WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting Minutes

Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board

Wednesday, July 15, 2026 | 12:00 PM

Microsoft Teams (https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/262256273942213?p=fshvxKzMDJCKm2Ckrt)

1. **Call to Order**
   Abbie, called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM.
   Present: Menzi Behrnd-Klodt, Clayborn Benson, Todd W.M. Larson, Abbie Norderhaug (coordinator), Mara Rodewald (note taker), Ken J. Wirth; Excused: Anita Doering, Rick L. Pifer

2. **Report on National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) Grant Status**
   a. Discussion on WHRAB 2027 Activities
      Abbie, reported on staff change with Jacob Riehl (Records Officer, City of Madison), NHPRC grant extension through October 31, 2026, and update from Jacob Lusk (Director for State Programs, NHPRC) that once an Archivist of the United States is approved, a meeting can be called to review and vote on grants. The Board discussed.

3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 9, April 1, and April 22**
   A motion (made by Clayborn, seconded by Ken) to approve the meeting minutes from February 9, April 1, and April 22 passed by voice vote.

4. **Revisit Tabled Items from February 9**
   A motion (made by Clayborn, seconded by Menzi) to jump forward to Item 5b and then return to Item 4a passed by voice vote. Jumped forward to Item 5b.
   a. Governor's Archives Awards Judges Scoring Sheet
      Mara, reported on revising the sheet to reflect criteria. Menzi and Abbie commented.
   b. Professional Development Reimbursement Award Judges Scoring Sheet
      A motion (made by Menzi, seconded by Todd) to approve the Professional Development Reimbursement Award Judges Scoring Sheet passed by voice vote.

5. **Report on WHRAB 2026 Activities**
   a. New WHRAB Webpage and Email
      Abbie, reported the WHRAB's new webpage launched with the Society's new brand in April 2026 and the WHRAB has a new shared-access email. Jumped to Item 5c.
   b. 2026 Governor's Archives Awards

Abbie, reported three award recipients were announced in June: Marquette University's Raynor Library for Archival Achievement; UW-Milwaukee's Geography Department for Archival Advocacy; and UW-Stevens Point's Neils R. Kampenga University Archives for Archival Innovation. Award ceremonies are planned for August 28 and September 4. The Board commented. Jumped back to Item 4a.

c. Wisconsin Historical Collections Landscape Project
Abbie, reported the new webpage was drafted by Mara and the Society's web team and will be released with a public link for the interactive map. The Board commented.

d. Session for the 2026 Local History and Historical Preservation Conference
Abbie, reported the Board's recommendations were submitted to the Conference team yet were not possible this year. The WHRAB will have a resource center table and sponsor the session "AV Doesn't Have to Be Scary!". The Board discussed the conference's archival sessions' potential as places for invaluable information sharing.

6. Report and Discussion on Best Practice Guides Revision

Abbie, reported the Wisconsin Historical Collections Landscape Project's third year will focus on updating the WHRAB's 1998 best practices documents to align with the 2025 survey participant's most common request for professional archives guidance. Mara, reported preliminary research. The Board discussed four categories to streamline research.

7. Adjournment

A motion (made by Menzi, seconded by Clayborn) to adjourn the meeting passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:07 PM.

Summary

At their July 15, 2026 meeting, the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board (WHRAB) met from 12:03 PM to 1:07 PM. Coordinator Abbie Norderhaug reported on items that will affect the WHRAB's 2027 activity planning including: staff changes, grant extension and update from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (see Item 2). Two motions, one to approve three Meeting Minutes and another to approve the Reimbursement Award judges scoring sheet, passed by voice vote (see Items 3, 4b). For the Governor's Archives Awards program, the judge's scoring sheet is being revised to reflect award criteria, and the three 2026 awardees were discussed (see Items 4a, 5b). Abbie reported and the Board commented on 2026 activities including: the WHRAB's new webpage and email, the WHRAB-sponsored session and resource center table at the 2026 Local History and Historic Preservation Conference, and webpage draft, interactive map public link, and research to revise the WHRAB's best practice guides for the Wisconsin Historical Collections Landscape Project (see Items 5a, 5c, 5d, 6).

Action Items

- Mara will email the Board times and locations for the three 2026 Governor's Archives Awards ceremonies (see Item 5b).
- Abbie will follow up with the LHHPC planning team to ensure direct communication between the LHHPC planning team and the WHRAB as a conference partner (see Item 5d).

Next meeting: Monday, October 26, 2026 at 11:00 AM via Microsoft Teams. See the public meeting notice here: https://publicmeetings.wi.gov/view/c46b0846-3cd5-49ee-ae1a-9c62b4fbe83b
Contact: askwhrab@wisconsinhistory.org

These minutes were approved by the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board approved on October 26, 2026.