

Meeting Minutes

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, February 9, 2026 | 11:00 AM

Microsoft Teams

1. Call to Order

ABBIE, called the meeting to order at 11:04 AM.

Present: Menzi Behrnd-Klodt, Clayborn Benson, Anita Doering, Todd Larson, Abbie Norderhaug (coordinator), Rick Pifer, Jake Riehl, Mara Rodewald (note taker), Jane Schetter, Ken Wirth

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes for November 10

TODD, commented on acronyms. A motion to approve (made by ANITA, seconded by JANE) passed by voice vote.

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda for February 9

Item 3 was skipped.

4. Revisit Tabled Items from November 10

a. Landscape Survey White Paper

ABBIE, RICK, TODD, and KEN, discussed edits to the executive summary and white paper. Jumped forward to Item 7. ABBIE, reported on the dissemination plan.

b. Governor's Archives Awards (GAA) Categories Going Forward and the GAA Judges Scoring Sheet

ABBIE, MENZI, KEN, TODD, and RICK, discussed, emphasizing that evaluation and nomination instructions should have the same criteria, and that achievement should have its own criteria on the judge's sheet. A motion to table discussion until next meeting (made by TODD, seconded by ABBIE) passed by voice vote.

5. Report on WHRAB 2025 Grant Cycle and Progress on Grant Goals

ABBIE, reported that the WHRAB has met or surpassed all performance indicators for the grant goals. RICK and TODD, commented on the 2025 local history archive sessions.

6. Discussion on WHRAB's Plans to Proceed Re: 2026 Grant Status

a. Activities to Pause or Maintain

ABBIE and JAKE, reported that the National Historic Publications and Records Commission received our grant application; however, they have not called a meeting, so the WHRAB does not have funds after February 28. RICK, ABBIE, MENZI, TODD, and

JAKE, discussed maintaining three (GAA, Local History Conference session ideas, and Landscape Survey maintenance) and pausing three (Professional Development Reimbursement Award, Newsletter, Best Practice Guides).

b. Meeting Frequency

The Board will maintain frequency of three meetings per calendar year.

c. Board Vacancies

ABBIE, reported two Board vacancies: Jack Idlas (effective November 11, 2025) and Jane Schetter (effective May 1, 2026). ABBIE, JANE, RICK, and KEN, discussed.

7. Approval of the Interactive Map for Public Release

ABBIE and MARA, reported. TODD, RICK, ANITA, CLAYBORN, JAKE, and ABBIE, discussed potentially distinguishing the Wisconsin Area Research Centers (ARCs) on the map and predictions about survey responses after the map disseminates. A motion to approve with changes (made by TODD, seconded by ANITA) passed by voice vote. Jumped back to Item 4a.

8. Approval of the Landscape Survey White Paper for Public Release

TODD and KEN, discussed edits they will send via email to Mara. A motion to approve with forementioned edits (made by ABBIE, seconded by TODD) passed by voice vote.

9. Approval of the Reimbursement Award Application Form for 2026 Use

A motion to table approval until next meeting (made by ABBIE, seconded by MENZI) passed by voice vote.

10. Discussion on Session Ideas for the 2026 LHHPC

ABBIE, CLAYBORN, MENZI, and RICK, discussed ideas: PastPerfect, digitization, photograph interpretation/preservation, local historical society reference/public relations, and AI use.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn (made by JANE, seconded by RICK) passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:14 PM.

Summary

As the final meeting during the current grant cycle, the WHRAB reported meeting or surpassing all NHPRC grant goal performance indicators (item 5). To continue in 2026 without funding, the WHRAB paused all activities except the GAA, LHHPC session ideas, and landscape survey maintenance (item 6). The WHRAB discussed archival-focused LHHPC session topics (item 10). The Board approved for public release with changes the November 10 Minutes, interactive map, and landscape survey white paper (items 2, 7, and 8). The Board tabled until next meeting approval of the GAA judges' evaluation sheet and reimbursement award application form (items 4b and 9).

Action Items

- By February 16, 2026, the Board will send any edits to the white paper (20260209_MDocuments p.14-44) via email to MARA (see items 8 and 4a).
- By March 1, 2026, ABBIE, JAKE, and MARA will contact ARCs who have not yet responded and collaborate with WHS GIS team to update the map (see item 7).
- Throughout 2026, ABBIE will inform the Board via email anytime she receives updates on the NHPRC grant (see item 10).

Next meeting: Quarter 3 (TBD). These minutes were approved July 15, 2026 by the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board.