

Browns Valley Historical Society Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2026

Members present: Jan Biewer, Matt Goodhart, Edith Foren, Melody Gruby and Arlene Reinart. President Jan Biewer called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm. Motion to approve the minutes was given by Edith, seconded by Matt. Motion passed. Motion to approve the agenda was given by Arlene, seconded by Edith. Motion passed. There was no Treasurers Report.

Old Business: Ryan Zemek from Widseth is working on the Carnegie Library Phase II grant. Deadline is May 22nd for the preliminary grant proposal. Ryan will be coming to Browns Valley on Wed to visit about the grant and fill in some questions.

Engan Associates have finished Milestone 2 for the Sam Brown Cabin Construction Documents grant. Members read through the grant. Motion by Edith, second by Melody to send it in to MNHS for approval. It will take approximately 30 days to hear back if it is approved, or if changes are needed.

Tony Serocki and Jon Fryer did a fine job of pressure washing the old red schoolhouse. It looks like it is ready to paint. Jodi bought some red and white paint and supplies needed for the project and we will reimburse the city.

We will soon be cleaning the Carnegie Library and starting on our new displays. Some ideas that we have are POW's, Eastern Star, local businesses and Jung Family. Ginny Westbrook and Sawyer Huff are currently working on a Community Choir display.

Jodi and Jan brought the Historical Society t-shirts down from Sam Brown upstairs. They were mostly in totes and some on hangers. We decided to sell them for \$5 each to get rid of them. We don't plan to order any more.

The Cabin has a room full of the old newspapers. Arlene will contact MNHS to see what we can do with them. We would like to digitize them so they are available online for free.

New Business: Arlene had talked to Curt Alsaker about getting together with the Rosholt Historical Society. They are interested in going on field trips together.

Duck Race tickets are ready to sell. The Duck Race will be held near the fire hall with the fire dept assisting. Jan is planning the Taco Feed for Friday, June 26. She has all the records from previous years to go by and her family does a fine job of helping with the meal. Other jobs will be taking money, selling duck tickets and selling t-shirts.

Music is lined up for Sundae in the Park, planned for July 19th. Musicians will be Jim Reinart, Dennis Foley, and 2 others. Edith will talk to Jay about ice cream. Everything was donated last year.

Jodi has advertised for a worker for Sam Brown Cabin this summer. Pay would be \$11.41 per hour.

Plans are made to paint the red schoolhouse on Sat, May 9th along with cleanup of the town. Joe Weizel has volunteered to help paint.

Carnegie Library will be open on Sat, June 27th from 1-5. Joe and Arlene
Sam Brown Cabin will be open on Sat from 10-12. Matt
Sam Brown Cabin on Sat from 12-5 ??

Sam Brown Cabin will be open on Sunday from 1-5 ??

Sharon Medbery will be at the schoolhouse from 10-1:30 dressed as a country school teacher from the old days and will answer questions etc. Also some folks from Ft Sisseton will be at the Cabin with canon demonstrations. From 10-1:30.

Harter's will drive their old car in the parade using the Historical Society magnets on the car doors.

Next meeting will be June 1st at 6 pm at Sam Brown Park.

Adjourn at 7:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Arlene Reinart, Secretary