Riley County Genealogical Society
Board Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2026 - *Via Zoom*

Present: Virginia Petersen, Charlene Brownson, Susan Church, Patrick Gormely, Mary Siegle, Paula Ellis, Pat Murphy, Doreen Towne, Margaret Kline, Judy Regehr, Joan Smith, and LuAnn Callan

Absent: Jim Beck and Margaret Parker

The meeting was called to order by President Virginia Petersen at 9:02 AM.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August 11, 2026 Board Meeting were approved.

New/Old Business:

President Petersen opened the meeting by thanking Pat for keeping the lawn mowed and looking nice.

Charlene reported that she has ordered the larger "No Parking" sign the Board had authorized, and it will cost $85. Pat Murphy stated he would try and get the trees growing around the sign post cut back before the pie party.

Charlene also noted that the Platt House marker is now ready, and a larger vehicle may be necessary to bring it to the Library. Thomas Signs would charge $210 to install but it must have a proper base before doing so. The county has indicated they may be able to help this Fall. Other options were discussed.

The homeless woman has apparently left the area and much relief was noted by the board.

The recent neighborhood Yuma Street Cultural Fair on the 6th was discussed with those attending stating they weren't sure that it was a worthwhile time as there were so many other activities going on. President Petersen thanked those members who volunteered their time for the event.

Much discussion was held concerning the upcoming Pie Party on September 20. Ways to get pies cut and out to visitors were discussed as well as those volunteers to set up and help tear down. Enough pies have been volunteered as has those wanting to help.

Discussion was held on the job descriptions sent to the Board. A few questions were asked for clarification. Those wanting a change or clarification will send suggestions to President Petersen. Job descriptions with just a small grammatical change here and there were approved by the board. *See attached.*

Proposed Bylaws previously distributed were discussed. Bylaws as presented were adopted for presentation to the members of the society at the annual meeting in November. *See attached*.

A nominating committee of three board members was appointed: Virginia Petersen, Paul Ellis, and Jim Beck. They will have a slate of officers for the October board meeting ready to present.

Officer and Coordinator Reports:

Vice-President and Programming: Charlene Brownson

America 250 time capsule meeting - Wednesday, Sept 17, at the Car Museum

Chautauqua Saturday Sept 19 – 1-5pm RCGS table at event

Sept 20 - Pie Party 2-3:30pm music Tall Grass Express, Anne Wilson,

Oct 18 – Sunday Program - RCHM Photo Preservation & Digitization – Mary Kohn, Melanie Highsmith & Dawn Munger

Nov 15, 2026, Celebration of America 250 - the Time Capsule will be on display at the Midwest Dream Car Collection, music and a program. I have submitted the entry of adding the Coloring Book for the time capsule. More information later. The marker for the Time Capsule has been ordered, still working on the wording & graphics. RCGS added the ordering of the markers to ours and the Chamber will reimburse the cost to RCGS.

Nov 22 Annual meeting 2-2:30 pm, program 2:30pm Cowboy Poet Betty Burlingham Manhattan Woman Sweeps Kansas Cowboy Poetry Championships - Morning Ag Clips

Chapman Center YouTube link to the RCGS Sunday programs
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PLeIaUccpg

Parking sign – Thomas Signs working on our restricted parking sign underway. They will send proof to make sure it is how we want it, once approved they will install it.

The Platt House marker is ready for pick up at Thomas Signs.

As far as installing the marker, Thomas Signs can install the marker to an existing concrete pad, but they aren't set up to prep and pour the pad itself. Cost for installing the sign to the pad would be $210

Recording Secretary: Susan Church (No report)

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Siegle (No report)

Treasurer/Financial Advisory: **Patrick Gormely**
Treasurer's report was shared electronically with the board. Treasurer's report filed for audit.

Buildings and Grounds: Pat Murphy
Grass has been mowed and tree limbs trimmed as well as hedges and bushes. President Petersen thanked Pat for doing that.

Membership: LuAnn Callen
Four new members bringing total to 180. October 1 will be when renewals will be coming in.

Computer Support Technology Coord.: Margaret Kline

New website has been put through one review with some great input. We're in the queue for data upload by ENS. Unknown date. Some documents must be downloaded individually which will take considerable time to do. Approximately 424 source docs and 27,000 files.

Genealogy Societies: Joan Smith (no report)

FYI: Doreen Towne:
Continues work on FYI

***Kansas Kin*: Judy Regehr**
More articles than can be used for this issue which should be ready by November 1.

Volunteers: Paula Ellis
We have 4 new volunteers who have begun training.

Publications: Margaret Parker (absent)

Public Relations: Jim Beck (absent)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan E. Church, Recording Secretary