

**Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting
February 1, 2003
1 p.m.
The Stanford Gallery, California State Railroad Museum
Sacramento, California**

President Rod McClure called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. The following directors were present:

Andy Anderson	Frank Brehm	Jan Breitwieser	Kerry Cochran
Steve Habeck	Norm Holmes	Gail McClure	Hank Stiles
Eugene Vicknair			

Visitors present:

Janis Petersen	Wayne Monger	Ronald Fernandez	Patrick Kenady
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The Board began the meeting by observing a Moment of Silence for the Shuttle Columbia Crew.

Closed Session: Meeting adjourned to closed session 1:12. Meeting re-opened to general session at 1:27 p.m.

President McClure reported that no action was taken with respect to the personnel matter discussed.

Correspondence

Director Brehm advised the Board that he had spoken with member Leonard Jane who had donated a Western Pacific Zephyr Conductors Uniform, pay books and several other items. He was understandably upset as he never received an acknowledgement of the donation. Director Brehm advised that he wrote a thank you letter. Director Brehm also spoke with Mr. Jane who was very appreciative of the acknowledgements.

Discussion ensued regarding ways to address that museum business is addressed in a timely fashion. Assigned staff and a remotely retrievable answering machine with a rotating retrieval schedule were discussed.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held January 4, 2003.
2. Financial Reports

Motion # 03-02-01 -- Removal of financial reports from Consent Agenda. Motion forwarded by Director Brehm, seconded by Director Vicknair. All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Motion # 03-02-02 – Acceptance of the revised Consent Agenda. Motion forwarded by Director Brehm, seconded by Director Anderson. All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business

Lease of Quincy 3

President McClure reported that members had expressed concern regarding the welfare of the Quincy 3 while at the V&TRR. He asked for clear direction from the Board regarding the renewal of the lease contract. Director Stiles also advised that he has heard from a number of sources that the locomotive is being run in a manner that is detrimental to its continued operation.

Motion # 03-02-03 – Direction from the Board allowing President McClure to continue negotiations on behalf of the FRRS with the V&TRR in his best judgment for the mutual benefit of both organizations. Motion forwarded by Director Cochran, seconded by Director McClure. All Directors present voted in favor of the motion with the exception of Director Stiles who voted against. Motion carried.

President McClure instructed Director Stiles in his capacity as CMO to physically inspect the locomotive within the next 30 days and report back to the board.

2003 Budgets

President McClure advised that he and the Board should have received mailed copies of the 2003 Budget as presented by Treasurer Dan Brady. There were two options presented and President McClure suggested, as had Treasurer Brady, that the more conservative of the two be adopted.

Motion # 03-02-04 – Acceptance of budget option #1 as recommended by the FRRS Treasurer. Motion forwarded by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Stiles.

Break to allow Directors to review the budget to be reviewed by several directors: 1:49-1:55 p.m.

In reference to Motion # 03-02-04 – All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

New Business

2003 General Election

President McClure appointed the following Election Committee: Wayne Monger (chair), Jay Sarno, and Ed Wagner. Director Brietwieser will assist the committee as directed. Discussion ensued regarding the existing policy and the nomination of prospective interested parties. Director Cochran will send a copy of the existing policy to the Committee. The Committee is to meet and report back to the Board.

Volunteer and Visitor Lounge Areas

Director Vicknair advised that a report had been forwarded to the Board regarding proposed volunteer and visitor lounge areas. It was suggested that the old gift shop area could be converted into a very comfortable and inviting space for visitors, while the Silver Debris could be converted into a clean and comfortable crew lounge with a deck extension allowing direct access to all crew facilities in one area. Directors McClure and Breitwieser pointed out this would also free up the Via Lounge Car to be restored to operating condition and used as a revenue source for the FRRS. Director Cochran advised that he was concerned that the Board was once again changing directions from a previously established course.

Motion # 03-02-05 – Removal of Via Lounge Car from previous motion commitment and adoption of the Volunteer and Visitor Lounge Report. Motion forwarded by Director Brehm, seconded by Director Breitwieser. All Directors present voted in favor with the exception of Directors Cochran and McClure who abstained. Motion carried.

Motion # 03-02-06 – Previous and original motions made in regard to this issue be held in abeyance and referred to the site committee for follow up. Motion forwarded by Director Brehm, however, the motion died for lack of a second.

President McClure advised that this issue be forwarded to the Site Committee for additional study and follow up.

Good of the Order

President's Report

President McClure extended his Thanks to Director Cochran in his capacity as Superintendent of Operations and to the Operating Department for an injury-free year. This has helped to keep our insurance increases low compared to many similar organizations.

President McClure also Thanked Director Vicknair in his capacity as Facilities Manager for coordinating the placement of sandbags in front of many of the shop doors preventing annual spring flooding in the outer offices.

Pat Brimmer e-mailed a copy of the Santa Train Report to the Board and a copy will appear in the upcoming issue of The Train Sheet. President McClure expressed his Thanks to Mr. Brimmer and all for putting together this project. He also reported that Helen Kennedy with The Williams House in Portola thanked the Society for our efforts during the holiday season. She reported many positive comments from their visitors regarding the Museum and our display of the Holiday Spirit.

President McClure advised that the planning for Portola Railroad Days continues to move ahead and there are big plans for this year. The committee is asking if the carnival can be held on the Museum grounds. Advertising, new events (including logging competitions and living history presentations) and active promotion of the parade are all possibilities. He also advised that we need to start planning a float for the parade.

Director's Reports

Director Breitwieser reported that she has Ken Roller making a child's model train set that visitors will be easily able to run and control. She asked that anyone who has HO scale layout parts and equipment to donate for use on this project would be appreciated. Discussion regarding the RAL program resulted in an agreement that no RALs be scheduled until after March 1.

Director Anderson advised that he had been in contact with Sierra Pacific on the lighting project he was asked to follow up on. They are willing to provide a plan to install but lights must be installed on their poles. He has been working on alternative plan to obtain floodlights to be installed on property. He has secured three and is trying to get two more.

Director Vicknair reported that after discussions with Director Brehm, he is considering the cemented area behind the dock for two handicapped parking spaces. With some resurfacing and concrete work it appears to be ideal for this purpose. He will pursue signage and design for the walkway.

Director Holmes presented a proposal for a partnership with Trains Unlimited for an excursion train as part of the Historical Society Convention in Oakland, CA on April 11-12, 2003. This proposal would also have the possibility of having the cars on display for the convention. Director McClure advised that upon review of the document presented at the meeting, it would appear the Society was being asked to commit to a contractual agreement without a contract and without prior notice in the amount of \$13,900. Director Habeck stated that Chris Skow, owner of Trains Unlimited, has done these type of excursions for years and he had no doubt that the train would sell out.

Motion # 03-02-07 – Authorize President McClure to negotiate a contract, with 30 day escape clause and addressing both advertising and injury/damage liability, and with legal review to then be brought before the Board for discussion and possible action. Motion forwarded by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Holmes. All Directors present voted in favor with the exception of Directors Brehm and McClure who voted against. Motion carried.

Director McClure reported that she had attended the Portola Railroad Days Committee meeting in January and had sensed mixed opinions from the local community regarding the Museum. The participants of the Committee recognized the value added to the community, but see us as withdrawn from community participation. Many seemed very excited and enthusiastic that we are taking an active role in this important community event. She stated that active FRRS participation in this event presents an opportunity to support the citizens of Portola, and in turn they would support us.

Department Reports

Zephyr Project – Director Vicknair advised he had included his report with the agenda. Highlights include locating addition parts for the Hostel and that member Jay Sarno donated a framed and matted set of California Zephyr advertisements for display in the hostel.

Publications – Director Brehm reported the announcement of the new WP Track Charts with a retail price of \$45.95 + tax for CA residents. Price to members is \$41.36 + tax for CA residents.

Restoration – Director Habeck advised that he had provided a report of in-progress and conceived projects, along with current status and estimated cost to complete each. He advised he is looking for feedback regarding priorities for completion of these projects. He stated that the list is not to be considered inclusive of every possible project on the property.

Operations – Director Cochran stated that he had e-mailed his report to the Board and reiterated his support of safety and commitment to the General Code of Operating Rules. He asked for Board support to reaffirm this position. He provided a breakdown of volunteer operating crews as well as their reported hours, but advised it is evident that many crewmembers are not filling out the required paperwork recording their hours. Daily safety meetings were used for each operational day last year and Director Cochran advised that they will remain in place this year. He requested that all individuals working on or near equipment including the Mechanical Department and MOW attend this meeting so that everyone is on the same page.

Committee Reports

Membership – Director Brehm asked for Board support in postponement of the dues increase until June 1 to allow for the printing of new membership materials. Consensus direction was granted.

Magnolia Tower – Director Vicknair provided a report on the progress with Magnolia Tower. Amtrak has selected a contractor and we have direct contact and conversation with them. Vic Neves will be in contact with Coots Construction for refund of payment for services that were not provided.

Policy and Procedures – Director Cochran e-mailed a copy of the revised Alcohol and Drug Policy to the Board. He advised that this was a draft for contemplation and action at the next meeting.

Legal Counsel Report

No Legal Counsel Report at this time.

Status of Surplus Property Report

No Status of Surplus Property Report at this time.

Other

Member Patrick Kenady advised that this is the first Board meeting he has attended and stated that in his opinion, the Portola Railroad Museum is the best thing the local community has going for it. He stated that he does have concerns regarding the two steam locomotives deteriorating on the property and asked that the Society continue to contemplate finding appropriate homes for these pieces with groups able to care for

them. He expressed his enjoyment at being a member and encouraged the Board to keep up their good work.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

Next meeting: Saturday, March 1, 2003

Location: Crew Lounge, Portola Railroad Museum
Portola, CA

Respectively Submitted
Gail A. McClure

February 2003 Board Meeting

Motions and Actions Summary

The Board began the meeting by observing a Moment of Silence for the Shuttle Columbia Crew.

Motions Passed

- Consent Motions – Motion 03-02-02

Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held January 4, 2003.

Financial Reports – Removed from Consent Agenda under motion 03-02-01

- Motions

Motion 03-02-03.. Quincy 3 Lease to Virginia and Truckee

Direction from the Board allowing President McClure to continue negotiations on behalf of the FRRS with the V&TRR in his best judgment for the mutual benefit of both organizations. Motion forwarded by Director Cochran, seconded by Director McClure. All Directors present voted in favor of the motion with the exception of Director Stiles who voted against – Motion carried.

Motion 03-02-04.. 2003 Budget

Acceptance of budget option #1 as recommended by the FRRS Treasurer. Motion forwarded by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Stiles. All Directors present voted in favor – Motion carried.

Motion 03-02-05.. Visitor and Volunteer Lounge Areas

Removal of VIA/FRRX Lounge Car from previous motion commitment and adoption of the Volunteer and Visitor Lounge Report. Motion forwarded by Director Brehm, seconded by Director Breitwieser. All Directors present voted in favor with the exception of Directors Cochran and McClure who abstained – Motion carried.

Motion 03-02-06.. Visitor and Volunteer Lounge Areas

Previous and original motions made in regard to this issue be held in abeyance and referred to the site committee for follow up. Motion forwarded by Director Brehm – motion died for lack of second.

Motion 03-02-07.. 2003 Convention Excursion

Authorize President McClure to negotiate a contract, with 30 day escape clause and addressing both advertising and injury/damage liability, and with legal review to then be brought before the Board for discussion and possible action. Motion forwarded by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Holmes. All Directors present voted in favor with the exception of Directors Brehm and McClure who voted against – Motion carried.

Appointments and Notices

2003 General Election

President McClure appointed the following Election Committee: Wayne Monger (chair), Jay Sarno, and Ed Wagner. Director Brietwieser will assist the committee as directed.

Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session to consider a personnel matter continued from previous meeting. President McClure reported that no action was taken with respect to the personnel matter discussed.

Items Postponed, Held Over or Continued

Quincy 3 Lease
Site Committee Recommendations
Alcohol and Drug Policy
Magnolia Tower

Next Board Meeting
March 1, 2003 1 PM
PRM Crew Lounge – Portola Railroad Museum -- Portola, California

respectfully submitted by Eugene Vicknair, secretary

February 22, 2003