

Whitman County Historical Society Board Meeting  
4-16-2025; 7:00pm; Perkins House, Colfax WA

Board members present: Mark Clinton, Jeff Pietila, Janet Barstow, Pat Flansburg, Denise Mahnkey, Linda Hackbarth, Carol Larsen, Wendy Blake, Val Gregory

Jeff Pietila is acting as Chair for this meeting as Mark Clinton has been delayed due to a conflicting commitment.

Denise Mahnkey moved, Carol Larsen seconded, and the board approved the consent agenda.

Janet Barstow reported that all 75 available tickets quickly sold out for the upcoming fundraiser on behalf of the Roy Chatters Newspaper & Printing Museum, and that donations for the silent auction have been more than sufficient. Community support for the Print museum is currently very strong. She has one bid for the permanent roof repair, and is seeking a second. She will bring the bids to the May meeting for the Board to discuss in more detail. The emergency roof repair seems to have prevented further damage to the exterior wall, and once the roof is finished the wall will be assessed to see what repairs are needed to that part of the structure.

Janet also requested that a bank account be set up for the Print Museum. Val Gregory supported this request as an efficient method to facilitate the handling of the large number of small payments expected as a result of the Print Museum taking on the Community Calendar project for Palouse, and also to streamline payment of small incidental expenses for events and regular operations.

Janet Barstow moved, and Linda Hackbarth seconded that a checking account be set up at State Bank Northwest in the names of the Whitman County Historical Society and the Roy Chatters Newspaper & Printing Museum with Val Gregory and Janet Barstow having signature authority.

Further discussion clarified that procedures for use of this account be established that are consistent with the WCHS by-laws, that ensure that donations are split appropriately between the Print Museum and WCHS, and that practices should be as consistent as possible for all society locations. For example, current guidance for the Perkins House committee specifies an expenditure limit of \$500, and any time the fund exceeds \$1,000 a transfer is made to the appropriate WCHS account. The Board expects to review the issue of consistency between locations regarding the handling of such smaller sums of money at a future meeting.

Val Gregory reported that the Perkins House is in need of a lead volunteer. Wendy Blake volunteered to be considered for the post, and other volunteers will continue to be sought. The Board will put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Linda Hackbarth reported that a grant from Whitman County will be pursued in order to help the Pullman Depot pay for restoration of the train cars. The application window is very short—submissions are due on April 19th. Val will assist in getting all the paperwork finished to meet the deadline.

Mark Clinton moved, Val Gregory seconded and the Board approved that the meeting be adjourned.

The next meeting will be at the Pullman Depot on May 21 at 7:00 pm.  
(Executive Board and Depot committee meet at 6:00 pm.)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Wendy Blake, Interim Recorder