

MEETEETSE MUSEUM DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD
May 13, 2025

President Michael Oliver called the regular meeting of the Meeteetse Museum Board to order at 5:09 p.m.

Roll call: Board members present were Maria Kluesner, Ashton Shepperson, Lynn Sessions, Michael Oliver, and Mary Jane Luther. Joe Winkler was absent. Executive Director Alex Deselms and Public Outreach, Engagement Director Elizabeth Foss and Nickki Blake, accountant, were also present.

Consent Agenda: Mary Jane Luther moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ashton Shepperson seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Citizens Open Forum: None

Additions to the Agenda:

Lynn Sessions moved to approve the agenda as presented. Maria Kluesner seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

New Business:

WyoGives: Alex Deselms handed out packets to board members to begin preparation for WyoGives. Start making contacts and generating enthusiasm.

Proposed Budget: Maria Kluesner moved to finalize and approve the 2025-2026 budget for \$169,785, which includes the Mill Levy of \$112,577.00. Mary Jane Luther seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Ongoing Business:

NEH-IMLS: Alex contacted State and Federal Senators and Representatives to seek assistance in receiving funds already awarded to the Museum. She also sent an appeal to the Advocate General requesting the release of funds allocated. The Wyoming Arts Council may still have grant funds available since they have a low percentage of federal funding. Alex touched base with our lawyer to keep them updated.

Solar: The project is on pause. The contractor has all the materials stored in their warehouse. Alex Deselms is in weekly contact with the project manager. We are waiting for approval of funds before we start. The contractor has been good to work with through this process. The Meeteetse Foundation has granted \$2000 toward the solar installation.

Building and yard maintenance: We are still waiting for bids for the trim painting on the Bank Museum. Elizabeth Foss would like assistance to weed and get the garden in shape for the season. Ashton Shepperson offered to recruit students from the school to help with the end of the year service project, working in the garden. Vic Payne will let us know when he has found a contractor to do stucco work on the Mercantile so we might piggyback on repairing the stucco on the main museum building.

Belden Agreement: Lynn made the motion to give a 70-day extension to the draft agreement. Maria Kluesner seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Executive Session: The Board entered Executive Session at 5:56 pm. The Board returned to the regular board meeting at 6:00 pm.

The 2025-2026 Budget previously approved under new business includes a 3% raise for staff.

Committee Reports:

Strategic Plan: The training session will take place on May 29, 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Bring hors d'oeuvres to share.

For the Good of the Board:

Alex Deselms will be out of town for the June Board Meeting but will attend on Zoom. Elizabeth Foss is diligently working to get the Belden darkroom back together in the next couple of weeks. Volunteers are welcome to help. We have received two donations, totaling \$150 toward the roof/solar project.

Adjournment: 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Jane Luther, Secretary
Board of Directors