

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January 27, 1944

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society convened in the Historical Society Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, January 27, 1944, with Judge Robert L. Williams, President, presiding.

The roll was called by the Secretary and showed the following members present: Judge Robert L. Williams, Judge Thomas H. Doyle, Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Mrs. Jessie E. Moore, Mr. Jim Biggerstaff, Mr. Thomas G. Cook, Hon. Thomas J. Harrison, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Mrs. Frank Korn, Mrs. Blanche Lucas, Mr. H. L. Muldrow, Hon. W. J. Peterson, Judge Baxter Taylor, Mrs. John R. Williams and James W. Moffitt, the Secretary.

The motion was made and seconded that the members of the Board not present be excused on account of other engagements, restrictions on travel, or gas and tire rationing. The motion carried.

The Secretary reported that no petition was filed by January 1, 1944, for election of successors to the five members of the Board whose terms expired at this time.

Judge Thomas H. Doyle made the motion that the five members of the Board, whose terms had expired with this meeting, be declared as re-elected for the ensuing term of five years, namely Robert L. Williams, Durant; E. E. Dale, Norman; Mrs. Blanche Lucas, Ponca City; R. M. Mountcastle, Muskogee; and H. L. Muldrow, Norman. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The new member of the Board of Directors, Mr. Thomas G. Cook, of Buffalo, who had been elected to fill the unexpired term of the late Arthur N. Leecraft, and whose term would expire with the quarterly meeting in January, 1948, was introduced by Mr. H. L. Muldrow to the members present at the meeting, and received a friendly greeting.

The President read the list of names of the Historical Society members who had died during the past year, and a resolution was passed unanimously by the Board of Directors present, expressing sympathy to the families and friends of members deceased within the year January 1, 1943, to January 11, 1944. The names of those members were as follows:

Life Members: John B. Meserve, January 1, 1943; W. C. Gillespie, January 13, 1943; Victor M. Locke, March 1, 1943; William Noble, March 3, 1943; Burdette Blue, May 17, 1943; Mrs. W. A. Ledbetter, July 27, 1943; Arthur N. Leecraft, August 11, 1943; James A. Norman, September 1, 1943; Hugh M. Johnson, January 10, 1944.

Annual Members: Mrs. John B. Meserve, March 20, 1943; Mrs. John J. Gerlach, January 10, 1943; Rev. William R. Johnson, January, 1943; Hubbard Ross, June 12, 1943; Major Eugene M. Kerr, June 16, 1943; Edward F. McKay, July 4, 1943; Dr. T. P. Howell, July 16, 1943; Mrs. Tom McSpadden, August 25, 1943; H. F. Cameron, September 27, 1943; Mrs. C. H. Tully, November 19, 1943; General Stonewall Jackson, October, 1943; Albert H. Bell, November 19, 1943; William M. Dunn, December 12, 1943; Mrs. Alfred R. Page, 1943; Jess S. Little, 1943; Christian Madsen, January 9, 1944; Robert B. Rice, January 11, 1944.

The President read the resignation of Miss M. A. Mulholland, Chief Clerk. Motion was made by Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour that the resignation be accepted to take effect at such time as designated by the Board and that Miss Mulholland be given a vote of thanks for her long and faithful service on the staff of the Historical Society. The motion was seconded and carried.

Judge Thomas H. Doyle then made the motion that Miss Mulholland's resignation become effective the last day of February, 1944. The motion was seconded and carried.

Judge Doyle made the motion that Mabel F. Hammerly be elected to the position of Chief Clerk, her duties to begin March 1, 1944. Upon motion of Judge Baxter Taylor, duly seconded and approved, the rules were suspended and the Secretary directed to cast a unanimous vote for Mrs. Hammerly. These instructions were duly carried out and Mrs. Hammerly elected to the position of Chief Clerk of the Oklahoma Historical Society to begin March 1, 1944.

The motion was made by Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour that the present members of the staff be re-elected. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The President presented the matter of the Rose Hill Cemetery (Robert M. Jones cemetery), located in Choctaw County. The motion was made, seconded and approved to place the Rose Hill property under the supervision of the State Planning and Resources Board, and that a copy of the contract between the Oklahoma Historical Society, party of the first part, and Horace M. Cook, party of the second part, be delivered to E. W. Smartt, Chairman of the Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board, together with copies of the letters from E. Nash, relative to the matter, so that E. W. Smartt may have the information contained therein. And the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society further directed that said E. Nash retain possession of said Rose Hill property until otherwise directed by E. W. Smartt and the Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board.

The motion was made by Judge Baxter Taylor that the present officers of the Oklahoma Historical Society be re-elected, namely Robert L. Williams, President; Thomas H. Doyle, President Emeritus; Emma Estill-Harbour, Vice President; William S. Key, Vice President; Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Treasurer; Grant Foreman, Director of Historical Research.

Upon motion, duly seconded and approved, the rules were suspended and the Secretary cast a unanimous vote for re-election of the said officers of the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Secretary holding over.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour presented to the Historical Society a set of scrap-books prepared by the American Association of University Women, Oklahoma Division.

The President made the motion that these books be accepted and a letter of thanks and appreciation be written to Miss Leita Davis, President of the Oklahoma Division of the American Association of University Women, and the hope expressed that this work will be continued. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Secretary introduced Mrs. Harry Gilstrap, President of the Eighty-Niners Association, who presented to the Historical Society, on behalf of the Eighty-Niners Association, a copy of *Oklahoma, Our Beautiful Land* for the library of the Historical Society.

Judge Doyle made the motion that the Historical Society extend a vote of thanks for this gift, to Mrs. Gilstrap and the Eighty-Niners Association. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour made the motion that a committee of three be appointed to consult with the Adjutant General in regard to the color of the Oklahoma State Flag. The motion was seconded and carried.

The President appointed Dr. Emma Estill-Harbour, Mrs. Frank Korn, and Mrs. Jessie R. Moore to serve on this committee.

The President reported that Mr. Frank C. Shepherd, of Wewoka, gave the Historical Society two books on genealogy, *The Shepherd Line* and *The Wilson-Baird History*.

Dr. Harbour made the motion that these books be accepted and the Secretary directed to write the author and donor, Mr. Shepherd, expressing the Historical Society's appreciation for this gift. The motion was seconded and carried.

The President stated that a picture of Mr. Jim Biggerstaff had been presented for the Board of Directors' Room in the Historical Building. The motion was made that the picture be accepted with the thanks and appreciation of the Historical Society. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Secretary presented the following list of applicants for annual membership:

Mrs. Myrtle Lee Autrey, Norman; Louisa F. Baker, Carmen; Mrs. Christine Barker, Reed; Dr. Charles Nelson Berry, Oklahoma City; Oscar Bieser, Oklahoma City; Paul H. Billman, Fort Worth, Texas; Susie E. Boyles, Tulsa; E. A. Braniff, Tulsa; Brinton F. Breeding, Tulsa; Mrs. J. Warren Burgess, Tulsa; Mrs. R. W. Calhoon, Gotebo; Charles A. Coakley, Tulsa; Mrs. Agnes F. Colbert, Oklahoma City; Robert Franklin Coll, Muskogee; Glenn Condon, Tulsa; Mrs. Jewel Costner, Poteau; A. W. Dagistina, River Edge, New Jersey; Cora Deem Echerd, Ardmore; John S. Faulk, Mannsville; Clarence C. Fertig, Fort Worth, Texas; Don Gunsby, Norman; Mrs. Louise C. Hardwick, Shreveport, Louisiana; Mrs. Samuel D. Harrison, Centralia; E. A. Hill, Jr., Tulsa; Mozell C. Hill, Langston; Mrs. J. W. Ivester, Sayre; V. V. Kingsbury, Tulsa; Mrs. Ada B. Kuder, Hobart; Etta McAllister, Tulsa; Perry D. Maxwell, Ardmore; Mrs. Helen R. Moffett, Norman; L. E. Moyer, Jr., Tulsa; Sena E. Owen, Ponca City; R. R. Phelps, Beaumont, Texas; Mrs. Ethel Porter, El Reno; Clyde Nolen Ray, Tulsa; Mrs. Guy C. Reid, Oklahoma City; Dr. E. C. Routh, Richmond, Virginia; Miss Peggie Sexton, Tulsa; Arthur C. Strachley, Ardmore; Ross Taylor, Bartlesville; William Thompson, Tulsa; Alexander J. Walker, Langston; Mrs. Mary Wright Wallace, Concho; David E. West, Arnett; Dr. Carl White, New York, New York; Person E. Woodall, Norman; G. A. Worn, Greenwich, Connecticut, Francy Young, Frederick.

Mrs. John R. Williams made the motion that these persons in the class as shown in the list be received for membership. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. H. L. Muldrow, Chairman of the Membership Committee, stated that this Committee would have a report for the next quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors.

Honorable Thomas J. Harrison extended an invitation to the Historical Society to hold an annual meeting at Pryor, Mayes County, Oklahoma, after the Kingfisher meeting if still adhered to, when it would be convenient for the Society to carry out such plans.

The Treasurer, Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, presented her annual report and made the motion that the Society purchase a thousand dollar War Bond during the Fourth War Loan drive.

Judge R. A. Hefner made the motion that the President be directed to make arrangements for the purchase of a War Bond. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The President presented the matter of the Cherokee records which are now in the Library of the University of Oklahoma, at Norman. A resolution was passed providing for the moving of these records without further delay to the Historical Society Building at the expense of the Society.

Mrs. Jessie R. Moore presented a manuscript by Otto Spring, with regard to the archeological exploration work in which he had a part under the direction of the late Dr. Joseph B. Thoburn, some years ago. The President appointed a committee consisting of Mrs. Moore and the Secretary to request Mr. Spring to write up additional discoveries in Oklahoma.

Upon motion, duly seconded and approved, the Secretary was directed to express to Mr. Spring the appreciation of the Board of Directors for said article.

Upon motion, the meeting stood adjourned subject to the call of the President.

Robert L. Williams,  
President

James W. Moffitt,  
Secretary