

Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – April 12, 2025 – 1:00 PM
Western Pacific Railroad Museum Meeting Room – WPRM, Portola, CA

President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM. Start delayed due to internet technical issues at museum.

Attendance

The following Directors were present:

Greg Elems - phone
Kerry Cochran - phone

Charlie Spikes – phone
Bob Sims – phone

Tom Hervey - -director
Eugene Vicknair - director

6 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

Visitors:

Chris Skow

Steve Habeck

Correspondence

Habeck

- eMail received from Steve Habeck: “Attached is a scan of the most recent electric bill from Liberty. The downward trend in electrical usage has continued, resulting in our lowest bill in nearly 2 years. With activities at the Museum starting up, the usage will obviously increase, but the 2600 kwh usage on this bill is about the lowest I can remember in recent times. This shows that we can use energy wisely, despite having to pay through the nose for it. Thanks to all for the efforts over the off-season.”

Consent Calendar

1. Minutes – Minutes of the March 2025 BOD Regular Meeting.
- Corrections received from Paul Finnegan and Tom Hervey and entered into minutes.

Motion 25-04-01
Approve the minutes for the March 2025 Regular Meeting as amended.
Cochran / Vicknair. Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1. Motion carries.

New Business

none

Old Business

May Events

Update on proposals to have FRRS / WPRM tables at May events plus car club visit.

- Sacramento Model Railroad Historical Society open house – May 17-18
 - Eugene Vicknair, Michael Coen, Greg Elems will be available. Need some more.
 - Contact Frank Brehm and Eric McKay.
- Society for Carter Brothers – Ardenwood Park – May 24-26
 - Offered us booth space.
 - Eugene Vicknair will be available. Need some more.
 - Contact Eric McKay, Paul and Kenneth Finnegan and Ed Wagner.
 - Consensus to proceed if we can get the people.
- Kaiser-Frazer Car Club – May 31
 - Eugene will docent
 - Eugene talking to organizers.
 - Need some clean up on the parking lot. Talk to Brian Waller and David Hansen.

Policy Updates

Review FRRS policies in need of check and update.

- Policies provided for review.
- Updates provided for Conference Call policy.
- Bob Sims and Eugene Vicknair provided feedback.
- Bob Sims had questions on procedures on donations and projects. Responses given.

Motion 25-04-02

Approve the updates and review dates on the policies as corrected and amended.

Vicknair / Spikes. Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Good of the Order

President's Report

- Verbal report provided.
- Jackie Habeck and Ann Carey started getting museum store prepped on Friday, April 11. Aiming to be done before May 1 opening.
- Steve Habeck was servicing and prepping cabooses and batteries. All batteries should be serviced and charged by end of day today, April 12. Includes wig wag battery.
- Nick Manos is rearranging and cleaning the diesel shop for visitors. Spent 3 hours switching yesterday. Included Brian Waller and Eric Manos as students. Nick was yard switchman, Ethan Doty was engineer, Greg Elems was conductor. Still need to shift a few more things around.
- Considering some more switching for crew training on May 3.

Financial Reports

- Financial reports provided.
- Reviewed financials.
- Bob Sims was going to do a stock transfer, but is holding off due to the stock market turmoil.
- Eugene Vicknair working on Spring donation letter.
- Patty Clawson, Eugene Vicknair and Michael Coen will be having meeting of Funding Committee soon.

Director's Reports

- *Vicknair* – written report provided.

Event Reports

- *2025 WP / DRGW Convention* – written report provided.
 - Convention cars ordered from Accurail.

Chris Skow discussed donation of items as recorded under Public Comments.

Department Reports

- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided.
- *Mechanical* – written report provided.
 - Releasing WP SW1500 1503 for RALs and general service on Monday morning, April 14.
 - Quincy TR6A 1100 will be inspected at the next work session. No issues anticipated.
 - Wants the Board to come up with a drop dead date on release of SP GP9 2873. It is mechanically ready with just fluids needed. What it needs is completion on paint on nose, cab and frame. Going to shoot black on frame and pilot. Not going to worry about silver on trucks yet as we need to get it back into the RAL program. Needs to coordinate painting days with David Elems and then can determine date. Suggested June 7 for release date.
 - Electric forklift has working breaks.
 - Yellow forklift is operable and ready to go.
 - Big White forklift has some issues.
 - Backhoe needs to have its fluids monitored closely if it is used. Nick is working on a parts list.

- Telehandler needs tires.
- *Facilities*
 - Need to move “Clover Plot” to access water leaks. Need to get broken and cracked pipes near lounge car repaired.
 - Back up for water issues is bringing in porta-potties.
 - No target date for water repairs yet.
 - Parking Lot needs cleaning and grooming.

Committee Reports

none

Legal / Insurance Report

none

Safety Committee

none

Notices

none

Public Comments

Chris Skow

- Going to try and run to Chris' house on Monday, April 21. Greg Elems looking at additional help.
- Chris is donating a bunch of stuff to the museum. He has provided a list to Greg and Steve Habeck.
 - Includes original Portola passenger train arrival and departure sign from the original depot in 1968 before it was demolished. Was taken with permission of Mel Graham, WP Trainmaster. Still has CZ times as well as Zephyrettes and Royal Gorge.
 - Additional items include 4 tall 360 degree brochure / timetable racks about 6 ft high, 1 tall 360 degree spin magazine rack, smaller magazine rack, 1 glass encased bulletin board, 2 glass display cases with shelves that are sized for HO model trains, 1 Sacramento dispatchers sheet from Sacramento Northern in 1972, several WP subdivision dispatchers sheets, 66 11 X 16 framed photos showing UP and WP trains, 10 20 X 24 frames color prints of UP and WP trains, 60 X 26 display bulleting board, 3,080 magazines that are all railroad organization related (included are every issue of Headlight and Train Sheet), 5 20 X 70 large glass display cases with 2 glass shelves in each case with rear doors (suggested for display room), 900 8 X 10 color and black and white prints of WP trains from his own photo collection, 2,500 8 X 10 color prints of various railroads (these could be sold in Store for \$3 to \$7 each)
- Just sold his house in Portola and the new people are starting to move in today. Has a rental in Graeagle for now.
- Needs to be out by May 31.
- Jim Atkins just passed away in the last week.
- The Board thanks Chris for his donation and his work at the museum.
- Chris would like to take on managing the display room.

BREAK – 2:58 PM – 3:03 PM

Closed Session – requested by President Greg Elems and Director Eugene Vicknair

3:05 PM – 3:37 PM

- *Business / Property Item* – Property and Future Improvements
- *Legal Item* – Local Community Relationships

The Board heard a report on a Business / Property Item – Property and Future Improvements. Consensus direction given. No reportable action was taken.

The Board heard a report on a Legal Item – Local Community Relationships. Consensus direction given. No reportable action was taken.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:38 PM

Next Meeting: May 10, 2025 – 1:00 PM
Location: WPRM Meeting Room, Portola

Respectfully Submitted
Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary

PRELIMINARY