Meeting called to order at 10:30 a.m. by President Johnnie Davis.
Roll call: Members present were Gladys Schneider, Johnnie Davis, Jack Strain, Dr. David Bryant, Jim Oblander, Dr. Doris Looper, Troy Morris, Liz Gardner-McBee, Amy TeBeest, Eric Begley, Kristi Holt and Sterrette Coffman. Advisors present were Joe Lane and Dennis Schneider.

Motion to approve minutes of executive committee January 28, 2006 by Jack Strain with change to reflect lack of editor and lack of orders as reasons for history book cancellation. Motion seconded by Troy Morris. Motion passed.

Motion to approve minutes of January 7, 2006 by Sterrette Coffman, seconded by Jack Strain. Motion passed.

Dr. Bryant reported softball started today. Doc Gardner rodeo started yesterday. Planning and design on new Ag and Science building commenced in March have started. Has to fit a $6.53 million budget. Building layout is next on the agenda. Passed out an update on strategic plan.

Dr. Looper reported foundation is awaiting replies from scholarship selection groups. Deadline has passed. There were 1,831 applications for 130 available scholarships. Foundation is halving the expense of the obituary services with the association. Total assets of foundation, as of February 2006, were $5,232,067.85.

President Johnnie Davis reported he’s been working on determining who is living in which of the four downstate quadrants in order to find board members. Difficulty in determining actual residence in some cases because of the interstate split of towns, and an address may be in Laverne, but actually live in Beaver County.

Vice-President Sterrette Coffman had nothing to report.

Past President Troy Morris presented a written report to the board. Stated he had three concerns:
1. mismanagement of the heritage book project;
2. establishment of the Beef Endowment fund without appropriate board or committee approval;
3. student relations, and a perceived lack of respect for the student association.

Suggestions:
1. restructure governing documents to more clearly define what officers, etc. can do;
2. all board members should be invited to executive committee meetings;
3. turn to advisors more;
4. make student association president an ex facto [ex-officio] member of our board, also the student senate president;
5. turn more to OPSU president and deans for what we can do to help them.

Conclusions: we need to get our younger alumni more involved. We are losing our 1950 and older alumni. Also, we need to have more Oklahoma panhandle board members from outside Texas County.

Johnnie Davis presented written report of Executive Secretary Russell Guthrie (absent).

We have added 5 Life members or couples since the last meeting, for a total of 20 this fiscal year:
• Greg Atkins
• Edwin Gackstatter
• Bill & Patsy Hicks
• Jean Rutledge
• Wesley and Audrey Hofferber

We currently have 9 life payment plans in process.
In accordance with the action of the executive committee, all payments for the centennial history book were refunded with an explanatory letter.
This year’s enamel cups, with Sewell-Loofburrow on them, will be delivered this coming week. Plaques for the Hall of Fame recipients are in and ready for presentation. There were no glitches in their production this year.
As part of Festival of the Arts week, there will be a jazz concert starting at 4 p.m. on the Saturday afternoon preceding the annual banquet and meeting. The concert will be in Hughes-Strong Hall. Also, doubleheader baseball games begin at 11 a.m. the same day.
Obituary service is working out nicely. We are receiving weekly reports based on the key words submitted. It also allows us to check rumors of other alumni being deceased.

Committee Reports
**Beef:** Kristi Holt had nothing to report.
**Hall of Fame:** Amy TeBeest had nothing to report.
**Honored Family:** In Doug Lakely’s absence, Jim Oblander said committee had decided to combine the Camp and Roach families for this year’s honorees.

**Scholarship & Silent Auction:** Sterrette Coffman reported the committee will be getting together after this meeting to make the elections for next year’s alumni scholarship.

**Nominations Committee:** Jack Strain reported there are five positions open for election, Eric Begley, Lynn Dennis, Kristi Holt, Wes McKinley, and Bryant Riffe. Contacted Eric, Kristi and Bryant were willing to serve again. Unable to contact Wes McKinley. Lynn Dennis has never attended a meeting since election. Has looked over a list of possibilities for the SW OK quadrant provided by Johnnie, but didn’t see any takers. Jack said he’d prefer someone from the nearer area of the SW quadrant.

Hasn’t talked to Russell (Guthrie). Is presuming he’ll stand for re-election. Sterrette said she was happy where she’s at (as vice-president). For the president, Jack has had some people express a concern that possibly we’re getting a little stagnant and might need to look at term limits. However, that would require a constitutional amendment. Committee members intended to present three names to board: Johnnie Davis, Sterrette Coffman, and Troy Morris. Jack visited with Johnnie and Jim visited with Troy and both are willing to serve as president. Jack proposed Johnnie and Troy step out for a little while, the tape be turned off, and the board meet in closed session.
There being no objections, Johnnie and Troy left the meeting and tape recording ceased.
[Closed session]
Following the closed session, Jack Strain reported the board had selected the following slate of officers and directors:
Troy Morris for President, Sterrette Coffman for Vice-President, Johnnie Davis as Past President, Russell Guthrie as Executive Secretary, Eric Begley At-Large, Kristi Holt for Texas panhandle, Wes McKinley for Colorado, Bryant Riffe for Okla. Panhandle, SW Okla will be left open at present.

**Student Activity:** Tito not present. No word.

**Continuing Business**
1. 1956 Reunion: will be held out at Draper Farms, by appointment (r.s.v.p.) so they will know how many to feed. Will be out there for the Friday night get-together.
2. Honored Family selection for next fall. Selecton is the Camp/Roach family.
3. Centennial belt buckle: still need to get working on it.

**New Business**
1. Sterrette Coffman moved to purchase 500 oval pennants (for presentation at graduation). Motioned seconded by Jack Strain. Motion passed.
2. Jack Strain moved next meeting be held on July 8. Motion seconded by Eric Begley. Motion passed.

Next meeting will be on July 8, 2006.

Lunch is being served in the cafeteria.

Motion by Jack Strain to adjourn, seconded by Jim Oblander. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Approved:

___________________________________  July 8, 2006
Russell A. Guthrie  Date
Executive Secretary
I am some what unsure what is expected from the officers' reports. I normally try to express my concerns and positive reactions to the association's activities.

CONCERNS:

- **HERITAGE BOOK** - At the last executive board meeting, we scrapped the project based on two items: lack of orders and loss of the managing editor. My biggest concern was not the orders, it was the lack of a professional to edit the book. I felt the orders would come in time (we would have many months to sell them before a cost would be incurred) and we could turn to grants. It was alarming to me to learn that there had been a miscommunication that Dr. Hodges had resigned. **Leadership had not clarified her decision but assumed that is what she meant in an email. She never resigned.**

Following the executive board's decision, Dr. Bryant emailed me a request that we hold on to the orders. He wanted to look into obtaining grant monies and other sources of funding. I forward this email to the members' email address I had. I felt that we would reconvene to discuss the book further before turning the orders, for no other reason, out of respect to Dr. Bryant. In few weeks I received a check in the mail for my order.

I also was very much aware of the personality conflict between our leadership and Dr. Hodges. She and I had become very frustrated in trying to get the book started. At one meeting, you will remember, she was blind sided by a proposal present by our leadership that negated her efforts.

I feel we managed the project poorly from start to finish. I feel that we showed disrespect to a professional editor and the president. I feel in so doing we dropped a project that should have been done. Our organization should be maintaining history of our members. We had the resources to develop the material and willingness to see that it was completed. I feel that we allowed personality conflicts to surface and overcome sound
judgment. I ask why we allowed this to happen and look at ways to prevent it from happening in the future.

• **BEEF ENDOWMENT FUND** - This fund was established without proper authority or discussion from this board. I am supportive of the project but feel that it should have been presented to this board before being established. I also feel it should have been discussed with Dr. Bryant. The school calls on alumni and friends for many items and trying to raise $40,000 could hamper endeavors of others if not properly handled. At one of the executive board meetings, we approved the project. **Why wasn’t this presented at a board meeting for discussion and approval?**

• **MEMBERSHIP** - In my opinion the greatest element that is facing our association is involvement of our alumni from the students from the late 1960 to present. If we do not find a solution, we will not have an association.

In an effort to bridge the gap between the alumni and students, I personally have made attempts to associate with the student association and its leadership for the last three to four years. I did not represent myself as a representative of the association, but as an alumni member that wanted the students to be apart or our association. I am not sure my efforts accomplished a lot, but do feel it was a good attempt and some progress had been made.

For sometime the students have felt that the Plainsman did not really present our University and that possibly there could be a better mascot selection. I do not think the students realized the impact of their request; nevertheless, I appreciate their school spirit and desire to support the University. They have received harsh condemnation from our leadership and do not wish to have dealings with the Association. Whether the students could change the mascot or not is immaterial. **We need to show respect and consideration to the student association and any support or outside entity to protect our image.** They are the future of our organization if it is to exist.

Each of these concerns is laid at the foot of the leadership of our organization to see that we accomplish our purpose that has been entrusted in us as a board.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**
• Try to not use the Executive Board for board action, but organize and prepare information so the decisions can be made by the whole board instead of a few people. Furthermore, under the new guidelines that allow any board member to be involved in Executive Board meetings, I feel they should be informed and invited to all Executive Board meetings.

• Give Executive Board members advance notice of meetings so each member can be at that meeting. Do whatever it takes to see that those seven members are present at these members.

• Review organizational documents and do business in accordance to agreed standards. Develop guidelines of the responsibility of each officer and the Executive Board members including their authority. Do business in a business fashion.

• Possibly set term limits for the officers. Try as much as possible to seek board members throughout the panhandle and not just Goodwell/Guymon areas. We are very fortunate to have the members we have from Goodwell/Guymon and they have done a great job. But, I do not feel that we have good representation of the Oklahoma panhandle with so many from a ten mile radius. If director do not attend meetings (maybe at least two in a year) drop them as directors and seek to find replacements. Each board member needs to be involved in some activity of the Association and should be informed clearly what is expected.

• Turn to our advisors for guidance and instruction. These individuals have a wealth of knowledge and desire to be apart.

• Develop a goal or mission statement as to the purpose of the Association and what it is going to do or accomplish. We can do more. Set some goals and brainstorm.

• Look to the University President for purpose, school's needs, and where support is needed. We may need to inquire of the Deans as to needed resources and try to fill these needs.

• I feel that the student association should be involved more in our activities. Some of our activities should involve the Student Association. We should consider the value of asking the Student Association President and Student Senate President to be apart of the board in similar positions as the
University President and Foundation Executive Secretary. Continue to develop the Student Membership. We need to be helping in the planning and activities for football homecoming.

- Attend from time to time Student Senate meetings and activities. Reach out to the student body and faculty to help in leadership roles or support roles. Our database of Alumni could help in their activities. In years past, Alabama performed a concert on campus. The Student Senate had turned to an alumnus to help in sponsoring the project. This type project might be able to be done again.
- Find ways to increase membership such as personal contacting each graduate either by a phone call or face to face contact from 1965 to present graduating classes.
- Look at the feasibility of possibly combining the Alumni Association and Foundation together and hiring a promoter to increase membership, funding, and write school grants. We have done some great things, but I believe we have not begun to tap the resources that are in our Alumni Association. We have the top citizens as our alumni association.

I am proud of our University and things that our students and alumni have accomplished. Whatever success that I have obtained, I contribute much of it to this college. There a many spokes in a wagon wheel such as in our case the students, administration, and faculty. The Alumni Association is one of the major spokes in the wheel of this college. When our association becomes weak, the wheel will not turn.

I admire Dr. Bryant, the administration, and faculty tremendously. Their job is becoming more and more difficult. Students are the driving force and the completion to enroll them is stuff. What can we do to either support the leadership or add more students?

This may be the last meeting that I attend as Past President and on this board. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve as your President and Past President for the last several years. I have enjoyed meeting and working with each of you. I feel we have accomplished many things. I hope we can accomplish more and do more.

Respectfully,