



Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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Among the great people who have touched the Face of Fillmore are the men who have served diligently to keep us safe – our law enforcement officers. Just this week there was a changing of the guard once again. Richard Jacobson was sworn in as the twenty-first sheriff of Millard County. It was my privilege to meet with him briefly on January 8, the day following his swearing in. He told me he was humbled in the face of the responsibilities that lie ahead for him. He said that this position is not about “him” but about “us” as a county working together.

As we stood appropriately underneath the gallery of sheriffs’ pictures in the foyer of the Millard County Public Safety Building, Sheriff Jacobson pointed out that each of these men was a chapter in Millard County’s history and he has hopes that this next chapter that he is responsible for will be a significant chapter in that history book.

The collection of individual pictures of each sheriff was organized and carried out by Jim Masner, a long-time member of the Millard County Sheriff’s Department. What a great piece of history it has become.

The first sheriff of Millard County was Bryon Warner who served from 1866 to 1875. The first mention of him helping in a law enforcement situation happened just before New Year’s Eve, 1852. An Indian named Watershub had been hired by the King family to chop wood and soon became upset about the way he was treated. He saw Mrs. King carrying a pail of water from the creek to the house and followed her. She slammed the door so he could not get in, but he went to window and broke it with his knife. Mrs. King screamed and her brother came from the next room. He struggled with the Indian and was stabbed in the ribs in the process.

Watershub yelled so loudly that everyone nearby came running. Another Indian had a gun, but was disarmed before he could use it. Watershub was imprisoned in a blacksmith shop while they waited to see if Mr. Robison would recover from his stab wounds. On January 7, 1853, Watershub made his escape. Among those sent to find and recapture him was Byron Warner who would later become the first sheriff.

The second sheriff of Millard County was Frances Marion Lyman (1876-1878) followed by:

- Franklin Alonzo Robison (1878-1889)
- James McMahan (1880-1889)
- George Nixon (1889-1892)
- John Thomas Ashman (1892- 1897)
- Virgil Kelly (1897-1905)



Sheriff Richard Jacobson

- George Cropper (1905-1907)
- George Rowley (1907-1913)
- Samuel Bourghdy (1913-1919)
- George Cropper (1919-1921)
- Frank Black (1921-1927)
- Carl Theobald (1927-1935)
- Frank Kimball (1935-1939)
- Henry Forster (1939-1943)
- Culbert (Cub) Robison (1943-1954)
- Calvin Stewart (1954-1974)
- Bryant Crosland (1974-1978)
- Edward Phillips (1978-2006)
- Robert Dekker (2006-2019)
- Richard Jacobson (2019 - . . .)

To our new Sheriff Richard Jacobson, I offer my congratulations on his election and hopes for great success during his time as Sheriff of Millard County.

To our outgoing Sheriff Robert Dekker, thank you for your years of service and best wishes for your retirement. May it be a great time in your life!