

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MAY 28, 1952.

The last regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society was held on April 25, 1952, in the City of Durant, Oklahoma. This Durant meeting grew out of the decision of the Board of Directors to accept the invitation of the City of Durant to hold its annual or birthday session in that city, and after its acceptance it was decided that the Society would develop an Historical Tour throughout the south-eastern section of the State and a few other points, which was carried out in a very large and successful manner.

It was voted by the Board of Directors at this Durant meeting that since this annual session of the Board was so near the meeting of July 26 and so many members of the Board being absent on vacation that there would be no regular meeting held until October 23, 1952. Therefore, the minutes here offered are those developed by a special session of the Executive Committee of the Oklahoma Historical Society on May 28, 1952.

A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MAY 28, 1952.

General William S. Key, President of the Oklahoma Historical Society and Chairman of the Executive Committee, called all members of the Committee to meet at the Oklahoma Club in Oklahoma City, at noon on May 28, 1952.

The following were present when the roll was called: General William S. Key, Judge Baxter Taylor, Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Dr. Emma Estill Harbour, Dr. E. E. Dale and the Secretary, Dr. Charles Evans.

The meeting was called to order and the Chairman stated that this call was made in chief for the purpose of passing upon the proposed budget of the Society for presentation to the next Legislature meeting in January 1953. It was pointed out by him that the Office of the Budget desired the State departments to present to it in September or early October the proposed budgets, and since the regular session of the Board of Directors would not meet until October 23, 1952, it was essential to have this meeting of the Executive Committee.

The first item presented pertained to "Operating Expense and Equipment". After discussion of each item, such as, travel, drayage, postage, telephone, printing and binding, repairs to equipment, office supplies, other supplies and materials, premium on bond for Secretary, office equipment, books and periodicals, and household supplies, it was unanimously agreed that the Board of Directors would request \$19,910.00 for "Operating Expense and Equipment" for each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 1953, to July 1, 1955. It should be pointed out that the increase of \$5100.00 annually over the last biennium is brought about by increasing of the appropriations for the printing, binding, cuts, etc., of *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*. The appropriations for *The Chronicles* in the last biennium was \$4500.00 annually. With higher prices for paper, for labor, for cuts, etc., it was essential that the Society ask for \$6000.00 annually for the next two years. *The Chronicles* was greatly beautified and improved through the last year by an increased expenditure of \$400.00 for a more beautiful and appropriate cover. For like reasons the appropriations for books and periodicals and for office

equipment were raised from \$2300.00 to \$3500.00 annually. Other items of the budget remain at or about the same level as found in the preceding biennium.

The subject of "Salaries" was next taken up and after a full discussion on the part of every member of the Committee it was agreed unanimously that due to a great need in these times for severe economy that the Board would not ask for any increase in salaries.

Chairman Key presented, after this, a plan for securing more room for the Newspaper Department and such other departments as might be served by the development of the two floors in the uncompleted stack room. The Secretary presented a letter from Mr. George Foraythe, one of the original architects of the Society building, who inspected the stack room on May 19, 1952, at the request of the Secretary. This letter is made a part of these Minutes and is herewith attached. After thorough discussion it was agreed to ask the Legislature for an appropriation sufficient to install the steel flooring and proper shelving for the floors.

The essential need of repairing the Indian murals along the wall on the fourth floor of the Society building was discussed. It was unanimously voted that these repairs must be made and the Secretary was requested to secure bids. After the bids are properly evaluated it was voted that these repairs should be carried out.

Mrs. Jessie R. Moore pointed out that in the development of the Indian murals on the fourth floor, a mural relative to the Chickasaws was omitted. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed that this defect should be remedied and requested that Mrs. Moore should obtain estimates which would include costs, etc., whereby a proper mural representing the Chickasaws could be placed.

The Secretary presented a letter from the Western Bank & Office Supply. This letter revealed that it would require an appropriation of \$2700.00 to complete the steel shelving on the mezzanine floor in the newspaper file room. It was unanimously agreed that a petition would be offered to the Legislature for the amount needed.

Dr. Evans stated that Dr. Divonis Worten, a Life member of the Society, who had been an eminent physician of the City of Pawhuska for over forty years, offered to the Society a mahogany museum case in honor of the Secretary of the Society who had been his close friend from earliest childhood, both being born in the same locality, Livingston County, Kentucky, for the special purpose of placing such papers, books, relics, etc., pertaining to the life of Dr. Evans. The Committee, upon the motion of Dr. E. E. Dale, seconded by Hon. Baxter Taylor, voted to receive Dr. Worten's gift.

The motion for adjournment by E. E. Dale, seconded by Dr. Emma Estill Harbour, was carried.

GENERAL W. S. KEY, President

DR. CHARLES EVANS, Secretary