

Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – September 10, 2011 – 4:00 PM
WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, California

President Rod McClure called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM.

The following Directors were present

Frank Brehm	Kerry Cochran (phone)	Norm Holmes	Rod McClure
Eugene Vicknair (phone)	Wayne Monger		

Attendance

James Mason – Treasurer

David Epling – Museum Manager

Charlie Spikes – Facility Manager

Vicki Epling

Ron Huey

Ann Morningstar

Debbie Baer

Fred Ellenbas

Neil Carlson

Correspondance

none

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the July and August 2011 Board Meetings

Approved by motion 11-09-01 (Brehm / Vicknair)

Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

New Business

none

Old Business

none

Good of the Order

President's Report

- Arson destroyed Western Pacific Hospital
 - President contacted all Directors to discuss situation as it unfolded.
 - Emergency Situation was created with Hospital arson. We are required to safe the area and haul away debris.
 - Jerry Lee Knox handled knock down and is cutting us a break. Rick Joy Contracting is handling haul away and cutting us a huge break.
 - Community and City Hall has given us a lot of support during crisis. Leah Turner from Portola City Government has been particularly helpful.
 - FRRS Fire Marshal Frank Brehm has performed own investigation and is heading our response.
 - We are waiting for official report from Cal-Fire.
 - Frank Brehm reported on fire: Fire started about 12:50 AM on September 7, 2011. Fire department arrived in timely manner, but when they arrived the building was fully involved. Right now fire is being called suspected arson.
 - The FRRS commends the fire department on their amazing job at preventing further spread of the fire.

- o Community is heartbroken over this loss. There have been offers for funding support for whatever plan we have for future of site.
- Colfax Railroad Days is still up in the air due to issues that have arisen. Will be updated later, possibly by special meeting.

Museum Manager's Report

- Written report provided.
- Sales comparison for Year to Date 2010 to 2011 shows sales slightly positive: \$30,082.06 for 2011, up \$1,180.61 from 2010.
- Visitor levels remained steady throughout the day in August. The largest noticeable lack of visitors was during Hot August Nights Week. Possibly due to no advertising by FRRS during HAN.
- Railroad Days
 - o Thanks to early volunteers for RR Days: Sam Herschbein, Matt Elems, David Elems, Greg Elems, Victoria Epling, Rod McClure, Steve Habeck, Rick Gruninger, Charlie Spikes, Tim Carter, Tom Carter, Ethan Doty, Russ Johnson, Cheri Johnson and David Epling.
 - o Revenue was \$10,973.45, down \$1,654.08 over last year.
 - o Attendance was steady on Saturday and we were ahead of last year for the same day. Sunday was unexpectedly busy as well.
 - o Volunteers for the event: John Morehouse, Rick Gruninger, Tom Potts, Burr Wilson, Alex Wilson, Eric Spikes, Charlie Spikes, Matt Elems, David Elems, Cheri Johnson, Russ Johnson, Sam Herschbien, Tim Carter, Tom Carter, Alicia LaBreque, Matt Shuman, Ron Huey, Ann Morningstar, Ed Byers, D.J. (all Shuman would give me for a name), Frank Christ, DeMario Strong-Baker, Eddie Powell, Jeremy Barclay, David Foreman, Slim Lieby.
 - o Staff for the event: Victoria Epling, Debbie Reynolds, Rod McClure, Steve Habeck and myself.
 - o Vendors on site: Sinbad's Hot Dogs, Kettle Korn. Norm and Barbara Holmes set up a sales table on Saturday. Brad Lomazzi and one of his people set up tables on both days.
 - o Entertainment: Rick Gruninger's band. Some logistics issues have been identified and next year we should have a better idea on where to place the band.
 - o We had 2 N Scale modular layouts, the N Trackers out of Reno, Mel Jones and Bob Sandin. The other layout belonged to FRRS member Chris Martinovich.

Financial Reports

- Financials provided.
- Question about reimburse of RAL engineers. Rate is \$10 per RAL. Taxes are taken from amount.

Director's Reports

none

Event Reports

- *Portola Railroad Days* – Debbie Baer gave report.
 - o Had committee meeting on Sept. 2
 - o What went right: Family Fun Park, 43 entries for car show, web site improvements, bands, Mountain Man event
 - o What did not: PayPal sales, community dinner was overpurchased, parade judges were sidelined by parade staff, steam whistle fundraiser was not manned, horseshoe tournament was abandoned by organizer, treasure hunt, art center, parade announcer showed up at last minute, complaints that there were not enough RR Days souvenirs,
 - o For next year: downsize to Saturday and Sunday event, all at park, no car show, no big tent, move spike driving to volleyball court. Debbie expressed opinion that event is dying and not connecting to the heritage of the railroad.
 - o We received complaints of no advertising in regional area. Look at billboard for next year.
 - o Spike driving contest should move to the museum.
 - o RR Days Committee backed away from billboard due to cost.
 - o There was a large arts and crafts fair in Blairsden that drew a lot of crowd away.
 - o Trains and Travel have announced that they will not run a train next year

Department Reports

- *Archives* – Written report provided. Comments about improving archives security and cataloging. Review of software options for cataloging archives and making them available to people.
- *Facilities* - Ed Powell repainted A/C leak in “Edenwold”. Duance Vanderveen hooked up Wilton drill press and worked on WP caboose 428. Bruce Bowman and Bob Sims did a lot of work in the Silver Debris including flooring installation. Eugene Vicknair and Bob Sims are looking at final push to finish car. Water leak noted from Shower Car, being assessed for repair.

Committee Reports

none

Legal Counsel Report

none

Status of Surplus Property Report

none

Safety Report

- Everyone is requested to stay away from the Hospital due to the unstable nature of the remains and the amount of debris from the fire.
- Trying to put together track gang for third weekend of October to work on balloon. October 17-18.

Public Comments

- Concern about brush and weeds around some of the cars. McClure has contacted someone with a brush hog and requested that they clear around the yard.
- Thanks to Ron Huey for two days of work during Railroad Days and thanks to his wife Ann Morningstar for giving tours during Railroad Days.

Notices

none

Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 5:06 PM and reconvened to open session at 5:41 PM. Director Vicknair reported following the closed session:

“The Board heard a report on a Legal Issue – FRRS v. Morgan. No action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Legal Issue – FRRS v. Kasten / ITAC. No action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Facilities Issue – WP Portola Hospital. No action taken.”

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at: 5:42 PM
Next meeting: Saturday, October 8, 2011 – 4:00 PM
Location: WPRM Meeting Room
Portola, California

Respectfully Submitted,
Eugene Vicknair
Secretary, FRRS