

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes (DRAFT)

February 15, 2026

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Ken Zichal, Dan Slagel, Chris Schoen, Jay Elvers, Larry Stone, Lee Pool, Sandra Walter, Steve McCorkindale, Jane Metcalf, Don Venteicher, and Chuck Morine, as well as Clayton County Conservation Board naturalist Abbey Harkrader. Zichal called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

AGENDA

Slagel asked to add an item on making a donation to the Turkey River Recreational Corridor. Metcalf asked to add an item on the Iowa Eats event sponsored by Silos and Smokestacks. Pool moved to approve the agenda with those additions. Elvers seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Schoen moved to approve the minutes of the January 20 meeting as distributed. Metcalf seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Slagel presented the following treasurer's report:

February 2026

Beginning Balance (01.19.2026)	32,456.04
---------------------------------------	------------------

Receipts

1/28/26	Donation Craig and LeAnn Watson	2000.00
2/04/26	Donation (Blackbaud)	<u>20.00</u>

Total Receipts	2020.00
-----------------------	----------------

Expenses

1/26/26	ACREC (Electric)	73.44
1/28/26	Elkader Tax and Bookkeeping	255.00
2/9/26	Alpine (Phone)	<u>17.81</u>

Total Expenses	346.25
-----------------------	---------------

Ending Balance on hand through (2.16.26)	34,129.79
---	------------------

CD

11.19.2025 FreedomBank 182 day CD @ 3.9% (Acct. # 1754935). Maturity 5.20.26. \$40,000

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

OLD BUSINESS

1 – SIDE BY SIDE CLUB – Elvers, Pool, Slagel, McCorkindale, Zichal and Stone met with four members of the Clayton County Side-by-Side club on Feb. 2. Zichal praised the group, who have offered to help with the holiday bridge lighting and other projects. Elvers noted that the club has access to a lift to use to install lights, and perhaps with cleaning rain gutters on the Inn. The club sponsors monthly rides in the summer, often bringing groups through the Motor Mill Historic Site. The board agreed that it would be useful to continue the dialogue with the Side-by-Side club - perhaps in April. Elvers will try to make arrangements.

Elvers noted that the SxS club has access to AED equipment, and many have had first aid training. Zichal suggested that MMF members should have refresher training with our AED devices. Harkrader said the Conservation Board usually has staff training in early June. She hopes that can be available to MMF members as well.

2 – PROJECT PLANS FOR 2026 – The board briefly reviewed possible projects for this season, and agreed that pier stabilization is top priority. There needs to be further discussion with the Conservation Board about a railing on the sidewalk to the second floor of the Inn, guards on the Mill arches, roof repair on the Mill, landscaping, and other projects.

3 – PIER STABILIZATION – Van Meeteren reported in an email that SHPO did not have any engineering recommendations. She has emailed WJE engineering to see if that firm is interested.

Bolton Menk reviewed proposals from Shive-Hattery and WHKS, but did not see those as long-term solutions. Van Meeteren still is waiting for other responses.

Zichal urged patience, suggesting that the pier repair work must be correct.

4 - IOWA EATS – Metcalf has submitted the application for the Foundation to participate in the Iowa Eats Food & Drink Festival on April 11 at the Waterloo Convention Center. The event, which is sponsored by Silos and Smokestacks, is expected to attract about 1700 people. Metcalf and Walter plan to attend to meet people, share information about Motor Mill, and pass out muffins made from stone-ground whole wheat flour.

McCorkindale moved to approve a budget of up to \$250 for Iowa Eats, which would include muffin ingredients and one-day liability insurance. Elvers seconded. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1 - UPDATE ON HERITAGE DAYS – Following four “listening sessions,” Mallory Hanson will summarize with a virtual wrap-up at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, at 6 p.m.

2 – BRIGHAM YOUNG STUDENTS – Zichal urged the board to find a way to use the video demonstration of mill operations that was provided by students from Brigham Young University/Idaho.

3 – BOLTER MODEL – Slagel showed samples of wheat berries, bran, middlings, and flour that illustrate the stages of flour making. He also showed graphics of a wheat berry and how it is broken down during milling. The model bolter that Joe Miller, a volunteer from Wisconsin, is building, will demonstrate the process. The board agreed that interpretive signs will be needed to further explain the machine.

4 – ORDERING MERCHANDISE – Slagel said we should order merchandise in the next month or two to have available in the gift shop during tourist season. He welcomed suggestions on what items to stock.

5 – RURAL HERITAGE AND REVITALIZATION GRANT - This grant is through the Iowa Economic and Finance Authority, with a minimum project cost of \$100,000. The county received a RHRG grant for restoring the Inn, but Van Meeteren was uncertain whether a similar grant would be possible for preservation work on the Mill. With the application deadline of March 6, the board decided not to apply this year, but to have a project ready for next year.

6 – TRRC – Slagel said the Turkey River Recreational Corridor asks for member donations. McCorkindale moved to pay \$100. Elvers seconded. Carried.

NOTES – Zichal asked members to bring calendars to the March 17 meeting so we can begin planning tour guide schedules.

ADJOURNMENT

McCorkindale moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Elvers seconded. Carried.

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County