



ARIZONA  
**HISTORICAL**  
SOCIETY

FLAGSTAFF | TEMPE | TUCSON

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**August 25, 2025**

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**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF THE ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

**Action Taken:**

- Motion to approve the draft minutes of the June 30, 2025, Executive Committee meeting as presented. ((Robert Ballard, Jim Snitzer. Motion approved unanimously.)
- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:29 PM.. (Jim Snitzer, Kelly Corsette. Motion approved unanimously.)

**DRAFT**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order by Kelly Corsette at 12:01 PM**

**2. Roll Call- Linda Elliott-Nelson & AHS Staff**

a. Present- Kelly Corsette, Desirae Barquin, Bruce Gwynn, Robert Ballard, Jim Snitzer, Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, DeNise Bauer

b. Absent- N/A

c. Staff- Dr. David Breeckner, KD Forgia, Vince Bradley, Sebastian Alt, Jace Dostal, David Nagelski, Troy Brasher, Vanessa Fajardo, Jose Rodriguez

**3. Minutes - Discussion and action, if any, to approve the draft minutes of the [June 30, 2025, Executive Committee meeting](#).**

a. Motion to approve the draft minutes of the June 30, 2025, Executive Committee meeting as presented. ((Robert Ballard, Jim Snitzer: Motion approved unanimously.)

**4. Call to the Public- Kelly Corsette**

a. No members of the public were present.

**5. Board President Report - Kelly Corsette**

a. Annual Meeting- Kelly Corsette reminded everyone that the annual meeting will be in Tucson on Friday, September 26, 2025. He strongly encouraged the board to attend in person. Vince Bradley added that the annual meeting will be a great opportunity; there will be a live musical performance at this year's annual meeting. Kelly reminded those present that the annual meeting is when board officers are elected. Robert Ballard, as Chair of the Nominating Committee, said that an email, as due process, will be sent to board members who might be interested in running as an AHS Board officer.

**6. Finance Update- Jim Snitzer, David Nagelski. Dr. David Breeckner**

a. FY27 budget ready for submission- Dr. David Breeckner: Dr. Breeckner said that roughly \$750,000 is being asked for the FY27 budget. There would be around a \$165,000 deficit. IF the additional funds are not received, AHS will cut back on proposed expenditures to more closely align with its FY25 budget. Kelly Corsette commended the AHS staff on their work on the budget. Dr. Breeckner reiterated that this information would be sent to the board.

b. July 2025 Financial Report- David Nagelski: AHS still does not have the July 2025 numbers, but hopes that they will be received in the next week.

## **7. Outreach Update - Robert Ballard**

- a. FY26 CHI grants- They received 33 applications. The Committee worked hard at awarding grants. They will meet next week to finalize the grants. There was around \$33,000 available to grant this fiscal year and the applications requested over \$55,000 in grants.

## **8. Director Update - David Breeckner**

- a. New Hires- Troy Brasher was introduced. He is active military personnel, supporting AHS through its SkillBridge program, and is located in Tucson. Troy mentioned that he is with the US Air Force and is very interested in working with the Arizona Historical Society. Dr. Breeckner mentioned that there are other new hires who will be starting soon
- b. Pioneer Update- Dr. Breeckner said that there were over 100 applications for the Pioneer Museum Director. AHS is waiting on booking times for interviews to begin. Ideally, this position will be hired and start by November 2025. There are also a number of items that need to be completed to open the museum. AHS has asked for comments on the Museum Director process with the Northern Arizona Pioneer Historical Society (NAPHS). The response from the Flagstaff area has been positive.
- c. Looking ahead
  - WWII POW huts- AHS is working with partners across Tempe on various activities. One of these activities is the possibility of AHS taking over the last two surviving POW huts in the area. AHS is working on a grant to cover the costs of this activity. This would take around \$800,000 to \$1 million to cover this activity.
  - Facility Rentals RFP- AHS is working on a contract to outsource its rental activity. This would free up staff time but still bring in revenue to AHS.
  - 2026 Legislative Outreach- The FY27 budget will include budget issues that will request funding for certain budget line items. This would include funding for the CHI program, facility maintenance repairs and upkeep, and others.

## **9. Announcements and considerations in future board or committee meetings.**

- a. Dr. Breeckner shared that there has been some news at the national level regarding the Smithsonian; this has not yet reached the state level. The next Executive Committee meeting will happen on September 29, 2025. Kelly Corsette stated his appreciation for all the

## **10. Adjournment at 12:29 PM**

- a. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:29 PM.. (Jim Snitzer, Kelly Corsette. Motion

approved unanimously.)

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

DATE: August 25, 2025

Executive Committee Meeting Schedule

Virtual and Noon unless announced otherwise

<a href="#">January 27, 2025</a>	<a href="#">July 28, 2025</a>
<a href="#">February 24, 2025</a>	<a href="#">August 25, 2025</a>
<a href="#">March 31, 2025</a>	<a href="#">September 29, 2025</a>
<a href="#">April 28, 2025</a>	<a href="#">October 27, 2025</a>
<a href="#">May 27, 2025</a>	<a href="#">November 24, 2025</a>
<a href="#">January 27, 2025</a>	<a href="#">July 28, 2025</a>