

JOHNSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of JCHC Meeting March 24, 2025

Held at the Restored Courthouse Conference Room

Sandra Neeley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and presided over the meeting following the printed agenda.

Following the invocation, pledges were made to the United States and Texas flags

Andy Asberry took the roll call: 13 appointees present, 3 excused absences,

5 special guests from Terry's Texas Rangers: Steve Willis, Roy Williams, Tracy Oaks, Douglas Gulley and Robert Miller

Terry's Texas Rangers SCV Camp #1937 was recognized. Commander and JCHC appointee Steve Wells read the annual Governor's Proclamation declaring the month of April Confederate History and Heritage Month. Commander Wells shared that Johnson County sent over 1,000 troops to the War Between the States; that approx. 1100 Confederate veterans are buried in Johnson County and 400 of those are buried in Cleburne.

Announcements:

Chair apologized for confusion regarding start time and reminded everyone JCHC meetings will begin at 6 pm until further notice.

Danny Doggett who has been very ill was welcomed back - also Christy Morton has recovered from shoulder surgery and Steve Wells' son is doing well.

Congratulations to Nita Redmon and others representing Antique Alley Texas who were recognized this morning at Commissioners Court.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary Amy Nichols offered the February 24, 2025 minutes for approval as printed.

Andy Asberry made a motion to approve; Motion 2nd and approved by show of hands

Treasurer's Report:

James Neeley reported a closing balance of \$14,555.12

Nita Redmon moved to accept the report; Motion 2nd and approved by show of hands

Chair Neeley shared that JCHC Executive Committee had met prior to this meeting as scheduled and approved JCHC's next fiscal year's budget. It will be submitted to the Budget Coordinator. The total amount remains the same as the last fiscal year.

Chair Neeley presented a written quote from Lowe's for Dotey House supplies including 1 can Rust Reformer spray paint, toilet paper, 3-pack of painter's tape, 1 quart tile mastic, 1 liquid dish soap, 1 white Levelor light filtering roll-up shade **to be cut to 25" shade width at no charge upon pick up at Lowe's**, and (12) bags of decomposed granite. Each item is priced on the quote and Lowe's item number noted for a total of \$157.34

Andy Asberry moved to accept this quote and place the items on order at the not-to-exceed amount of \$175; Motion 2nd and approved by show of hands

Old Business: None

New Business: Next JCHC meeting April 28, 2025

Judge Boedeker has requested JCHC meet at the Dotey House.

Amy Nichols made a motion that the April 28, 2025 meeting be held at the **Dotey House**; motion 2nd, and motion approved by show of hands. (Meetings will begin at 6 pm until further notice – Friends at 5:30)

JCHC Minutes of Meeting March 24, 2025, continued
Committee Reports:

A. Texas Historical Markers and Texas Historic Cemeteries – Marker Chair Douglas Cogdill was ill. Chair Neeley reported the Texas Historical Marker at the **Masonic Lodge building in Cleburne** should be re-installed and a plaque added that says the Lodge merged with Nolands Lodge at Rio Vista, where meetings are now held. Chair Neeley has communicated with THC about this and is awaiting instructions.

Brazos Point Bridge's Texas Historical Marker proposed inscription arrived today March 24, 2025. Chair Neeley and the Judge's office noted a few minor punctuation and grammatical errors and resubmitted it to THC for correction. A revised inscription will be sent to JCHC for approval.

Andy Asberry reported no update on Kyle-Bullard Texas Historic Cemetery application
Rowena Lawson reported Buell Cemetery's application for same is in process.

B. Johnson County Historic Landmark Plaques and Narratives: Nita Redmon reported the John Richard Rose dedication will be Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at First Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 1005 Chase Ave., Cleburne. Judge Boedeker and Commissioner Woolley will attend. All appointees are encouraged to attend this special dedication and wear JCHC name badge.

Mr. Rose (who died in 1948) composed over 200 songs, including "It's Centennial Time in Texas" for the Texas Centennial in 1936. A pianist will play 2 of Mr. Rose's compositions during the dedication. James Neeley installed the photograph and accompanying narrative plaque at the church.

Nita Redmon requested help with Historic Landmark Plaques and Narratives. Rowena Lawson and Steve Wells volunteered to help Nita Redmon, Ben Head and Charlotte Lawson on this committee.

Written rules for bestowing a Historic Landmark plaque (as voted at the February meeting) were not ready to submit at this meeting. The committee asked that this item be tabled and placed on the April agenda.

C. Friends of JCHC: - Andy Asberry reported Friends needs members to help raise money for JCHC activities. Friends plans to have a booth during Antique Alley in Grandview April 18 and 19 and Springfest April 26 in Cleburne.

He reported having attended Save Old Cleburne and Historic Downtown Cleburne meetings. JCHC is scheduled to help Save Old Cleburne judge Christmas light displays in December.

D. Dotey-Kirkham House (also see Treasurer's Report re items voted to purchase)

Chair Neeley announced a work day is needed to hang curtains, attach fireplace tiles, weed flower beds and put gravel and bricks at the front gate where water stands when it rains. April 17 was set as a work day.

E. Museum Report – No report as the Director was ill and the museum closed today.

The District Clerk's office submitted a **Memorandum of Donation** form listing several ledgers, receipt books, miscellaneous documents about the WPA and a Cleburne City Directory 1899-1900.

Discussion followed that the District Clerk's Memorandum of Donation form states that the items can be passed on to other organizations at the discretion of the JCHC Executive Committee. The Johnson County Genealogical Society is interested in looking at the items for use in their publication Finders Keepers

Steve Wells made a motion that JCHC accept the District Clerk's items with the understanding they will be passed on to the Johnson Co. Genealogical Society; Motion 2nd and passed by show of hands.

Chair Neeley will return any items not used by JCGS to the District Clerk's office.

Charlotte Lawson offered a 1901 Santa Fe Rules & Regulations manual. It is 128 pages and inscribed with the name "R. D. Moberly, Operating Department"

Rowena Lawson made a motion to accept this manual; Motion 2nd and passed by show of hands.

JCHC Minutes of Meeting March 24, 2025, continued
Committee Reports:

Museum Report, continued

Jack Plonien from Burleson built a 1/12 model of the plane "Old Soggy" and placed it on loan in the JCHC museum in 2016. He signed a new Memorandum of Donation form donating the plane to JCHC - which was his original intention.

Mr. Plonien recently assisted with suspending the model for display in the museum and a volunteer provided newspaper coverage.

Amy Nichols made a motion to accept "Old Soggy" Motion 2 nd and passed by show of hands.

F. Burleson: Farmers Market has resumed in Old Town by the Interurban station 9 am – 1 pm each Saturday

G. Digitization of Newspapers (The Portal to Texas History)

Sandra Neeley is compiling items for the next submission.

H. Other Reports & Additions to Calendar of Events None offered

Meeting adjourned 7:07 pm

Amy Nichols, Secretary