

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes (DRAFT)

May 19, 2026

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Ken Zichal, Dan Slagel, Chris Schoen, Jay Elvers, Larry Stone, Lee Pool, Steve McCorkindale, Sandra Walter, Jane Metcalf, and Chuck Morine, as well as Clayton County Conservation Board deputy director Ean Popenhagen and naturalist Abbey Harkrader. Zichal called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

AGENDA

Schoen moved to approve the agenda as printed. McCorkindale seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Slagel moved to approve the minutes of the April 21 meeting as distributed. McCorkindale seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Slagel presented the following treasurer's report:

Motor Mill Foundation Treasurer's Report			May 2026
Beginning Balance 04.21.2026			43, 825.44
Receipts			
4/29/26	Donation	(Rita and Dave Dudley)	250.00
5/02/26	Donation	(BBGF Wells Fargo)	20.00
5/04/26	Donation	Can Redemption:	709.96
		(Royal Products/Outdoor Power)	
Total Receipts			979.96
Expenses			
4/22/26	Jane Metcalf (Iowa Eats Reimbursement		51.64
4/27/26	ACREC (Electric)		71.52
5/01/26	Joe Miller (Bolter Display Reimbursement)		466.67
5/05/26	Dr. Ken Zichal (Shelf Brackets for shop)		171.04
5/08/26	Alpine Communications (Phone)		17.74
Total Expenses			778.61
Ending Balance on hand through 5.18.26			44,026.79

CD

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

Morine moved to renew our \$40,000 CD at Freedom Bank for another six months at 3.75% interest, with the previously earned interest of \$777.86 transferred to the MMF checking account. Steve McCorkindale seconded. Carried.

Morine moved that the MMF open a debit card account at Freedom Bank for the treasurer to pay for small expenses. Jay Elvers seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1 – CLEANING DAY FOLLOW-UP – The board expressed appreciation for the Central School students who helped clean the Mill as an Earth Day project.

2 – PROJECTS UPDATE – Morine has offered plastic storage boxes for nails, screws, and other hardware. The board agreed that more electrical outlets are needed in the storeroom.

3 – RAILING FOR INN SIDEWALK – Popenhagen confirmed that the Clayton County Conservation Board is receptive to the concept of a railing on along the sidewalk to the second floor of the Inn. The board agreed to take measurements and try to get cost estimates.

4 – PEST MANAGEMENT – The board was skeptical of the need for pest control in the Mill. Slagel agreed to research the matter to learn what insect pests or wood destroying organisms might be likely.

5 – TOUR GUIDE ORIENTATION – The board thanked David Beck for his helpful tips at the May 3 tour guide orientation.

6 – ENGINEERING UPDATE – Slagel has purchased a laser level to monitor any movement in the Mill posts and beams, as recommended by Arne Johnson. The Tuesday volunteers are experimenting with the best ways to take measurements.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – LASER – See old business number 6.

2 – MILWAUKEE TOOLS – McCorkindale moved to ask Milwaukee Tools for a donation of their “great” starter tool kit, which includes a hammer drill, impact wrench and impact driver, circular saw, sawzall, grinder, work light, and multi-tool batteries/charger. Schoen seconded. Carried.

3 – AMISH INTEREST IN HARDWARE? – Board members with contacts in the Amish community were asked to offer them our unwanted hardware from the storeroom.

4 – NEEDS BEFORE MAY 23 MILL OPENING – Board members are hoping for a busy start to the tour season.

5 – LP TANK FENCE – The board briefly discussed whether there needs to be shrubbery or other ways to camouflage the fence for the propane tank, but did not reach any consensus.

6 – INTERPRETIVE SIGNS – Slagel showed the board examples of possible signs to interpret the Oliver Evans graphics and interactive models of Mill equipment. The board agreed that additional signs could be helpful. Any new signs should be of similar style to signs previously designed by NE Iowa RC&D.

7 – CPR TRAINING – Motor Mill Foundation members are encouraged to take CPR training at Osborne at 2:30 p.m. on June 17.

NOTES

Zichal suggested that the board needs to find a way to display the video of simulated Mill operations, which was prepared by BYU students.

Metcalf and David Beck will host a tour for 54 people on May 26. Elvers offered to help.

Harkrader said additional tour guides are needed for June 7, 13, and 27, and for July 4.

Harkrader and Conservation Board intern Tate (?) will be staffing the Motor Mill Historic Site daily starting May 23.

ADJOURNMENT

McCorkindale moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Elvers seconded. Carried.

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County