

**Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – March 9, 2024 – 1:00 PM
Western Pacific Railroad Museum Meeting Room – WPRM, Portola, CA**

President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 13:09.

Attendance

The following Directors were present:

Greg Elems - phone	Roger Stabler - phone
Steve Habeck – arrived 1:18 PM	Matt Elems
Kerry Cochran - phone	Bob Sims - phone
Charlie Spikes – phone	Eugene Vicknair - phone

7 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

Noted that Director Bob Sims is having computer issues and could not see all agenda items.

Visitors:

David Elems – CMO, Safety Officer

Correspondence

G. Elems

- Have been in contact with Ed Dickens on possible UP 4014 visit.
- We received an email asking to buy 2 signal bells. Kerry Cochran answered back that artifacts are not for sale. Person responded thanking us for the response.

Habeck

- Got a packet from US Dept. of Agriculture on grant application. Forwarded to Eugene Vicknair.

Consent Calendar

1. Minutes – Minutes of the February 2024 BOD Regular Meeting. .

Motion 24-03-01

Approve the January 2024 BOD Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Vicknair / Spikes. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Old Business

2024 Budget Preliminary

Presentation of preliminary 2024 budget for Board review.

- Draft budget sent out.
- Roger Stabler suggested looking at sending out mailer just on roof.
- Kerry Cochran will make a \$500 donation to the roof by end of April. Greg Elems, Charlie Spikes and Eugene Vicknair will also be making donations.
- Do a specified fundraiser for the roof to get \$165,000.
- Roger Stabler suggested looking at new Pumpkin and Santa Train admission costs. Eugene Vicknair will do analysis for next meeting discussion. Noted cost of fuel and maintenance going up.

Motion 24-03-02

Approve the 2024 Budget as modified.

Vicknair / Cochran. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Private Equipment Agreement

Review agreement to be signed by equipment owners.

- Legally reviewed contract provided.
- Some discussion on contract.
- Noted we need to find someone to send the contract. We need a designated point of contact who is not a director.
- Eugene Vicknair suggested Des Powers. .

Motion 24-03-03

Approve the Private Equipment Agreement as legally reviewed.
Cochran / Vicknair. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

- Board gives consensus direction for Eugene Vicknair to contact Des Powers about Private Equipment contact.

New Business

None

Good of the Order

President's Report

- Verbal report provided.
- Has been in contact with Ed Dickens of UP Steam Department and Peggy Ygbuhay, Sr. Director UP Public Relations concerning several items for the Society.

Financial Reports

- Financial reports provided.
- Fundraising letter out. Looking at putting out email blast.
- Question about photos showing activity at the museum.

Director's Reports

- Vicknair – written report provided
 - Final Shuttered Venue Grant report filed.
 - UP Foundation Grant report is due August 1, 2024.
 - Discussed two new grant options.

Nick Manos has joined meeting at 1:54 PM for RAL Committee Report.

Event Reports

- *2024 Convention* – update on progress.
 - Discussion about convention status.
 - Registration is low.
 - Mailer and email blast need to go out.
 - Eugene will start printing mailer Monday evening. We need name by then or will be TBD.
 - More discussion about convention and finding speakers.
 - Suggestion about starting to track age of attendees.
 - Noted that cancellation date is March 28.
 - Eugene will check store to make sure orders were not missed. Also need to email out notice to check mailed in checks.

Department Reports

- *Webmaster* – written report provided.

- *Headlight* – written report provided.
- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
- *Mechanical* – written and verbal report provided
 - Issue with SP GP9 2873 seems to be resolved. Pulled rocker arm and injector and gave them a cleaning. Now working. Over next couple of weeks will be poking into engine, planning to clean all other injectors. Work was supposed to happen this week, but storm has delayed work.
 - Balloon track has 1 to 4 feet of snow on it. Going to run the rotary Sunday morning to clear the balloon track. Rough start time about 10:30 AM.
 - Thank you to David Elems and Logan Beers for main clearing of snow. Ethan Doty came down and helped finish and they all worked on the rotary plow to get it ready.
 - Next week will be big mechanical push. Several people coming to help. Going to focus on WP SW1500 1503, Quincy TR6A 1100 and SP GP9 2873. Needs to contact Brian Waller. Kerry will send email.
 - Planning other snow removal items.
- *Facilities* – verbal report provided.
 - During snow clearing last week, raised west end #1 door. When they tried to lower, power went dead to doors. Breakers did not trip. Doors were closed manually. Unknown what may have happened. Eugene Vicknair to contact Eric McKay.
 - Last winter awning over door to electric room started to fall. Recent snow destroyed it. Needs to be replaced / rebuilt.
 - Flooding not terrible considering amount of snow.
 - Discussion about ADA grant use. David is in favor of indoor drinking fountain. Agrees with other proposals in list. We need to address pedestrian crossing. Eugene and David will discuss more tomorrow (Sunday).
 - Discussion about snow rakes for Diesel Shop roof.

Committee Reports

- *RAL Committee* – written report provided.
 - Noted that a critical feature of RAL program improvement is getting SP GP9 2873 back online. Thank you to David Elems for his work.
 - June 8-9 will be the first “Open Cab Day”. Getting volunteers together now. Plan is to position them on east end of pedestrian crossing for public viewing. Will run caboose train push pull.
 - Have made changes to the website to reflect RAL committee recommendations. There is a meeting coming up to discuss website changes.
 - Continuing to study additional experiences beyond RAL. Doing study and will report back to Board. Want to move forward and start this idea later this year. Discussion of pricing theory for the added experiences and requirement for membership.

Legal / Insurance Report

- Paying the insurance installments.

Status of Surplus Property Report

none

Safety Committee

- Winter snow warnings.

Public Comments

David Elems – Thank you to Logan Beers for helping this week with snow removal. Was very helpful. Also thank you to Ethan Doty for helping out. The Board endorses these thank yous.

Bob Sims – Noted that in March 2024 issue of Trains magazine had a story on “Abraham Lincoln” private car. Question about heritage of the car and its relation to the Western Pacific.

Notices

- 2024 WP Convention slated to begin April 10, 2024.

BREAK – 3:05 PM to 3:18 PM

Closed Session – requested by President Greg Elems and Director Eugene Vicknair – 3:18 PM – 4:45 PM

- *Property Issue* – Museum Property
- *Business Issue* – Possible Summer Events

The Board heard a report on a Property Issue – Museum Property. No reportable action taken.
The Board heard a report on a Business Issue – Possible Summer Events. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 16:45 (Vicknair / M. Elems)

Next Meeting: April 12, 2024 – 9:00 AM
Location: WP Convention, Oroville, CA

Respectfully Submitted
Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary