

**Feather River Rail Society  
Board of Directors Meeting – October 13, 2018 – 6:00 PM  
WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA**

President Steve Habeck called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

**Attendance**

**The following Directors were present:**

Charlie Spikes  
Matt Elems – phone  
Kerry Cochran  
Greg Elems  
Steve Habeck  
Bob Sims  
Janet Steeper  
Eugene Vicknair  
8 directors present, 1 absent – Quorum achieved.

Guests present:

Ethan Doty  
Ali Doty  
Paul Finnegan – webmaster  
Patty Clawson – Big Fish Creations  
David Elems – Asst. CMO

**Correspondence**

*Habeck* – Someone dropped off photos of our SP Fire Truck right after it was last taken. Has pictures available in meeting.

*WP Willow Glen Trestle* – Preservation group had court hearing concerning a restraining order against the City of San Jose to prevent trestle destruction. Trestle's historic designation has been upheld in court. Some in city have offered a compromise to put pre-fab trestle over the historic WP trestle.

*Greg Elems* – Received email from member Phil Schmierrer. Ron Kamincow, past president of the Black Butte Center for RR Culture, announced fundraiser to repair Sacramento Northern wood boxcar 2349 and WP-PFE 55224. Their website is [www.bbcr.org](http://www.bbcr.org).

**Consent Calendar**

Approval of the minutes of the September 2018.

Motion 10-18-01

Approve the minutes of the September 2018 regular BOD Meeting as presented.  
Vicknair / Spikes. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

**Old Business:**

**OB1 – Passenger Train Operations**

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Follow up on 2018 ops report and solicit feedback from Board.

- Written report provided at previous meeting. Update handed out at meeting.
- Previous report showed train rider numbers for prior year.

- Update proposed revised caboose train operations schedule for 2019 based on Conductor Reports for 2018.
- New schedule allows for some more RAL times and begins operation earlier in day. Also spells out Railroad Days and July 4<sup>th</sup> operations recommendations.
- Finding few people around after 3 PM on ops weekends, but more people are around waiting for train rides when we open at 10 AM.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> train rides would not occur if holiday falls on Tuesday through Thursday.
- Correction noted to make sure Lunch (Beans) is 1 hour on Sunday.
- Question about when we can have Plan C RALs. Only 2 hour block is on Sunday.
- Suggestion to delay or annul 11 AM trains if a Plan C RAL is running in morning.
- Recommendation to look at RAL schedules to see frequency of Plan C RALs in weekend.
- Consensus is to proceed with Caboose Ops Schedule presented with noted corrections.

## **New Business**

### **NB1 – 2019 Budget (Hansen / Vicknair)**

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Review and approve 2019 Operating Budget.

- Budget previously sent to Board.
- Noted that Mechanical Budget needs to get bigger.
- Board to continue reviewing and submit changes by Oct. 26.
- Review and approve in November.

### **NB2 – 2019 Event Calendar (Vicknair)**

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Review and approve 2019 Operating Budget.

- Calendar sent out for review.
- Discussion about doing off-site shows again. Discussion on pros and cons.
- Greg Elems waiting to hear from WWII group, leave off schedule until then.
- No changes to overall calendar.

Motion 10-18-02

Approve the 2019 Calendar as amended.

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

- Suggestion to move 6 PM meetings to 4:30 PM. Will make change. Evaluate and see how it works.
- Discussion about event planning and dates.
- Bob Sims will discuss with Roger Stabler to get steam work dates.
- 2019 Calendar to go into next Train Sheet due Oct. 31.

### **NB3 – Use of Archive Materials Request (Brehm)**

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Consider archives use request from Frank Brehm.

- Written request provided along with policy notes.
- Noted that we already have similar use agreements with members Dale Sanders and Eugene Vicknair.
- Requested if this will have any conflict with Meeker court case. Noted that attorneys instructed us to use collection as outlined in original donation agreement.
- General agreement that Frank will follow all rules. Outlined agreement is in compliance with established policies and procedures. This includes proper credit to Society.
- Consensus direction to allow Frank to proceed.

### **NB4 – Train Sheet and Headlight (Cochran)**

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Review status and proposals for publications.

- Notes provided to Board.
- Cochran noted that he often gets questions about “Where is the Train Sheet / Headlight?”
- He is working with Headlight staff to get Headlight out before end of years and another before the Convention.
- Noted concerns to watch expenses coming into winter shutdown. May need to check budget before next issue.
- Proposal to move to quarterly Train Sheets and stick to schedule.
- Discussed requests to put modeling articles back into the Headlight.
- Calendar and budget will be adjusted accordingly.
- Discussions about budget.
- Bob Sims suggested that next issue have a solicitation for PDF email version of the Train Sheet.
- Noted that this is already laid out into the next Train Sheet.
- Cochran noted that there have been a lot of discussion concerning Train Sheet over the last three weeks, primarily among Matt Elems, Kerry Cochran, Paul Finnegan and Eugene Vicknair.
- Patty Clawson asked if we have ever considered advertising in the issues. Past experience with ads in publications were discussed.
- Bob Sims commented about including items about books coming into publication, etc.
- Patty suggested that we could have ads that are shown as sponsoring events. Patty and Eugene will review this idea for website and Train Sheet and report back to Train Sheet committee.
- Paul Finnegan thanks Greg Elems for his photo submissions and noted how the new structure of the Train Sheet is working to integrate news and photos better with the website.
- Matt Elems reminded everyone that smart phones are now good enough most times to take photos for Train Sheet.
- Habeck noted that he likes outline and that we need to better commit and not blow off deadlines as has been happening.
- Noted that recommendation is to have two editors for Train Sheet, Paul Finnegan and Matt Elems. Eugene Vicknair will be assisting.
- Noted that Eugene is working with Kerry to get vendor sales of Headlight back on track. Habeck note that he received 3 dealer payments. Kerry noted we sent invoices to 3, so all are in.
- Vicknair provided some historic info on what articles are appropriate to Headlight and to Train Sheet.
- Question about quantity of Headlight production. Cochran noted that he is reviewing production runs for both publications and that Train Sheet is now at new, lower cost printer.
- Consensus to go to quarterly production of Train Sheet.
- Noted that cost for production of Headlight is being reviewed.

### **NB5 – Steve Cavanaugh Layout Restoration (Cochran)**

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Consider plan for layout restoration and display.

- Written report and restoration plan provided.
- Kerry outlined how layout section depicting Keddie Wye came to museum.
- Presented restoration plan. He will solicit outside funds to repair and create display using layout section.
- Would like to make it a centerpiece discussing history of Keddie Wye. Will include photos of actual wye and WP history with the wye.
- Noted we now have a modeling page on website and has reprint of article on Cavanaugh layout on this page.
- Kerry will head this up in coordination with Model Committee.
- Consensus direction to proceed as outlined.

## **NB6 – Privacy Policy (Cochran)**

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Consider update / legal review of current Privacy Policy.

- Current policy provided.
- Suggested that we send to legal team for review.
- Concerns we not be compliant with current rules.
- Vicknair will send to legal with consensus of the Board.

## **NB7 – Prospector Magazine (Cochran / Vicknair)**

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Approve proposal to carry RGMHS Prospector Magazine in store.

- Written report provided.
- Proposal to carry Prospector Magazine.
- Noted that everyone feels quality is superb.
- RGM&HS will show us as a dealer.
- Discussion about impact and viability. Noted we can cancel or send unsold magazines back for credit.
- Question if they can carry Headlight to sell at shows.

Motion 10-18-03

Approve agreement to start carrying magazine starting with minimum order to gauge interest. Vicknair / Cochran. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

## **Good of the Order**

### **President's Report**

- Written report provided.
- Habeck and Greg Elems are in contact with Boy Scout Scoutmaster. He is leading project to get 30 brand new custom mattresses made for Troop Sleeper. Society will pay for mattresses and he will donate amount back. Plaque will placed in car thanking troop.
- We received 47 responses to date to mail out fundraiser. About \$7,500 donated.
- Concern about having enough money to get through winter shutdown.
- Guy in Sacramento has Budd parts he wants to donate. [domeliner@gmail.com](mailto:domeliner@gmail.com) Vicknair will coordinate.
- Work outlined on Magnolia Grove has now changed.
- Seth Adams was here for a week and got WP 501 running, but it has issues.
- Bob Sims donated stock to cover costs for upcoming mechanical work. Consensus to convert stock and deposit to general account.

### **Financial Reports**

- Financial reports provided.
- Vicknair to review charge receipts and coding with Susan.
- Insurance charges went up dramatically this year.

### **Director's Reports**

- *Vicknair* – written report provided.
  - Whitman Building and vinyl cutter
  - Discussion of boxcar offered for donation – does not fit our mission, offer to Reading Technical
  - Greg Elems will be talking to Todd Roberts to coordinate track placement and has track materials ready to go.
  - Question if we want to do pre-orders on the calendar. Use manila envelopes with cardboard stiffener.

Motion 10-18-04

Approve putting out preorders for 2019 Photo Calendar.

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

- Board thanks Hansen family for their donations to the Pumpkin Patch Express
- *Cochran* – written report provided.
  - Discussion of new volunteer verification / background check system.
  - Four volunteers have gone through as test. So far working well. Article in next Train Sheet.
  - Kerry outlined how process works and showed report.
  - Questions about how system will work going forward.

### Event Reports

- *2019 WP – PCR Convention* – written report provided.
- *Pumpkin Patch Express* – written report provided.
  - Lights in 2 more cabooses and then train is done. Decorating shop tomorrow.
  - Still looking for volunteers first weekend. Need Pumpkin Patch volunteers for sales and watch patch, help with gate. May have Rainbow Girls both weekends. Boy Scouts 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend. Patty Clawson is going to reach out to contacts she has for volunteers, kids needing community service.
  - Eugene will be setting up event tents next Friday and will coordinate vendors and staff Info Booth.
  - Sweets kids were decorating Haunted Railcar yesterday. Will be passive, Family friendly during the day, staffed and “adult” at night.
  - Got a lot of free advertising and a lot of response to our social media posting. Posters are all over the region (Portola, Quincy, Blairsden) and in Reno.

### Department Reports

- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
  - Modeling page up.
  - Got a great set of pictures and story back from Bob Sims and Roger Stabler on steam work session.
  - No sponsors have renewed except Hansen Tax Office.
- *RAL Ops* – written report provided.
  - Have received some more bookings for October and November. At about 140 RALs booked or done for 2018.
  - WP F7A 917-D will be out of service for restoration / mechanical work for at least first part of 2019 season.
- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Archives / Historical* – written report provided.
  - A bunch of archives donations has come in lately, including stuff from Bob Sims and Randy Morton. 25 boxes of books along with boxes of magazines and tapes donated from Duncan Estate.
  - Kerry is looking at PastPerfect software cost and talking with Janet Steeper about its use by Dayton Historical Society.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided.
  - Report outlines recent committee discussions and plans that Matt Elems and Paul Finnegan have for moving forward.
  - Already have 2 issues partly completed following issue for November printing.
- *Mechanical* – written report provided.

- Reviewed status on several projects. Hoping to call and start order on injectors for WP GP7 707 next week. Wants to do training class on how to install injectors when they arrive.
- WRIX 849 work done. Waiting on inspectors.
- Magnolia Grove work in process for movement to Portland. Still need to change out 2 wheels. Wayne Yetter coming up on Nov 1 to start final wheel replacement.

### **Committee Reports**

- *Funding* – written report provided.
- *Advertising* – written report provided.

### **Legal / Insurance Report**

none

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

- *Amtrak 8070* – ownership transfer document for Board review
  - Once ownership is changed, car is to be offered for sale.

### **Safety Report**

- David Elems has been talking to members of committee. Not much to report this month,
- Working on parking and fire lane issues.
- Needs to finish remaining fire extinguishers.
- Forklift training in the spring.

### **Public Comments**

*Bob Sims* – was running out of caulking and time as part of his window work in the Board Room. Asked if someone could check during winter if windows are leaking.

### **Notices**

- Pumpkin Patch Express – October 20-21, 27-28

### **Closed Session** – requested by Director Vicknair – 9:33 PM – 10:05 PM

- Legal Issue – Meeker vs. FRRS and Vicknair
- Business Issue – Equipment Acquisition
- Business Issue – Land Acquisition
- Business Issue – Event Center

The Board heard a report on a legal issue – Meeker v. FRRS and Vicknair. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – Equipment Acquisition. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – Land Acquisition. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – Event Center. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at: 10:06 PM (Vicknair / G. Elems)  
 Next Meeting: November 10, 2018 – 1:00 PM  
 Location: WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA

Respectfully Submitted, Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary