

Browns Valley Historical Society Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2026

Members present: Jan Biewer, Jodi Hook-Hansen, Matt Goodhart, and Arlene Reinart. President Jan Biewer called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm. Motion to approve the minutes was given by Jodi, seconded by Matt. Motion passed. Jodi gave the Treasurers Report. Motion to approve the Treasurers Report was given by Arlene, seconded by Matt. The Carnegie Library Phase I grant has been zeroed out and totally finalized. Several of the Marie Kieserling Browns Valley History books have been sold. They are still for sale at the public library and city hall for \$20.

Old Business: The Historical Society has received a \$3500 grant from League of Minnesota to pay Widseth to write a grant for the Carnegie Library Phase II. The preliminary draft of the grant is to be sent to MNHS in July.

New Business: Browns Valley Historical Society received a \$50,000 grant from MNHS for Construction Documents for Sam Brown Cabin. We have received \$15,000 of the grant money so far, which will be paid to Engan Associates for doing the documents. Milestone 1 has been submitted to MNHS and has been approved. Engans are working on Milestone 2.

We have been considering having a community program on Commercial Fishing and contacting Curt Piechowski to present his program. However, with Sam Brown Days coming up in June, we decided to table the commercial fishing program.

Curt Alsaker of Rosholt asked if the Rosholt Historical Society could visit Sam Brown Cabin in May. We will open the Cabin anytime that they want to come. We decided that we should get by with just dusting some. Discussion was held on possibly having some joint field trips and other activities with the groups from Rosholt and maybe Wheaton.

Sundae in the Park is being planned for Sunday, July 19th at Sam Browns Cabin. The fundraiser will feature ice cream sundaes and live local music. The musicians have been contacted and we are currently waiting to confirm their availability.

We discussed using volunteers or hiring personnel to keep the cabin open on weekends from Memorial Day through Labor Day. It was agreed that a request will be made to the City Council for approval and support in this matter. Jodi will advertise.

Browns Valley Historical Society t-shirts are still for sale at Hardware Hank.

Discussion was held on cleaning the Carnegie Library and putting up new displays before Sam Brown Day.

Arlene had contacted Youth Works about painting the old red schoolhouse. They haven't responded yet.

Jan will contact Greg and Ann Harter to see if they would drive their old car in the parade on behalf of the Historical Society.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Arlene Reinart, Secretary