

State of Wisconsin

BURIAL SITES PRESERVATION BOARD

**State of Wisconsin Burial Sites Preservation Board
Final Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2025**

I. Welcome and Call to Order (*Board Chair, George W. Christiansen III*)

Mr. Christiansen called the meeting to order at 10:33am.

II. Roll Call for Determination of Quorum (*Board Secretary, Paul Reckner*)

Present, In Person: Mr. George Christiansen, Mr. Larry Plucinski, Dr. Richard Edwards, Mr. Zachary Stencil, Ms. Sarah Thompson, Dr. Amy Rosebrough, Ms. Amy Wyatt

Present, Online: Dr. Paul Reckner

Absent: Mr. David Grignon

WHS Staff Present, In Person: Taylor Lambrigger, Tricia Canaday, Ian Gort

WHS Staff Present, Online: Tyler Howe

Guests Present, In Person: Bill Quackenbush, Micheal LaRonge, Christina Zweig, Jean Burns-Frank, Ryan Schmidt, Benjamin Neumann, Judy Klimt Houston, Mark Houston, Susan Lovern

Guests Present, Online: Rick Moser, James Davies, Mark Geronime, Ryan Duffy

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Dr. Edwards moved to approve the December 2025 agenda.

Second: Ms. Thompson.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mr. Stencil moved to approve the September 2025 meeting minutes.

Second: Dr. Edwards.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion Passed.

V. Introduction (*Board Chair, George W. Christiansen III*)

VI. Public Comment (*Note: A total of 15 speakers will be allowed a maximum of two minutes each on a first come, first served basis. All comments must pertain to a specific item on the agenda.*)

1. Judy Klimt Houston
2. Judy Klimt Houston, on behalf of the Descendant Community of Milwaukee County Grounds
3. Mark Houston
4. Benjamin Neumann
5. Bill Quackenbush, giving the quarterly WITRC update (see item XI(c))
6. Susan Lovern
7. Rick Moser

VII. Chair Report

VIII. New Business

a. 2026 Meeting Dates

Friday, March 6th, Wisconsin Historical Society Headquarters, Madison

Thursday, June 4th, Wisconsin Historical Society Headquarters, Madison

Thursday, September 3rd, Wisconsin Historical Society Headquarters, Madison

Thursday, December 3rd, Wisconsin Historical Society Headquarters, Madison

Motion: Mr. Plucinski moved to accept the dates as proposed.

Second: Dr. Edwards.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

b. Kohler Golf Course Expansion Clarification

Citizen concern that no appropriate consultation is happening for this project

Request for clarification on the Kohler Golf Course expansion from Dr. Tyler Howe

Mr. Quackenbush commented that these are burial sites, requested that if remains are identified in situ, that they be left in place.

SHPO will respond via email to this individual.

No board action taken.

IX. Unfinished Business

a. Unauthorized Disturbances Letters

i. MG&E

Motion: Mr. Stencil moved to accept MG&Es letter and close those applicable noncompliance cases.

Second: Mr. Plucinski

Discussion: Discussion surrounded changes made by MG&E, the use of physical markers for burial sites to pre-mark sites.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

ii. Bug Tussel

Motion: Mr. Stencil moved to send a secondary letter to Bug Tussel asking for further clarification.

Second: Ms. Thompson.

Discussion: Discussion for Bug Tussel included noting that no representative was present to engage in discussion with the board, that the letter was lacking specificity, and that the letter gave the impression that they are disconnected from the process and severity. Discussion of asking them for further clarification, and a general discomfort closing these three cases with the letter that's been given, and make clear the alternative is forwarding for prosecution.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

b. Milwaukee County Registry of Interested Persons Application Reclassification of Interest

Motion: Mr. Stencil moved to deny the application for reconsideration of priority of interest.

Second: Mr. Christiansen.

Discussion: No other governmental entity with that priority of interest, lack of convincing tie between cultural in the ethnic/heritage sense as described in HS 2 with Milwaukee County Corporation Council as an entity. There is no attempt to define the culture that Milwaukee County Corporation is appealing to. Comments that many folks in these cemeteries are also not likely Milwaukeeans.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

Mr. Christiansen broke the meeting for lunch at approximately 12:00pm.

Mr. Christiansen resumed the meeting at 1:03pm.

X. Wisconsin Historical Society Report on Wis. Stat. 157.70 Actions (WHS Liaison, Taylor Lambrigger)

a. Eligible for Board Action

- i. Catalogued Burial Site Permit Request Decisions (no actionable items)
- ii. Report on Certain Determinations Pertaining to the Disposition of Human Remains and Associated Burial Objects (no actionable items)
- iii. Unauthorized/Unpermitted Burial Site Disturbances
 1. Blume Burial (OZ-0050/BOZ-0064) (WHS #24-1227)

Addressed in a past meeting. No action needed.

2. Eighmy Group (DA-0045/BDA-0321)

Motion: Mr. Christiansen moved to accept WHS recommendation and close case.

Second: Dr. Edwards.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

3. Columbia-Ottman Lake (WP-0018/BWP-0124)

Motion: Mr. Christiansen moved to accept WHS recommendation and close case.

Second: Dr. Edwards.

Discussion: Discussion on how WHS is working to get burial law compliance information to local governments.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

4. Wampum's Grave (MN-0249/BMN-0143) (WHS #25-1209)

WHS will follow up when report is received.

5. St. Jerome Cemetery (BWK-0057) (WHS #24-0916)

WHS will follow up when report is received.

6. Maney/Weeks Site (LG-0003/BLG-0045)

Motion: Mr. Stencil moved to accept WHS recommendation and close case.

Second: Dr. Edwards.

Discussion: None

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

7. Second Fort Crawford Mound Group (CR-0151/BCR-0175)

Motion: Mr. Christiansen moved to accept WHS recommendation and close case.

Second: Dr. Edwards.

Discussion: Asked if a qualified individual verified that no artifacts or human remains were found.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

8. Carcajou (JE-0002/BJE-0019)

Motion: Mr. Christiansen moved to accept WHS recommendation and close case.

Second: Dr. Edwards.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

9. Rostock Cemetery (BSB-0065)

WHS will follow up at the next meeting.

10. Big Foot's Village (WL-0072/BWL-0017) (WHS # 24-1811)

Motion: Dr. Edwards moved to table this discussion until the next meeting.

Second: Mr. Stencil.

Discussion: Discussed the setting of precedent that the board will wait for all investigations to be concluded before final decisions are made.

Vote: All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Motion passed.

11. Wisconsin River Group (SK-0042/BSK-0194) (WHS #24-0958)

WHS will follow up at the next meeting.

- b. Not Subject to Board Action**
 - i. Determinations Pertaining to Uncatalogued Burial Sites**
 - ii. Report on Determinations Pertaining to the Disposition of Human Remains and Associated Burial Objects to the WITRC**
 - iii. Discoveries of Human Remains**

XI. Other Reporting

- a. WI State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) (*Amy Wyatt*)**

Verbal report given by Amy Wyatt.
- b. WI Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) (*Amy Rosebrough*)**

Verbal report given by Amy Rosebrough. OSA will be providing a written annual report for the burial board, beginning in March 2026. Annual reports will be given to the board in March that recap the previous calendar year.
- c. Wisconsin Inter-Tribal Repatriation Committee (WITRC) (*WITRC President, Bill Quackenbush*)**

Completed during public comment period.

XII. Announcements

- a.** 2026 Officer Elections will be occurring in March.
- b.** Discussion of conflict of interest forms, ethics training from DOA, and that Mr. Christiansen and Mr. Grignon's appointments to the board are set to end in July.

XIII. Adjournment

Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:44pm.