

**Feather River Rail Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 10, 2005  
6 p.m.  
The Beanery, Portola Railroad Museum  
Portola, California**

President Rod McClure called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. The following directors were present:

Kerry Cochran	Steve Habeck	Norm Holmes	Eugene Vicknair
Gail McClure	Wayne Monger	Matt Parker	

Directors Brehm and Stiles were unable to attend.

Staff present:

John Walker (joined 6:16 pm)

Visitors present:

David Epling	John Manter
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**Correspondence**

None

**Consent Calendar**

1. Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held July 9, 2005, August 6, 2005 and June 2005 Membership meeting.
2. Financial Reports – Reports June-Aug (combined in September reports).

**Motion # 05-09-01** – Removal of August 6, 2005 minutes, June 2005 Membership meeting minutes and Financial Reports be removed from the Consent Calendar. Motion made by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director McClure. All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

**Motion # 05-09-02** – Approval of consent calendar as amended. Motion made by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director McClure. All Directors present voted in favor with the exception of Director Habeck who did not have access to the minutes for review. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

**FRRS Vision and Goals Statement**

Tabled until November meeting.

Director Monger asked for a review of an Old Business Item not on the agenda, specifically, the press break and compressor from the Stockton shops. Consensus direction to Director Monger was to pursue obtaining the press break, but to decline the offer to accept the compressor due to non-functionality and large size. Further discussion regarding necessary action to arrange for movement of this item to be included on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Availability of Western Pacific Caboose 470**

Director Vicknair and David Epling asked that the Board review a detailed written report on a privately owned WP caboose which represents a class missing from our current collection. The caboose is in the yard of an individual who reportedly intends to move in the next year and does not want to take it with him. Former Western Pacific carman, Rick Carter, inspected the caboose and reports it is in very good condition. The current owner would not provide an asking price, but has received advice from an individual with another Museum as to its worth. Caboose is on disconnected track and will have to be trucked out. Truck and airbrake work would need to be completed for it to be in "running condition". There are items, including bunks, that have been removed from the "A" end.

Additional discussion ensued regarding financial options and the possibility of putting him in contact with a private party friendly to the museum. Consensus direction was to continue dialogue with the owner of our interest and failing a suitable agreement, we would refer the issue to a private party friendly to the Museum. Mr. Epling will continue to be in contact with the owner of the caboose. An appraisal of the caboose will be obtained in support of value.

### **Offer to Trade Central California Traction Caboose**

David Epling augmented a written report provided to the Board. He reported that current Superintendent of the Central California Traction, David Buccolo, has offered to trade CCT 24 for an SP bay window caboose (SP 1337 is the proposed candidate). The caboose is currently kept under cover and has been for the last 4-5 years and it has been used for an office. Trucks on the cabooses would need to be swapped as there are friction bearing trucks under the SP 1337 and roller bearing trucks under CCT 24, which the CCT would like to keep under the terms of the deal. The CCT caboose appears to be in very good condition and could make an excellent interpretive display. Western Pacific at one time, held a 1/3 ownership of the line.

**Motion # 05-09-03** – Direction to pursue trade offer of SP 1337 caboose for CCT 24 caboose, along with options for movement and truck swap. Motion made by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Cochran. All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Director Monger left the meeting at 7 p.m. Prior to his departure, he asked that Director Vicknair check to make sure that his and Linda's donation of \$600 to the WP 484 Caboose repaint project be noted on the donation/project website and in the next edition of The Trainsheet.

## **Review 2006 Calendar**

Tabled until the next regular meeting.

## **Portola Railroad Days 2006**

Director McClure asked the Board to consider how much involvement the organization should have in turning Railroad Days into a big event at the Musuem. We have tried new venues as part of past Railroad Days events, and really didn't do much beyond a regular operating weekend this year. She also advised that the Board will need to consider the resources they are willing to commit including volunteer and financial, as well as if we are willing to take some heat should individuals at the local level feel we have overstepped our boundaries.

John Walker advised he would be willing to coordinate a "Railroad Days" event at the facility as our "premiere" annual event, but needs direction from the Board as to what their support and direction on this issue is. Consensus direction was given to Mr. Walker to come up with a plan and be prepared to report back to the Board at the regular November meeting regarding Portola Railroad Days 2006.

Mr. Walker also apologized for certain remarks made to others surrounding Portola Railroad Days 2005. He recommended that general guidelines be drafted and adopted to assist anyone planning an event at the Portola Railroad Museum in the future. President McClure also reported that on special events weekend, no other projects or events will be allowed such as work weekends, maintenance clinics, etc. All volunteers on property on those days should be focused on assisting with the event.

## **Good of the Order**

### **President's Report**

President McClure reported that he and Director Habeck have been on the road with the UP Steam folks and the Museum has been well represented. Many positive comments have been noted and a large number of brochures were handed out to the public. He has also made connections and is in preliminary discussions to obtain a valued piece of equipment relevant to our collection. We have been recognized by the UP for contributions to the WP Heritage unit. Per David Epling, the internet is abuzz with word about what we have accomplished over the last year.

We have been offered the SP RPO car currently at Carlin, NV. It is on disconnected track and will likely be cut up if no one takes take. We do not have the resources now and it would likely be more appropriate for a different collection. Director Vicknair, President McClure, John Walker and others will get the word out.

President McClure reported that Frank Brehm has resigned his seat on the Board of Directors. He will continue to work with Jeff Asay on the book project, but has resigned as head of the Publications Department as well. Director Vicknair has volunteered on an interim basis to publish one or two issues until someone else can be found to take over the duties and responsibilities of this Department. The FRRS acknowledges Mr. Brehm's considerable contributions to the Society over the past years and thanks him for his service.

Our red flat car, FRRX 600430 has arrived at Niles. The Pacific Locomotive Association (PLA) locomotive currently on the flat car is to be unloaded and WP 165 will be loaded up for her trip to Portola.

### **Director's Reports**

Director Cochran thanked all who helped during Portola Railroad Days as well as the UP 3985 display.

Director Parker spoke regarding the positive impact the WP 1983 had on the general public for Portola Railroad Days. Signage or a volunteer to direct people up into the locomotive would have been appreciated. He did express concerns regarding public access and how stairs or some other type of lift platform would have allowed many more people to see the inside of the cab. He asked for special recognition for Loren Ross and Pat Brimmer who were of great assistance in moving equipment and providing help with regard to the display. There was a push to get media recognition for both Portola Railroad Days and the UP Steam display, and Director Parker also recognized Director Vicknair, David Epling and Tom Carter for their assistance. Lastly, he reminded the Board that in their volunteer roles, we set the standard for behavior and to please keep this in mind when it comes to following rules and with respect to safety. He also passed along remarks from some of the members regarding their concern regarding getting more training time to get them qualified.

President McClure took this opportunity to thank Director Parker for being the "protector" of the WP 1983 while on property. He also offered special "kudos" to Facilities Manager Charlie Spikes and his crew for the work done on the hydrant/main outside of the oil house.

### **Department Reports**

*Roadmaster* – President McClure reported another switch run through. Damage has been repaired and Director Cochran will address this with the Operating Crews.

*Funding* – Director McClure reported that the fall mail out fundraiser is targeted to go out at the end of this month to take advantage of the opportunity to donate before the end of the year for tax purposes. Director Vicknair also reported that we raised nearly \$3,540 toward the cost of repainting the WP 484 caboose. (error – actual total is \$3040. One donation was double-counted.)

*Zephyr Project* – Director Vicknair reported that the Silver Lodge has arrived. One of the teardrop dome windows apparently popped out somewhere in transit. Little or no damage reported due to transit other than the window.

### **Committee Reports**

*A&D Committee* – President McClure advised he will be replacing Eric Stephens with Tom Carter on the committee. SP Beet Gondola discussed at the previous meeting will be addressed by the committee for the next meeting.

## **Legal Counsel Report**

None

## **Status of Surplus Property Report**

None

## **Safety Report**

Director Cochran advised there has been an improvement in general housekeeping and other general safety issues. Everyone needs to double check their work and keep their eyes open, especially when we have large crowds on the property.

Director Parker did bring an issue to the attention of all. There was a large hole that had been dug to facilitate the installation of the hydrant that was open and being filled on Saturday morning when we already had a large crowd on the property for Railroad Days. He had a live air hose run out to the WP 1983 being run over by the backhoe when a member of the public that this activity was an OSHA violation. It was immediately corrected, however, we need to be attentive to these types of hazards and making sure we do not do anything to jeopardize the public.

President McClure also reported that we continue to have blue flag violations and issues that are being addressed internally.

## **Public Comments**

Webmaster David Epling informed the Board that we continue to have issues with the webcam facing into the sun which could severely damage or destroy the camera. He will work with John Walker to get someone with a bucket truck to come down to assist.

## **Notices**

- \*Budget proposals for next meeting.
- \*November meeting scheduled for Stockton.
- \*UP acknowledged on our website for all of their support this season.

## **Closed Session**

None

## **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.  
Next meeting: Saturday, October 1, 2005  
Location: Volunteer Lounge  
Portola, CA

Respectively Submitted  
Gail A. McClure

September 2005 Board Meeting  
**Motions and Actions Summary**

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**Motions Passed**

1. Consent Motions – Motion 05-09-02

Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held July 9, 2005, August 6, 2005 and June 2005 Membership meeting.

Financial Reports – June - August 2005.

August 6, 2005 minutes, June 2005 Membership meeting minutes and Financial Reports removed from the Consent Calendar by motion 05-09-01 for consideration at October meeting.

2. Motions

**Motion 05-09-03.. Offer to Acquire Central California Traction caboose 24**

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Board heard report on offer to trade caboose from WP subsidiary CCT in exchange for SP bay window. Direction to pursue trade offer of SP 1337 caboose for CCT 24 caboose, along with options for movement and truck swap. Motion made by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Cochran. All Directors present voted in favor – Motion carried.

**Actions and Notices**

- Frank Brehm has resigned his seat on the Board and as head of the Publications. He will continue to work with Jeff Asay on the book project. Thank you to Mr. Brehm for his considerable contributions to the Society and many years of fine service.
- President McClure reported that he and Director Habeck have been on the road with the UP Steam crew representing the museum. A large number of brochures were handed out to the public.
- We have been recognized by the UP for contributions to the WP Heritage unit.
- Director Parker asked for special recognition for Loren Ross and Pat Brimmer who were of great assistance during Portola Railroad Days. He also recognized Director Vicknair, David Epling and Tom Carter for their assistance in publicity for the event and the UP 3985 visit
- Director Vicknair reported that the Silver Lodge has arrived. One of the teardrop dome windows apparently popped out somewhere in transit.
- The November 2005 Meeting will be held at the Stockton ACE Depot, Saturday, November 5, at 1:00 PM.

**Next Board Meeting**

Saturday, October 1, 2005

Location: PRM Volunteer Lounge - Portola, CA

respectfully submitted by Eugene Vicknair, secretary

September 27, 2005

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