



IMPROVEMENT THROUGH EDUCATION & NETWORKING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2025

- **PRESENT:** President Mike Movius; Vice President Carol VanOrnum; Secretary/Treasurer Bill Miller; Directors Andrew Mizasak; Jared Peatman; David Hamon, and Melissa Winn.
- **EXCUSED:** VP John Bamberl , Curt, and Steve
- **WELCOME:** President Mike Movius called the Meeting to order at approximately 6:06 PM EDT.
- **CORPORATE BUSINESS**
 - a. Meeting Minutes: August 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Approved.
 - b. Treasurer's Report: Approved.
 - c. Committee Reports:
 - Ambassador Program: Curt is unable to attend.
 - America250 Initiative: David toured the museum at Fort Benning GA, noting an interesting display promoting the 250th anniversary of U.S. Army Infantry. He offered that CWRTs might consider programs to focus on the evolution of infantry tactics during the Civil War. He also visited a museum in NC promoting a Frederick Douglas reading, and noted that CWRTs might consider programs relating to the role of USCT troops in the Civil War. He closed by commenting that he has not received any RT feedback on recent 250 postings. Mike requested his current posting for inclusion in the weekly listing of Civil War activities.
 - Awards:
 - Innovation Award – Knoxville CWRT Report: Carol presented the Award on September 9. She noted that there was a large crowd of attendees that were most appreciative of her presentation comments. While visiting Knoxville, she was provided a tour of remaining Civil War earthworks.
 - Phoenix Award – Sun Cities/Surprise CWRT: Mike is scheduled to make the presentation on 10/7.
 - Marketing Award – Old Baldy: Matt is scheduled to make the presentation on 11/13.
 - Communications: Carol noted that articles for the November publication of the “*Light Post*” are being submitted. She commented that John’s article for the ECW posting is scheduled to be published on October 5. The following order of ECW presenters are Jared, Andrew, and Melissa.
 - Marketing: Steve was unable to attend.

- Outreach: Andrew noted we're about to begin a new Federal fiscal year which may open up a few grant opportunities. He commented that private organizations offering grants are overwhelmed by applications which also limits opportunities. He's reaching out to local RTs in the Ohio area to promote the activities of the CWRT Congress.
 - d. Cleveland Feedback: From last month's Minutes, the post event surveys were very positive.
- **INITIATIVES – Relentless Mission Focus**
 - a. CWRTC Grant Status: Mike has opened up the Grant page and has already received an inquiry from an Mid-Ohio Valley CWRT. Carol advised that the Knoxville CWRT intends to apply.
 - b. Giving Tuesday Status: Mike advises that we have only received \$692 to date.
 - Reservations: The Tuesday 9/23 presentation with Grant and Beauregard is upcoming. Registrations at the \$20 fee have been minimal. A discussion followed with concurrence to omit the fixed fee and simply request a contribution.
 - Promo Videos Received - Melissa, Carol, Curt, Thomas Jessee, Mike. Bill will contact Carol to set up a video recording.
 - Promos Used to date – Garry Adelman (8/31), Carol (9/7), Thomas Jessee (9/14).
- **ECW PRE-SESSION – AUGUST 7, 2026**
 - a. Theme: “Five CWRT Tales”
 - b. DECISIONS:
 - Registration Cost: Pre-registration will be requested with no fee for attendance. We might consider marketing our pins, coins, and notebooks to collect a small amount of revenue.
 - Agenda Proposals: Provide a series of “best” and “worst” experiences, and offer comments & discussion from attendees.
 - Meeting Design: We discussed using the Best/Worst experiences the board develops and to facilitate a discussion among audience members. We will endeavor to discuss how CWRTs can learn from the experiences of others, making adjustments to avoid similar situations and practices that stimulate further organizational development.
- **2026 CONFERENCE – AUGUST 28-30, 2026**
 - a. Conference Status:
 - Caterer Report: Bill will be scheduling a meeting with Giuseppe (Giuseppe's Pizza) to establish the meal options and costs.
 - Reception Speaker & Sunday Tour Guide – A. Wilson Greene: Mike has received a confirmation from Will to serve as our Reception Speaker and Sunday Tour Guide.
 - Dinner Speaker & Sunday Tour Guide – Curt Fields: Curt previously confirmed his schedule to attend and to serve as our Dinner Speaker and Sunday Tour Guide.

- Sunday Tours:
 - 1) Battery Five, Fort Stedman, and the Crater (Greene).
 - 2) City Point with Grant (Fields) – Need NPS approval. Bill volunteered to contact Emmanuel Dabney (NPS @ Petersburg) to assist with NPS permission to gain access to the Headquarters Cabin.
- b. DECISIONS:
 - Name that theme: “*Can This CWRT Be Saved*”
 - Registration Cost
 - 1) Early Bird Admission: \$225.00
 - 2) General Admission: \$250
 - 3) Conference Only: \$125
 - 4) Reception & Dinner Only: Est \$125
 - 5) Staff & Invitees: To be determined.
 - Registration Dates
 - 1) Early Bird – Suggested February 1 to May 31.
 - 2) General – June 1 to Conference.
 - Agenda Proposal - Prioritize during registration
 - 1) Morning Topics– Internally focused: Suggesting an AM Facilitator within Congress leadership.
 - a. CWRT Governance
 - b. Meeting Experience
 - c. Member Retention
 - d. CWRT Leadership & Management
 - 2) Afternoon Topics– Externally focused: Suggesting a PM Facilitator within Congress leadership.
 - a. Marketing Efforts
 - b. CWRT Activities
 - c. Public Image
 - d. Philanthropy

The following were lightly discussed: Author Tables, CWRT Displays, Raffle items, and product sales.

- **CLOSE:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Mike Movius at approximately 7:42 PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted:
 William Miller
 Secretary/Treasurer