

Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – May 9, 2015 – 4:00 PM
WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA

President Rod McClure called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

The following Directors were present

Eugene Vicknair

Gail McClure

Kirk Baer

Charlie Spikes

Kerry Cochran – phone

Greg Elems

Wayne Monger

Tom Carter

Attendance

Rick Gruninger – Insurance Liaison

Alicia LaBrecque

David Elems

Bob Sims

Lisa Wesch

Chris Skow

Correspondence

- Letter received from Director Vicknair requesting the Board approve a blind mailing of campaign materials. This is the same option that has been extended to the challenging candidates. Asked Board to extend same offer to Gail McClure and Steve Habeck. Consensus direction to approve.

Consent Calendar

Motion 15-05-01

Approve the minutes for the April 2015 BOD Meeting.

G. McClure / Vicknair. Aye - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carries.

Old Business

none

New Business

Father's Day Excursion Train

Discuss operation of excursion train into Portola on June 21.

Chris Skow was not present at start of discussion.

Gail McClure has arranged a 50% admission discount for the group.

Rod McClure has arranged for the cars to be moved into the museum for loading and unloading.

We will need some additional volunteers that day.

Group will be on property 1-2 hours.

Chris Skow arrived 4:14 PM

Reviewed details on business item with Chris Skow.

President McClure has been working with local UP managers and Bert Hermeey on details.

Will be 4 cars and about 120 people, all CZ or CZ style Budd cars: Silver Rapids, Solarium, Splendor and Lariat.

Discussed details on how the train will operate.

Chris Skow suggested that we just sell the admission for full fare. Board agreed.

We will also be running caboose trains that day.

There will be no Railroad Days train this year.

There will be an Inside Gateway train in October. Running Emeryville to Westwood, then Westwood to Chemult / Klamath Falls, then back to Klamath Falls and return to Emeryville via SP.

Will look at Railroad Days train next year.

Chris Skow departed after report.

Equipment Display Loan to City of Portola

Review proposal to loan FR&W loco and UP snowplow to Portola for exhibit.

The City has requested loan of Feather River and Western small loco and Union Pacific snowplow for advertising in the city for both the museum and the city.

Would like to finalize an agreement for long-term use.

City would be responsible for payment and upkeep for the equipment.

Consensus agreement given for President McClure to finalize agreement and present to Board for approval.

There will be a hold harmless insurance clause as part of the agreement.

Membership Meeting

Discuss whether the membership meeting should be rescheduled.

Question if we should still hold Membership Meeting in June considering election delayed.

Opinions given that we should still hold meeting and dinner on June 6.

Suggestion to ask Rick Gruninger and Greg Elems to organize dinner.

Consensus to hold meeting as scheduled.

Good of the Order

President's Report

- Written report provided.
- President McClure and Director Carter met yesterday with Patty Clausen who is the advertising and promotion rep for the city of Portola. We will be working together on cross / joint promotion of the city and the museum. First ads will be starting up soon. Director Vicknair will be assisting with graphics and layout of ads. Thank you to Robert, the city manager for his help in making this happen.
- The last month has been busy with bringing the museum out of hibernation.
- Dave McClain and Dwight Whetstone repaired a leaking liner in the SP / Quincy TR6A 1100 it is now in service for the year along with the WP F7A 917 and SP GP9 2873. David Elems spent time going over each and making it ready for the years service. The US Army FM H-12-44 1857 is out of service pending source for traction motor brushes and replacement of gaskets for the fuel tank gauges. WP SW1500 1503 is alive and well thanks to David Elems and Burr and Alex Wilson, Tom Carter, and Rod McClure. Steve Habeck continues to keep locomotive batteries in service. We are looking at getting at least one new set later this year. McClure has found a new source for everything batteries in Reno which also will give us .15 cents a pound for our old batteries.
- Superintendent Rick Gruninger held two yearly rules classes which were a great success. We are seeing the return of old members that have been away for awhile and some new ones also.
- McClure has arranged for us to have a couple of UP locomotives on display for our guest to see. They are in long term storage and will be with us for while.
- The 2015 convention went very well. It was fun meeting some of our members, answering their questions on current situations and we recruited at least 3 new members. McClure rented a small van and along with Habeck gave tours to about 17 attendees around the old WP sights of Elko and the "new" yard. It was a good time enjoyed by all.
- About done putting Big White Forklift back together. With help from David Elems, Bil Jackson and Dwayne Vanderveen, it is coming along nicely. A few more weeks and it should be back in service.
- If you have not noticed, check out the new window frames Dwayne is making and installing in the Party caboose. Great work!
- The ongoing legal issue continues to take time away from doing the things that need to be done at the museum. This should be resolved shortly and we can get back to the important business of operating the museum.

Financial Reports

- Reports and Financial Summary provided. Financial summary reviewed.
- We are still tight on cash as usual at this time of year.
- Total for Spring fundraiser is approaching \$7,000.
- We have some expenses coming for WP 165 work.

- We had a \$1,500 sales day on our first open day of the season.
- RAL bookings are robust. We have a 6 hour RAL tomorrow.
- Discussed advertising. Suggested looking at GroupOn and other social ad services. Suggested admission passes for half price on a 4 month marketing program. No upfront costs for this. Consensus direction for Gail McClure to proceed.
- We just received a lot of membership renewals.
- Leaving aside building down payment and WP 165 costs, we are in a better place financially than last year.
- RAL sales up by 242.8% over last year.
- Thank you to Charlie Spikes for going the extra mile lately and being available for lots of special assistance.

Director's Reports

- *Carter* – written report provided

Event Reports

- *2015 Convention* – written report provided. Wayne Monger asked Board to thank Eugene Vicknair for putting on an excellent convention.

Department Reports

- *Operations* – Training Sessions, future training dates, written report provided – Kerry Cochran thanked Rick for filling in on training and also thanks to Paul Finnegan for his excellent assistance in revising the rule books for the training classes.
- Question from member on Archives status. Kirk Baer is waiting on instructions from Mike Mucklin.

Committee Reports

none

Legal / Insurance Report

- Insurance for the Archives Storage unit has been paid.

Status of Surplus Property Report

none

Safety Report

- Director Carter was talking with FRA reps recently. During discussion it came up that FRA suggests that we institute mandatory random and incident drug testing program for volunteers. Would also help with insurance costs. Local hospital has program they do with UP. We will explore this. Concern that if there was an incident and someone was under influence our insurance would not cover unless we had a program in place. Kerry Cochran will discuss with Rick Gruninger and review logistics and legal ramifications. Sounds like this might be coming down from FRA and we heard warnings about this possibly coming during RPCA convention. We would prefer to be out front of this. There were two deaths at museums last year relating to intoxication and this has turned focus on drug testing to museums and tourist railroads.

Public Comments

- Thank you to David Varley who just completed our Form 4 for the WP 165 and gave us a 50% discount, and to Bob Sims who donated the payment for the Form 4.
- WP 165 is approved for a full 180 psi. Noted that we have a great team working on WP 165 restoration.

Notices

none

Closed Session

Requested by President McClure and Director Vicknair – 5:00 PM – 5:04 PM

Directors Baer and Monger were asked to leave closed session as requested by FRRS legal counsel due to conflict of interest issues with item to be discussed. Directors Baer and Monger refused and Closed Session was adjourned with no reports made.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at:	5:05 PM
Next meeting:	June 6, 2015 – 1:00 PM
Location:	WPRM Meeting Room Portola, CA

Respectfully Submitted,
Eugene Vicknair
Secretary, FRRS