



Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board: Award Review Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

March 18th, 2025, 10:00 AM

Location: [Microsoft Teams](#)

Attendees: Menzi L. Behrnd-Klodt, Clayborn Benson, Todd Larson, Abbie Norderhaug, Rick L. Pifer, Jake Riehl [*State Agency Records Archivist*], Mara Rodewald

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call to Order

- a. Abbie, called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

2. Review of Governor's Archive Award (GAA) Nominations

- a. WHRAB received six nominations: three for innovation, two for achievement, and one for advocacy. Menzi, **MOVED** to change nominee v from the innovation to achievement category. Abbie, seconded. All in favor.
- b. The subcommittee discussed the six nominations.

3. Decisions for the 2025 GAA Recipient(s)

- a. The subcommittee voted YES to recommend nominees i and iii (unanimous). Abbie, **MOVED** to recommend nominee i for an innovation GAA and nominee iii for an achievement GAA. Rick, seconded. All in favor.
- b. The subcommittee voted NO to recommend nominee iv (majority) and nominees ii, v, and vi (unanimous). Abbie, **MOVED** to email them after the BOC announces awards to reapply next year. Clayborn, seconded. All in favor.

4. Review of Midwest Archive Conference (MAC) Scholarship Applications

- a. The subcommittee discussed the six applications.

5. Decision for the 2025 MAC Recipient(s)

- a. The subcommittee voted YES to award applicants ii, iv, and vi (unanimous). Abbie, **MOVED** to award applicants ii, iv, and vi, a professional development reimbursement award to the MAC. Todd, seconded. All in favor.

- b. The subcommittee voted NO to award applicants i, iii and v (unanimous).

NEW BUSINESS

- a. GAA FOLLOW-UP EMAILS: Abbie, proposed the subcommittee email GAA nominee iv with Menzi's questions about copyright and technical advice. Rick, Menzi, Clayborn and Todd gave feedback. The subcommittee decided to wait until after award announcement to send follow-up emails (see item 3b).
- b. GAA CATEGORIES: Rick, discussed the reoccurring problem of GAA nominations focusing on local history promotional projects or public programming that are not archival beyond using archival materials. WHRAB could consider adding another category to the advocacy award for a project that uses archival material to promote local history.

6. Close

- a. Abbie, **MOVED** to adjourn. Todd, seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 11:01 AM.

SUMMARY: At their March 18th, 2025, meeting the WHRAB award review subcommittee discussed and made decisions about the Governor's Archives Awards (GAA) and Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) applications. They discussed six GAA nominations (see item 2), and Abbie, seconded by Rick, moved to recommend two nominees for award. Abbie, seconded by Clayborn, moved to send follow-up emails after awards are announced (see item 3). They discussed six MAC reimbursement award applications (see item 4), and Abbie, seconded by Todd, moved to award three applicants (see item 5). The subcommittee discussed at length whether they would like to ask follow-up questions to strong GAA nominees. Rick noted how many GAA nominations have been for public programming that, while important, do not meet the GAA's archival requirements (see New Business). Two action points were determined:

ACTION POINT 1: In the next two weeks, Abbie and Mara will contact the MAC awardees via email and send the subcommittee's GAA recommendations to the BOC.

ACTION POINT 2: Before January 2026, Abbie and Mara will edit the available GAA application materials to make clear that nominations must be archival in nature.

Next subcommittee meeting: August 2025 (CANCELLED)

Minutes submitted by: Mara Rodewald, Program Associate for the WHRAB

Minutes approved by the Board on November 10, 2025.