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Minutes of the Board Meeting
Friends of the Lester F. Larsen Tractor Test and Power Museum
January 20, 2004

Attendance: Vern Anderson, Leonard Bashford, Harold Borman, Don Edwards, Pricilla Grew, Lawrence Hermann, Bob Kleis, Lou Leviticus, Curt McConnell, Mark Nickolaus, Bill Overturf, Judy Ray, Erv Rolofson, Bill Splinter, Russ Tooker, Luis Vasquez, John Smith via conference phone.

Don Edwards presided as chair in the absence of Charles Borcharding.

Introductions were individually made.

The minutes of the July 15, 2003 and the October 21, 2003 were distributed and approved.

The Financial report was prepared and distributed by Bob Kleis. Receipts since October 21, 2003 were \$210.00. Expenditures since October 21, 2003 were \$283.88. A balance of \$4715.94 and a \$5000.00 CD maturing in September of 2004 was reported.

The Curator's report was prepared and distributed by Lou Leviticus, and is attached.

The Director's report was prepared and distributed by Bill Splinter, and is attached. Three proposals for building renovation for over one million dollars have been prepared and submitted for funding.

An oral report from Pricilla Grew, Nebraska State Museum Director, was given. She indicated that due to the budget cuts of last year, state funding had been cut 48%, personnel staff were reduced from 44 to 29 positions and one tenured faculty member remains on staff. In spite of these cuts, efforts are ongoing that will hopefully sustain the museum.

Mark Nickolaus, Museum Docent, gave an oral report.

Luis Vasquez introduced the new brochures that have been prepared for the Museum.

Judy Ray, Museum secretary and Newsletter editor indicated that she has been receiving some good stories and questions relative to testing history and/or individuals who were formally associated with the tractor testing program. The open house will be May 1, 2004. The agenda will be as in the past with the Friends meeting from 9:00 a.m. till noon and then open to the public from 1:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m.

Don Edwards, Development projects and membership report. Discussion on how to sell the Farmall H, either by silent auction or other means. Don handed out several examples as to how the silent auction could be facilitated. He also suggested that some consideration be given to advertising the Museum in calendars, appropriate magazines, etc.

Bill Splinter reported that the Museum will be participating in Camp Creek Threshers again this summer. There was some discussion as to participation in the State Fair and Husker Harvest Days. This will be looked into.

John Smith asked for some new brochures for the Farm and Ranch Museum in western Nebraska.

Curt McConnell reported on the restoration of the MM"Z". He also provided a handout with some thought provoking ideas on how to expand the capability of the museum for restoration of tractors and building improvement.

Meeting adjourned 3:40 p.m.