



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
*Tuesday, 8 April 2025, via Zoom*

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DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kjel Alkire, Tony Boldt, Sophia Chai, Steve Dietz, Rob Hardy, Elisha Marin, Laurel Stinson, Jon Swanson, Amy Wightkin, Melissa Wray

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Andi Arnold

STAFF PRESENT: Anastasia Shartin, Sharon Mansur, Karen Miller

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1:30pm Dir. Marin, Board President, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda

**Dir. Wray moved and Dir. Boldt seconded approval of this meeting's agenda, as written. Motion passed unanimously.**

Approval of the Minutes

**Dir. Stinson moved and Dir. Wightkin seconded approval of the minutes from the 11 March 2025 Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

President's Report

- The July 8 Board of Directors Meeting will be held in-person in Rochester (location to be determined). Morning IDI session with Exposed Brick Theatre, followed by lunch, then the afternoon will be devoted to long range process. Sue Gens and Michael Charron of the State Arts Board will be invited.
- A second day-long in-person planning meeting will be scheduled for the fall. ED Shartin will poll all directors for availability.

Treasurer's Report

**Dir. Alkire moved and Dir. Swanson seconded approval of the Treasurer's Report through the end of March. Motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Director's Report

- See attached.

Grants Committee Report

- The committee proposed that individual artist grantees sit out a minimum of one year before reapplying so that more individuals may benefit from SEMAC grants. **Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Wray seconded approval of this policy. Motion passed unanimously.**

- The committee presented a proposal for board review of grant programs. After discussion, the idea was sent back to committee for reconsideration at the next board meeting.

**Dir. Marin moved and Dir. Chai seconded the motion to adjourn.**

The Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 3:08pm.

# Executive Director Report for Board Meeting April 8, 2025

## Grantmaking:

- Organizational Grant Application deadline March 30

## MSAB/McKnight/MCA/FACM:

- March 13 – attended MSAB Board meeting (Zoom)
- April 1 – Preliminary Biennial Plan submitted to MSAB
- April 3 and 4 – FACM in-person meeting in St. Cloud

## Regional Networking (March 8 – April 7, 2025):

- March 8, Winona, **Winona County** – attended Theatre du Mississippi One Acts
- March 11, Winona, **Winona County** – attended Engage Winona’s annual report meeting
- March 20 – met with Matt Fluharty, Art of the Rural, at the SEMAC office
- March 20, Byron, **Olmsted County** – attended Rochester Community Band’s Spring concert
- April 4 and 5, Rochester, **Olmsted County** – attended two films of the Rochester International Film Festival
- April 5, Winona, **Winona County** – attended community conversation and meal organized by WSU’s Turtle Island Student Organization with support from Art of the Rural, Honoring Dakota Project, and Winona County Historical Society
- April 5, Caledonia, **Houston County** – attended opening reception for Houston County High School exhibit at Mainspring

## Communications:

- Weekly check-ins with Sharon and Jacque
- April e-newsletter sent to 1,265 recipients

## Other:

- Met with John Skillings, financial trainer with Propel Non-profits
- March 18 – Public Meeting for Biennial Plan with 11 attendees from 6 counties (Fillmore, Freeborn, Olmsted, Steele, Wabasha, and Winona)
- March 24 – attended Arrowhead Regional Arts Council’s public meeting (Zoom)
- March 26 – 31 – vacation
- April 1 – SEMAC Executive Committee Meeting