



## Board Meeting Agenda

May 17, 2024

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Remote (Zoom) and In-Person (meeting place TBD).

To join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://mt.gov.zoom.us/j/88438683330?pwd=cGJwUnhSbGVRCXFZSTh2MWFuRml6Zz09>

Meeting ID: 884 3868 3330

Password: 589424

Dial by Telephone

+1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 884 3868 3330

Password: 589424

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions and Opening Prayer
3. Approve Minutes for February 16, 2024, board meeting.
4. Powder River County museum. The museum has human remains on display. The remains were found by a local rancher and given to the museum. Should the board request that the museum repatriate the remains to the board for reburial?
5. MOA with UM Anthropology Department. The agreement was revised to adopt board suggestions made during the February meeting. The agreement would allow the board to proceed with mDNA analysis for cases CR-02, FH-01 & UN-08. Jessica to provide a cost estimate. Does the board wish to proceed with the revised agreement?
6. Celebrate cases recently closed. Erika to present.
  - a. CR-01/PR-01/PR-02. Jessica delivered remains to Lame Deer on November 21, 2023.
  - b. MO-03.
7. Cases – Board Action Required:
  - a. TE-01. Skull originally discovered near the Crow Reservation. Skull found in a Hysham high school science lab.

- b. FA-01: Update from Jessica, and board discussion/decision on next steps. Case involves human remains from Fallon County (child's remains found on private property), with associated burial items. Remains are likely Native American. Current location of the burial items is unknown.
- c. MO-01-/MO-02/: Update from Kevin. Board discussion/decision on next steps.
- d. TL-01/TL-02: Update? Board action on next steps? Skye Gilham called Toole County, but she has not heard back. Per Skye, John Murray is best person to contact Toole County; Skye has been unable to reach John.
- e. LC-01/ML-02/UN-01: All cases involve burial items. Update and board discussion on next steps for these remains.
- f. UN-09. Case had been tabled until Aaron Brian appointed to the board. Remains discovered in Bear Gulch. Initially thought to be Blackfeet remains; Blackfeet consultants later identified as Crow. Remains at the SHPO office.
- g. UN-10: Erika Scheuring updated the board on her efforts to contact the Leech Lake tribe. Per Erika, the tribe is interested in the remains. Case on hold until Erika hears from the THPO for Leech Lake.
- h. UN-12: Board discussion/decision on next steps. Jessica resent the forensic report from the UM Anthropology Department to the board on January 11, 2024.
- i. UN-02/UN-03/UN-04/UN-05/UN-06/UN-07/UN-11: All scalp locks. Board discussion/decision on next steps for these remains.

8. Cases on Hold for DNA analysis.

- a. CR-02. During the November 2023 board meeting, board approved mitochondrial DNA analysis by the UM Anthropology department on the remains, with a report to be provided to the board. Case on hold until MOU completed with UM Anthropology Department.
- b. FH-01/UN-08: Both skulls have damage. FH-01 damage is post-mortem and peri-mortem. UN-08 damage is antemortem facial fracture (not the cause of death). UM Anthropology Department conducted forensics evaluation: insufficient information to determine ethnicity, so DNA analysis is recommended. Case on hold until MOU completed with UM Anthropology Department.

9. Cases – No Board Action Required.

- a. LC-02: John Keene's skull. During the November 2023 meeting, the board approved giving the remains to Lewis & Clark County to include in the county's next burial of the

indigent in 2024. The board requested record be made of the location of burial location. Update from Jessica

- b. PR-03. Remains discovered in Powder River County. Per board action from Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, Jessica to contact the landowner to inquire if human remains could be reburied in original burial location on landowner's property.
  - c. TL-03: Remains discovered near the Marias River. Per board action from Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, board decision to rebury remains. Duane Reid to locate area on the Marias River, if possible, and to follow up with First People's Buffalo Jump state park manager, as necessary, for reburial.
  - d. RB-01: Human remains discovered on ranch property in Rosebud County. Remains reported to be stored in Colstrip in a storage unit. Per board action from Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, Jessica to continue discussions with Forest Dunning to retrieve the remains and view the area where discovered.
  - e. BH-01. Human remains from Little Bighorn Battlefield. Per board action from Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, Aaron Brien to work with Brenna Maloney to rebury remains during spring of 2024.
  - f. BH-02. Human remains discovered in 2022 at the Tongue River Reservoir on state land. Remains currently at the Billings crime lab. Per board action from Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, Aaron Brien to work with Teanna Limpy, Northern Cheyenne THPO, and Brenna Maloney to rebury remains on state land in the area. Aaron to update Jessica, so she can maintain case files for the board.
10. Other Items.
- a. Media Inquiries. Recent inquiry was related to the Warm Springs State Hospital cemetery. Chairman Fisher responded. Question for board: should there be a procedure for future inquiries?
11. Date for next meeting.
12. Meeting adjournment