

## Motor Mill Foundation

### Minutes

(DRAFT)

March 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Ken Zichal, Chuck Morine, Larry Stone, Jay Elvers, Jane Metcalf, Dave Beck, Brian Balster, and Dan Slagel. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Van Meeteren (Pollock) and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Zichal called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

### **AGENDA**

Metcalf asked to add an item about a possible auction item. Stone asked to add an item about donations to the Foundation from the family of Don Menken. Zichal asked to discuss changing banks for the MMF account. Elvers moved to approve the agenda with those additions. Slagel seconded. Carried.

### **MINUTES**

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025, meeting as distributed. Slagel seconded. Carried.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Slagel submitted the following treasurer's report:

2-17-25 Beginning balance	\$81,691.75
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#### Receipts

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

Total receipts	\$11,530
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#### Expenses

2-07-25 – CCCB for Shive-Hattery engineer	\$3,675
2-14-25 – West Bend – Insurance	\$400.00
2-18-25 – Alpine – phone	\$17.69

Total expenses	\$4,092.69
2-17-25 – Ending balance	\$89,129.06
Checks pending	
Visit Bluff Country ad	\$185
ACREC	\$68.76
Claims - Clayton County Conservation, Shive Hattery engineering	\$1,325.00

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1 – 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.

2- 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.

3 – 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.

4 – 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.

5 – 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.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

6 – 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 an UMGC grant. Applications for REAP Historic Resource Development Program (HRDP) are not yet available.

7 – 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.

8 – 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.

9 – DONOR THANK YOU EVENT – The board briefly discussed holding a special event to thank donors to the capital campaign. It was agreed to wait until after the first stage of repair is complete.

10 – 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.

11 – 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.

12 – 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.

13 – 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.

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

14 – AUCTION DONATION – Metcalf said Tom Healey has offered to donate a Motor Mill photo with a frame he has built. The Board welcomed the offer and will consider how to best offer the art work for sale.

15 – 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.

**Item 8: Consider adding: “**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Balster moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Elvers seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton Count