Board of Directors
Boone County Historical Society
August 18, 2026

Board Members present: Gina DelRose (President), Jeff Walton (Vice President), Heidi Thacker (Secretary), Sonya Dobberfuhl (Treasurer), Jenny Breckenridge, Denise Hauser, Cheryl Lindberg, Cindy Poulter, Carol Rowe

Board members absent: Toni Ellingson, Sue Holmes

Staff present: Natali Monaghan

Potential board nominee present: Bri Carlson

The meeting was called to order by President Gina DelRose at 5:34 PM. Roll Call, the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation by Carol Rowe, and recitation of the Society Mission Statement followed.

Secretary's Report

- A motion was made by Carol Rowe and seconded by Sonya Dobberfuhl to accept the minutes from the July 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

- Sonya reported that Denise will be joining the finance committee.
- As of June 2026, the income for the Society was $21,010.94, while expenses were $51,468.14. The majority of that amount was allocated to payroll, including bonuses and Bri's salary. The net for the Society was -$30,457.20. The $20,000 pulled from our investments will appear in next month's financial report. Our financial situation may improve by the end of the year, as we will have money from our investments and from the annual appeal.
- Income and expenses for the Funderburg House were $23,855.24 and $32,428.33, respectively. The net was -$8,573.09. We are cancelling Cintas services, saving us $75.00 per month, plus District costs. Sonya moved the checking account to a new account type that will save $3.00 per month. All other account features will remain unchanged.
- According to the Statement of Financial Position, the Society's checking account balance is $10,776.67, while the Funderburg checking account balance is $20,799.07. The Funderburg checking account reflects the transfer that was made. The current balance of the BCHS Endowment is $372,852.58; however, that balance will decrease by $20,000 following the transfer. The Funderburg House Maintenance Fund has fallen below $300,000, with further repair expenses anticipated.
- Profit from the Art Fair this year was $274.14. This money goes into a special restricted fund designed for this event only. With this year's profit, the total amount in the fund is $625.44.
- A motion was made by Denise Hauser and seconded by Jenny Breckenridge to file the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

District Report

- There has been little communication with Natali from the architects and Ceroni concerning the status of the new HVAC. Everything has been cleared from the printer room, and on Thursday, Ceroni cut an opening in the floor. An electrician was also on site. No other plans have been communicated to Natali.

Museum Staff Report

- The Quilt Show is approximately two weeks away. Members were encouraged to actively promote ticket sales and recruit additional participants. Several individuals have expressed interest by picking up registration forms, but those forms have not yet been completed and returned. Natali will post an appeal online, and information will also be placed on local bulletin boards. It was suggested that information about the show be shared with area 4-H groups, as well.
- Chris is changing out the Woman's Work exhibit in the Turner Gallery. The next display will focus on The Greatest Generation, including events and people in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. It is anticipated that the exhibit will be completed by early next year.
- Several problems have arisen at the Funderburg House.
    - First, the main staircase between the second and third floors is damaged. A city engineer completed an inspection, and a contractor will be coming tomorrow to give an estimate for repair.
    - Second, a new compressor is needed in one of the five air conditioners. The five-year warranty just expired in June. It is estimated that the expense could be as much as $4,000.
    - Third, one of the second-floor bathrooms has a burned-out bulb. Because the bulbs are vintage and expensive to replace, it was decided to use a floor lamp that has been placed in the corner instead.

Committee Reports

- Membership Committee
    - Since Melissa Erikson will be speaking about legacy endowments to the Society at our next general membership luncheon, it was felt that the luncheon should be held before the end of the year instead of in January. December 6 at 12:00PM was chosen as the date.
- Off-Site Liaison Committee
    - Natali mentioned that visitor flow through the museum has increased, which may have been due to the amount of information about the museum given out at the Farmers' Market.
    - Since "Good Day Stateline" has been covering several Belvidere and Boone County businesses, it was suggested that Natali contact them to get information about featuring the museum.
    - A representative from "Little Guide 815" will visit tomorrow with the goal of increasing awareness of the museum. There is no cost.
- Oral History Committee
    - Rob Funderburg has donated $5,000.00 to the oral history project. Engine Studios has also been brought onboard to put together a format and to help with interviews,

recording, and transcribing. They also have the capability to digitize any DVDs or cassettes of interviews already in our collection.
    - A page on our website will be added so the public can have access to the interviews.
    - Natali will apply for a grant next year to help fund a kiosk for access to the interviews within the museum.
- Fundraising Committee
    - Plans for Christmas events are in the works. The Twilight Tours will be held on December 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 5 to 7 PM. It was decided that the tours will be offered free this year with donations requested.
    - Natali will be sending out information about Christmas events and the opportunity for businesses to host their parties at the Funderburg House.
    - The suggestion was made to hold a Society rummage sale sometime in the spring. This sale would allow members to offer their personal items for sale and would not involve the sale of museum possessions.
- Volunteer Committee
    - Sonya will be relinquishing the role of Volunteer Coordinator to focus on the Funderburg House. Cindy volunteered to take over the duty. Sonya offered to continue to help with the volunteer appreciation event.
    - Since the Funderburg House will be open from 10AM to noon on Wednesday through Saturday, the public will be asked to call the museum before they visit so Sonya can be notified.
- Nomination Committee
    - Although interest in serving on the board was gauged at the general membership luncheon, no one has yet volunteered to serve. There is still another open board seat available.
    - Bri Carlson, who is now employed at Ida Public Library, has expressed interest in serving on the Society board as a private citizen and not as an employee of the library. A motion was made by Cindy Poulter and seconded by Carol Rowe to approve Bri Carlson for a seat on the board. Motion carried.

Old Business

- The circus wagon has been removed from Carol's garage and is now in the possession of Denny. He plans to restore it and put it in the front of his business for display.

New Business

- None

Adjournment

- Motion was made by Carol Rowe and seconded by Sonya Dobberfuhl to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held September 15, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Thacker

August 20 2026