

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

January 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Ken Zichal, Chuck Morine, Larry Stone, Jay Elvers, Brian Balster, Jane Metcalf, Don Venteicher, Dave Beck, Jay Elvers, Steve McCorkindale, and Dan Slagel. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Zichal called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Stone asked to add an informational item about Jon deNeui's records donated by Doug Wolfe. Slagel moved to accept the agenda with that addition. Elvers seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Slagel moved to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2024, meeting as distributed. McCorkindale seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Slagel submitted the following treasurer's report:

12-31-24 Beginning balance		\$63,864.96
Receipts		
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	
Total receipts	\$2500	
Expenses		
1-8-25 – ACREC	\$65.07	
Total expenses	\$65.07	
1-20-25 – Ending balance		\$66,299.89

Slagel also presented a summary of the Motor Mill Foundation's 2024 budget, with a beginning annual balance of \$36,088.20, total expenses of \$47,560.33, receipts of \$75,337.09, and an ending balance of \$63,864.96.

Slagel also gave a summary of donations for the pier remediation project. The Foundation so far has received \$68,650 in cash and another \$37,700 in pledges, for a total of \$106,350.

Slagel proposed an estimated 2025 budget of \$79,250, with the major items being about \$72,000 for engineering and repair of the Mill piers.

Morine moved to accept the treasurer's report. Balster seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1 – UPDATE ON 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.

2 – FUNDRAISING UPDATE – (See above report from Slagel) – 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.

3 – WEBSITE UPDATE – No discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – SILOS & SMOKESTACKS PROPOSAL – No item due to misunderstanding.

2 – 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.

3 – 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. Cooporage: 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.

REPORTS

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.

ADJOURNMENT

Beck moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. Venteicher seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County