

# 2025 Motor Mill Visitor Summary

Motor Mill was open for tours Noon-5:00pm on weekends from May 24th - October 12th. The Motor Mill Foundation also opened on 3 summer Holidays for a 3-day weekend in May, July and September for a total of 45 open tour days. Abbey Harkrader and Katrina Moyna staffed the welcome center at the Inn daily May 24th - September 1<sup>st</sup> in addition to the regular tour weekends, Events were well attended and traffic through the park was slightly down this year in part due to setting it out a month later. **The Motor Mill Historic Site welcomed 2,726 from 34 states and 3 foreign countries.**

## **Visitation**

Total Number of Visitors dropped to **2,726**.

The car counter counted **15,361 cars** across the bridge May 23-Nov 24 (2024-Apr. 16 – Nov. 6)

<b>2007:</b> 858	<b>2016:</b> 1054	15,860 cars
<b>2008:</b> 504	<b>2017:</b> 1507	16,250 cars
<b>2009:</b> 634	<b>2018:</b> 1287	14,751 cars
<b>2010:</b> 788	<b>2019:</b> 1088	14,294 cars
<b>2011:</b> 683	<b>2020:</b> 805	19,827 cars
<b>2012:</b> 575	<b>2021:</b> 1415	19,592 cars
<b>2013:</b> 1492	<b>2022:</b> 1227	18,544 cars
<b>2014:</b> 1246	<b>2023:</b> 1663	20,028 cars
<b>2015:</b> 1439	<b>2024:</b> 3803	19,444 cars

## **1 MMF Events - 225 people**

- Bridge Lighting – **225**

## **2 Event Booths**

- Iowa Eats – Did not include these numbers ( about 700 )

- Heritage Days

## **6 Conservation Board Events – 233 people**

- Motor Motor – **71**

- Pasque Flower Hike - **10**

- Night Hike – **3**

- Music Under the Moon – **125**

- Seed Harvest- **2**

- Full Moon Hike - **22**

## **20 Educational Programs – 446 people      360 Youth      86 Adult**

Programs: 3 Camps, 1 Fieldtrips, 4-day School of the Wild, 3 Classroom visits off-site– History Trunk, 9 adult offsites programs at libraries and care centers,

**Volunteerism - 30 volunteers 1538 hrs (record high)**

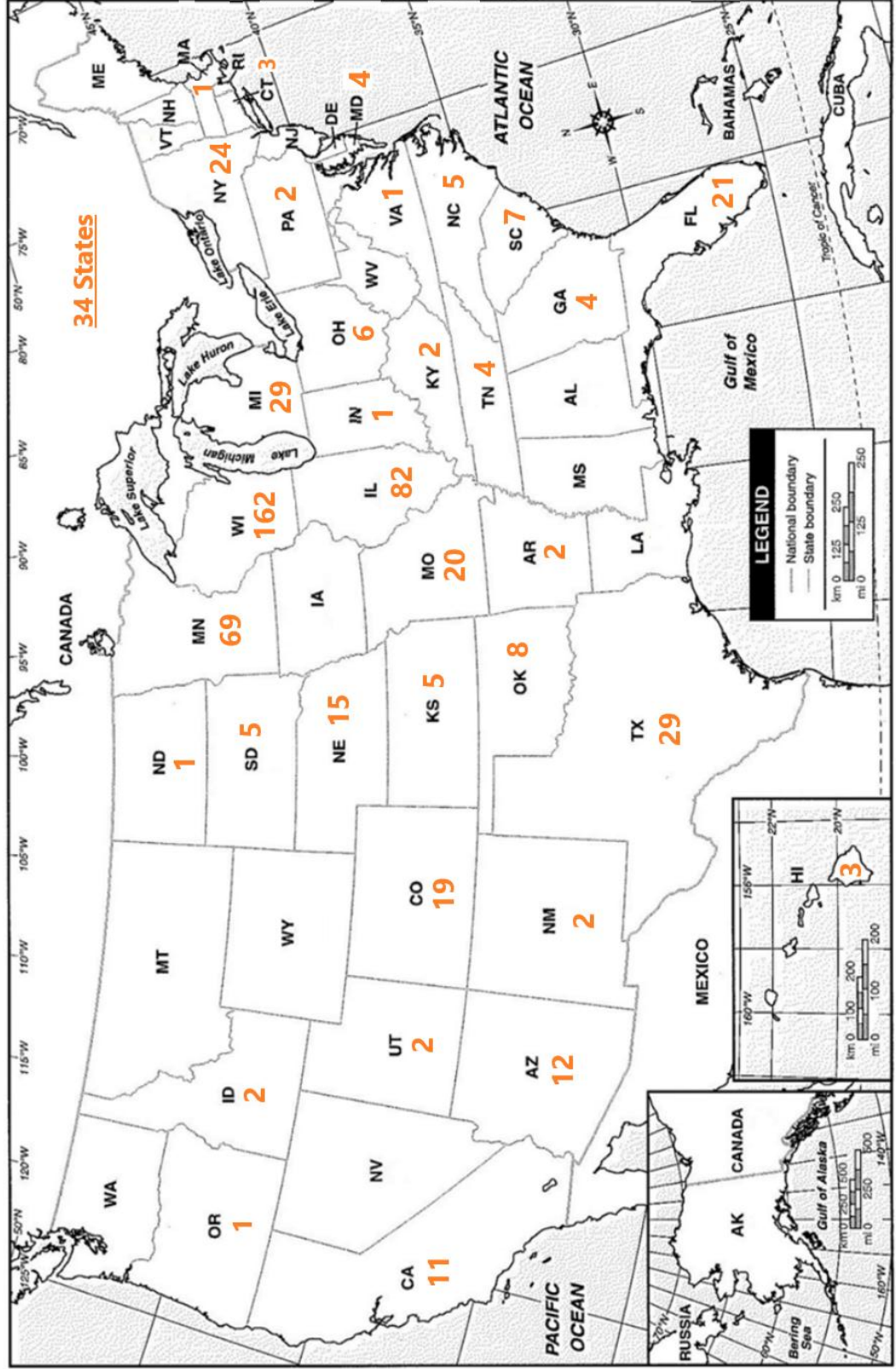
# 2025

TOTAL VISITORS

# 2726

### 3 FOREIGN COUNTRIES

- 2 - Canada
- 3 - Slavakia
- 4 - Philipines



***Motor Mill Foundation Volunteer  
2025 End of Year Project/Event  
Summary.***

**January-May**

-Fund raising- Save Motor Mill Capital Campaign

**March**

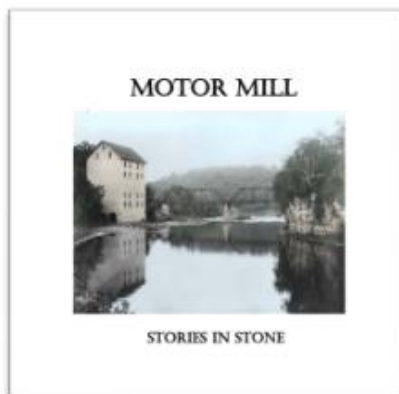
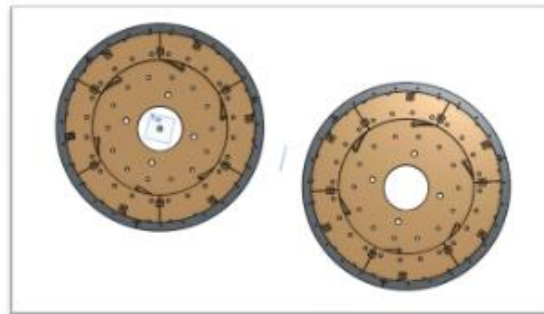
- Set up Freedom bank account
- Roof Repair Bear Creek Construction
- Jon deNeui notes consolidated into MM Inn library

**April**

- Iowa Eats Festival 4.5.2025
- Spring Clean-up
- Cooperage Clean-out
- MM Stories in Stone Book published
- Closed Central States Bank Account
- Foundation Repair work by Steege and Co.

**May**

- Engaged BYUI Students in turbine study
- New stone crane display set up with bails found in basement excavation 2020
- Battens added to stable.



## June

- Clayton County Museum Crawl
- White barn clean-up
- First floor supports installed near stairwell
- Repair rodent damage stone deck

## July

- Clean and Prep for events.
- Donor Appreciation Event 7.18.2025*
- Lee Lenth Memorial Event 7.26.2025*
- Engaged Joe Miller to work on Oliver Evan's display
- Installed shelves in white shed
- Installed Lee Lenth plaque

## August

- Cooperage and white shed cleaning
- Flood watching
- Assist with stable painting

## September

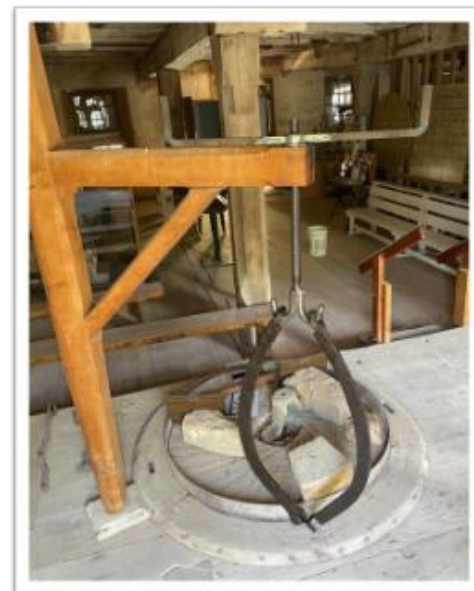
- Floor Joist sister added to 5<sup>th</sup> floor
- Installed Oliver Evan display with Joe Miller.
- Hung lights and moved John Nikolai plaque
- Privacy fence installed around propane tank near Inn.
- Removed old hay from Stable
- Met Joe Troutman to fix front door of the Inn
- Prep for Moon at Motor Event

## October

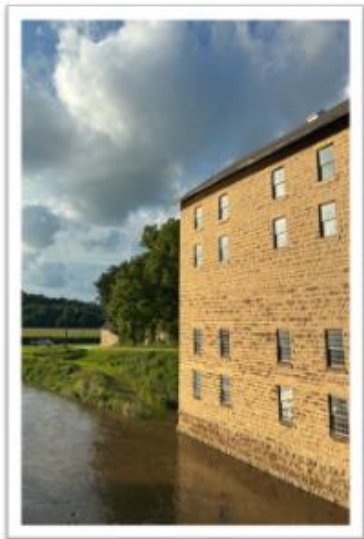
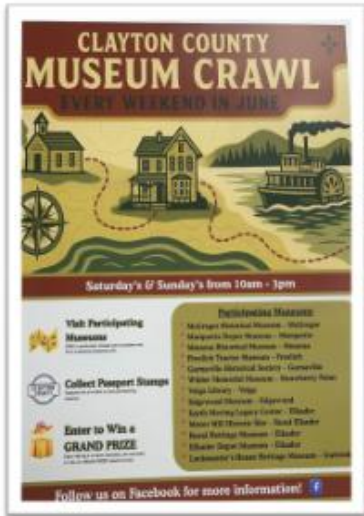
- Music under the Moon at Motor Music Event 10.05.25*
- Heritage Days Event 10.11.2025 prep and staffing*
- Work to mitigate pigeon infestation on the first floor.

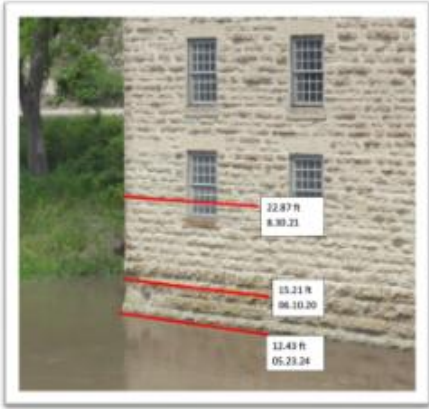
## November

- Hang bridge lights.
- Mill Cleaning.
- Bridge Lighting Event 11.22.2025*









# Condensed Minutes for 2025

## January 21, 2025

### TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>12-31-24 Beginning balance</b>		<b>\$63,864.96</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
1-6-25 – donation – Rita Hill	\$1000	
1-7-25 – donation – Eric and Cindy Boehm	\$1000	
1-13-25 – donation – Mary Damm	\$400	
1-17-25 – donation – Robert & Sandra Fagerholm	\$100	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>\$2500</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
1-8-25 – ACREC	\$65.07	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$65.07</b>	
<b>1-20-25 – Ending balance</b>		<b>\$66,299.89</b>

### 2024 BUDGET YEAR END SUMMARY

<b>Beginning annual balance</b>		<b>\$36,088.20</b>
Total expenses of	\$47,560.33	
Receipts of	\$75,337.09	
<b>Ending balance</b>		<b>\$63,864.96</b>

Proposed an estimated 2025 budget of \$79,250, with the major items being about \$72,000 for engineering and repair of the Mill piers. Donations for the pier remediation project- Have received \$68,650 in cash and \$37,700 in pledges, for a total of \$106,350.

PILLAR INTEGRITY OF MILL – Conservation Board Director Jenna Pollock said Shive-Hattery engineers hoped to have final plans to her by the end of this week (January 24.) Shive-Hattery also is in contact with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to assure that the construction work complies with their regulations. Pollock predicted that final plans may be ready to go out to prospective bidders by the end of February. Tuckpointing of the basement pillars has been included in the plans.

Shive-Hattery will handle the bidding process and oversee the construction work. If the contractor encounters an unexpected situation, they will stop work and consult with Shive-Hattery.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE– Initial fund raising has gone well, with donations and pledges totaling \$106,350. Molly Moser, with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, has suggested spending 6 to 8 months and raising 70% of our goal before beginning a public campaign.

Pollock said she will apply for a \$1000 grant from the Clayton County Foundation for the Future. Another grant opportunity is Upper Mississippi Gaming, which is accepting preapplications now for grants to be awarded later this year.

Pollock also plans to apply for a REAP Historic Resources Development Program (HRDP) grant, which could be up to \$25,000.

VIDEO PRODUCTION – The Motor Mill Foundation received a \$2999 (?) grant from Silos and Smokestacks to produce an interpretive video. Pollock has consulted with NE Iowa RC&D about doing a short video showing how the Motor Mill flume and turbines might have worked. She also explored the idea of editing and updating the Stories in Stone video. Those two efforts might cost about \$8000. The board tentatively agreed to proceed with those projects, with the work to be completed by the end of 2025.

SPRING PROJECTS – Slagel presented a draft of a list of Motor Mill Historic Site projects for 2025. Top priority, of course, is the basement pier and foundation remediation. Examples of other work in the Mill included: runner stone display, exploded turbine display, reinforce floor, arch gates, replace shingles blown off the Mill roof on the lower upstream side. Stable work might include: painting doors and gables, clean out hay, seal wall/roof spaces, tuckpointing. Inn: assist CCCB in removing encroaching trees and brush, hand rail on sidewalk to second floor, camouflage propane tank. Cooperage: new windows and floor, remove tarps and lumber. Smokehouse/icehouse: move millstone to Mill, sign to explain turbine. White shed: remove unused items, create a bucket belt display, dispose of bolter in yard.

Pollock said a wedding party has reserved the site for July 4, with the intent to put a large tent between the Inn and the Stable. She cautioned them that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to drive tent stakes into the shallow rock.

## February 18, 2025

### TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>1-21-25 Beginning balance</b>		<b>\$66,299.89</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
1-28-25 – donation – Steve & Ann McCorkindale	\$7500	
1-29-25 - donation – Larry & Margaret Stone	\$2000	
2-5-25 – donation – Craig & LeAnn Watson	\$2000	
2-5-25 – donation – Blackbaud	\$20	
2-7-25 – donation – Mallory & Tim Hanson	\$100	
2-7-25 – donation – Rod & Lori Marlatt	\$100	
2-14-25 – donation – Brian Power	\$3000	
2-14-25 – donation Bud & Myra Voss	\$1000	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>\$15,720</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
1-28-25 – Alpine phone	\$17.69	
2-7-25 – ETAB – tax filing	\$240.00	
2-10-25 – ACREC – electric	\$70.45	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$328.14</b>	
<b>2-17-25 – Ending balance</b>		<b>\$81,691.75</b>

Slagel also presented a summary of the Save Motor Mill/Foundation Rescue capital campaign. We have received \$84,350 in donations and have paid \$23,175 for engineering services., leaving a balance of \$61,175. There also have been pledges of \$30,100 through 2028.

UPDATE ON PILLAR INTEGRITY OF MILL – Pollock said Shive-Hattery engineers are in contact with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to assure that the construction work complies with Corps regulations. A routine permit from Clayton County also will be required. Pollock said the plans are ready for bidding, but documents will not go out to public bidding until all permits are obtained.

VIDEO PRODUCTION – Several board members have suggested slight changes in the script for the Stories in Stone video. Pollock will meet with NE Iowa RC&D about the video in March.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE – (See above report from Slagel) – Molly Moser, with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, has suggested spending about 3 months and raising 70% of our goal before beginning a public campaign.

DISCUSS “IOWA EATS” FESTIVAL - The board discussed attending the “Iowa Eats” festival in Waterloo on April 5. The tentative conclusion was to have a booth with Motor Mill photo banners, and perhaps a model turbine and/or block and tackle.

MOTOR MILL BOOK – Beck showed a book of Motor photos and history that he prepared on Shutterfly. The board discussed printing multiple copies for sale to the public. Beck will investigate printing prices.

MOTOR 5K-10K – Volunteers needed to help at the Motor 5K, 10K race on March 15.

GRANT APPLICATIONS – Pollock suggested applying for a \$1000 grant from the Clayton County Foundation for the Future to help pay for the revision of the Stories in Stone video. Morine moved to authorize Pollock to make the application. Schoen seconded. Carried.

The board also discussed whether to apply for an Upper Mississippi Gaming grant. Our 2024 application to UMGC for gates for the arches on the Mill was not approved. Pollock said UMGC requires work to be completed within one year, so it would not be possible to use that grant for the second phase of pillar repair. The board decided not to apply for a UMGC grant this year.

MEDIA PUBLICITY – The board discussed ways to get more publicity for Motor, including TV and radio interviews, Facebook, and newspapers. Zichal suggested trying to arrange a TV feature this spring, timed to coincide with the public phase of the capital campaign.

DISPLAY TURBINE PARTS – The board debated whether it would be useful to have a display of parts of the second turbine recovered from the Mill basement. Volunteers will inventory the turbine parts to aid in the decision.

## March 18, 2025

### TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>2-17-25 Beginning balance</b>		<b>\$81,691.75</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
2-18-25 – donation – MJ Hatfield	\$500	
2-25-25 - donation – Gene & Nancy Wehrheim (IMO Lee Lenth)	\$500	
2-25-25 – donation – Freedom Bank	\$10,000	
3-10-25 – donation – Robert & Helen Slagel	\$500	
3-10-25 – donation – Blackbaud	\$30	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>\$11,530</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
2-07-25 – CCCB for Shive-Hattery engineer	\$3,675.00	
2-14-25 – West Bend – Insurance	\$400.00	
2-18-25 – Alpine – phone	\$17.69	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$4,092.69</b>	
<b>2-17-25 – Ending balance</b>		<b>\$89,129.06</b>
<b>Checks pending</b>		
Visit Bluff Country ad	\$185	
ACREC	\$68.76	
<b>Claims</b> - Clayton County Conservation, Shive Hattery engineering	\$1,325.00	

UPDATE ON MILL PILLARS – Van Meeteren said the bid documents for the first stage of repair are posted on the Conservation Board website and the Master Builders of Iowa website. Bids are due on April 7, with a pre-bid meeting at Motor on April 3. Bids will be opened at a Conservation Board meeting at 2 p.m. on April 8. Work shall be substantially completed by June 15.

FUND RAISING UPDATE – The board agreed that it would now be appropriate to kick off the public portion of our fund drive for pillar repair, following the recent \$20,000 pledge from Freedom Bank. Zichal suggested trying for publicity in local newspapers, as well as regional television stations.

IOWA EATS – Metcalf has arranged to have a Motor Mill table at the annual Iowa Eats festival sponsored by Silos and Smokestacks in Waterloo on April 5. She plans to take mini cornmeal muffins, and rack cards and filers about the Foundation Rescue.

MOTOR MILL BOOK – Beck investigated printing costs of a photo and text booklet on Motor Mill. He recommended Supreme Graphics, in Prairie du Chien. They could print 100 saddle-stitched, 10-inch by 10-inch, 21-page booklets for \$4.93 each, plus a one-time \$60 set-up fee. Balster moved to place the order. Morine seconded. Carried.

Van Meeteren has met with Northeast Iowa RC&D about updating our Stories in Stone video. The script has been edited. A few more images may be needed. Narrators probably will need to go to the Postville RC&D office to record. Narrators probably will be Beck and Daryl Bruxvoort. Stone suggested including Metcalf, who agreed to participate.

GRANT APPLICATIONS – Van Meeteren has submitted an application for a \$1,000 Clayton County Foundation for the Future grant to update the Stories in Stone video. She will talk with Upper Mississippi Gaming officials before applying for the grant. Applications for REAP Historic Resource Development Program aren't yet available.

PUBLICITY FOR FOUNDATION RESCUE CAMPAIGN – The board discussed ways to get more publicity for Motor the capital campaign, including TV and radio interviews, Facebook, and newspapers.

DISPLAYING TURBINE PARTS – Slagel has been in touch with Brigham Young University engineer Bryan Lewis, who may work with graduate students to create a digital model of the wooden turbine from Motor. Lewis will need multiple photos of the two turbines. Decision if/how turbine parts will be displayed was delayed pending aforementioned engineering studies.

DONOR THANK YOU EVENT – The board briefly discussed holding an event to thank donors to the capital campaign. It was agreed to wait until after Stage 1 is complete.

MUSEUM CRAWL – The Clayton County Tourism Team and the Clayton County Historic Preservation Commission are sponsoring a “museum crawl” during June to encourage people to visit county museums. Museums should be open and staffed on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. People who visit at least six museums during the month will be entered in a prize drawing. The Board agreed to participate.

SPRING PLANS – Van Meeteren has not yet been contacted by Central Schools about the traditional “Earth Day” student volunteers helping clean at Motor.

The Conservation Board has hired Katrina Moyna as a seasonal employee who will team with Harkrader to keep the Motor Inn and Historic Site open seven days a week from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

ROOF DAMAGE – Slagel said shingles have blown off both sides of the Mill roof. He has bought some new shingles and has been in touch with Amish carpenters about doing repairs when the weather warms.

CHANGING BANKS – Zichal suggested that the Foundation should move its bank account from Central State Bank to Freedom Bank to show our gratitude for Freedom's recent pledge of \$20,000 toward the Motor Mill capital campaign. Morine moved to make that change. Balster seconded. Carried.

IOWA EATS – Metcalf asked to approval to buy materials for Iowa Eats on April 5. Morine moved to authorize up to \$200. Balster seconded. Carried.

AUCTION DONATION – Metcalf said Tom Healey has offered to donate a Motor Mill photo with a frame he built. The Board welcomed the offer and plans to offer it for sale.

DONATIONS FROM MENKEN FAMILY – Stone displayed items formerly belonging to the late Don Menken, former director of the Clayton County Conservation Board. The items included: an Elkader Stone Arch Bridge print, “East Bridge Street,” by Tom Webber; several prints by Wendell Mohr; framed photos; commemorative belt buckles; and a clock built for Menken by the late Gerald “Bud” Miller. Metcalf suggested holding an online auction. The board took no immediate action.

## April 15, 2025

### TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>3-17-25 Beginning balance</b>		<b>\$89,129.06</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
3-19-25 – donation – Greg Beisker	\$3,000	
3-19-25 – donation – Marge Costigan	\$5,000	
3-19-25 – donation – Jane Metcalf	\$300	
3-21- 25 – donation – Gerry & Pat Schnepf , IMO Don Menken	\$25	
3-21-25 – donation – Larry & Margaret Stone, in memory Don Menken	\$200	
3-21-25 – donation – Larry & Margaret Stone, in memory Gary Goyette	\$100	
3-25-25 – donation – Milton & Linda Owen, in memory Don Menken	\$30	
3-25-25 – donation – Dennis & Melanie Menken, in memory Don Menken	\$90	
3-25-25 – donation – Clayton Co. Ag. Ext., A. Harkrader program	\$75	
3-27-25 - donation – Daryl Landsgard	\$500	
3-27-25 – donation – Don & Mary Harstad	\$500	
3-31-25 – donation – Blackbaud	\$20	
4-01-25 - Donation – Alane & Roger Swales	\$500	
4-01-25 – donation – John & Marla Peterson	\$1,000	
4-01-25 – donation – William & Pat Dahlsten	\$50	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$11,390</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
3-17-25 – ACREC	\$68.76	
3-21-25 – Alpine phone	\$17.69	
3-24-25 – CCCB – Shive-Hattery	\$1,325.00	
3-31-25 – Bear Creek Construction, roof repair	\$600.00	
3-4-25 – Jane Wilke, visit Bluff Country ad	\$185.00	
4-10-25 – ACREC	\$70.58	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$2,267.03</b>	
<b>4-13-25 – Ending balance</b>		<b>\$98,252.03</b>

Pending claims include another \$2,000 to Shive-Hattery Engineering and \$143 in Metcalf's expenses for Iowa Eats. There also will be printing costs for the book prepared by Beck.

Slagel reported that he opened a new MMF account with freedom Bank and closed the account at Central State Bank.

UPDATE ON MILL PILLARS – Van Meeteren said Steege Construction of Waverly, the contractors who worked on the Inn, have been awarded a \$68,543 contract for the first phase of the pillar restoration. Other bids were \$76,849 and \$125,650. Steege hopes to begin work the week of April 21. Van Meeteren was cautiously optimistic that the work could be done by Memorial Day.

UPDATE ON VIDEO – Van Meeteren has been working with NE Iowa RC&D to schedule recording times for Beck, Metcalf, Stone, and Daryl Bruxvoort. Recording should be finished by the end of April.

FUND RAISING UPDATE – There have been stories about the fund drive on KCRG-TV, the Clayton County Times-Register, and other media. Donations have continued to come in, with the total at least half of the \$211,000 goal. Zichal and others shared concern that the economic/political uncertainty in this country could make people more reluctant to give in the future.

IOWA EATS – Metcalf had a Motor Mill table at the annual Iowa Eats festival sponsored by Silos and Smokestacks in Waterloo on April 5. She took mini cornmeal muffins, and rack cards and fliers about the Foundation Rescue. About 700 people attended. Metcalf said she had good conversations with many visitors, and she expects the event will lead to more visitors to the Motor Mill Historic Site.

FOUNDATION RESCUE GRANTS - The Clayton County Board of Supervisors has authorized Van Meeteren to apply for a Historic Resources Development Program (HRDP) grant to complete work on the basement pillar renovation. Mallory Hansen, director of the Turkey River Recreational Corridor, will help write the application. Van Meeteren proposed asking for \$50,000.

Van Meeteren also suggested submitting a preapplication for an Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation grant.

Slagel moved, and Balster seconded, that the Board approve Van Meeteren proceeding with the applications, and that the Motor Mill Foundation pledge an additional \$25,000 to the project. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTOR MILL CLEAN-UP – There are no plans at present to enlist the help of students to help clean the Mill before the tour season. For safety reasons, no one is allowed in the Mill while contractors are working on the pillars.

Schoen noted that volunteers are considering what to do with lumber stored in the Coopage. With little interest from buyers, it may be given away.

Van Meeteren said three weddings have been scheduled in the Stable this summer, but Conservation Board staff and the wedding planners will handle that cleaning. She does not want the dam beam, which is now on display outside, to be moved into the stable.

TV FEATURE – The Motor Mill Foundation Rescue Campaign was featured on KCRG-TV on March 26.

TOUR GUIDE DATES – The board discussed a tentative tour guide schedule prepared by Harkrader. The consensus was to try to staff the Mill all weekends and holidays through Heritage Days, with a special emphasis on Sept. 12-14, when John Moyna, with C. J. Moyna and Sons, is hosting a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for Caterpillar. About 5,000 people are expected to attend.

MUSEUM CRAWL – The board discussed ideas for activities during a “museum crawl” hosted during June by the Clayton County Tourism Team and the Clayton County Historic Preservation Commission. Participating museums should be open and staffed on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. People who visit at least six museums during the month will be entered in a prize drawing. Suggestions for activities at Motor included a scavenger hunt, a quiz board of Motor facts and trivia, and guided hikes.

## May 20, 2025

### TREASURER'S REPORT

**4-13-25 Beginning balance** **\$98,252.03**

#### Receipts

4-14-25 – donation – Leon & Vicki Linderwell	\$25
Donation – Jan Every family	\$50
Donation – Robert Sack	\$100
Donation – George & Janelle McClain	\$300
Donation – Gail Behrens	\$500
4-15-25 – Donation – Slagel – PayPal test	\$4.36
4-16-25 – Donation – Slagel – PayPal test	\$5.30
Donation – Ed & Barbara Ruff	\$100
4-21-25 – Donation – Slagel – PayPal test	\$2.41
4-23-25 – PayPal transfer	\$425
PayPal reimbursement	\$47.48
5-6-25 – Donation – Dick Woodard via PayPal	\$48.51
Donation – Blackbaud	\$20
5-13-25 – Donation – Fred Frost	\$100
Donation – NE Iowa Can Redemption, via Royal Products	\$404
Donation – Ann & Dave Gibney	\$100
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$2232.06</b>

#### Expenses

4-16-25 Alpine	\$17.71
4-22-25 Jane Metcalf reimbursement, Iowa Eats	\$71.87
CCCB reimbursement for Shive-Hattery Engr.	\$2000
4-29-25 Heritage Printing, Iowa Eats poster	\$42.80
Supreme Graphics, 100 books	\$493
5-2-25 Margaret Stone reimbursement, Iowa Eats	\$29.32
5-12-15 Allam-Clayton Elec	\$75.55
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$2,730.25</b>

**5-18-25 – Ending balance** **\$97,753.84**

The board discussed how much to charge for the Motor Mill: Stories in Stone book assembled by Dave Beck. The consensus was \$15.

UPDATE ON MILL PILLARS – Van Meeteren said Steege Construction has completed the first phase of encasing the pillars in flowable mortar. Shive-Hattery has submitted a bid of \$64,250 for engineering only for the second phase. The board agreed that cost is unreasonable, and we should seek another opinion.

Stone has a contact with a Mason City firm that is interested in the project and may send a representative to see the Mill.

Schoen suggested waiting to move ahead with phase two until we see whether or how the first phase construction affects the floodwater hydrology. Van Meeteren intends to apply for a state Historic Resources Development Program grant, which requires completion within two years. If we want to wait longer than that, we could either delay the application or decline a possible grant offer until we're ready to proceed.

UPDATE ON VIDEO – Van Meeteren said the recording for the Stories in Stone video has been completed, but NE Iowa RC&D is still working on the animation. She said the Clayton County Foundation for the Future has awarded the Motor Mill Foundation \$1000 for the project.

FUND RAISING UPDATE – Slagel said the Foundation has received \$109,299 in donations since November 2024, with another \$38,200 in pledges through 2028. The Foundation has paid out \$26,000 for engineering, with the expectation of a pillar repair bill from Steege Construction for \$68,543.

The board discussed ways to recognize donors. Ideas included: a newspaper add or story; an open house; a cook-out or ice cream social. Metcalf said she will contact Molly Moser with the Community Foundation of Great Dubuque for additional suggestions.

Slagel reminded board members the Community Foundation's "Great Give Day" is May 21. Foundations that raise at least \$300 will be eligible for matching funds of \$250.

MUSEUM CRAWL UPDATE – The Motor Mill Historic Site will participate in the Clayton County Museum Crawl from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday in June. People who visit at least six of the 13 participating museums will be eligible for a drawing for a \$325 prize. More details are on Facebook.

OPENING WEEKEND – Van Meeteren said a wedding party has reserved the Inn and the Stable for May 22-25. Foundation volunteer guides will be on site May 24, 25, & 26.

HISTORIC RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (HRDP) GRANT – The application deadline is August 31. The board must decide whether to apply this year, or to wait until we have time to evaluate phase one of the pillar repair.

MONDAY STAFFING MAY 26 – Zichal and Elvers have volunteered as guides.

STABLE PAINTING – The board discussed the need to paint parts of the Stable and to install as many battens as possible. It was suggested that we contact Amish painters for their estimate.

VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS – Lumber stored in the Cooperage has been removed. There is a need to shore up the first floor of the Mill near the basement stairway. The traffic counter should be installed on the bridge soon.

DISPOSITION OF ITEMS FROM MENKEN FAMILY – The board discussed ways to raise money from the sale of art and other items donated by the family of the late Don Menken. Ideas centered on a silent auction, perhaps in conjunction with Heritage Days, or a donor recognition event at the Mill. No decision was made.

OFFER TO DONATE A LADDER – Van Meeteren pointed out the liability concerns of volunteers or others using an old wooden ladder. McCorkindale will thank the prospective donor but explain why we must decline the offer.

PLAQUE IN HONOR OF LEE LENTH – The family of Lee Lenth will be in the Elkader area for Sweet Corn Days, July 24-26. The board will coordinate with Verna Lenth to arrange a dedication then.



MUSEUM CRAWL UPDATE – Several visitors to Motor have been participating in the Clayton County Museum Crawl. The Crawl continues from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through June.

LENTH MEMORIAL – Verna Lenth's family would like to hold the celebration for Lee on Saturday, July 26. Beck moved to hold the event at 3:30 p.m., following the parade in Elkader. McCorkindale seconded. Carried.

HRDP GRANT UPDATE – Harkrader said we should hear by July 1 whether the Motor Mill foundation repair has been approved for a Historical Resources Development Program grant. As Jenna Ven Meeteren explained at a previous meeting, we could refuse the grant without penalty if we choose to delay phase 2 for further evaluation.

DONOR APPRECIATION – Metcalf said Molly Moser with the Community Foundation suggested an ad in newspapers and/or a news item in the media to recognize donors to the capital campaign. After considerable discussion, the board's consensus was to invite donors to a tour and cookout at the Mill. Beck moved to hold the event on Friday, July 18, at 6 p.m. Metcalf, Schoen, and McCorkindale agreed to serve on the planning committee.

STABLE PAINTING – Stone has left a phone message for the Amish crew who reroofed the Stable, but he has not heard back.

COOPERAGE FLOOR CLEAN-UP – Schoen has swept the limestone floor of the Cooperage. Some further cleaning may be needed, but Zichal proposed identifying areas with fossils to protect and highlight for public viewing.

GROUNDHOG PROBLEMS – Efforts to trap the groundhog that has been chewing on the Hurst platform have been unsuccessful.

STORIES IN STONE - The board discussed pricing for David Beck's book, *Motor Mill: Stories in Stone*. Although the board had agreed on \$15 at the May meeting, Beck and others pointed out that the intent is to give publicity to Motor Mill, rather than make money. A price of \$10 might generate more sales. Beck moved to set the price at \$10. Morine seconded. Carried, with only Zichal voting to stay with \$15.

MODEL OF MILL MACHINERY – Joe Miller of Bloomington, Wis., visited Motor on June 17. He discussed several proposals to build a working display of a bucket elevator and auger. Miller promised to stay in touch with Slagel as he works on the models.

**TRRC REPORT** – Schoen, Brian Balster, Stone, and Jenna Van Meeteren attended the TRRC meeting in Elkader on June 3.

## July 15, 2025

### TREASURER'S REPORT

05.18.2025 Beginning Balance

\$108,188.10

#### Receipts

06.16 to 07-09	Merchandise (Square)		397.76
06.17	Donation	Cash	66.00
	Merchandise	Cash	5.00
06.18	Donation	PayPal	38.71
06.20	Donation	Jim & Sue Osterhaus	250.00
06.23	Blackbaud		20.00
06.25	Donation	cash	135.00
	Merchandise	Cash	69.00
07.01	Great Give Day (check)		986.06
	Donation	cash	118.00
	Merchandise	cash	60.00
	Donation	Wendland	100.00
07.03	Donation	Blackbaud	20.00
07.07	donation	cash	387.58
	Merchandise	Cash	94.00
07.14	Donation	cash	164.00
	Donation	Larry & Marjory Bushaw	100.00
	Merchandise	cash	47.00

**Total Receipts**

**3058.11**

#### Expenses

06.17	Alpine	Phone	17.71
06.18	CCC	(pier remediation)	68,543.00
07.09	ACREC	Electric.	81.29
06.13	Essers	Merch	36.00

**Total Expenses**

**68,678.00**

07.14.2025 Ending Balance

\$42,568.21

UPDATE ON VIDEO – Van Meeteren asked board members to send her comments on the draft of a water movement animation proposed by RC&D staff. She sent it to board members on July 10. One question is whether to include sound background. Schoen also offered to meet with RC&D staff.

FUND RAISING UPDATE – Slagel suggested we wait to get additional engineering opinions so we can have more information before proceeding with further fund raising.

LEE LENTH MEMORIAL – The event to celebrate Lee's life and work and to unveil a plaque in his honor is scheduled for Saturday, July 26, at 3:30 p.m. Stone has been in touch with the family, many of whom will attend. Stone also is attempting to notify some of Lee's Amish friends. Harkrader has sent a press release.

Stone and Morine will share stories of working with Lee. Others in attendance also will be invited to share memories.

WORKING MODEL UPDATE – Slagel continues to be in touch with Joel Miller, of Bloomington, Wis., who is designing a working model of a bucket elevator and auger.

MUSEUM CRAWL – Harkrader said the Clayton County Museum Crawl held in June attracted more people to Motor. At least 3 people visited all 13 participating museums.

HRDP GRANT UPDATE – Van Meeteren said she received an extension to the end of August of the deadline to sign a contract for the \$50,000 Historical Resources Development Program grant we could receive to help with pier repairs in the Mill. The board discussed whether we should wait on further repairs to see how the initial work done this spring holds up, or if we should immediately move on to permanent repairs.

Jake Shaw, of WHKS engineering, visited the Mill on July 15, and seemed quite interested in the remediation project. He promised to let us know in a few weeks whether he would submit an engineering bid.

Van Meeteren pointed out that the recent project was always considered a temporary fix, and she recommended moving ahead with phase 2 as soon as possible. If we accept the grant now, the work would need to be completed by December 2028. Van Meeteren noted that the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) might be expected to extend that deadline if there are extenuating circumstances. McCorkindale moved to accept the HRDP grant. Morine seconded. Carried.

DONOR APPRECIATION – Metcalf reported on details for the donor appreciation night, which will be at 6 p.m. Friday July 18 at the Stable. 45-50 people have returned RSVPs. At the dinner, Zichal will welcome and thank the guests, and Slagel will give a fund-raising report. Mill tours will follow.

Zichal and McCorkindale will grill about 40 hamburgers and 30 brats beforehand, then keep them warm in roasters at the Stable. Zichal has arranged for 10 Amish pies. Drinks will include water, soda, and iced tea. Schoen will bring watermelon. Metcalf has ordered potato salad. Other volunteers will bring condiments, plates, forks, napkins, and flowers. Volunteers will bring tables and chairs from Osborne Friday morning.

CRITTER ERADICATION – Although efforts to trap the ground hog in the Mill were unsuccessful, the animal apparently has left.

STABLE PAINTING – Stone received a bid of \$3,500 from Miller Woodworking, to paint the wooden parts of the Stable. Miller is aware of the need to protect the limestone from paint. Morine asked how much scraping or cleaning the painters would do before painting. Stone will ask. Slagel Moved to approve the \$3,500 bid. Morine seconded. (Follow up call July 16 from Miller confirmed they will scrape and blow away dust. He also said he needs to finish a cabinet project before working at Motor, but will let Stone know when they plan to come.)

COOPERAGE FLOOR CLEAN-UP – Additional cleaning may be needed, even though Schoen has swept the floor. The board discussed whether to use a leaf blower. Stone noted that his friend Jean Sandrock, a retired geologist who is familiar with Motor, may be coming to visit later this summer and will help identify areas of fossils.

YACKEL-JULEEN TOURS – Board members were asked to help fill tour guide slots that had been assigned to Mark Jackel-Juleen, who has been unavailable recently.

**Aug. 19, 2025**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

<b>07.14.2025</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>			<b>\$42,568.21</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Note</b>		
07.15-08.18	Merchandise	Credit/Square	397.09	
	Merchandise	Cash	339.00	
07.21	Donation	Delores and Mark Batchelder	200.00	
	Donation	Lawrence Sandhaas	100.00	
	Donation	Fred Frost	100.00	
	Donation	Amos and Fannie Christner	100.00	
	Donation	G Norman and Susan West	100.00	
	Donation	Cash	122.25	
07.28	Donation	Cash	354.00	
	Donation	Marlene and Duane Fenstermann	50.00	
	Donation	Blackbaud	20.00	
08.06	Donation	Cash	205.00	
	Donation	David and Kathy Swanson	15.00	
	Donation	Chris Schoen/Laura Elsinger	96.80	(Charityvest - memory of G. Goyette)
08.13	Donation	Cash	318.00	
08.18	Donation	Cash	95.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>			<b>\$ 2612.14</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
07.15	Merchandise (Lisa Finch-Magnets)		30.00	
07.21	Heritage Printing (Donor Appreciation)		192.99	
07.24	J. Metcalf-Donor Apprec.		164.31	
08.05	Merchandise (Essers)		33.00	
08.13	ACREC (Electricity)		85.55	
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>\$505.85</b>	
<b>08.18.2025</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>			<b>\$44,674.50</b>

FUND RAISING UPDATE – Slagel had no new report on our fund drive, pending the consideration of additional engineering options.

HRDP APPLICATION - The Clayton County Conservation Board has accepted a \$50,000 HRDP (Historic Resource Preservation Program) grant. The work needs to be completed in 18 months.

TURBINE ENGINEERING – Slagel continues to be in touch with Joe Miller, of Bloomington, Wis., who is designing a working model of a bucket elevator and auger. Slagel played a fascinating video of Miller's initial design. The project may be finished this fall. Slagel hopes that Miller can visit Motor to explain the project in even more detail.

Slagel has also been working with engineering students at Brigham Young University in Rexburg, Idaho, who are studying the design and operation of Motor Mill. They are preparing interactive computer graphics to show the construction and mechanics of the turbines and the Mill. The board was captivated by the examples Slagel shared.

The board held some brief discussions about how to add these interactive videos to our present tours. In particular, the water progression video may be what we are looking for in our redone video. We also raised the possibility of inviting the Idaho group to physically visit the Mill.

**ROAD DUST MITIGATION** – Three Rivers FS has agreed to treat the road from the Stable to the visitor parking area with lignin sulfonate – tree sap. The board consensus was that dust control would be important if we have a dry fall and busy leaf season. The cost is about \$350, plus a \$75 late-season fee. Balster moved to have the treatment done ASAP. Elvers seconded. Carried.

**MOTOR MILL SHIRTS** – Stone contacted Cindy Mueller, of The Stitchin’ Post, about ordering shirts with the Motor Mill logo, the website address, and the guide’s name. Options were: 100% cotton, polo, no pockets, \$43.32; 100% polyester polo, no pockets, \$35.83; Carhartt pocket polo, 100% polyester, \$65.79; Carhartt button front short sleeve, two button pockets, cotton/polyester, \$75.32.

Board members who want shirts were asked to send their style, size, and color preference to Stone, who will submit the order to Mueller.

Some members also would like magnetic name tags, such as were ordered several years ago. Harkrader will check on the price and availability.

**THE CENTURY OF CATERPILLAR** - Zichal has talked with John Moyna about his Sept. 12-14 “The Century of Caterpillar” celebration. There may be shuttles that bring visitors to the Motor Mill Historic Site. Zichal asked that as many board members as possible try to be available to help with tours.

**PLAGMAN BARN** – The board discussed whether to have a presence at the Northeast Iowa Farm Antique Association Plagman Barn Show Days, Sept. 19-21. Based on past experience, when visitors there showed little interest in Motor Mill, the board agreed not to participate.

**PROPANE TANK** – When Stone talked with Rocky, the Mulgrew propane delivery driver, he had no real concerns about trying to use shrubbery or a fence to camouflage the tank at the Inn, as long as clear access was maintained. In contrast, when Slagel spoke with a Mulgrew representative in Dubuque, he was told emphatically that there could be nothing hiding the tank or near it.

McCorkindale offered to supply several bushes or shrubs to plant. Stone questioned how long it might take to begin to camouflage the tank. He suggested a primitive privacy fence instead.

Elvers wondered whether the hoped-for project to install a hand rail on the ramp to the second floor of the Inn could be combined with screening the propane tank. The board took no action, will consult with Jenna Van Meeteren to get the Conservation Board’s perspective.

## September. 16, 2025

### TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>08.18.2025</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>		<b>\$44,674.50</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>	
08.18-09.16	Merchandise-Credit/Square	207.69	
	Merchandise-Cash	190.00	
08.25.	Donation	206.00	
08.29	Donation-Blackbaud	20.00	
09.02	Donation	308.00	
09.02	Donation-Paypal	4.41	
09.08	Donation	111.00	
09.15	Donation	237.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$ 1284.10</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
08.18	Alpine Communications	46.12	
08.20.	Heritage Printing	24.08	
08.20	Daniel Miller-Stable Painting	3500.00	
09.02	Joe Miller-Evan Oliver Display Remburse	319.92	
09.02	Three Rivers Dust Mitigation	309.75	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$4199.87</b>	
<b>09.15.2025</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$41,758.7</b>
<b>Claims</b>	- Dan Slagel-Propane Tank Fence Materials	\$350.00	

PIER SUPPORT STABILIZATION PHASE II UPDATE – Zichal asked what the newest stabilization proposal by Jake Shaw entailed. Van Metereen reported that Shaw proposed additional rock anchors and a concrete wall across the face of the block of hydraulic cement now in place. She was not certain whether the wall would replace the current aluminum forms or encase them as well. Additional anchors and soil retention matting would be placed over the remaining exposed face of the bedrock ledge to deter scouring. There would be silt accumulation.

Van Metereen said that she had spoken with Eric at Origin Designs. He suggested that we meet with a geotech consultant and with the engineer we hired to do the work. The geotech consultant needs to determine the depth of the solid limestone deposits. McCorkindale proposed having the geotech study done to make that determination. Van Metereen wants to speak to another contractor/engineer for their input.

Van Metereen also expressed concern that the hydraulic cement may not be strong enough to prevent shifting. If shifting was/did occur, the cement may hide that movement. Zichal suggested setting lasers in place to monitor for any shifting.

HRDP APPLICATION - The Clayton County Conservation Board has accepted a \$50,000 HRDP (Historic Resource Preservation Program) grant.

MOTOR MILL VIDEO – Van Metereen reported that Austin Feuermeier had taken video and drone footage last week

**TURBINE ENGINEERING STUDY** – Joe Miller, of Bloomington, Wis., installed the working model of a bucket elevator and auger in the Mill last Tuesday morning. McCorkindale made a motion to table discussion of having Joe Miller build a turbine model until the Board has a quorum. Elvers seconded. Motion carried.

**PLANS FOR HERITAGE DAYS** – The event will be at Osborne on October 11 & 12. Volunteers are still needed to assist staff. Harkrader said that some kind of fall festival will replace this event, which is evolving because it has been increasingly difficult to find “old timey” vendors to participate. The new event may be more like a farmer’s market. Van Metereen said the old army tents would not be used after this year. The tents will be set up on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Tables and merchandise can be brought on Friday. Slagel said he would send around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to man the booth.

**MOTOR MILL SHIRTS** – Zichal reminded the Board that shirts with the Motor Mill logo, the website address, and the guide’s name could be ordered. Options were: 100% cotton, polo, no pockets, \$43.32; 100% polyester polo, no pockets, \$35.83; Carhartt pocket polo, 100% polyester, \$65.79; Carhartt button front short sleeve, two button pockets, cotton/polyester, \$75.32.

Van Metereen said that name tags had not been ordered for some 10 years. Elvers suggested name tags might be available through Cabella’s. He would check that option.

**Staffing the Inn on Remaining Tour Days** – Zichal noted that when the Inn is not staffed on days tours are given, it would be beneficial to have an MMF volunteer at the Inn to sell merchandise and perhaps show the rental space on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors. Thus, one volunteer would be at the Mill and one at the Inn. Individuals at the Inn would need to know how to operate the computerized sales program.

**OCTOBER MEETING** – It was decided to have a regular meeting in October. McCorkindale offered to host the Board at a spring meeting.

**BRIDGE LIGHTING** – Zichal inquired as to whether we wanted to approach an outside group to string lights on the bridge this year. The Board had declined that offer last year. Van Metereen said that it was unlikely that the outside group that had volunteered to do the lighting last year would welcome our request as they had been rebuffed. It was decided that MMF would put up lights again this year.

**MUSIC UNDER THE MOON EVENT** – Brian Gibbs has rented the Stable to host a music event on Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 7:00 pm. Two country groups will be performing. A free will donation will be requested to offset the costs. He reported that there had been about 100 people at the event last fall. Gibbs plans to start setting up for the event at noon on that Sunday. Trash containers will be needed. Kenny Slocum at CCCB will provide traffic cones.

Slocum will be offering an opportunity to collect prairie seed that afternoon. The first floor of the Inn (the Visitor Center) will be staffed by MMF volunteers so that there is restroom facilities and an opportunity to buy Motor Mill Merchandise. The Mill will be open for tours from 3:30 - 7 pm. MMF volunteers will sell slices of pie and beverages. Local highschoolers are being asked if they want to sell food as a fundraiser.

PROPOSED HOPPER BOY/BOLTER/TURBINE DISPLAY – Slagel suggested that Joe Miller might be interested in making a model of a Hopper Boy.

DISRUPTIVE VISITORS – There has been intermittent concern regarding one local resident who regularly visits Motor Mill during tour hours and sometimes is disruptive. He interjects comments and “facts” about the mill’s history to other visitors. Occasionally he is surly when he has been drinking alcohol. It appears that he visits frequently because he is looking for company. Slagel suggested that we simply ask anyone being disruptive to leave. Van Metereen said that volunteers could call the Osborne office to reach her or another park ranger if needed.

HONORING MMF VOLUNTEERS – Slagel expressed concern that there could be too many individual memorial plaques placed at the site to commemorate all of the volunteers that have contributed to the restoration and success of the historic site. He suggested that only the founding members of the MMF are commemorated with plaques. Zichal proposed a board on which name tags could be placed to recognize all of the Motor Mill volunteers.

TRRC UPDATE – Schoen reported that plans the flower sculpture to be placed at one end of the Pony Hollow Trail was moving forward.

BYLAW REVIEW – Slagel asked McCorkindale to review the MMF bylaws to see if they warranted any amendments. McCorkindale agreed to the request.

## October 21, 2025

### TREASURER’S REPORT

<b>09.16.2025</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>		<b>\$41,758.73</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Source</b>		
09.16-10.20	Merchandise Credit/Square	38.66	
	Merchandise Cash	821.00	(\$646 from Heritage Day Wknd.)
09.16.	Donation (Check-Edverson)	1000.00	
09.16.	Donation (Check- Gibney)	500.00	
09.22	Donation (cash)	167.00	
09.30	Donation	180.00	
09.30	American Online Giving	179.64	
10.06	Donation Keith and Kathy Garms	250.00	
10.06	Donation (Moon@ Motor event)	538.00	(Donations plus Pie fundraiser)
10.14	Cash return Heritage Day	70.00	
10.14	Donation	327.00	(Heritage Day Weekend)
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$4071.30</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
09.16	SPOOM Annual Membership	50.00	
09.25	ACREC (electric)	83.03	
10.09	Cash Withdrawal Heritage Days	70.00	
10.09	Alpine Phone	12.36	
10.09	Meuser Propane Tank Fence Materials	357.52	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$572.91</b>	
<b>10.19.2025</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$45,257.12</b>

**Claims** - Dan Slagel-Propane Tank Fence Materials

\$350.00

**MOTOR MILL VIDEO UPDATE** – Harkrader said the editing work on the revised video is complete, it should be available on the website soon. The board discussed whether to have DVD copies for sale, since the video will be easy to watch on the website.

**TURBINE ENGINEERING STUDY** - Slagel has remained in touch with engineering students at Brigham Young University in Rexburg, Idaho, who are studying the design and operation of Motor Mill. There have been changes and turnover in the group, however. Their focus has shifted more to the theoretical physics of turbine operation, such as how design and flow rates affect the power generated. Some students may be interested in visiting Motor in the future, but not right now.

**BYLAW REVIEW** – Slagel distributed copies of the bylaws with changes suggested by Slagel and McCorkindale. Schoen moved to table the bylaw discussion until November to give board members time to review proposed changes. Balster seconded. Carried.

**ELECTIONS** – Slagel moved that Zichal, Schoen, and Metcalf be re-elected to 3-year terms on the board. Morine seconded. Carried.

Morine moved to re-elect the current officers to one-year terms. Those officers are: Zichal, chair; Schoen, vice-chair; Slagel, treasurer; Stone, secretary. McCorkindale seconded the motion. Carried.

The board discussed the desire to have additional board members. Metcalf offered to talk to Sandra Walter, who several times has volunteered to help with Motor activities. McCorkindale said he could visit with Lee Pool, who has helped tour guides at the Mill.

**BRIDGE LIGHTING** – Metcalf is heading a committee to plan decorations and food for the Inn for the November 22 bridge lighting ceremony. Others on the committee are Harkrader, Margaret Stone, Marianne French, Kelsi Davis, and Sandra Walter.

The committee has agreed on several suggestions based on past years, including: candles in all the windows of the Mill, Inn, and Cooperage; brighter lights on the path from the Inn to the Mill; and better traffic and parking control.

The group also is planning to have a short presentation before the bridge lighting about the history of the Thompson, Faulkner, Kuehl, and Klink families, who were early residents of Inn. It is hoped there can be a musical group in the Inn.

Metcalf proposed having magnets and tree ornaments with a Motor Mill image to give to donors as an incentive. Her suggestion was to give a magnet for a \$25 donation or an ornament for a \$50 donation. Our cost for magnets would be about \$6.57 each. The ornament cost has yet to be determined. After considerable discussion, McCorkindale moved to authorize Metcalf to order up to 50 magnets and 25 ornaments. Balster seconded. Carried.

Metcalf also said the committee plans to have cookies, candy, and oranges for visitors to the Inn. The hope is to find a large, braided rug to put under the kitchen table.

The board agreed to not have any horses or other animals for safety reasons.

The board also discussed a suggestion by Zichal to have an appearance by Santa Claus, but the consensus was that Motor Mill history should be the more appropriate focus for the event.

Board members are planning to install the lights on the bridge railings about the second week in November.

HONORING MMF VOLUNTEERS – The board briefly discussed how to recognize the many volunteers who have been involved with the Motor Mill Historic Site over the past 20+ years.

## November 18, 2025

### TREASURER’S REPORT

<b>10.19.2025</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>		<b>\$45,257.12</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Source</b>		
10.19	Donation Blackbaud	30.00	
10.29	Donation(cash)	40.00	
10.29	UMGC Grant	20,000.00	
11.10	Donation Blackbaud	20.00	
11.10	Donation-Slagel	500.00	In memory of Ed Krugmire of Schech’s Mill*
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$20,590.00</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
10.27	ACREC	82.15	
11.07	Alpine	17.81	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$99.96</b>	
<b>11.17.2025</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$65,747.16</b>

\* Ed Krugmire, proprietor and millwright of Schech’s Mill, was an invaluable resource for the design and operation of a mill contemporary to Motor Mill. His willingness to share his knowledge of mill operations, construction, and mechanics was always greatly appreciated by MMF.

**Claims** - Slagel submitted claims for \$110 for the Oliver Evans cart; \$175 for the barrels to be used as trash cans; \$204 for candles and lanterns for the bridge lighting. Stone moved to approve the total claim of \$489.31. McCorkindale seconded. Carried.

Metcalf submitted a claim of \$334.75 from Rivals for Christmas ornaments for the Inn. Slagel moved to approve the claim. Schoen seconded. Carried.

MOTOR MILL VIDEO UPDATE – The new video is now on the website. After some discussion, the board agreed that it is not necessary to have videos for sale. The new version will be shown to visitors in 2026.

BYLAWS – McCorkindale reviewed the bylaws and made the following corrections: The letter "u" is missing from the word "put" in Article IV Section 5 under Fiduciary Duties; In the middle of Section 8 in Article VII the word "predecessor" should be replaced by "successor." Balster moved to make those corrections. McCorkindale seconded.

UPDATE ON POTENTIAL NEW BOARD MEMBERS – Lee Pool and Sandra Walter, who attended the meeting as guests, each have volunteered at Motor Mill events. They also have expressed a strong interest in history and the preservation of historical sites. The board welcomed their participation and suggested that they consider applying to

become board members. Slagel asked to include that on the agenda for the December board meeting.

UPDATE ON PILLAR REPAIR – Van Meeteren has invited staff from Terracon to visit Motor to become familiar with what will be needed to get a geotechnical engineer to evaluate the quality of the limestone bedrock.

BRIDGE LIGHTING – The bridge lighting is scheduled for 5 p.m. sharp on Saturday, November 22. Refreshments will be served in the Inn from 4 to 6 p.m.

Metcalf heads a committee to decorate the Inn. Others are: Harkrader, Margaret Stone, Marianne French, Kelsi Davis, and Sandra Walter. Metcalf displayed the three ornaments that will be offered as incentives to donors. People who give \$20 will receive a Motor Mill magnet; for \$40, a donor gets a wooden holiday tree ornament; a \$60 donation entitles the donor to a model of Motor Mill made by Venteicher.

Metcalf's committee is decorating the Inn and preparing cookies and other refreshments for visitors. They've made posters to honor past Inn residents: the John Thompson family, the Falconers, the Kuehls, and the Klinks.

There will be several decorated trees in the Inn, with electric candles and greenery in the windows. A musical duo will play on the second floor. Motor Mill volunteers also will have lights to mark the path from the Inn to the Mill. Volunteers also will help park cars.

Van Meeteren has agreed to speak briefly before the countdown to the 5 p.m. lighting of the bridge lights. Short tours will be available for visitors before and after the lighting.

SAFETY AND SECURITY – There has been no new information about the illegal entry to the Mill through the basement arches in October. A padlock has been installed on the door that leads up from the basement.

ELECTRICAL REPAIRS – Joe Miller, a retired electrician from Bloomington, Wisc., came to Motor recently to repair several electrical issues. He did not charge for his work. Miller also built the Oliver Evans model.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION – The board discussed ways to recognize volunteers for their years of service to Motor and the foundation. One suggestion is a plaque listing names of volunteers, with categories for the number of years. Van Meeteren noted that many employees have contributed immensely to Motor – but they technically are not allowed to work as volunteers. Elvers moved to table the matter. Balster seconded.

UMGC GRANT – Zichal and Slagel attended an October 28 event to receive a \$20,000 grant from the Upper Mississippi Gaming Commission for basement pillar repair.

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - Anticipating no major claims to the MMF checking account in the coming months, Slagel suggested that a portion of the account balance be invested in a Certificate of Deposit at Freedom Bank. After a brief discussion, Metcalf moved and Balster seconded opening a \$40,000, 6 month CD at 3.9% interest. The motion carried.

MEETING TIME - The board discussed preferences for meeting times. Balster moved to begin meetings at 6:30 p.m. Schoen seconded. Carried.

## December 16, 2025

### TREASURER'S REPORT

**11.17.2025 Beginning Balance 65,747.16**

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Source</u>	
11.24.2025	Donation Cash Bridge Lighting(undesignated)	825.71
	Donation Cash - Ken and JoAnn Fishel	25.00
	Donation -Checks:	
	Gary and Donna Jones	25.00
	James and Joleen Jansen	100.00 (Donation for music)
	Penny and Gary Reed	50.00
	Mace and Kristin Klingman	40.00
	Robert and Hila Garms	20.00
	Rick Knivslund	20.00
	Larry and Margaret Stone	60.00
	Merchandise-cash	49.00
11.25.25	PayPal Donation (Metcalf)	9.31
11.25.2025	Square Merchandise	38.81
11.24.2025	Change return	120.00
12.2.2025	Rita Hill	2000.00
12.2.2025	James and Mary Stolley	200.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>3,582.83</b>

### Expenses

11.19.2025	Cash Withdrawal for CD	40,000.00
11.20.2025	Slagel Reimbursement	489.31 (Candles, lanterns, barrels, OE Cart)
11.24.2025	Slagel Reimbursement	100.00 (Slagel paid musicians \$250 with personal check (copy below), partially reimbursed by Jansen donation).
11.25.2025	ACREC (electric)	76.12
12.02.2025	Heritage printing	157.93 (for Bridge Lighting)
12.08.2025	Metcalf Reimbursement	91.00 (for Bridge Lighting)
12.09.2025	Alpine (telephone)	17.81
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>40,932.17</b>

**12.15.2025 Ending Balance on Hand 28,397.82**

### CD

11.19.2025 FreedomBank 182-day CD @3.9% (Account # 1754935). Maturity 5/20/2026. \$40,000.

BRIDGE LIGHTING REPORT – Morine noted the significant number and amounts of donations. Zichal attributed much of the success to good weather. He also suggested the need to look for new and different ideas for future lighting ceremonies. He said there should be better lighting along the road between the Mill and the Smoke House. Pollock acknowledged the need to better advertise the music at the event. Elvers praised the public cooperation with MMF volunteers who controlled parking and bridge traffic.

Stone moved to give extra commemorative ornaments and magnets to volunteers who helped with the event. Balster seconded. Carried.

Pool asked about the potential to put lights higher on the bridge. Morine noted that the long-standing county policy has been that lights are permitted – but climbing higher to install them is not.

**NEW BOARD MEMBERS** – Balster moved to elect Lee Pool and Sandra Walter to the board by unanimous consent. Elvers seconded. Carried. Morine noted that this will be three-year positions.

**DONOR RECOGNITION** – The board held a lengthy discussion of how best to recognize donors. Morine noted that the wooden replicas of mill stones, with small plaques naming donors, was last updated in 2015. The initial plaques cited those with \$200 donations for mill windows. Morine has a list of 2016-2017 donors for which no plaques had been added. Balster favored updating the plaques, noting that Mill visitors often take time to read the names on the wooden millstones.

The board agreed that the minimum amount for plaques or other special recognition needs to be raised, but took no action on what that recognition should be.

The board also debated how to recognize volunteers. Schoen suggested a general sign showing the total annual number of volunteer hours. Another idea was a sign listing volunteers and number of years they had helped. Zichal urged board members to bring more ideas to the January meeting.

**BRIDGE LIGHTING** – Pollock said the Clayton County Side-by-Side group has offered to help with bridge lighting next year. Elvers and Zichal agreed to meet with them. Stone stressed the need to coordinate with the Board of Supervisors.

Pollock also said the Central High School madrigal singers, who have performed for past Holiday Walks at Osborne, might be available to sing at a bridge lighting.

Walter suggested looking at ways to get out more publicity about the event.

**SAFETY AND SECURITY** – There has been no new information about the illegal entry to the Mill through the basement arches in October. Van Meeteren reminded board members to be sure to lock buildings.

**FREEDOM BANK CD** – The \$40,000 CD at Freedom Bank matures on May 20, 2026.

**AD IN TOURISM MAGAZINE** – Roger Thomas, with the George Meier Rural Heritage Museum, has asked if the Motor Mill Foundation would partner with the George Meier Museum, the Elkader Depot, and the Earth Moving Legacy Center on a half-page ad in the 2026 Visit Bluff Country tourism magazine. The publication is distributed in Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Illinois. The board concurred with the idea of supporting other organizations. Elvers moved to approve our \$149.75 share of the ad. Balster seconded. Carried.

**TRRC** – Dan Slagel and family have donated to install a kayak/bike rack at Motor.

**HERITAGE DAYS** – The Clayton County Conservation Board is sponsoring listening sessions to get ideas for another event that might replace the former Heritage Days. Upcoming sessions at Osborne are Thursday, January 15 at 6 p.m., and Friday, February 6 at 10 a.m. Board members are encouraged to attend.

**PROJECT PLANS FOR 2026** – Since Dan Slagel was absent, the board agreed to delay discussion until the January 20 meeting. Members were urged to review a draft of plans, which Slagel sent in a December 8 email.

SCREEN AND VIDEO PLAYER NEEDED AT INN?– Pollock noted that the Motor Mill master plan calls for video equipment to be in the Mill, rather than the Inn. She also noted the lack of space in the Inn – and the desire to minimize equipment that would have to be moved in case of a flood.

STUDENT VIDEO OF TURBINES – The board discussed ways to show the public the animated PowerPoint presentation about the Motor Mill turbines, which was prepared by mechanical engineering students from Brigham Young University Idaho. Would it be feasible to show on a small computer at the Mill or Inn? Could it be on the website?

BRIAN GIBBS CABIN CONCERTS – Brian Gibbs has expressed interest in hosting a concert at the Motor Stable on July 17. The board raised several questions, including concerns that donation jars for musicians and for Motor Mill be clearly separated. Pollock noted that Gibbs would be required to follow the standard policy of paying the Stable rental fee, having event insurance, and making a deposit if alcohol would be available. She noted that for liability reasons it should be made clear that a concert was a private event, and not a Clayton County event.

TRAFFIC COUNTER - Stone said the bridge traffic counter recorded 15,361 vehicles from May 23 through November 24. That was about a month shorter time than previous years, because volunteers did not have access to the Mill while contractors were working on the pillars. Harkrader and Van Meeteren noted that tourism traffic has decreased slightly in the last couple of years.

PILLAR REPAIR – Van Meeteren met with staff from Terracon to discuss the need for a geotechnical study of the bedrock. The Terracon staff said it is more important to support the weight of the post and beams. Further engineering may be needed to decide how to proceed with the pillar repair.