



(Approved as corrected July 14, 2024)

MISSOURI FEDERATION OF SQUARE 'N ROUND DANCE CLUBS, INC.

Minutes of April 21, 2024

President Merle Hall called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. at the Brees Room in Macon, Missouri.

Invocation: Merle Hall gave the invocation

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Lead by Merle Hall

Roll Call: Liz Rooks. Full Quorum achieved. (4 Executive Board; 10 District Directors; 3 Staff/Past Presidents). Plus two additional staff members and two additional past presidents.

Thank you to Host District and Club: President Hall thanked the Beaux & Belles of the Northeast District for hosting our meeting.

Approval of January Minutes: President Hall asked for corrections or additions to the January 14, 2024 minutes.

Edythe Weber moved to accept the minutes as corrected; motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Rosa Davis reported a beginning checking balance as of January 1, 2024 of \$12,005.98, Revenue of \$10,971.11, Expenses of \$4,295.32, and \$10,000 was transferred to a CD. The ending checking account balance as of March 31, 2024 is \$8,681.77. Total CDs including interest amounted to \$41,258.35 for Total Funds on hand of \$49,940.12. The Treasurer's report will be submitted for audit.

Academy Bank CD ending in 5009 for 15 months was renewed at 5.05%.

Academy Bank CD ending in 3255 for 15 months had an additional \$10,000 at 5.05%.

Membership and Club Longevity: Rosa Davis reported we currently have 41 clubs.

There are no Longevity awards to be awarded for next quarter.

Correspondence: Liz Rooks reporting. Get Well or Thinking of You cards were signed for Larry Anslinger and John Stuart.

Boundaries and Relations: Dave Byers reporting: No report

Constitution and Bylaws: Cathy Hall: No report

Publications: Chris Shoemaker reporting: No report

DOIN'S Editor: Edythe Weber reporting. Thank you to the dancers who write the articles for your clubs for each issue. Your job is very important to getting the word out about your club dances. And thanks for being on time! One small thing - in the coming year, I am going to pay closer attention to the word count – 150-200 words. No more.

If there are questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or anyone on the Doin's staff.

We got our first issue out without Dave for April-June without too much trouble. Any problems were on the printer end, not ours. I was notified of a couple errors, but they will be fixed for the next issue.

DOIN'S Circulation: Penny Byers reporting. Subscriptions for the DOIN'S this period (April – June) were 209, exchange copies 1, and 15 for staff, historian and post office for a total mailing of 219. We had 78 electronic subscriptions, 49 renewals 9 new subscriptions and 6 copies went to new students. We will be sending out 22 postcards to subscribers whose subscriptions will expire with the April - June issue.

Financial report: The balance brought forward was \$100 with income from personal subscriptions of \$780.00, club subscriptions \$60.00 and donation from the SW District Doins' Dance of \$278.00 for total income of \$1,118.00. Postage expense amounted to \$53.00. A check for \$1,065.00 was given to the Federation. The ending balance is \$100.00.

DOIN's Advertising: Crystle Swager reporting. We had a balance brought forward of \$100.00. We took in revenue from DOIN'S ads and caller/cuer listings of \$529.00 and expenses were zero (0.00). A check was given today to the Federation for \$529.00; leaving a balance of \$100.00.

Promotions: Fred & Carolyn Goucher reporting via written report. The applications were received, and 5 clubs awarded –

- Western Twirlers - SW District received a badge & the 2023 dangle.
- Beaux & Belles & Peppy Promenaders - NE District
- Cross Trailers Square Dance Club - NW District
- Puxico Country Squares - SE District received dangles for 2023

Fred and I are not able to come to this meeting so we mailed the dangles to the clubs. Please let us know if they were not received.

Member Services Committee: Fred & Carolyn Goucher: No report.

State Festival Site Screening: Dave Shafer: No report.

Insurance Coordinator: Edythe Weber reporting. 877 dancers are insured through Missouri Federation and 157 dancers are insured through other federations for a total of 1,034 Missouri dancers in 41 clubs; down about 300 from this time last year.

- *Thank you to the club insurance people who continue to enroll dancers for your club. Thanks for your hard work. Getting clubs enrolled in a timely manner ensures you get your certificates back in a timely manner.*
- The 2024 Insurance premium is \$5.50 per dancer. This premium covers members that join your club that do not have insurance anywhere else. There is no pro-rating insurance premiums.
- Do not make checks out to “Edythe Weber”, make them out to “Missouri Insurance”.
- Important: If you need to communicate with me about insurance, PLEASE use the Missouri Federation Insurance email at moinsurance@kc.rr.com . Do not send insurance info or email questions to the Doin’s email address. It just delays communication.
- Please contact me first to get answers about insurance before going around me to Elizabeth Sanders, the USDA coordinator. If I don’t know the answer, I will contact her. 95% of the time it’s a quick answer.
- You should never delete a dancer from your roster after initial enrollment, even if they move or pass away.
- Remember to send me a roster of lesson names. There is no charge until they graduate.
- If you need additional information or have questions, please contact me. If I do not know the answer, I know who to contact to get it.

Financial Report: Beginning balance as of January 1, 2024, is \$199.41; total income of \$308.00 and expenses of \$286.20 leaves an ending balance on March 31, 2024 of \$221.21.

Travel Missouri: Debbie Moffitt reporting. I ordered 30 Travel Missouri Bars from D&H Plastics for a cost of 125.00.

I sent 20 Travel Missouri Bars to Crystal Swager. She had ordered 21, but one of the dancers already had a bar so she donated the 8.00 overpayment to the Travel Missouri fund.

I paid 8.30 to the US PO to ship the Travel Missouri Bar

Financial Report: Beginning balance January 1, 2024 of \$200.68 and expenses of \$133.30 leaving an ending balance on March 31, 2024 of \$67.38.

Blue Bird Coordinator: Penny Byers reporting: I am out of kits and working on getting more supplies to make more kits.

Balance on hand January 1, 2023 \$20.00; income \$60.00; no expenses; ending balance on March 31, 2024 \$80.00.

Webmaster: Dan Wheeler reporting: I have added code to all the web pages that have schedules on them that force the pages to "Refresh" after they have been open for 10 minutes. So, if you leave one of those page open for over 10 minutes, and if you happen to be watching it during the 10 minute mark, you will see a definite "Blink" when the page refreshes.

I recently ran across a page layout in MS Word that would not open properly in Open Office. Since MS Office is now available by subscription only (monthly or yearly payments), a lot of people are switching from MS Office to Open Office (It's a free download). So, a file that opens in MS Office only is not a good idea.

The Missouri Federation web site set a new record for March. It was the first month that the website had over 2000 hits.

All the calendar pages have been written for 2025 & 2026 for the Missouri Federation & St. Louis Metro websites. This may not sound like much, but that is a total of 96 web pages.

Edythe mentioned that there is a link to the ARTS Report Health Benefits video's on the Missouri Federation website home page. Another link that has been there is a link to the USDA monthly Webinars. These webinars have a different topic every month. This month's webinar was yesterday and the guests were the national convention's General Chairmen. I haven't been sent the topic & guests for the May webinar, but I will post it on the home page when I get it.

Historian: Dan Wheeler reporting: No report

License Plate: Catherine McLemore reporting via e-mail: I received one new request for a two-year license plate with a \$50.00 donation.

This brings my checking account balance to \$150.00.

I sent my 2023 records to Carol Hershey for audit

USDA: Edythe Weber reporting: The USDA Annual Board of Directors meeting will be held Wednesday, June 26 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin during the National Square Dance Convention. These meetings are open to anyone to attend, so if you come early and have nothing to do on Wednesday afternoon, please join us.

And if you know of a dancer that is marking their 100th birthday, please check out the Centennial Award. Get them recognized by USDA.

ARTS: Edythe Weber reporting: Nothing new.

Those short videos made by doctors on the benefits of square dancing are up online and available to use. https://www.arts-dance.org/Promotion_Videos.php.

Dan has a link on the Missouri Federation home page. Just click and watch. They are well done and useful to recruit new dancers; they are FREE.

The ARTS annual meeting will be held Sunday, June 30 in Milwaukee following the Nationals. These meetings are open to anyone, so if you hang out Sunday morning, come join us.

District Presidents' Report: Penny Byers reporting:

- Southeast District: Dancing once a month. The Little Squares (Little Dancers) have built a float so have been participating in parades and other events. Will be hosting the July state meeting on July 14 with their district dance on the 13th; both events will take place in Puxico. Working on the 2025 State Festival.
- St. Louis District: May 4 is their district dance with Mike Hogan (squares) and Linda Robinson (rounds). Two clubs have had classes graduate. Work on the 2024 festival continues.
- Northwest District: Have their 2023 Festival notebook ready to pass on. B-n-R Squares will be starting lessons in May. District Dance is August 10 at Graceway Church. "Blast" Dance is August 31; also at Graceway Church.
- Southwest District: May 18 is their district dance in Mt. Vernon with a luau theme; includes dinner and dance. Two clubs are doing lessons.
- Northeast District: Lessons are over; however the Macon & Moberly clubs have been doing workshops together. June 1 Peppy Promenaders & Tanglefoot Squares are hosting Dan Preedy, national caller, for afternoon and evening dance sessions. Beaux & Belles Annual Campout and Dance is July 19 & 20 in Macon.

Have been noticing a number of new faces when visiting other club dances; this is good.

Youth and Children's: Connie Graham reporting: No report

Mo Fed Scholarship: Bob & Shirley Turner reporting via e-mail: A recipient has been selected and will be announced this summer.

2024 State Festival: Cathy Hall reporting: Oct. 18 & 19 in Sedalia; plans are coming along. T-shirts and polo shirts are available along with some small children's shirts and one pair of earrings. There has been a change in cuers to Mary & Bob Townsend-Manning. Informational packets for each club were given to the District Presidents to distribute to their clubs ASAP. Packets include information that needs to be turned in by a certain time (i.e. Caller-Cuer Hall of Fame, Square Dancer of the Year, Caller-Cuer registration, etc.). A Win/Win Cash Raffle is planned. Tickets sell for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The club keeps 2.50 for every 5 tickets sold; the other \$2.50 goes to the Federation. The club selling the most tickets receives \$300.00, second place receives \$150.00 and third place \$50.00. About 4,000 tickets are in circulation. Most of the committee spots have been filled. Dave Byers will be handling the sounding of the halls. Still looking for someone to help with a "snack" table to sell snacks and ice cream.

2025 State Festival: Sharon Crisel reporting: Kevin and Nanie Hawkins are Festival Chairmen. The Festival will be October 10-12, 2025 at the Osage Centre in Cape Girardeau Jason Raleigh is the featured caller and Natalie Sprosty featured cuer. Have decided on a design for the shirts; the color still needs to be decided. Area motels have been contacted; lots of housing opportunities are available.

Special Funds Committee: Art Kruse: No report

Ballots for selecting members of the Hall of Fame Caller-Cuer for the year were distributed prior to a break; one vote per couple. Dave and Penny Byers are the chairmen of this Committee.

Unfinished Business:

President Hall presented information Tony Ahart had found regarding the purchase of two wireless microphones to be used during state meetings. Several good options are available. Sharon Crisel made the motion to purchase two wireless microphones; motion seconded and motion was approved. Dave Shafter made the motion to purchase the two microphones that were available on Amazon; motion seconded and approved.

New Business:

Ballots for selecting the Caller-Cuer Hall of Fame Committee were marked and collected to be counted.

President Hall shared that a question had been asked about the Federation having a Facebook presence. The pros and cons of this were discussed. Dave Shafer made the motion to establish a Facebook Committee to research and establish guidelines for use of the Facebook page; motion seconded and carried. Carol Hershey volunteered to head that up.

Audit Committee Report: The Audit Committee was made up of Carol Hershey, Chairman; Adyline and Steve Christensen; and Karen and David Israel. The committee met March 28th and reviewed the books of: The State Treasurer, State Festival, DOIN'S Circulation, DOIN'S Advertising, Insurance Coordinator.

All expenses and income were examined and were found to be correct. Bank balances were checked against the report to the Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs and found to be true and correct. No errors were found, or actions needed.

Some Committees need seed money to complete their assigned program and do not have bank accounts because the money amount is too small. The following recommendations are being made for funds spent in the name of the Missouri Federation of Square n' Round Dance Clubs.

All Committees acting on behalf of the Missouri Federation of Square n' Round Dance Clubs that need seed monies for the operation of their committee, and do not have bank accounts, will maintain a ledger showing the income and expenses acquired by said committee showing a balance. Invoices and receipts will be kept as back-up for their ledger. Those Committees having bank accounts will continue as they have in the past. A list of Committees holding monies will be given to the Audit Committee each year by the State Treasurers, as the Committees holding monies may change.

It is understood by this committee that some committees have such a small amount of money that it is ill advised to try to open a bank account, but because it is money from the Federation, a nonprofit organization, it is felt that it is the responsibility of the group to be able to account for monies spent.

It was also noted by the committee that the current bank account balance is quite large. It was considered by the committee that perhaps a portion of the amount could be placed in a Money Market or short term CDs, which would be liquid money in case of a need of money for operation but would also receive a higher interest rate than the bank account.

Edythe Weber and Crystle Swager presented a Shining Star award to Dave Shafer for his 24 years of service as the Doin's Advertising Manager.

Dave Byers, chairman of the Caller-Cuer Hall of Committee announced the results of the voting for members to the committee: Dave Shafer, Catherine McLemore, Larry & Sharon Crisel, and Art and Wanda Kruse.

President Hall asked for a motion to destroy the ballots: Edythe Weber made the motion to destroy the ballots; motion seconded and carried.

President Hall asked for volunteers to be Missouri's delegates to the USDA meeting to be held during the National Festival. Dave & Penny Byers volunteered. Cathy Hall contacted Steve Ocskasy from the St. Louis area to see if would be interested in doing this; she will report back. Later that day via e-mail Cathy Hall reported Steve had accepted the position as one of our delegates.

President Hall asked for a volunteer or volunteers to take over setting up a display for the Show Case of Ideas at the national convention. Dave & Penny Byers volunteered to do that.

Edythe Weber made a motion to reimburse Dave & Penny the \$50 registration fee for the table in the Show Case of Ideas; motion seconded and carried.

Dave Shafer discussed the Parade of States that is held during the national convention. Information for this can be found in the national e-magazine.

Sharon Crise I made the motion for the Southeast District to receive their \$2,500 start-up money for the 2025 State Festival; motion seconded and carried.

Gaylynn Crosby shared a proposal for sending free samples of Doin's electronically as a way to hopefully increase subscriptions for the printed version of the Doin's at a rate equal to the actual cost of printing the magazine. This will be taken under advisement to be discussed at a future meeting.

Cathy Hall presented a proposal for raising the Advertising Rates in the 2024 Festival program book:

Ad Size	2023 Rate	2024 Proposed Rate
Full Page	\$30.00	\$40.00
Half Page	\$15.00	\$25.00
Quarter Page	\$ 8.00	\$15.00

Dave Byers made the motion to raise the rates to these proposed levels; motion seconded and passed.

President Hall asked for a volunteer for the Historian's position as Dan Wheeler would like to pass that on.

Debbie Moffitt, Travel Missouri Chairman, discussed there being a vacant space on the Travel Missouri Badge due to the West Central District is currently inactive.

After discussion, Crystle Swager made the motion to have a dangle for either the Doin's Dance following the State Festival or the Doin's Dance hosted by the Southwest District; motion seconded and carried.

The next state board meeting will be July 14 in Puxico, Missouri. Southeast District will host. Their district dance will be on Saturday night, July 13.

Liz Rooks asked if it was necessary to list the Calendar of Events at the end the minutes following the motion to adjourn. It was the consensus of the group that did not need to happen but folks will still be welcome to announce upcoming events for everyone's benefit.

A motion was made by Larry Crisel to adjourn; motion was seconded and carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Rooks
Secretary