make it look by touching it up by doing some painting. Ken talked with Greeley signs about how the sign can be more durable; they suggested making the sign with polyurethane. The color scheme would be green with tan letters. There was discussion about putting two signs at the Akey School. They will be 3x5 and would have information about the school. The cost would be for both signs with poles \$1,500.00. The board set aside \$2,000.00 for ongoing projects. Motion by Ken second by Paul motion passed.

2. County Tourism. The County is in a budget crisis so funding for tourism is scarce. The feeling of the board is that we can step up to fill that void.

G. Ag exhibits status. Ken reported that Randy Olson would help us with the gravel for the Ag exhibit. A discussion followed about cutting the sumac behind the school to clear the way for the addition of the Ag exhibit.

H. Constitution? The agenda item is being worked on.

## *6. New Business*

*A. Approve New Director position. Ken has recommended that Crystal Foley fill the open director position on the board the board agreed on the recommendation.*

### *B. Resolution 4-22-22*

*The Richland County Historical Society agrees to support in organizing a summer program series with the Frank Lloyd Wright Warehouse and 1912 building.*

#### *INITIAL Thoughts:*

*Three summer evening social/entertainment in June, July, & August at the 1912 building reception & theater in the Warehouse. Held in a FLW format in semi formal type attire with hor d'oeuvres followed by a walk next door to an evening of entertainment, which might include but not limited to musical, play acting, and/or a speaker.*

*We would agree to help with planning, contacts and promotion as well as assisting with ticket sales along with the set up & clean up of the facilities. The FLW Conservancy and their partners would take care of all the financial responsibilities from expenses to profits as well as the responsibility of any liabilities incurred.*

*The Richland County Historical Societies intent is to address one of the primary goals of 'promoting the history in and around Richland' noting that the opportunities would be available of the membership.*

*C. Gmail usage – exs. May 4 ARCH / Lone Rock. Aaron is working on the Gmail.*

*On May 4 th at 5:30 pm at the Gotham Park. The R.C.H.S and A.R.C.H will gather for discussions and exchange of ideas on how to promote Richland County.*

*D. Pamphlets & promos Ken requested to purchase white mail labels for the brochures. The label cost is not to exceed \$10.00. Motion by Ken to approve second by Paul. Motion passed.*

*E. Facebook. Ken stated that work is being done on Facebook for R.C.H.S. Keith will help with this task.*

*F. Fundraisers – ornaments & calendars. Discussion on fundraisers such as Christmas ornaments and calendars. Ornaments cost \$10.00 and*

*would have history Richland County scenes. Calendars would be \$5.00 and would have pictures of Richland County 1-room schoolhouses.*

*G. October newsletter/inserts - holiday gifting. This item will be further discussed at the October meeting.*

*Other business. Ken received word that R.C.H.S. was listed in the state paper that they had some unclaimed funds. It was that the consensus of the board to let Ken proceed with collecting the funds.*

*7. Adjourn Motion to adjourn by Jay second by Paul. Time 1:55 pm  
Respectably submitted by  
Secretary Jay Buchanan Mueller*

**Agenda for the bi-annual Board of Directors meeting  
April 22th, 2023 – Brewer Library– 12:30 p.m.**

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Approve agenda**
- 3. Secretary’s report – note two donations non \$**
- 4. Treasurer’s report – Tax benefit \$**
- 5. Old Business**
  - A. April newsletter/insert**
  - B. Membership #'s – \*\* statement**
  - C. Website**
    - 1. “History Moments” WRCO/Observer**
  - D. Summer SIGN UP / set cleaning date**
  - E. Painting / siding the school museum**
  - F. Signage**
    - 1. Repair/Replace existing signage**
    - 2. County Tourism – do our own ?**
  - G. Ag exhibit status & Properties update**
  - H. Constitution [ ? updating work in progress]**
- 6. New Business**
  - A. Approve new Director position to be filled**
  - B. Resolution – Summer programs with FLW**
  - C. Gmail usage – exs. May 4 ARCH / Lone Rock**
  - D. Pamphlets & promos**
  - E. Facebook**
  - F. Fundraisers – ornament & calendar**
  - G. October newsletter/insert – holiday gifting**

**Adjourn**