



FLAGSTAFF | TEMPE | TUCSON

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**March 28, 2025**

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Mission: Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history.*

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Arizona Historical Society and to the general public that the **State Board of Directors** of the Arizona Historical Society State Board of Directors will hold a regularly scheduled meeting, open to the public, on **Friday, March 28, 2025, at Noon.**

*Note: This meeting will be held virtually and is recorded on Zoom. Members of the public interested in participating may register in advance of the meeting.  
To register click this link:*

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAod-2opj4qHNEcUWuowtZ2nJl5HaZEciYX>

Meeting ID: 845 0408 5065

The Committee may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for any item listed on the agenda, for any statutorily permitted purpose including obtaining legal advice, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

The Committee reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda and recess for breaks as needed. The Committee will discuss and may take action on any of the following items.

*The Arizona Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the administration of its program and services as prescribed by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter or alternative formats, by contacting AHS Administration at 520-617-1169. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange for the accommodation.*

## Agenda

1. **Call to Order- Kelly Corsette**
2. **Roll Call- Linda Elliott-Nelson**
3. **Minutes** - Discussion and action, if any, to approve the draft minutes of the [January 31, 2025 DRAFT MEETING MINUTES](#).
4. **Call to the Public** – Those wishing to address the Committee must be recognized by the Chair. Each presentation will be limited to 2 minutes and one person per organization. Committee members may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. At the conclusion of public comment, Committee members may: (1) respond to any criticism, (2) ask staff to study a matter, or (3) ask that the matter be placed on a future Committee meeting agenda.
5. **Collections & Archives Committee** - Greg Scott, Rebekah Tabah
  - a. Review of recommended items for deaccession.
  - b. **Action Item** to approve Committee’s recommendations.
6. **Director’s Evaluation Committee Update** – Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson
  - a. **Executive Session** to discuss findings.
7. **Finance Committee Update** - Jim Snitzer, Sebastian Alt, David Nagelski
  - a. Revenue, Expenditures, YTD (See attached CSB February Report)
    - Revenue: \$2,779,786.29 (planned \$4,471,422)
    - Expenditures: \$2,712,528.55 (planned \$4,955,431)
  - b. FY27 budget
    - Finance Committee to begin planning for FY27 budget at its April 2025 meeting. Anticipated timeline:
      - April – Discussion by Finance
      - May – Review & updates by Finance
      - June – Vote to recommend by Finance; advance it to ExComm
      - June – First review by ExComm
      - July – Final review by ExComm, advance it to State Board
      - July – Vote by State Board
      - August – Preparation & submittal to state
      - September/October – Response & updates (as needed)
  - c. Update: Investment Fund update
    - Staff are actively working to incorporate and activate Investment Reserves to

cover additional costs in FY25, especially overruns on necessary Facilities & Maintenance projects.

d. Update: 18-month planned Facilities projects & budgets

- AHC Tempe spring shutdown (HVAC) repairs – Estimated May-June; approx 3-week shutdown.

**8. Outreach Committee Update** – Robert Ballard

a. CHI (re)certification period closed 1/15/25.

- 68 CHIs for 2025 cohort (+9 growth).

b. Call for new members.

**9. Legislative Update** - David Breeckner

a. [SB-1017 \(Pioneer\)](#)

- Bill passed Senate Appropriations with unanimous, bipartisan support on 2/25/25.
- Currently pending a review by Sen. Hoffman and the Senate's Committee on Government; it is uncertain if the bill will advance out of his Committee or what his reasons are for holding it.

b. [SB-1459 \(Yuma Collections\)](#)

- Bill dropped to support a non-Legislative solution with YCHS and City of Yuma. Details of AHS' offer to YCHS/City of Yuma:

- 60-90 day fulfillment window for new loan requests (still under discussion).
- Quarterly meetings with YCHS, City of Yuma to discuss upcoming exhibits & current loans.
- Quarterly guided tours of AHS storage facility in Yuma.
- Willingness to table at (when available) Yuma culture events & showcase items from storage.
- Willingness to explore additional in-Yuma storage for oversized objects, if qualifying space becomes available.
- Waive transport cost of artifacts on loan (excepting oversized) through FY26.
- Willingness to prioritize processing of Yuma collections for the online catalog, if financial/material support provided by Yuma (as per current SOPs).

- First meeting scheduled for 4/7/25.

c. [HB-2339 \(AHS Chapters\)](#)

- Bill passed House following amendments by AHS; transmitted to Senate on 2/27/25.
- Currently pending a review by Sen. Hoffman and the Senate's Committee on

Government; it is uncertain if the bill will advance out of his Committee or what his reasons are for holding it.

- This bill would create Chapter-driven financial funds to support building maintenance and development.

## 10. Federal Updates - David Breeckner

### a. [3/7/25 – Executive Order: Restoring Public Service Loan Forgiveness \(PSLF\)](#)

- This order redefines the parameters for specific non-profits to qualify as PSLF employers.
- Despite recent industry confusion, this does NOT affect AHS and (most) other museums. AHS still qualifies as a PSLF employer.

### b. [3/14/25 – Executive Order: Continuing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy](#)

- This order eliminates the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), barring statutory exceptions to specific duties and functions. No transition or assumption of services by another agency is described.
  - IMLS provided \$24.6m in direct grants to 460 AZ museums and libraries between FY11-16 (last year of available data).
    - Arizona currently has ~350 museums across the state. Most are smaller nonprofits with few paid staff, if any.
    - Grants provide direct operational support and also provide the bulk of funding for developmental improvements (new exhibits, collections care upgrades, etc).
    - AHS has NO current grants with IMLS and has not yet committed resources toward future applications.
  - The Museum Association of Arizona (MAA) is leading statewide communication to its members regarding Federal updates and outreach options.
    - Focus, beyond advocacy against the 3/14/25 EO, surrounds preparation for a statewide reduced-funding environment.
    - Future development is expected to include workshops on grant-writing, education on local/state resources, and donor/sponsor solicitation.
  - AHS has NOT issued a comment in response to the Executive Order. It is exploring what services and solutions it may provide should a reduced-funding environment occur.
    - AHS' CHI program issued \$33,900 in grants in 2024. With additional state support, this could become an expanded resource.
- c. Although there has been speculation, there are as-yet no published major actions, constrictions, or reductions announced for other supporting Federal agencies, such as the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).
- NEA has announced the cancellation of its 2025 Challenge Grants for rural

communities, following the restoration of other Federal grant programs.

**11. Director's Report** - David Breeckner

- a. Mission update: Arizona history & community groups
- b. All regional NHD contests completed – State Contest on 4/12/25!
- c. New staff: Emily Hahn (AHC Educator), Taylor Kyle (AHM Educator)
- d. New temporary exhibit: Proud to Serve (AHM Tucson)
- e. Upcoming events: Arizona History Convention (AHC, 4/4/25) and Clements Symposium (AHC, 4/26/25).

**12. Announcements** and considerations in future board or committee meetings.

**13. Adjournment**

Arizona Historical Society State Board of Directors  
Kelly Corsette, State Board President

DATE: March 24, 2025

State Board Meeting Schedule

Noon and virtual unless announced otherwise

<a href="#">March 28, 2025</a>	<a href="#">September 26, 2025</a>
<a href="#">May 30, 2025</a>	<a href="#">December 5, 2025</a>
<a href="#">July 25, 2025</a>	