

"Railroad Meeting in Saratoga" Newspaper Article, May 22, 1858

Railroad Meeting at Saratoga.

According to previous announcement, the citizens of Saratoga met at the Central House, Saratoga, on the 15th of May 1858, and organized by the appointment of Robert Smiley chairman and Lewis McBride Secretary.

H. D. Johnson, Esq., on being called upon, stated the object of the meeting to be to appoint delegates to attend the Railroad Convention, to be held at Council Bluffs on Monday, the 17th inst.

On motion, the Chair appointed Messrs. H. D. Johnson, L. A. Myers, L. McBride, H. Zeller and J. T. Croft a Committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting.

The Committee made the following report:

WHEREAS, We, as citizens of Saratoga, feel a deep interest in all railroad enterprises pointing to the Missouri river, and particularly being interested in any roads which may terminate at, or come to the city of Council Bluffs, whose interests are nearly identical with our own; and

WHEREAS, Efforts are now being made to raise the means to construct a road from Council Bluffs to St. Joseph, Mo.; therefore

Resolved. That we hail with joy any and all efforts which may tend to bring about the result of a speedy communication by railroad with eastern cities.

Resolved, That we believe the route from Council Bluffs to St. Joseph to be one of the best in the United States, and that a road when built will pay a fair dividend to the stockholders.

Resolved, That we have until recently had entire faith in the intentions of the Mississippi and Missouri Railroad Company, relative to a speedy construction of their road to the Missouri River; we are now reluctantly forced to fear that that Company is not disposed to complete their road as early as has by them been stated, or as soon as they could and ought to do.

Resolved, That if said M. & M. R. R. Co. shall continue to neglect the construction of their road westward as per agreement, we as citizens of Douglas county, Nebraska, shall be in favor of

rescinding a vote heretofore cast in this county, granting certain county bonds to aid in the construction of said road.

On motion, Resolved, That the following named persons be appointed as delegates to represent the citizens of Saratoga in the Railroad Convention to be held in Council Bluffs on the 17th day of May, 1858:

H. D. Johnson, H. Gray, J. A. Myers, Geo. Stevens, H. Zoller, J. T. Croft, W. T. Beeks, Edwin Patrick, J. Guise, J. J. McClain, and Jos. Redman.

The Secretary was directed to forward the minutes of this meeting to the officers of the Convention at Council Bluffs; and also to request their publication in the papers of Council Bluffs and Omaha.

On motion, adjourned.

Robert Smiley, Chairman.

Lewis McBride, Secretary.