

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF QUARTERLY MEETING,
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE OKLAHOMA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, QUARTER ENDING
JANUARY 23, 1958

On January 23rd, 1958, at 10:00 a. m., the regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society was held in the Board of Directors room of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

President Wm. S. Key called the meeting to order and the following members answered present to roll call: Mr. Henry B. Bass, Mrs. G. L. Bowman, Mr. Kelly Brown, Dr. B. B. Chapman, Judge J. G. Clift, Judge Redmond S. Cole, Mr. Joe W. Curtis, Dr. E. E. Dale, Mr. Exall English, Dr. Emma Estill Harbour, Mr. Thomas J. Harrison, Judge Robert A. Hefner, Judge N. B. Johnson, Dr. L. Wayne Johnson, Gen. Wm. S. Key, Mr. R. G. Miller, Dr. James D. Morrison, Mr. H. Milt Phillips, Miss Genevieve Seger, Col. George H. Shirk, and Judge Baxter Taylor.

Judge Robert A. Hefner made the motion that those requesting to be excused from this meeting be granted same. The motion was seconded by Miss Genevieve Seger, and the following members were excused: Mrs. Anna B. Korn, Mr. R. M. Mountcastle, Mrs. Willis C. Reed, and Judge Edgar S. Vaught.

Judge Baxter Taylor moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Henry Bass seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

A reading of the minutes of the past two Executive Committee meetings, held on November 5, 1957 and January 7, 1958, was requested by Dr. Emma Estill Harbour. These were read by the Administrative Secretary.

Items acted on by the Executive Committee as set forth in the reading were: that all employees of the Oklahoma Historical Society be required to work approximately forty hours per week; that the Administrative Secretary be authorized to schedule the working hours of the staff, within the forty hour maximum, and the Museums and the Library remain open until 4:30 p. m. on all days except Saturdays and Sundays; accepted the recommendation of the Administrative Secretary that Mr. William J. Dale be placed on the staff of the Oklahoma Historical Society as Chief Curator; that the expenses of Mr. Dale for a week's study and observation at the Kansas and Nebraska Historical Societies be authorized; requiring that all out-of-state travel expenses by staff members have prior authorization by the Executive Committee; that all expenses for in-state travel by the staff have prior authorization of the Administrative Secretary; recommending compliance with the Attorney General's ruling that all Special Fund monies of the Oklahoma Historical Society be placed with the Treasurer of the State of Oklahoma; providing that \$3,500.00 be made available out of the Special Fund for hiring additional employees for the Microfilm Department from other department budgets; approving action of the Publication Board and the Editor of The Chronicles in requesting cancellation of the present printing contract for The Chronicles; that Mrs. Elsie D. Hand, who has been absent from duty

most of the time for the past ninety days, because of illness, be retired from the staff of the Oklahoma Historical Society with one month's pay; that the Administrative Secretary be authorized to purchase two new water coolers.

Dr. Harbour raised the question of proper procedure in the hiring of staff personnel by action of the Executive Committee.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Miller moved that the Board of Directors approve all actions taken by the Executive Committee at its meetings of November 5, 1957 and January 7, 1958. The motion was seconded by Dr. Harbour and carried.

Dr. Wayne Johnson moved that the action retiring Mrs. Elsie D. Hand from the staff with one month's pay be reconsidered. The motion was lost for want of a second.

Stating that he felt that the recommendation of the Executive Committee had already been approved, Mr. Henry Bass called for another vote reaffirming the previous action. The motion was put and carried, with Dr. L. Wayne Johnson requesting that the minutes show that he opposed the part retiring Mrs. Elsie D. Hand.

The Administrative Secretary presented a list of new members and a list of gifts. Miss Genevieve Seger moved and Dr. Estill Harbour seconded that the new members and the gifts be accepted. The motion carried.

Two copies of the Garvin County History, commemorating the Centennial Celebration of Pauls Valley, was presented to the Society by Mr. Joe Curtis.

Mr. Kelly Brown presented to the Society the first telephone installed in Oklahoma, which was at Ft. Gibson. This gift was made by Mr. R. M. Mountcastle, of Muskogee, a member of the Board of Directors, who was unable to be present.

Appreciation for the gifts from Mr. Curtis and Mr. Mountcastle was expressed by Gen. Key, on behalf of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Judge Taylor spoke briefly in welcoming Mrs. G. L. Bowman to the Board of Directors, expressing appreciation for her having consented to fill out the unexpired term of her late husband, Judge G. L. Bowman. Gen. Key also welcomed Mrs. Bowman to membership on the Board, with the assurance that all members of the Board would enjoy working with her.

The report of the Microfilm Committee was presented in writing by Mr. Milt Phillips, since it was necessary for him to leave the meeting prior to making the report. The report was read by the Administrative Secretary, and is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

Both Gen. Key and Judge R. A. Hefner remarked on the outstanding success that was being made in the Microfilm Department, under the leadership of Chairman Phillips. The Board gave a vote of thanks to Mr. Phillips and the Microfilm Committee.

Col. George H. Shirk reported that one meeting had already been held on the Historic Sites Committee. He pointed out that most of the money appropriated by the Legislature for carrying on the activities of the Historic Sites work would probably be spent in making a state

wide survey of historic places and structures that should be preserved. He observed that the work of the Historic Sites Committee would be greatly facilitated in that Mr. Dale had joined the Historical Society staff, and would carry on the major part of the field work.

It was pointed out by Col. Shirk that 1958 is the Centennial year of the Butterfield Overland Mail Route. He moved that the Oklahoma Historical Society offer every assistance in the activities commemorating this famous mail route. The motion was seconded by Judge Baxter Taylor and carried.

The itinerary of the Annual Oklahoma Historical Society Tour was outlined by Mr. Miller, Tour Chairman. He stated that the dates for the 1958 Tour were May 1, 2, and 3. The Tour is to be made in the southwestern part of the State. He said that headquarters for the Tour would be in the Quartz Mountain State Park Lodge, where the tripsters would spend two nights. Mr. Thomas Harrison moved that the Board adopt Mr. Miller's report and authorize him to proceed with completion of plans for the Tour. Second was made by Miss Genevieve Seger and unanimously carried when put.

President Key called attention to the expiration of the term of office for five members of the Board of Directors: Mr. Exall English, Dr. James D. Morrison, Dr. L. Wayne Johnson, Mrs. Willis C. Reed, and Mr. Kelly Brown. It was moved by Dr. Harbour and seconded by Judge Taylor that these Directors be reelected for another term. The motion was carried unanimously.

At this time, Gen. Key reminded the Board that he had tendered his resignation as President of the Society, and expressed the wish that it be accepted at this meeting.

Judge Taylor stated that he expressed the sentiments of the entire Board in urging Gen. Key to reconsider his resignation. Gen. Key replied that he appreciated the kind attitude of the Board, but that his resignation was final:

"The decision to take this action has been difficult to make because of my deep interest in the Society and my affectionate regard for its Directors, Officers and Staff. However, I find it necessary to curtail somewhat my outside activities. Therefore, I am reluctantly retiring as President of the Society and from some of my other civic and public responsibilities.

"No greater honor than the Presidency of this Society has ever been conferred upon me. I will cherish my association with it and its fine officers and Directors with whom I have been privileged to serve as one of the proudest achievements of my career.

"For the time being, I hope to continue as a Director of the Society, a position I have held for more than thirty years, and will endeavor to attend Board meetings as often as possible. I pledge my continued devotion to the Society and my humble support of its program."

At that point, Gen. Key excused himself from the Chair, and Judge Redmond S. Cole, First Vice-President, took over as Chairman.

Mr. Miller moved that Gen. Key be requested to retain the Presidency of the Society until the April 24 meeting and that a Nominating Committee of five be appointed by the Chair to make recommendations to the Board for a successor to Gen. Key, in the event he

still declined to serve. The motion was seconded by Judge Taylor and unanimously carried.

Gen. Key, upon his return to the room and the Chair, expressed sincere thanks to the members of the Board for the confidence they had shown him in requesting him to remain as President. He stated that he would bow to their wishes and remain as President until April 24th, but that under no conditions could he serve longer than that date.

It was moved by Judge J. G. Clift that the election of all officers of the Society be deferred until the April 24th meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Harbour and carried without objection.

The Board unanimously approved the placing of the portrait of Dr. G. A. Nichols in the portrait gallery of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

It was brought to the attention of the Board by Dr. Johnson that more than \$200,000.00 had been granted to the Comanche County Historical Society for the purpose of erecting a building for that organization. Mr. Exall English commented that this was a great boost for the preservation of history in his home county. Dr. Johnson moved that the President of the Oklahoma Historical Society write to the officials of the Comanche County Society congratulating them on the gift of money they were receiving for the erection of a historical museum building. This motion was seconded by Dr. Harbour and carried.

Judge Redmond S. Cole announced the following Board members as the Nominating Committee to make suggestions for a successor to Gen. Key as President of the Society: Judge Robert A. Hefner, Chairman, Mr. R. G. Miller, Mr. Thomas Harrison, Dr. E. E. Dale, and Mrs. G. L. Bowman.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved by Judge Baxter Taylor and seconded by Judge N. B. Johnson that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was put and carried at 12:15 p. m.

Gen. Wm. S. Key, President

Elmer L. Fraker, Administrative Secretary

GIFTS PRESENTED:

LIBRARY:

U. S. Geological Survey. Bulletin, *Spirit leveling in Oklahoma, 1895-1812*; *Cherokee Laws, 1892*.

Donor: J. B. Moore, Tyler, Texas.

Official Army Register, 1953, Vol. 1. U. S. Army-Active and Retired Lists, *Sooners In The War, 1919*, U. S. *Official Postal Guide, 1928*, U. S. Military Academy. *Register of graduates, 1802-1955*, *Industrial College of The Armed Forces*, (Washington, D. C. Publications, 1956-1958).

Donor: Col. George H. Shirk, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Several issues of *The Chronicles Of Oklahoma*.

Donor: Dr. B. B. Chapman, Stillwater, Okla.

MUSEUM:**Pictures**

Two photo copies of water colors of Ft. Sill in 1877.

Donor: Gillette Griswold, Director of the Museum at Ft. Sill.

Lawton and Ft. Sill Electric Railway.

Donor: Charles D. Hess, 413 S. 7th St., Goshen 4, Ind.

Orion Eli Mohler.

Donor: Mrs. Troy Brown, Tampa 4, Florida.

Military Service Certificate of Lewis J. Darnell.

Donor: Dr. B. B. Chapman.

Street Scene in Tulsa, Curry Home in Stigler, Indians at the 101 Ranch

Donor: Mrs. Clinton W. Nuzum, 118 S. Dunlap St., Viroqua, Wis.

Governor T. B. Ferguson (large framed photograph)

Donor: Mrs. Walter Ferguson and Benton Ferguson.

Cheyenne Mission Souvenir (booklet of Indian pictures)

Donor: Mrs. Rodolphe Petter, Lame Deer, Montana.

Rachel Wright; Rev. D. Jesse Green Ballard; George Louis Morris; Jesse Green Roberts and wife.

Donor: Mrs. Margaret Morris, 519 W. Woodson, El Reno, Okla.

Exhibits

Machine to create artificial lightening.

Donor: Carl G. Lund, 2717 N. W. 17th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.

Trinket box, made from a teak wood desk from the Battleship *Oklahoma*; Rattle bones; Newspaper clipping.

Donor: Bruce E. Harlow.

Wedding dress, Silk Mull dress, White satin slippers.

Donor: Mrs. Wm. Schofield, 6818 Hillcrest, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Document: Service record of Greenberry Morris.

Donor: Mrs. Margaret Morris, 519 W. Woodson, El Reno, Okla.

Old Post Office cancellation stamp: Tulon, Okla.

Donor: George Shirk, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Flag, Banner used by G. A. R. Post, Letter file of Grant Post #1, G. A. R. General Orders file, 13 G. A. R. Programs, 6 copies Headquarters *News*, 4 copies addresses of G. A. R. officials, Badges G. A. R. Convention, 10 G. A. R. reports, List of commanders of Dept. of Okla. 1890-1932, G. A. R. Rosters, Constitution and By Laws of the G. A. R., G. A. R. Convention Banner, 11 copies Grand Army Journals, 96 copies Bugle Call, official magazine of the G. A. R. Ladies.

Donor: Mrs. C. L. West, 2807 Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City, Okla.

UNION MEMORIAL ROOM:

Walnut floor lamp

Donor: The Daughters of Union Veterans

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Lackey, Prentice Caldwell	Altus, Oklahoma
Mitchell, Helen	Anadarko, Oklahoma
Goins, J. I.	Ardmore, Oklahoma
Mullen, Joseph Sylvester	" "
Reid, Dr. James Roger	" "
Calhoon, Dr. Ed. L.	Beaver, Oklahoma
Logsdon, Guy William	Burbank, Oklahoma
Baker, Roy	Duncan, Oklahoma
Browder, Charles McFall	" "
Brown, S. Conger	" "
Cund, Mrs. Ruby Mae	" "
Duncan, William T.	" "
Fuqua, Nolan J.	" "
Gallaway, Herwin C.	" "
Garvin, Harold T.	" "
Graham, Charles C.	" "
Henderson, Guy O. Sr.	" "
Johnson, Marion W.	" "
Kiester, Mrs. Kenneth	" "
Merrill, William Claude	" "
Norris, George	" "
Mesley, J. V.	" "
Oaks, A. B.	" "
Patton, Roy Butler	" "
Perkins, William H.	" "
Ryan, Frank	" "
Tarwater, R. W.	" "
Woolsey, J. L.	" "
Wood, Dion C.	" "
Young, Robert L.	" "
Cromwell, J. Lee	Enid, Oklahoma
Garrett, Mrs. C. W.	Fort Gibson, Oklahoma
Kennedy, Mrs. Noby Grace	Geary, Oklahoma
Seitter, Grace Mae	" "
Rhoades, Dorothy, Mrs.	Lawton, Oklahoma
Young, Mrs. R. A.	Lone Grove, Oklahoma
York, Mrs. J. F.	Madill, Oklahoma
Byerley, George Merwyn	Oklahoma City, Okla.
Dallas, Mrs. B. F.	" "
Harlan, Ross	" "
MacDonald, G. C.	" "
Tway, Jack Cartlich	" "
Webber, Lella Vesta, Mrs.	" "
Wuestenberg, Mrs. A. W.	" "
Rennie, M. A. Fred	Pauls Valley, Oklahoma
Hunt, Albert B.	Stigler, Oklahoma
Carlson, Mr. & Mrs. C. G.	Tulsa, Oklahoma
Ahrens, Henry Shaw	Wagoner, Oklahoma
Bowles, Nell Rene	Stockton, California
Percefull, Sabin C.	Englewood, Colorado
Smith, Earl L.	Sebring, Florida
Stapp, Mrs. E. M. Jr.	Lawrencevill, Illinois
Wheeler, Mrs. Eva L.	Shreveport, Louisiana
Murray, Carl Y.	Joplin, Missouri
Lambden, Mrs. Faye	Charlotte, No. Carolina
Lowenstern, Morris, H.	Amarillo, Texas
Massey, Mrs. Joe	Muleshoe, Texas
McGahey, Mrs. Lula	Alexandria, Virginia
Case, Mrs. Lee F.	Alderwood Manor, Wash.