



Live Lively – Square Dance!

The Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs
www.SquareDanceMissouri.com

(Subject to Board approval)

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

Minutes of January 11, 2026

President Dave Shafer called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. at Memorial Post 156 in Kirkwood, MO.

Invocation: Dave Byers

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: President Shafer

Roll Call: Liz Rooks. Full Quorum achieved. (5 Executive Board; 9 District Directors; 5 Staff/Past Presidents).

Guests present: Dave Fares, Shirley Winans, and Sherry Meeker.

Thank you to Host District and Club: President Shafer thanked the Missouri Promenaders of the St. Louis District for hosting the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: President Shafer asked for corrections or additions to the October 12, 2025 minutes.

Dave Byers moved to accept the minutes as corrected; motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Rosa Davis reported a beginning checking balance as of October 1, 2025 of \$7,689.51. Revenue of \$10,288.80 and Expenses of \$7,124.90. The ending checking account balance as of December 31, 2025 \$10,853.41. Total CDs amounted to \$41,290.21 for Total Funds on hand of \$52,143.62. The Treasurer's report will be submitted for audit.

One CD at OMB matured and was renewed for 7 months at 4.18%. Another CD at OMB matured and was redeemed and moved to Academy for 4.10%. In both cases, the interest was deposited in our checking account.

Membership and Club Longevity: Rosa Davis reported we lost Romney's Stars of Eldon but gained Pistols N Petticoats (NW) District so we still have 39 clubs. 34 of those qualified for the insurance rebate per her roster and Longevity Record.

41 Longevity: Pistols N Petticoats are new to our Federation but have been in existence
42 since 1968 so they will be receiving a 55 year badge. Savannah Sashayers (NW
43 District) have been a club since January 1980 but have never received a badge due to a
44 clerical error; they are receiving a badge for 45 years. Maysville Wranglers (NW
45 District) will celebrate their 45-year anniversary in March. Tanglefoot Squares will
46 receive a badge for 50 years and it will be mailed to them.

47
48 **Correspondence:** Liz Rooks reporting. No cards have been sent since the last
49 meeting and no correspondence has been received. No one had anyone they felt we
50 needed to send a card.

51
52 **Boundaries and Relations:** Dave Byers reporting: No report.

53
54 **Constitution and Bylaws:** Cathy Hall reporting: Presented a proposed change to the
55 Federation's Standing Rules Article X1 Appointive Standing Committees, Section H
56 Member Services Committee, subparagraph 5:

57
58 Subparagraph 4: Clubs through their respective districts will submit requests for
59 reimbursement to the Member Services Committee as soon as possible after the
60 expense(s) are incurred.

61
62 Currently states in subparagraph 5:

63 To qualify for the above reimbursement, the club must have one square at the October
64 Missouri State Festival.

65
66 Requested change to subparagraph 5:

67 To qualify for the above reimbursement, the club must be a current dues paying
68 member of the Missouri Federation of Square N' Round Dance Clubs and have 10 or
69 more members in their club.

70
71 Rationale: This change was discussed following the October 2025 Board meeting. Some clubs
72 are lucky to get one square of dancers at their dance, much less get all those dancers to attend
73 the State Festival. These are the clubs that need the financial assistance from the Member
74 Services Committee to offset the cost incurred in promoting square dancing. The change
75 recognizes that only dues paying clubs with 10 or more members are eligible for this financial
76 assistance.

77
78 **Publications:** Publications Chairman's position is open.

79
80 **DOIN'S Editor:** Edythe Weber reporting: Edythe gave a big Thank You to the article
81 writers who do such a fine job of keeping within the word count and sending in on time
82 or early. Please pay attention to the word count.

83
84 Once again, reminded the reporters to PLEASE put the CLUB NAME FIRST in the sub-
85 ject line of your e-mails. Put anything else you want to include AFTER the club names
86 (example: Ramblers: October-December article; NOT Doin's October-December
87 Ramblers).

88
89 DO NOT send PDF formatted documents.

90
91 The deadline is February 15 for the April-May-June 2026 issue of the Doin's.

92
93 If there are questions, please do not hesitate to contact Edythe or anyone on the Doin's
94 staff.

95
96 **DOIN'S Circulation:** Penny Byers reporting. Subscriptions for the DOIN'S for January-
97 March 2026 are 198, exchange copies 1, and 15 for staff, historian and post office for a
98 total mailing of 214. We had 93 electronic subscriptions, 67 renewals 6 new
99 subscriptions and 55 copies went to new students in 6 clubs. We will be sending out 27
100 postcards to subscribers whose subscriptions expired with the January-March issue.

101
102 Doin's Dance numbers: A total of 131 attended (118 dancers and 13 callers). 20
103 subscription renewals and 2 new subscriptions, and 13 puzzle books were sold.
104 Donations at the dance were \$625.00

105
106 Financial report: The balance brought forward was \$100 with a total income of
107 \$2,040.00 was received from subscriptions (during the State Festival and Doin's Dance,
108 donations for the Doin's Dance, and sale of puzzle books. The only expense for this
109 period was the change taken out for use at the State Festival of \$50.00. A check for
110 \$1,990.00 was given to the Federation. The ending balance as of December 31, 2025
111 was \$100.00.

112
113 **DOIN's Advertising:** Crystle Swager reporting. We had a balance brought forward of
114 \$100.00. We took in revenue from DOIN'S ads and caller/cuer listings of \$1,307.00 and
115 there were no expenses totaled. A check was given to the Federation for \$1,307.00;
116 leaving a balance of \$100.00.

117
118 **Promotions:** Fred & Carolyn Goucher: Deadline for your club Let's Toot Our Horn
119 applications is Feb 1. So far, we have received information from MoKan Squares and Beaux &
120 Belles

121
122 **Member Services Committee:** Fred & Carolyn Goucher: 2 sets of people have
123 contacted us wanting to start new clubs. One is Joann Gipson wanting to start their old club
124 (Ozark Whirlers) back up. Asking for help financially.

125
126 The other is the Western Twirlers in Joplin saying there is interest in Carthage to start a new
127 club. They need to know how to get one started.

128
129 Asked for a discussion regarding reimbursement for districts wanting to start a new club or an
130 old club wanting to reactivate as these options are not covered in the Standing Rules.

131
132 Travelers Square Dance club has submitted their information for partial lesson reimbursement.

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134 **State Festival Site Screening:** Cathy Hall: No report.

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Insurance Coordinator: Edythe Weber reporting. 856 dancers are insured through the Missouri Federation and 458 dancers are insured through other federations for a total of 984 Missouri dancers in 39 clubs.

Thanked the club insurance people who continue to enroll dancers for their club and continued hard work.

- The 2026 Insurance premium is \$6.50 per dancer; this premium covers members that join your club and do not have insurance anywhere else. There is no pro-rating of 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.

- **DO NOT** delete a dancer from your roster after initial enrollment, even if they move or pass away. You can, however, delete a dancer’s name if you need to make a spelling correction. You are not changing the number of members in the club when doing that. Please send me an email directly to let me know you did that.

- Remember to send me a roster of lesson names. There is no charge until they graduate.

- Don’t forget to send me the new roster and appropriate funds when you add new members after initial enrollment, like after lessons or people who joined the club late.

- 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 July 1, 2025, \$194.41; total income of \$5,366.50 and expenses of \$5,176.60 leaves an ending balance on December 31, 2025, of \$384.31. Net income for 2025 is \$162.40.

Blue Bird Coordinator: Crystle Swager reporting: Current account balance is \$68.64. One set of bluebirds was sold at the state festival.

180 **Webmaster:** Dan Wheeler reporting: The good part is that I have been overwhelmed with
181 updates for the Missouri Federation website. The bad part is I have had difficulty
182 keeping up. I do appreciate all the schedules, flyers, and pictures.

183
184 I was told recently that some of you were having trouble sharing files from MS Word as
185 a result of the fact that it is not an “on line” subscription type program. If you are having
186 problems with any of the MS Office programs, I would recommend that you consider
187 using one of the open source free office programs.

188
189 Open Office & Libre Office are both excellent free programs. Libre Office is the newer
190 one and is rated very high. I have used the word processors and the spread sheets in
191 both; they will both open and save MS Office files. They will both export pdf (adobe
192 acrobat) files. I haven’t used the database in either.

193
194 **Historian:** Talked to Edythe Weber about the files he has and will talk with the Missouri
195 State Historical Society to see if they will take any of these documents.

196
197 **License Plate:** Catherine McLemore reporting: No activity since the October meeting.
198 Encouraged everyone to consider having a personalized license plate.

199
200 **USDA:** Edythe Weber reporting: The winter meeting will be in Knoxville, Tennessee,
201 January 16-17, 2026.

202
203 Information and forms for the new “Youth Dancing Grant” is available at the USDA web
204 address: www.committee.usda.org. This is not the USDA college grant, it is a new
205 grant to provide funds to help with increasing the numbers of youth dancers.

206
207 Please do not forget the USDA college scholarship for \$2,500. Application deadline is
208 February 1, 2026.

209
210 Also, the Centennial Award for those dancers who have reached their 100th birthday.

211
212 All forms can be found on the website: usda.org.

213
214 **ARTS:** Edythe Weber reporting: Nothing to report at this time.

215
216 **District Presidents’ Report:** Cathy Hall reporting: All six districts represented at the
217 meeting.

218 Future meeting hosts:

219 April 19 – Northeast district; district dance April 18
220 July 26 – Northwest district; district dance July 25
221 October 25 – Southwest district at the State Festival

222 District reports:

223 Northeast

224 Club lessons are all completed; graduates included an 8 and 9-year old who are
225 doing well

226 Brookfield, March 21 - Western Roundup dance

227 Moberly, March 14 – Jason Raleigh calling
228 Peppy Promenaders 50th Anniversary dance – November 29 with Curt Braffet in
229 Chillicothe

230 Northwest

231 Hosting a Blast workshop on Feb 21 AM=Mainstream, PM=Plus
232 Distributed printed District Dance calendar to all dancers to inform of dances

233 Southeast

234 Osage Center liked the square dancing so much that they are hosting their own
235 lessons starting in January for 6 weeks
236 Schools with FFA or Home Schoolers are picking up Square Dancing

237 Southwest

238 MO Kan graduated 17, Twirlers had 6 grads
239 District dance in May
240 Doin's dance – Feb 21 in Joplin. Afternoon dance, dinner, evening dance

241 Central

242 Trying to get Ozark Whirlers club restarted; Classes started Jan 14 by Dave
243 Shafer with 8 dancers
244 Dancing at the Senior Center in Eldon instead of their old building
245 Rolla finished lessons and are starting Plus lessons

246 St. Louis

247 District Dance – May 2 All Day “Spring Fling”. Curt Braffet calling, Cathy Fisher
248 cueing
249 Classes wrapping up with several New Dancer Dances

250
251 **Youth and Children's:** President Shafer reporting: Merle & Madeline Hall, Rose
252 Mogerman and President Shafer attended the MOSHAPE (Missouri Society of Health
253 and Physical Educators) convention at the Lodge of the Four Seasons in Lake Ozarks
254 on November 11, 2025. The purpose was to teach educators what square dancing is
255 and how it can impact the physical education of students. There were 20 teachers who
256 attended the one hour program. Merle did a fantastic job of teaching and conveying
257 teaching skills. The Missouri Square Dance Curriculum on a flash drive and many
258 paper handouts from USDA and our Federation were provided to each of the
259 attendees. We received rave reviews and may be asked to return next year.

260
261 **Mo Fed Scholarship:** Robert Turner reporting via President Shafer: The scholarship
262 application is available on the Federation website; application deadline is March 1,
263 2026.

264
265 **2025 State Festival:** Nanie Hawkins reporting: \$5,280 was returned to the Missouri
266 Federation. Attendance: 167 dancers, 44 callers and partners, 6 youth, and 35 visitors.

267
268 70 dancers attended the Thursday night benefit dance.

269
270 The Osage Center is hosting 6 weeks of square dance classes.

271

272 **Financial Analysis Ad hoc Committee: Merle** Hall reporting: It appears, at this point,
273 social media advertising will be the more advantageous way of promoting square
274 dancing. Market 360 through Facebook has a program that would let us market to a
275 specific age group in specific zip code areas for a specified amount of time. It was
276 recommended we start with a focus on 40 to 60 year-olds in 3 or 4 zip code areas
277 during the evening time frame. The estimated cost of this would be \$15,000 for a six
278 month period.

279

280 David Israel has contact with an individual that builds internet advertising tools. He is
281 interested in talking with us on the areas, etc. we want to focus on and helping
282 determine what would be best with an approximate cost. David will follow-up with him.

283

284 **Caller Lab/Round-a-Lab Report:** Merle Hall reporting: Caller Lab has come up with an
285 updated list of Plus moves; some calls have been moved from Mainstream into Plus
286 and other calls have been moved down from Advanced to Plus.

287

288 **Unfinished Business:**

289

290 Route 66 Trail Through Dances: Wanda Kruse reported she is organizing three dances
291 in Illinois and Missouri: one in the Chicago area in April, Missouri Promenaders June 19,
292 and in Joplin on June 20 with Jay Wright. Will have a flyer available soon.

293

294 Dana Schirmer's Caller School: Discussion tabled until next meeting to be able to obtain
295 information.

296

297 Warrensburg Youth Program: Discussion tabled until next meeting to be able to obtain
298 information.

299

300 Promotions Committee Shirley Winans reporting: Reminded everyone there are
301 information flyers/brochures available on the website that can be printed and distributed.

302

303 Used these brochures for ideas in creating 2 sided yard signs with the designs being
304 sent to district presidents for their feedback. She also shared some pricing she had
305 received: 75 signs for \$12 each and another one for 50 signs for \$13.00 each but could
306 possibly have a set-up fee as well. She had also asked the districts to see what prices
307 they could find in their area but had not received any information.

308

309 **New Business:**

310

311 Standing Rule Proposal: Cathy Hall presented the following recommended change to
312 the Federation's Standing Rules Article X1 Appointive Standing Committees, Section H
313 Member Services Committee, subparagraph 5:

314

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316 reimbursement to the Member Services Committee as soon as possible after the
317 expense(s) are incurred.

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321 State Festival.

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326 *more members in their club.*

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329 Some clubs are lucky to get one square of dancers at their dance, much less get all
330 those dancers being able to travel to attend the State Festival. These are the clubs that
331 need the financial assistance from the Member Services Committee to offset the cost
332 incurred in promoting square dancing. The change recognizes that only dues paying
333 clubs with 10 or more members are eligible for this financial assistance.

334
335 After discussion, Dave Byers made a motion to amend the above proposed change to
336 read as follows: *To qualify for reimbursement, the club must be a current dues paying*
337 *club of the Missouri Federation of Square N' Round Dance Clubs.* Motion was
338 seconded and vote was to approve.

339
340 The Constitution and Bylaws Committee will plan to have a proposal for the next
341 meeting for starting a new club or re-building one.

342
343 President Shafer read the list of 2026 committees and their members.

344
345 Carol Hershey, Chairman of the Audit Committee, asked that those attendees who
346 brought their books to be audited give them to Edythe Weber who would deliver the
347 information to her.

348
349 The next state board meeting will be April 19, 2026 hosted by the Northeast District with
350 the specific location to be announced.

351
352 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

353
354 Respectfully submitted,
355 Liz Rooks
356 Secretary

357