**Minutes**

**Oklahoma Council of the Blind**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**August 16, 2025**

**President Elaine Boykin called the meeting to order. A moment of silence was observed for members who have passed away, including long-time member Bob Alsobrook**

**Roll Call**

**Secretary Vicky Golightly conducted the roll call. A quorum was confirmed with the following members present: Elaine Boykin, Vicki Golightly, Frances Poindexter, Marilyn Sanders, Jeanne Meyer, and Dana Young. Pam Holloway, Sandy Evans and Magan Rowand were absent.  Guests attending the meeting include: Jay Doudna, Jean Jones and Debbie Sanders.**

**President's Report**

**Elaine Boykin reported that activities have been relatively quiet since the last meeting. She highlighted the recent ACB national convention, noting good attendance from Oklahoma (approximately 13 members plus guests), engaging speakers, and successful events. Next year's convention will be held in St. Louis at the Hyatt Arch, July 24-31.**

**Secretary's Report**

**Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as distributed. Motion was made by Marilyn Sanders, seconded by Frances Poindexter and Dana Young.  The motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report**

**The treasurer's report was accepted as distributed. Current balances: Checking, $17,007.59; Savings, $18,005.13.**

**Judy Poole Hansen Fund**

**The fund remains in good financial standing. No new applications have been received for convention assistance.**

**Convention Committee**

**Co-chairs: Vicky and Frances. The committee has been actively preparing for the upcoming state convention. The agenda is complete, with all slots filled. Highlights include:**

**- Guest speakers on brain injury and vision loss, employment readiness, and ACB updates.**

**- Banquet and auction planning is underway, with the need for additional auction items and a live auctioneer.**

**- Interpreter access for a deaf participant is under discussion, with significant cost considerations. Committee will investigate cost estimates and confirm participant registration before contracting services.**

**- Sound system arrangements have been secured at a reduced rate with Toby Sanders.**

**- Meals and recreational activities are planned, including interactive sessions and exercise programs.**

**- Two scholarships have been awarded thus far to first-time attendees.**

**The Committee emphasized the need for donations of door prizes, auction items, and volunteer support.**

**History Committee**

**Chair: Jeanne Meyer**

**The committee is working to collect oral histories and preserve archival materials. Efforts are underway to interview long-time member Norman Dalke. Members are encouraged to search for old notes, files, or recordings that could be preserved. Marilyn Sanders volunteered to help transcribe audio files.**

**Website Committee**

**Chair: Vicky Golightly**

**The website is up-to-date with calendars, newsletters, and minutes. New features are being tested, including options for chapters to submit event information directly for automatic posting. Accessibility features such as high-contrast options have been noted as helpful during registration. Further improvements are being explored, including streamlined workflows for posting events.**

**Fundraising Committee**

**Chair: Joseph Bundy**

**Due to Joseph's absence, Frances provided the fund raising report. Recent fundraisers included:**

**- Interstate Auction: $1,300 raised**

**- Brenda Dillon Walk: $750 raised (goal: $1,000)**

**- MMS donations: $855 this spring**

**Work continues on the OCB Cookbook project, which will be available in multiple formats (print, braille, audio, electronic). Recipes are still being collected. The committee will also coordinate 50/50 raffles and Cozy Custom Cards sales during the convention.**

**Membership Committee**

**Chair: Frances Poindexter**

**Current membership stands at 408-419 members. Outreach efforts are ongoing to engage potential new members, including individuals from Enid and Prague. The committee emphasized the importance of welcoming first-time convention attendees and encouraging their involvement.**

**OSB Outreach**

**Chair: Jeanne Meyer**

**The OSB Alumni Reunion was held in July and was well attended. Technology**

**workshops were provided, and a karaoke night was added successfully. The**

**next reunion is scheduled for July 2027, pending superintendent approval.**

**Blind Spot Newsletter**

**Chair: Debbie Sanders**

**The July issue, convention-themed, was distributed. The next issue will be released in December.**

**Next Generation Committee**

**Chair: Dana Young**

**The Committee is planning activities for Friday night at the convention and is considering a budget request for ongoing activities. The committee also hosts a book club (Fiction and Fizz) and will contribute travel-sized games for convention goody bags.**

**Governmental Affairs**

**Chair: Jean Jones**

**Jean reported on federal and state issues affecting blind and disabled individuals. Topics included:**

**- Federal proposals impacting the Department of Education and Vocational Rehabilitation.**

**- Expansion of the Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services.**

**- Potential Social Security Trust Fund insolvency and proposed reforms.**

**- Tax deductions for charitable contributions now available without itemizing.**

**Jean encouraged members to review her full written report for more detail. She will also chair the Resolutions Committee.**

**Constitution & Bylaws Committee**

**Chairs: Debbie Sanders & Marilyn Sanders**

**The committee reviewed and streamlined both the Constitution and Bylaws. Duplicated or misplaced items were corrected. Proposed drafts have been distributed for Board review prior to presentation to the full membership.**

**Chapter reports were given.**

**The next President will set a date for the next Board meeting.**

**To-Do List**

**- Convention Committee to confirm interpreter arrangements and auctioneer.**

**- Members to donate auction items, door prizes, and cookbook recipes.**

**- History Committee to interview Norman and collect archival materials.**

**- Website Committee to continue testing event submission workflow.**

**- Fundraising Committee to push for final Brenda Dillon Walk donations.**

**- Membership Committee to engage first-time convention attendees.**

**- OSB Outreach to confirm 2027 reunion date.**

**- Governmental Affairs to circulate shortened report and monitor federal/state legislation.**

**- Constitution & Bylaws Committee to finalize drafts for membership approval.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Lynn (Vicky) Golightly, Secretary**

**(Most of the minutes were composed by AI, which came about with the assistance of Marilyn Sanders.)**