

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes (DRAFT)

November 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Ken Zichal, Chris Schoen, Jay Elvers, Jane Metcalf, Steve McCorkindale, Dan Slagel, Brian Balster, Larry Stone, Don Venteicher, and Chuck Morine, as well as Clayton County Conservation Board Director Jenna Van Meeteren and naturalist Abbey Harkrader. Lee Pool and Sandra Walter were guests. Zichal called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

AGENDA

Slagel moved to approve the agenda as distributed. Elvers seconded. The motion carried.

MINUTES

Elvers moved to approve the minutes of the October 21 meeting as distributed. Morine seconded. Carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Slagel presented the following treasurer’s report:

Motor Mill Foundation Treasurer’s Report		Nov 18, 2025	
Date			
10.19.2025	Beginning Balance		\$45,257.12
Receipts		Source	
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*
Total Receipts		\$20,590.00	
Expenses			
10.27	ACREC	82.15	
11.07	Alpine	17.81	
Total Expenses		\$99.96	
11.17.2025	Ending Balance		\$65,747.16

* 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.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1 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.
- 2 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. Carried.
- 3 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.
- 4 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.

NEW BUSINESS

1 - 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.

- 2 - 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 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. Carried.
- 5 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.
- 6 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Venteicher moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Slagel seconded. Carried.

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County