

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HILLSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DECEMBER 5, 2025**

The December meeting of the Board of the Hillsboro Historical Society (HHS) began at 3:05 p.m.

The following Board members were in attendance; Joseph Britton, Kathleen Blair, Ewa Czarnojanczyk, Steve Dobrott, Mark Edwards, Jeff Forbes, Val Hildreth-Werker, Karen Mast, Nichole Trushell and Robin Tuttle.

**Minutes.** The minutes of the HHS meeting of November 1, 2025 were approved on a motion by Trushell, seconded by HildrethWerker.

**Financial Report.** Czarnojanczyk reported sales of \$1773.84 during November at the Museum gift shop. She also provided copies of the HHS Balance Sheet, Statement of Activity by Class and Profit and Loss Statement for November 2025. These indicated total assets of \$194,406.96, of which \$18,981.34 were current assets/bank accounts. The income for the month included 10 -15 in memberships and donations. After a payment to Advanced Building Solutions (ABS) towards the Stage Stop Project (SSP), the HHS had a \$-8,656.22 net revenue.

This was the last month Czarnojanczyk will be serving on the Historical Society Board and as treasurer. A description of the duties for the succeeding treasurer is in development. The Board applauded Czarnojanczyk for her outstanding work as treasurer.

The financial report was accepted on a motion by Tuttle, seconded by Blair.

**Publications.** Britton noted that the next issue of the Guajolotes, Zopilotes y Paisanos will be in printed and available in February 2026. It will include an article by Craig Springer with the recollections of this mother Deloris; Part 2 of the history of the churches of Hillsboro; and a reminder to members about the membership mail out and progress on/photos of the SSP.

The May issue will features an article by Garland Bills on the history of the Black Range Museum, including its purchase and expansion by the Historical Society of Hillsboro.

**Black Range Museum Report.** Blair noted that the BRM is a sponsor of the biannual clean-up of portions of highways 152 and 27. The next one is December 3. She also noted that the Museum has donated three pieces of art from the gift shop to the Christmas in the Foothills silent auction. Copies of information on the Coach House Tours will be available at the CITF. Finally, she noted the difficulty in securing volunteers to staff the Museum.

**Stage Stop Project Status.** Trushell noted encouraging progress on donations and pledges to the Stage Stop Project, of over 100 K. The HHS still owes 32-35,000 to Advanced Building Solutions; but Craig Stookey continues to accept phased payment, pursuant to a 'What's Next' summary sheet. Spring activities will include plantings, irrigation, gravel, walkways and gutters. Moving the windmill will cost extra. Trushell estimated that the annual operating budget of the SSP might be approximately \$20,000.

**Insurance on Black Range Museum.** After a discussion of insurance costs for BRM property, assets and collection, the Board agreed, on a motion by Mast, seconded by

HildrethWerker, to continue discussion at its January meeting. Forbes will gather information and present alternatives.

**Membership Mailing.** Trushell and Mast noted that membership forms had been mailed November 22-24, about a week early. The membership form had been updated to include a donation choice. As previously established, donors at the \$2000 and up gift level become honorary lifetime members. The mail out included a letter from Steve Dobrott, as president, and a ballot for the 2026 Board.

**Board Officers and other HHS leadership for 2026.** Trushell led the discussion of officers for 2026. Although an election of officers by the Board will take place in January, Trushell noted that she is willing to serve as President for one year, during 2026. Mast offered to serve a Vice-President during the same period. Since Tuttle will no longer serve as Secretary beginning in 2026, Forbes is willing to stand for election to the office. As previously noted during the Financial Report, the Treasurer's position will be open beginning in January 2026 and a position description for revised duties is being developed.

**Increasing BRM staffing.** Blair and Mast presented the issues of future staffing and hires. There are several possibilities, each of which, if agreed to, would have to be budgeted for.

A Gift Shop Manager at \$200 per month on contract, to be paid at the end of each month.

An individual to assume the revised and expanded duties of the treasurer by contract on a salary to be negotiated. The position could be designated as an Administrative Officer or Office Manager. There are several individuals under consideration.

Plus it was suggested that the Board might consider naming an unpaid Volunteer Coordinator. The coordinator need not be a member of the Board.

**Video Footage.** Hildreth-Werker is working with Bill Moree on BRM video footage.

**Future Backyard Programs – BRM.** Trushell noted that Steve Morgan has offered to manage BRM backyard programs and activities once construction of the SSP is completed

**Coach House Tours.** Blair and Mast led the discussion of whether and how to book tours of the Coach House. Possibilities include by \$5.00 appointment, twice on Saturdays only or once each day on Saturday and once on Sunday. In either case, there was the issue of hiring a vendor to lead the tours or recruiting and training volunteer docents. To assist in this effort, Dobrott drafted for Board information and review two documents, See the following.

**Coach House Exhibit Protocol and Security.** These documents are:

- (1) Some interesting facts about the Mountain Pride for Docents
- (2) Coach House Exhibit Protocol

They remain available for review and potential use.

Forbes noted the issue of motion detectors and cameras. This will be discussed in greater detail at future meetings of the Board.

The meeting of the Board was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.