

**Feather River Rail Society  
Board of Directors Meeting – July 13, 2019 – 4:30 PM  
WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA**

Vice-President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 4:38 PM

**Attendance**

**The following Directors were present:**

Charlie Spikes  
Janet Steeper  
Kerry Cochran

Bob Sims  
Roger Stabler  
Eugene Vicknair

6 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

**Guests present:**

David Elems – Asst. CMO, Safety Officer – phone with permission  
Bart Hansen - Treasurer  
Kenneth Finnegan – Signal Dept.  
Fred Elenbaas  
David Epling

Patty Clawson – Big Fish Creations  
Bil Jackson – Mechanical Dept.  
Eric McKay

***Installation of 2019-2020 Board of Directors***

Board officially installed

Next meeting will be Offices, Department and Committee Heads

**Correspondence**

- *Yelp and Google Reviews* – Eugene Vicknair reviewed recent reviews on social media. 10 of 12 were 5 star reviews with good notices. 1 was 3 star review with good notices.
- Willow Glen Trestle in San Jose has had its historic status reaffirmed. Still going through court battles.
- Julia Rigutto Pagan passed away July 1. The Board noted her service in the Navy and on board the WP 106 “Charles O. Sweetwood” as a Red Cross Nurse in 1951.

**The Board observed a moment of silence in honor of Julia Rigutto Pagan, Navy and Red Cross Nurse**

**Consent Calendar**

Approval of the minutes of the June 2019 Regular and Special BOD Meetings.

Motion 19-07-01

Approve the minutes of the June 2019 Regular and Special Board Meetings as presented.

Cochran / Vicknair. Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1. Motion carries.

Membership Meeting Minutes were not sent. Will be sent next meeting.

**Old Business**

**2020 Western Pacific Convention**

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Review preparations for 2020 Convention.

- Written report provided.
- Kerry Cochran wanted to note that Eugene Vicknair went out of his way on trip to museum to check out the Gold Country Casino in Oroville as possible convention site.

- We have found no viable locations in Lodi or Yuba City.
- Goal with this item is to determine date, duration and appoint a committee in addition to Kerry Cochran and Eugene Vicknair.
- Best date option appears to be April 16-18. Could revert to 2 day convention which we did in years past.
- Discussion about various locations we have reviewed for location. Eugene gave overview of his tour to the Gold Country Casino in Oroville. He is getting quote for reference.
- Kerry provided overview of past conventions.
- Suggestion by Greg Elems to do registration and meet and greet on Thursday, then shows on Friday and Saturday.

#### Motion 19-07-02

Have 2-1/2 day main convention, registration and meet and greet on Thursday evening and main presentations Friday and Saturday with banquet on Saturday. Sunday for optional events. Cochran / Spikes. Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

- Discussion of location. Consensus to select Gold Country Casino. Eugene to get quote.
- Discussion of date. Consensus that April 16-18 looks good.
- Discussion of themes. WP's Gateway to California. Oro Dam.
- Kerry reviewed presenters he has already been contacting.
- David Epling offered to help. Would like to set up layout tours.
- Discussion of registration needs. Kerry to review with webmaster.
- Eugene will create mailing and promotions.
- Question about having model contest or exhibit. David Epling offered to coordinate this. General feeling is that this is desirable.
- Suggestion to have member photo exhibit.
- Kevin Caldwell just did custom models of Oro Dam locomotives.
- David Epling noted that International Railfair may be doing their last show in Roseville. Suggested we have booth there.
- Committee is: Kerry Cochran (presenters), Eugene Vicknair (venue and mailings), Greg Elems (vendors and store), David Epling (model layouts, exhibits and photo exhibits), Bob Sims (registration).
- Kerry and Eugene will set costs and registration fees with consensus of the Board.
- Janet Steeper and Fred Elenbaas will volunteer to run registration at the convention.
- Bob Sims will handle registration income.
- Discussion of banquet speaker. Greg Elems and Eugene Vicknair suggest Al Fonseca. Greg will approach Al.
- Kerry, Eugene and Scott McAllister are reviewing convention handbook.

## **New Business**

### **Membership and Volunteer Outreach**

Discuss ideas for increasing memberships and volunteer engagement.

- Written report provided.
- Review of ideas put forward.
- Also suggestion to send letter to members who dropped in last 3-8 years.
- Kerry Cochran is already working with Janet Steeper to approach past volunteers to encourage back. Janet is making calls and emails.
- Booths and railfan and model events.
- Having booths at local events.

- Webmaster Paul Finnegan sent photo of our RAL brochure put into window of a shut down store in Albany, CA.
- Discussion about improving visitor sign in to digital.
- Patty Clawson pointed out that we have members in local fraternal groups. Suggested we use those members to engage closer with these groups.
- Bart Hansen related how his uncle who is Treasurer at Campo museum tracked 60% of their free / discount memberships for RAL people renewed.
- Discussion about RAL discount for first year membership. Do special follow up at first year renewal.
- Try discount membership renewal with referral in conjunction with convention.
- Bob Sims suggested that we target young memberships. Do special event aimed at youth, day or camp. Add in modeling.
- Possible junior membership level.
- Eugene Vicknair to review youth program at Nevada Northern with Mark Bassett.
- Discussion about O scale and HO scale layouts that we have around the museum.
- Patty Clawson suggested tapping into community colleges to get 18-24 age. Coordinate with some of their programs. Give student discounts.
- Eugene, Janet, Bart Hansen and Kerry to review and come back to Board with refined ideas.

## **Good of the Order**

### **President's Report**

- Vice-President's Report
- Lots of work going on.
- WP SW1500 1503 has received a lot of work. Now has working batteries and fired up nicely. Radiators about to come out and go to A-1 Radiator. Lots of sanding and paint prep going on. Should be getting coat of green in 2-3 weeks. Plan is to have it running for WP Celebration. David Elems has put in a lot of time getting the 1503 ready. Ethan Doty and Steve Habeck worked on batteries.
- Soft section of track near Milward Switch worked on. More trackwork to come.

### **Financial Reports**

- Financial reports and summary provided.
- Bart Hansen would like to do an internal audit.
- Eugene Vicknair pointed out that more and more grants want audited financials.
- Bart also suggested reviewing the endowment.
- Board requested that Bart pull together committee to recommend to do audit. Suggestion to approach Matt Shuman and David McClain.

### **Director's Reports**

- *Vicknair* – written report provided.
  - Working on idea for getting community track crews.
  - Worked with Hansen Family on car and building cleaning. Thanks to Hansen Family for their help in cleaning the Display Room, Silver Plate and Troop Sleeper.
  - Donated \$450 cleaning cart and vacuum.

### **Event Reports**

- *2019 Convention* – written report provided.
- *Graeagle Independence Day Festival* – written report provided. Congressman LaMalfa came by our booth for 30 minutes.

- *Western Pacific Celebration* – written report provided. Greg still trying to track down modular layout. Discussion about gunfighters and train robberies. Discussion about locations and layout positions. Big Fish donated \$600 worth of advertising on Graeagle.com to promote event and RAL. Big Fish also sent out a media eBlast about the event. Fred Elenbaas offered to restripe handicapped parking and repaint men's room floor before event.

Patty Clawson left meeting – 6:38 PM

### **Department Reports**

- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided.
- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
- *Marketing* – written report provided.
- *RAL Operations* – written report provided. Discussion about RAL fleet and needs to return FM 1857 back into service: traction motor change, cooling system rebuilt, oil cooler. Need at least \$2,000 or more just for oil cooler.
- *Mechanical* – written report provided on rubber tire equipment. Written report on rail equipment sent before meeting. Discussion about work needs for WP GP7 707 and Army H-12-44 1857. Bil working on horns and back-up lights on forklifts. Next is work on backhoe electrical and then lights and horns.

### **Committee Reports**

none

### **Legal / Insurance Report**

none

### **Status of Surplus Property Report**

none

### **Safety Report**

- Depending on funds would like to do a last big push on fire extinguishers starting in September. Prepare for start of 2020.
- Emphasized no one should be tampering with safety alarms on forklifts.
- Spreading more oil eating microbes around.
- Needs to have committee meeting next month.

### **Public Comments**

- *Kerry Cochran* – there is a new wifi system installed around the museum with additional repeaters. Kenneth Finnegan spent last night and today installing this system. New name and password will be posted in the lock box. Two repeaters in Diesel Shop and one in lounge car.
- *Bob Sims* – wanted to know who removed the swamp cooler fill hose. Bob purchased it special from ACE Hardware and cannot find it.
- *Janet Steeper* - Dayton Valley Historical Society is doing Dayton Valley Days. Wondering if they can borrow WPRM speeder for Dayton Valley Days September 20-21. Suggestion that we have the same booth set-up at Dayton Valley Days as we did at Graeagle. Put on agenda for next meeting.

### **Notices**

- July 16 and 18 – Lionel Group tours
- August 3-4 – Western Pacific Celebration

**Break 7:00 – 7:10 PM**

**Closed Session** – requested by Directors Cochran and Vicknair – 7:10 PM – 8:06 PM

- Legal Issue – FRRS vs. Kasten / ITAC / Gateway
- Legal Issue – Meeker vs. FRRS and Vicknair
- Business Issue – Future Business Possibility
- Personnel Issue – Volunteers

The Board heard a report on a legal issue – FRRS vs. Kasten / ITAC / Gateway. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a legal issue – Meeker vs. FRRS and Vicknair. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – Future Business Possibility. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a personnel issue – Volunteers. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at: 8:07 PM (Vicknair / Spikes)

Next Meeting: August 10, 2019 – 4:30 PM

Location: WPRM Meeting Room - Western Pacific Railroad Museum - Portola, CA

Respectfully Submitted, Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary