

Southwest District Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2024

Call to Order: A meeting of the Southwest District of the Missouri Federation of Square 'N Round Dance was called to order by President Lee Gavitt at 11:04 a.m. on November 9, 2024 at Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library in Springfield, Missouri.

Invocation: Given by Gene Holtgrewe.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Lee Gavitt; recited by all attendees.

Roll Call: Taken by sign-in sheets and reported by Karen Sullivan, Secretary. There were 5 Executive Committee members present along with Presidents and Delegates from 6 clubs including: Three from Kountry Kuzins, 3 from Mo-Kan Squares, 2 from Trail Blazers, 2 from Twirl-A-Rounds, 1 from Twirling Funtimers, and 2 from Western Twirlers. A quorum was achieved to hold the meeting, and for voting on any Constitution/By-Laws changes. Five guests signed in.

Minutes: Minutes of the August 10, 2024 meeting minutes had been distributed by Karen Sullivan, Secretary, to Board members within 2 weeks following that meeting via e-mail and hard copies. One correction was noted. A motion was made and seconded to accept minutes as corrected. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Reported by Sharon Glenn, Treasurer. Copies of the financial report for the period of August 10, 2024 through November 9, 2024 were distributed. Beginning balance was \$2,130.05 with an ending balance of \$6,273.26. Income included 2025 club dues from the 9 District clubs of \$125.00, 3 months' interest of \$0.65, and the inclusion of the Certificate of Deposit of \$4,000.00 plus its interest of \$165.36, all totaling \$4,291.01. Disbursements covered payment to the District Secretary for printing supplies of \$42.80, to the Missouri Federation for 8 club dues of \$80.00, and a gift certificate for the State dance of \$25.00 for an amount totaling \$147.80. The Treasurer's Report was approved for audit.

Federation Meeting Report: Given by Pam Gavitt. The October meeting of the Missouri State Federation of Square 'N Round Dance Inc. was held October 20, 2024, in Sedalia, Missouri following the 2024 State Dance and DOIN's Dance. State meeting dates for 2025 were set forth as Northwest District will host on January 19; Northeast will host on April 13; Southwest and Central will host on July 13 or July 27; and Southeast will host on October 12. NE District will host a New Year's Eve dance in Chillicothe with Kenny Bailey, Leroy Conrad and Don Boyer calling. March 15, 2025 will be their Hog Roast in Brookfield, and the annual campout will be July 18-19-20 at the Macon Fairgrounds with a Paradise Hawaii Style theme. St. Louis District will hold their Jamboree dance on May 3, 2025. Central District clubs are each busy with lessons at this time. NW District will hold their Blast dance on January 4, 2025, and a District Dance on July 26, 2025. SE District is working on the 2025 State Festival to be held in Cape Girardeau. SW District will host a DOIN's Dance on February 15, 2025 in Mt. Vernon as well as their District dance on May 17, also in Mt. Vernon. The SW District is also in the planning stages for the 2026 State Festival.

A preliminary report of the 2024 State Festival was given. 299 dancers were in attendance. \$700 from the raffle, \$925 from the silent auction, \$575 from the resale shop, \$360 from the 50/50 and \$600 from the Taco Bar netted the Festival a profit for the dance.

Various clubs throughout the state are currently holding lessons with reports of between 4 and "a lot" of students being reported.

New State Federation officers are Dave Schafer, President; Cathy Hall, 1st Vice President; Art Kruze, 2nd Vice President; Liz Brooks, Secretary; and Rosa Davis, Treasurer. Liz is asking for all Missouri clubs to send her their list of officers so she may keep them updated on the Federation meetings.

Unfinished Business:

Certificate of Deposit update: Lee Gavitt reported that the CD matured in October and was closed out at \$4,165.36, making \$165.36 in interest for the year versus the checking account making \$2.00 to \$3.00 a year. A new CD will be purchased in the correct EIN and name of the Southwest District once new District officers are in place after today's meeting in order to sign the CD. Discussion followed regarding on who signs the CD and the address Bank notifications are sent to.

Officer Nominations: Committee Chairman Bill Thomas took the floor to give his list of possible candidates he had spoken with for District offices. Bill announced that the current President(s) and Vice-President are willing to continue as officers for 2025. He reported Linda Carlson and Catherine McLemore had each voiced their desire to hold the office of Treasurer, and Vicki Clithero had responded to the open position of Secretary. Lee asked if there were any other nominations from the floor, of which none were given. Voting was done by written ballot.

New Business:

Future Hall Rentals: Discussion was held that the 2025 DOIN's Dance in Mt. Vernon is being held on Saturday, February 15, 2025 as an evening dance, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., so as not to conflict with the Super Bowl, club dances, etc. The District meeting is scheduled at 3:00 p.m. that day also in Mt. Vernon at The Marc. Lee asks that clubs discuss future scheduling options with their members and report back at the February meeting regarding future dates of the DOIN's Dance.

Constitution/By-Laws updates: Lee Gavitt distributed and read a proposed change to the Constitution, Section 4, in connection with the approved amount the Treasurer may issue routine checks for. Section 4 currently reads as: “. . . The Treasurer shall be authorized to issue the following checks without action by the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors: expenses for the Secretary, and expenses by other persons not to exceed \$75.00.” The proposed addition is to add the following: “The Executive Committee shall have the authority to approve routine expenditures not to exceed \$500. Any expenditures exceeding \$500 will require the additional approval of the Board of Directors.” Dialogue was held concluding with a motion made to accept the additional change and was seconded. Motion passed, and is tabled for final vote at the February meeting.

Open Discussions: It was brought to the Board of Directors' attention that a small sound system, such a karaoke system, would be beneficial at the District meetings for all to hear. Mo-Kan President Deborah Hyland did a quick search and found several used systems for \$20 to \$50 available on FB Marketplace. Lee volunteered to look into the possibility of a used sound system the District could purchase.

President Lee Gavitt asked that the club Presidents and Delegates take the following request back to the club members: DO MORE POSITIVE SPEAKING at the square dances. He reported he has heard a lot of negative comments during the last year with regards to “I don't like their floor, their acoustics, that caller, that person in that square....” You are in this activity to dance and have fun, please do so.

Elections: After careful tallying by Vice President Stan Plummer, the following announcement was made: Southwest District officers for 2025 are Lee and Pam Gavitt, Presidents; Stan Plummer, Vice President; Vicki Clithero, Secretary; and Linda Carlson, Treasurer.

Announcements and Upcoming Dances:

- It was announced that the Pioneer's have moved their dances to the Ramada Inn and have 1 student taking lessons.
- Kountry Kuzins have 'a lot' of students in lessons and are in great need of "Angels" to help.
- Mo-Kan Squares currently have 8 young students in lessons with 3 weeks left to graduation.
- Western Twirlers also have 8 students taking lessons. DOIN's Advertising Manager Crystle Swager reminded attendees that a free DOIN's issue is available for graduates upon request to the DOIN's staff.

Kountry Kuzins will host a Christmas Dance on December 14th with Monty Hackler calling.

Mo-Kan Squares and Western Twirlers will be hosting a New Year's Eve Dance together in Nevada this year.

2026 State Dance Co-Chairpersons, Gaylynn Crosby and Catherine McLemore, announced that a planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 5, 2025, for all dancers who are interested in helping with the 2026 State Dance. Contact Gaylynn or Catherine for the exact time and place.

The SW District is scheduled to host the Missouri State Federation Meeting in July, 2025.

With no further announcements or discussions, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Sullivan
Secretary

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, February 15, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at The Marc in Mt. Vernon, Missouri, prior to the DOIN's Dance that evening.