

**Feather River Rail Society  
Board of Directors Meeting – February 13, 2021 –1:00 PM  
Conference Call due to COVID-19 Shelter Protocols**

President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM. All attendance by phone.

**Attendance**

**The following Directors were present:**

Kerry Cochran	Charlie Spikes	Matt Elems
Bob Sims	Greg Elems	Janet Steeper
Steve Habeck	Eugene Vicknair	

8 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

**Guests present:**

David Elems – Asst. CMO, Safety Officer  
Bart Hansen – Treasurer  
Bil Jackson

**Correspondence**

- *Habeck* – Got postcard from Registry of Charitable Trusts, time to renew registration. Will send to Secretary Vicknair. Received letter from Plumas Bank, noting that our loan is paid off in full. Will be handed off to President Elems. A lot of memberships came in this month. Noted that we need to organize materials sent for Museum Store. Eugene will be coming up later in month to work on Museum Store. Noted that floor along north side of museum is wet.

**Consent Calendar**

Approval of the minutes of the January 2021 Regular Meeting.

Motion 21-02-01

Approve the minutes of the January 2021 Regular Meeting as presented.  
Vicknair / G. Elems. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

**Old Business**

none

**New Business**

**Revise Policy Review Dates**

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Discuss policies that are at their review dates, update any needed.

- List of policies provided to the Board. Kerry Cochran quickly provided overview.
- Kerry is reviewing specific policies. Asked Board to bring up any that they feel need detailed review. He will update dates on the others.
- Kerry is putting review dates on some archives policies with no review dates.
- Consensus direction given for Kerry to proceed as outlined.
- Greg Elems asked if we should address private owner equipment policy. Eugene Vicknair suggested that we review and discuss in Board Meeting in next or following meeting. Accepted by Board.

**UP 6946 Fundraising and Restoration Proposal**

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Review concept to raise funds and cosmetically restore UP Centennial for its 50th birthday.

- Written report provided.
- Concern that we are spreading ourselves thin.

- Proposal is that we hire outside contractors.
- Concern that painting it will take shop out of service for a month.
- Steve Habeck noted that graphics alone will likely cost \$10,000 or more.
- David Elems feels that the way proposal is structured we can spread it over time and not confine to this year.
- Eugene Vicknair clarified that we do not need to do it this year. We can go into next year.
- Greg Elems likes the idea of bringing in contractors if we raise the funds.
- David Elems feels we need the new stairs if nothing else. Start raising funds and try to get the stairs at least. Focus on those first. Says doing small items like numberboards will be simple.
- Charlie Spikes likes the idea we don't do the work ourselves, hire out to contractor.
- Eugene suggests we review and think about it and discuss in March.
- Greg wants to see better stairs to access the UP 6946.
- David noted that we need better stairs for access. General agreement.
- Steve noted that we need to secure front and rear vertical stepwells. Need to keep people off them. Also need to keep people off the roof ladders. Noted that those need to be addressed soon. Inside nose door was jammed shut by visitor.
- Consensus to look at more detailed plan and review in March.

## **Good of the Order**

### **President's Report**

- Written report provided.

### **Financial Reports**

- Reports provided.
- Noted there were no charges in credit card last month.
- Fundraising running ahead of last year.
- Propane and electric bills are higher than last year. Propane due to switch from Amerigas.
- Costs running slightly higher, due to insurance payments.
- Have several heaters going around museum to keep things from freezing.
- Working on ways to bring down utility costs.
- Bob Sims asked if we can move anything off into interest bearing account. Eugene to ask Bart about this. Bob noted that Treasurer could do the money shifting if they had access.

### **Director's Reports**

- *Vicknair* – written report provided. Talk about face shields in April / May. Volunteer hours listed.
- *Cochran* – written report provided: volunteer hours including those for Paul Finnegan. Encouraged everyone to list their volunteer hours for support on grant applications. Steve noted he was at museum 270 times in 2020 and made 49 trips to Quincy to talk with bookkeeper.

### **Event Reports**

- *2021 Historical Convention* – Looking more positive for September event. Asking if we should start some preliminary planning. Looks like Nevada is considering May 1 to start reopening venues. We are going to start looking at initial planning.

Matt Shuman joined meeting at 2:07 PM

### **Department Reports**

- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
  - Noted we have received a number of archive donations during 2020.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided.
  - Paul has reached out to some members for Member Spotlight. Discussion about putting notice in Train Sheet about having people check online calendar. Also noted that 2021 calendar can be put on website.

- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
  - Need to link sponsor renewals to informing Paul. Eugene to talk to Susan Scarlett about copying Paul on sponsor renewals. Scheduled web maintenance coming up.
- *Funding* – written report provided.
  - Eugene working on tax donation letters. Need to get email for convention donor from Bob. Eugene will compare to convention list as well.
- *Mechanical* – have not been at museum too much due to work.
  - Still disassembling SP GP9 2873. Pulled primary fuel filter and cleaned gunk out of housing. Needs to buy some parts to put it all back together. Need to get new suction strainer. Parts will be about \$70. Some other expenses coming up. About \$513 for new air filters on 2873. Some other issues with 2873. Going to buy new water pumps. Can hold on to old ones and rebuild at later date, or use as cores for buying rebuilt units. Going to be talking to A-1 Radiator in spring about having them descale some parts for us. SP 2873 out of service until spring.
  - Quincy 1100 out of service. Leaking anti-freeze into the air box. Going to need a full crankcase and oil pan inspection. Noted that weather has left us with soft track on the balloon.
  - Later in the year will need air intake filters for 2001 and others. About \$630 in expense. Has prices for various air and lube oil filters.
  - Rubber tire equipment: big white still puking hydraulic fluid out of steering ram. Telehandler and backhoe working fine.
  - There has been a discussion about batteries. Eugene was following up with a suggestion on a battery supplier. Got some cost estimates. David going to check with local Rolls / Surrette supplier more locally. Going to talk to Battery Systems in Reno. Eugene to follow up with Western Rail on offer to donate battery set, will get more info on them. Bil Jackson mentioned he has trailer available for pilot plate and batteries for hauling back from Western Rail. Janet also has big trailer. Steve and David to follow up with Battery Systems.

## **Committee Reports**

- *Election* – written report provided.
  - Matt Shuman gave report to Board. Four candidates were nominated, but non-incumbent has dropped out of race. Only three candidates for three seats, so we are in a “white ballot” situation. Asked if we need to do postcard mailing to members with extent of email communication today. Noted that we do not have emails for about half of membership. Kerry Cochran noted that he believes it is legal requirement to send postcard to membership informing of “white ballot”. Matt can move forward with postcard. He will make date changes and get it printed and sent. Discussed possible electronic voting options for future elections. Kerry Cochran noted other organizations use these systems. Matt and Kerry are looking into this and Election Committee to see if it is viable option.

## **Legal / Insurance Report**

- Liability policy has been renewed for next year. Down payment of about \$6,000 and rest in 9 installments.

## **Status of Surplus Property Report**

none

## **Safety Report**

- Wet, cold and icy right now. Lots of water puddles.

## **Public Comments**

- Bil Jackson noted he is getting second COVID shot next week. Asked about when we are considering RAL reopening and said he would be available for RAL service. David noted he is aiming for RALs in June and is working on fleet with that schedule in mind.
- Charlie Spikes has received first shot, getting second March 4. Also willing to do RALs after second shot when we open it up. Added that it is snowing at his house right now.
- Bob Sims getting his second shot in 2 weeks.

## **Notices**

none

## **Closed Session – 3:07 PM – 3:46 PM**

The Board heard a report on a Collection Item – Potential Equipment Donation. Consensus direction given, no reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Business Item – Potential Business Opportunity. Consensus direction given, no reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Funding Item – Grant Opportunities and Projects. Consensus direction given, no reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Legal Item – Meeker v. FRRS and Vicknair. Consensus direction given, no reportable action taken.

## **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at: 3:47 PM (Steeper / Vicknair)

Next Meeting: March 13, 2021 – 1:00 PM

Location: Conference Call – COVID-19 Protocols

Respectfully Submitted, Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary