



Iowa Genealogical Society

628 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA, 50309-1924
www.iowagenealogy.org
515-276-0287

Full Board Meeting

I. The hybrid meeting was called to order by President Joe Solem at 10:10 a.m. on Saturday, January 24, 2026.

II. PRESENT

a. Joe Solem	President
b. Lois Trinity	1st Vice President
c. Pam Washington	2nd Vice President
d. Jennifer Darling	Secretary
e. Kevin Spire	Treasurer
f. Florence Nicolou	Region 3
g. Judi Pohorsky	Region 4
h. Stephen Bartenhagen	Region 5
i. Jeanine Wichman	Region 6
j. Dennis Allen/Cris Nagle	Region 7
k. Karla Wright	Region 8
l. Linda and Mary Cae Madden	Region 14
m. Sandra Bengsten	Region 16
n. Dennis Davies	Education/Technology

ABSENT

a. Vacant	Region 1
b. Heather Wells	Region 2
c. Sue Terrill	Region 9
d. Saundra Clem Leininger	Region 10
e. Ron Gruber	Region 11
f. Regina Banks	Region 12
g. Vacant	Region 13
h. Vacant	Region 15

III. President Solem declared a quorum present, 13 of 18 members were present at the start of the meeting.

IV. MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the October 18, 2025 annual meeting were approved by general consent. Lois Trinity and Pam Washington were appointed to review today's meeting minutes.

V. PRESIDENT REPORT

- Joe explained the recent security issue discussed by the executive committee. The course of action chosen was to add additional security to the inside front door. The updates provide enhanced security for the safety of all visitors and volunteers.
- Strat plan meeting outcome: The committee went through a SWOT analysis, and looked into further improvements to the building; had an architect review the ideas and provide a plan (no cost to IGS). For now, we are not proceeding with any physical enhancements.

Currently someone is renting the garage for storage; that will be up in June. The old classroom has been turned into a cataloging room. We will add a new door into the library from the old classroom so they will not use the door into the hall except for emergencies. The committee will now meet twice a year to re-evaluate. The next meeting is June 26, 2026.

- In the last year, we have installed 3 new furnace units; 2 furnaces went bad in library area. \$25,000 to update.
- Tech Update: Installed 6 new computers for the use of library patrons. Next step is to look at the servers we are using.
- Ramp installed from Conf center to library. We are also looking into a solution for the single step into the Conference Center from the parking lot.

VI. 1ST VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

— Submitted as a written report, attached at the end of these minutes.

VII. 2ND VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

- IGS is running a New Member campaign with the goal of reaching 100 new members. New members can join for \$17.76 (individual) or \$25 for a family.
- Ricki King presenting in February; Vibrant will provide coffee/cookies for the event.
- PBS event workshops will again be in February and March this year.
- The jewelry sale is May 13-16.
- The marketing committee is calling the expired member list the month following their expiration.
- Pam is looking into promotional items for IGS for 2026. She met with a vendor who can provide promotional items on demand so IGS does not make any investment of product. All transactions and shipping runs through the vendor. IGS can determine if they want to simply pass on the cost to the buyer or add additional money to the price to make some profit. The goal for this effort is strictly promotion.
- Pam is looking into new logo designs for IGS and would use the new logo on promotional items available for sale to the public. All purchases are created on demand with no up-front investment from IGS.

VIII. TREASURER REPORT

Checking \$29,300

Savings \$74,700

Mortgage total \$181,000

IGS received a letter about a forthcoming estate donation. Kevin completed the required paperwork.

IX. REGION REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

See all reports submitted online at:

<https://iowagenealogy.us/igs2/home/board-of-directors/>

Joe asked Dennis Allen and Cris Nagle (region 7) to temporarily serve as the representative on the Executive Committee. They plan to visit all the region reps across the state in the next 2 to 3 months to catch up one on one with.

Joe and Pam worked on a job description for the representatives. Important to know what is going on in the regions and vice versa. Chapters are identified on the IGS website under the “About Us” tab. There is an opportunity to link to information about each of the chapters if they wish to provide that information to Pam.

Karla Wright (region 8) shared information about programs scheduled for the Ankeny Chapter.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted by
Jennifer Darling, Secretary