

**Feather River Rail Society**  
**Board of Directors Meeting – April 4, 2010 – 4:00 PM**  
**WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, California**

**Attendance**

Vice-President Steve Habeck called the meeting to order at 4:11 PM.

The following Directors were present

Norm Holmes	Steve Habeck	Frank Brehm (ph)	Wayne Monger
Tom Carter (ph)	Eugene Vicknair	Matt Parker	Charlie Spikes

Staff and Visitors present:

David Epling – Museum Manager  
Vicki Epling  
William “Burr” Wilson  
Alex Wilson  
Chris Allan – Steam CMO  
Ed Powell  
Curt McBride – Portola City Council  
Ellen Spikes  
Chris Skow  
James Mason - ph  
Allen Hirsch – Harvard Community Partners - ph  
Hank Stiles  
Larry Douglas – High Sierra Community Development Center

Items RR Days Excursion, Portola RR Days, Community Involvement were moved y consensus to the beginning of the meeting.

**Old Business**

**Railroad Days Excursion**

Chris Skow reported that ticket sales are at 49% of capacity.  
Expecting sales to pick up again after tax season.  
High interest in excursion. In 2 months, over 3000 page visits on web.  
Still 14 cars. Some cars swapped out. Consist is on website [www.traintrips.biz](http://www.traintrips.biz).  
Amtrak still drawing up contract. Union Pacific has given final approval.

**New Business**

**Portola Railroad Days 2010**

Cindy Wood is home with fever. Curt McBride and Chris Skow gave report.  
Chris: Several merchants have called offering their time to help get the museum fixed up for RR Days and are willing to donate time and materials (paint, etc.) Opinions being expressed that there is a “gold mine” in the backyard, that being the museum. RR Days Committee wants to run Excursion every year. Would also like to run excursions for other events.  
Discussion about updating project list for RR Days. We will coordinate to get a work list to David Epling.  
Curt stated that fire department could do training burn if we have burn piles. Thanked Director Vicknair for giving a tour of the museum.

Director Monger asked if there was way to run sewer trucks at night during Railroad Days. We will need to talk to Jim Murphy about rescheduling. Might be able to use an alternate site for that time.  
Larry Douglas offered advertising space at American Valley Speedway. Wants to get local high school ROPE program involved in projects here at the museum. Interested in working on the Hospital.

### **Community Involvement**

Curt McBride spoke to Board. He does welding and repair and would like to help us do some static display items, including benches. Discussion of a possible large equipment display on Highway 70 on west side of town, signage and other items.

He is working on sign at Highway 70 and Gulling for museum. Wants to promote city and museum. Would like to get some of these projects done before RR Days.

The Board thanked Councilman McBride for his interest and will be working with him and city to move these projects forward.

Curt McBride and Larry Douglas left meeting at this point.

### **Correspondence**

none

### **Appointment of New Treasurer**

Mike Coen has new job and will need to step away from Treasurer job. He has recommended James Mason for position. Director Vicknair discussed this with Mr. Mason and President McClure and Mr. Mason is willing to accept.

Motion to appoint James Mason as Treasurer in replacement for Mike Coen and give him signature authority on accounts. (Vicknair / Spikes)

Motion 04-10-01. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

### **Consent Calendar**

1. Minutes – Minutes of the General Meeting from March 2010.  
Motion to accept consent calendar. (Vicknair / Spikes).  
Motion 04-10-02. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1. Motion carries.

### **Old Business - continued**

#### **Equipment De-Acquisition**

A&D Committee provided list of relevant museums for each piece of equipment. Exceptions were Beet Gon, Ingersol-Rand and MRS-1. Recommended putting MRS-1 on RailSwap, other two items have single organization offers.

Committee wants consensus direction for list and to send formal invitations to those organizations.

Director Monger objected to Chehalis unless they have secure facility, felt IRM is not valid because they are restoring sister MILW locomotive. Feels PLA should be included in SP recommendations. Has concerns about CTRC. Also has concerns about Folsom.

Hank Stiles reported that he has been working with Folsom group and they have a fenced area to store locomotives.

Director Monger requested that committee specifically add PLA, Orange Empire and San Diego RR Museum for the ONW 4.

Consensus Direction to add three organizations and give Committee the go ahead to proceed.

TPL log Flat item move up by consensus direction.

## **New Business - continued**

### **Pacific Lumber Log Flat Trade**

Written report provided, including detailed history of SN 1449 flat car. Chris Allan is working with small logging museum on a Shay restoration. They would like a west coast log flat to go with their Shay. They offered to provide and mill all wood for restoration of SN 1449 flatcar (currently stored in Stockton after donation by CSR to FRRS) in trade for one Pacific Lumber log flat from WPRM collection. Log flat would be interpreted as a log flat, not used for other service. Chris reports that they are a very small well run and well financed museum. They would allow us to restore SN flat at their mill. We would have access to their machines to do the work. Concensus direction given to have Chris Allan proceed with negotiations.

## **Old Business - continued**

### **Radio Acquisition**

Offer to sell used Motorola radios to FRRS. AAR rule change coming that will require all new digital radios. These would not be viable for the new radio rules. Concensus Direction to decline offer.

### **Advertising Opportunities**

Written report provided by Director Matt Parker. Lotus Radio and CBS have offered to work with us and make these happen. We sent letter to Terry Swofford, county supervisor, asking for \$2000 for advertising. Have not heard back yet. Was on agenda for supervisors' meeting last Tuesday. Animal Ark in Reno is doing a deal to have their ad on vacant billboards for cheap. Matt spoke with Clear Channel about this idea and it may be available to us. Matt asked if anyone has any ideas for funds and advertising opportunities.

Motion to add Item of Urgency – Brochure Printing (Vicknair / Spikes)  
Motion 04-10-03. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion Carries.

### **Brochure Printing**

Recommended run is about 5000.  
Motion to print 5000 brochures with revised membership information. Funding to be from Advertising 67010, funds to be pulled from Dean Rauscher. (Vicknair / Monger)  
Motion – 04-10-04. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

## **New Business - continued**

### **VoiceAmerica Radio Show**

Opportunity for FRRS to create / host 13 week subscriber satellite radio show.  
Written report provided.  
Manager Epling talked about a show that was done through TrainWeb.org that was a call in show. Let's Talk Trains.  
Concensus direction given to get more info and discuss with WPRRHS folks about material.

### **Audio Tour Demo**

Offer for WPRM to host free 2 month cel phone audio tour demo.  
Written report provided.  
Director Parker might have someone to record professionally.

Would get revenue from trial period.

Director Vicknair to create 1 minute scripts and Director Parker will talk to recording person. Scripts to be about 1 minute each. Do equipment and off-site points of interest.

Concensus direction to proceed with trial period.

### **Equipment for Sparks Yard**

Request for donation / long-term loan of equipment for UP Sparks Yard display.

Written report provided.

Display is located near old steam shop. Visible from I-80 and Nugget.

One item suggested is Union Pacific handcar stored in Simplot reefer. Concerns about handcar weathering.

Director Holmes suggested getting a surplus speeder from a group sitting on the V&T in Virginia City.

Director Carter suggested motorcar trailer with track tools.

Motion to loan Fairmont A-3 motorcar, bent axle flat and Union Pacific handcar with caveat that handcar is fragile, high value artifact and may be substituted in the future. (Vicknair / Spikes)

Motion 04-10-05. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

### **ID Laminates**

Offer to make identification laminate badges for WPRM volunteers.

Written report submitted.

Kerry Cochran has done laminates in the past for free and indicates that he may do them again.

The submitted proposal will cost us. Tabled to May.

Concensus to contact Kerry Cochran and see what his plans are.

Manager Epling pointed out that POS system will scan and track hours. Monger recommended that ID cards have barcodes for this system.

### **Off-Site Events**

Manager Epling seeking approval for participation in two off-site events: NMRA National Train Show in Sacramento, CA, and National Railroad Day at the Reno Amtrak Depot on May 8, 2010.

Written reports provided.

National Train Day in Reno, NV May 8. Sponsored by Amtrak. Street at depot will be blocked off, big party with vendors. Similar to Sparks Farmers Market. Looking to turn this into Annual Reno Railroad Days. No cost.

Concensus direction to participate, Epling to find volunteers for booth.

Ed Powell and Vicki Epling volunteered to crew the booth.

National Train Show in Sacramento, CA on July 8-9, 2011. Need to get on list. No expense right now, but will cost to register in June 2010. Will need some people to crew the booth, about 6 people. Would bring Z-Scale layout.

NTS show will be doing a whole day of RALs on July 7, 2011, bringing busloads of people up. Will be a precursor event in Sparks.

Concensus direction to have Epling follow-up on participation.

### **Good of the Order**

#### **President's Report**

none

#### **Museum Manager's Report**

- Written report submitted.
- Is now making it as a daily log.
- Add Matt Parker working on steam locomotive on April 9.
- Timber Heritage coming next week to prep SP subs for movement.
- Sundance sent samples of new pins being done exclusively for FRRS of Tidewater Southern sunburst, cornucopia and CCT quatrofoil done based off Vicknair artwork.

- Might be an issue with Suburban Propane owning LP tanks. Holmes stated that Bi-State installed tanks originally.
- Had serious issue with USPS trying to ship international orders. We now have a UPS account for shipping. Have sent 4 packages, no problems with them.

### Financial Reports

- Money still tight. Did get \$6500 for DODX flatcar. Bills paid, but we need to keep a tight lid on expenses for now.
- Getting more orders from web store.
- 2007 fines from IRS were waived.

### Director's Reports

*Vicknair* – Lone Railfair. Niles Depot event. Plumas Transportation Commission Grant Submission. Written report submitted.

*Monger / Vicknair* – CAM Convention report.

- Phil Krumholtz of BAERA is now president of CAM.
- Both reported serious underrepresentation of industrial / large artifact museums in CAM.
- Only 3 RR museums in CAM.
- CAM announced California license plate to raise funds to support museums. Dancing Snoopy plate. Fee for plates will go into pool, 60% will be made available to museums for general operating costs. Will be available through yearly challenge grants. 20% goes to State Parks, 20% goes to CAM to be used for scholarships and grants.
- Tech Museum has created a testbed for a virtual museums. VirtualTech.com. Invited other museums to meet with them on possible projects.
- Discussed e-buddy ideas, other social network techniques.

*Monger* – Donated 7014 miles driven and \$723 unreimbursed expenses. Encouraged everyone to report this data to the IRS.

*Holmes* – Got call from BAERA and someone donated plans for WP Winnemucca Turntable. Asked if we wanted the plans as they do not want them. Scrap prices are up and we might want to look at getting rid of 70' gondola full of scrap. Tom Grey is interested in buying Duff-Norton car jacks. Board gave direction for Grey to make us an offer.

*Carter* – Printing for election is done, worked with Russ Johnson on that. Crew training on May 8-9. If people cannot make those dates, *he is wanting suggestions for alternate dates. Webcam is an hour off due to OS bug.*

### Department Reports

*Publications* – Train Sheet 151 Status. Waiting on photos and then will be done. Spares of Issue 149 were not received from AgPress.

*Steam* – Status report. Written report provided. Work has been going on most of week. Hanks Stiles, Roger Stabler, William and Alex Wilson, Steve Cope, Eugene Vicknair, Matt Parker worked on 165. Norm Holmes, Bob Sims, James Mason and Eugene Vicknair donated to replicas of cab numbers and tender signs. Redman Equipment drilled new front tube sheet piece and donated labor. Staybolt caps removed, general clean-up. Almost to point where reassembly starts. Director Vicknair is doing a prospectus for 165 donors. Need to get DRGW boxcar moved from Rio Vista.

### Committee Reports

*Business Practices* – written report and recommendations presented concerning current research.

### Legal Counsel Report

none

**Status of Surplus Property Report**

Still some ice and wet spots. A few slippery areas.

**Safety Report**

Slippery, some snow. Norm Holmes and Ed Powell did some shoveling. Ed Powell to bring gas sniffer to check south tank for possible leak

**Public Comments**

*Habeck* - Brief overview of plan for loading of SP sub cars given. Trucker will use 2 flatbeds and make 1 trip per car, one with car and one with trucks. Will rerig derrick 37 on to track 2 and fill track 1 with gravel to allow truck to pull on. Will happen in May when McClure is back from steam trip.

**Notices**

WPRRHS Convention is next weekend.

**Closed Session**

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 7:48 PM and reconvened to open session at 8:15 PM. Director Vicknair reported the following out of closed session:

“The Board heard a report on an on-going legal issue, FRRS v. Kasten / ITAC. Concensus direction given, no action taken.

The Board heard a report on an on-going legal issue, Morgan v. FRRS. Concensus direction given, no action taken.”

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at:	8:16 PM
Next meeting:	Saturday, May 1, 2010 – 4:00 PM
Location:	WPRM Meeting Room Portola, California

Respectfully Submitted,

Eugene Vicknair  
Secretary, FRRS