

Board of Directors
Boone County Historical Society
March 17, 2026

Board Members present: Gina DelRose (President), Jeff Walton (Vice President), Heidi Thacker (Secretary), Sonya Dobberfuhr (Treasurer), Jenny Breckenridge, Toni Ellingson, Sue Holmes, Gail Jacky, Cheryl Lindberg, Cindy Poulter, Carol Rowe, Zach Yahey

Board members absent: none

Staff present: Natali Monaghan

District board member present: John Wolf

The meeting was called to order by President Gina DelRose at 5:33 PM. Roll Call, the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation by Gina DelRose, and recitation of the Society Mission Statement followed.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Sonya Dobberfuhr and seconded by Carol Rowe to accept the minutes from the January and February meetings. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

- Sonya distributed a Statement of Financial Position, January 31, 2025, year-to-date.
- We are continuing to adjust and address outstanding obligations as we work through past-due items. This process includes gaining a clearer understanding of our various payment processes and the division of responsibilities between the district and our organization, including areas such as Square, payroll, and insurance.
- We received our first January report, which combined both Society and Funderburg House figures. Two issues were identified: some transactions were not clearly assigned to a specific entity, and the program we are using (Quickbooks) does not support class separation (Funderburg House and Society) without a significant additional cost. Our new accountant (Michelle) offered the use of her own program at no charge; however, it would not allow access on our end. After consideration, the financial committee agreed to move forward with using Michelle's program.
- The PNL Sonya was given includes Society, Funderburg House, and unspecified entries. Sonya organized the data using her reporting format, and both reports will be kept on file.
- The balance in the Society checking account is \$42,879.67, while that of the Funderburg House account is \$24,077.11.
- The amount in the BCHS Endowment Fund is currently \$376,638.30; the Funderburg Maintenance Fund has \$299,215.48. These amounts have not been updated since November 30, 2025.
- Income/Expenses : Net for the Funderburg House is -\$3,357.00; Society net is -\$5,112.16.
- A small number of expenses from last year's events are still pending.
- A motion was made by Carol Rowe and seconded by Toni Ellingson to approve and file the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

District Report – given by John Wolf

- The District has received one bid from Ceroni for the update to the HVAC system.
- Updates to the area around the cabin cost about \$40,000.
- The heating problem in the Grand Gallery has been resolved after the ten-year-old master controller failed. The cost of replacing the controller was about three times greater than was anticipated.
- Lighting in the parking lot is being addressed. The District is trying to get LED lighting installed, plus a light pointing directly to the parking lot.
- The District received its latest renewal of insurance from Country Companies. John pointed out that the Funderburg House and Museum are on the same policy, which is in our best financial interest. It is unknown yet if the rates will increase.
- John has discussed the ATM agreement with First Mid, which pays a monthly fee to the District for the machine located in the museum parking lot. First Mid may be interested in reducing the fee, whereas the District had hoped to negotiate an increase. John proposed a rate of \$1,000 per month; the current fee ranges from \$600 to \$700. Further discussions will follow.
- The Cooperative Agreement will be discussed – and a vote taken - at the District meeting.

Museum Staff Report

- Both the Hispanic Heritage and the Indigenous Peoples exhibits are nearing completion, with only signage and translation into Spanish remaining. The opening for the Indigenous Peoples exhibit will be May 15. Lori Pepper has offered a donation to hire a speaker. The opening for the Hispanic Heritage exhibit will most likely be in September. Both exhibits have been funded by grants from the BCCF.
- The animal sounds for the nature room will be ready in about a month.

Committee Reports

- Membership Committee
 - The committee met on March 5.
 - A date was established for the next General Membership meeting. It will be July 12 at noon and will have a patriotic theme in honor of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.
 - Membership sign-ups will be pushed during the Easter event on March 22 and the Art Fair on June 28.
 - Membership sign-up incentives were discussed, including a 10% reduction on Funderburg rental fees.
 - A segment in the next newsletter will encourage members to invite new members, with consideration given to a possible referral incentive.
 - Increasing the number of items offered for sale in the gift shop was discussed. Such items might include keychains, ornaments, plushies, magnets, bookmarks, or a cookie cutter in the shape of the Funderburg House.
 - A brochure specific to recruiting businesses to the membership will be created.
- Off-Site Liaison Committee
 - Treat bag assembly for the wedding venue will take place on April 8 at noon.
 - The Society will be participating in the Día del Niño event at the Community Building on April 26.

- Information on the Build-a-Bike event is forthcoming.
- Oral History Committee
 - Natali will be scheduling a meeting.
- Fundraising Committee
 - Natali summarized the upcoming events, including the Thursday Lecture Series, Clue and Fondue on July 25, Easter Bunny Photos on March 22, Haunted Rockford at the Museum on March 28, and the Boone County Art Fair at the Funderburg House on June 28.
 - A concert will be scheduled outdoors at the Funderburg House on August 2 from 6 to 8 PM.
 - Natali proposed hosting monthly card club/game nights at the Funderburg House, to be held one Thursday each month. Participants would have the option to pay per event or at a discounted annual rate. These events would be bring-your-own for food, beverages, and games, with no alcohol permitted. Natali will coordinate with CTs to gather additional information on implementation.
 - A quilt show is being planned for September 5–26. Community members will be invited to display their own quilts. Carol is working to secure a quilt donation for a raffle to be held on the 26th, with board members responsible for selling raffle tickets throughout the month.
 - Plans are underway for a Santa sing-along in early December, and a Christmas photo session event is scheduled for November 8 at the Funderburg House. Holiday decorations will be completed at the House prior to the event.
 - Since the Christmas party has proven unsuccessful in recent years, we will not be hosting one this year. However, an additional Twilight Tour has been added to the schedule. Dates for these are December 1, 8, 15, and 22.
 - Natali has expressed interest in organizing an additional museum event modeled after the Field Museum's "Clues from the Curator." This program would provide guests with the opportunity to learn and engage with ancient board games, including Mancala, in various locations throughout the museum. Participation by the Main Street Players is being considered, with a tentative timeframe of October.
- Volunteer Committee
 - Positioning volunteers near the entryway during operating hours has been effective, providing guests with a warm welcome and an opportunity to learn about events and tours.
 - Volunteers are still needed for the Easter event on March 22 from 11 to 2.
- Nominating Committee
 - Upon Jason Sanford's resignation from the board, a position has become available. There is a potential replacement for the seat.
 - Gina reminded everyone that to hold a seat on the board, individuals must be members of the Historical Society and be in good standing, with all dues paid in a timely manner.

Old Business

A pest control company has treated the Funderburg House for box elders twice so far.

New Business

None

Executive Session

- The board entered executive session at 6:36 PM to discuss the job description for the newly-created Event and Rental Coordinator for the Funderburg House.
- After the executive session, a motion was made by Sue Holmes and seconded by Toni Ellingson to leave executive session and return to open session at 7:34 PM.

Adjournment

- Motion was made by Carol Rowe and seconded by Toni Ellingson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, and meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Next Meeting

- Next meeting will be held April 21, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Thacker

March 19, 2026

