

BARRON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PIONEER VILLAGE MUSEUM
BOARD MEETING
January 28, 2026

President Mark Dobberfuhr called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Others present: Katrina Sonnentag, Bob Lentz, John Peter, Charles Knapp, Jeff Martin, Paul Chase, Kathy Krug, June Olson, Tammy Schutz, Sue Patrick, Elise Kahlenbach, John Mitchell, Brenda Christenson and Roz Rockman (by phone). Absent: Doug Riplinger.

Motion to approve agenda by Jeff Martin second by Charles Knapp. Motion passed.

Election of Officers: Mark Dobberfuhr, President; Jeff Martin, Vice President; Paul Chase, Secretary; and Brenda Christenson, Treasurer.

Board meeting times: will stay at 3 p.m. on the 4th Wednesday.

Motion to approve the November Minutes was made by Charles Knapp and second by Kathy Krug. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report was given by Brenda Christenson. Sent out a comparison with budgeted versus actual for previous years.

Director's Report was given by Tammy Schutz. Cookie Trays didn't do as well this year. Held Christmas in the Village, and Museum Consortium meeting. Making plans for America 250. Setting up sewing days to make costumes for volunteers. Pet parade during Old Time Fair. There is a Fiber Guild that will be meeting at the museum. Had a meeting with a museum consultant. Have a wedding booked for September.

Christmas event evaluation: it was cold, John mentions parking in the Maintenance report. Took in about \$7,500 and costs were about \$6,000. Has been really good for generating goodwill in the community. Friends have been having discussions on options for future Christmas events.

Committee Reports:

Acquisitions - Haven't accepted anything, but looking at a couple items.

Welcome Center - Northwest Builders put out bids for the remainder of the building, which came to around \$700,000. Resolution 2026-1 motion by Sue Patrick, 2nd by Charles Knapp. Resolution passed with 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 not-voting, and 1 absent. NWB has gotten the Builder's Risk insurance.

Fundraising & Sponsorships - John Mitchell handed out a written year end report. Ojibwe Village fundraising has been going well. Sponsorship renewals will be starting to come in. Has someone who is donating birch bark, another person donating poles.

Site Planning - Nothing.

Maintenance - Written Report by John Peter. It is extremely icy at the museum, worst John has seen, he's expecting some damage from it.

Friends - Nothing.

Kitchen - Still having issues with the refrigerator in the kitchen, John Peter will look at it.

Committee reorganization - Change some to just reports, take kitchen off as a committee Tammy will include kitchen items in her report as they come up. Keep Acquisitions and Welcome Center/Library as committees and all the rest can just be reports submitted to the board.

Old Business: Printing reports for meetings - tabled til next month.

New Business: **Budgets for the next step**: this is a budget for furnishings for the new building (furniture, storage cabinets, floor mats, sidewalks, etc.) - John Mitchell needed this for one grant application, he can have a written report next meeting. Native Village Update - John Mitchell will bring in a report next month, has someone creating a logo, donating birch bark.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Martin, second by Paul Chase the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be at 3:00 p.m. on February 25, 2026.

Respectfully submitted by Katrina Sonnentag - Board Secretary