

**Feather River Rail Society  
Annual Membership Meeting – June 2, 2018 – 7:30 PM  
WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA**

President Steve Habeck called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM

**Attendance**

**The following Members were present:**

Janet Steeper  
Ethan Doty  
Fred Elenbaas  
Ann Morningstar  
Ed Powell  
Kerry Cochran  
Paul Finnegan  
Debbie Lentz  
Matthew Shuman  
Kenneth Finnegan  
Greg Elems  
David Elems  
Ali Doty  
Robbie Campbell  
Eric KcKay  
Trish McKay  
Eugene Vicknair  
Steve Habeck

**Opening**

President Steve Habeck opening the meeting.

- Discussed everything that has been occurring at the museum in the prior few months, including:
  - Convention
  - Light the Fire Fundraiser
  - Membership Dinner
  - Need for fuel and oil for locomotives in regular and RAL fleet
  - Noted income coming up by we have some expenses going higher, chiefly insurance

**Election**

Ann Morningstar spoke as Election Chairperson.

- Noted that all rules were followed and everything ran well

Matthew Shuman as Election Committee member provided following comments:

- Thanked Parry Clawson for acting as a teller in election count
- Thanked Election Committee members, including new member Debbie Lentz

#### 2018 Election Results:

- 296 ballots returned out of 603 sent, 43% rate of return
- 2 rejected ballots due to errors
- No observers were requested or present
- Vote Count...
  - Elected to the Board

	votes
▪ Matt Elems	292
▪ Steve Habeck	288
▪ Roger Stabler	286
▪ Eugene Vicknair	278
▪ Janet Steeper	276
▪ Bob Sims	270

  - Not elected
    - Bart Hansen 82
  - Write-Ins
    - Jeff Pierce 1
    - Wayne Monger 1
- Noted that there were more write-ins, found on 2 ballots, but that names were not members and this invalidated the ballots under FRRS rules

Noted that election materials were taken to City Clerk for certification.

Floor then opened to questions from membership.

- Question about terms for 3 non-3 years seats (filling open seats)
  - Those elected to fill open seats will need to stand in upcoming election

Steve Habeck thanked the committee for running a tight election and noted that, as per our standard, rules were followed and no issues occurred.

Matthew Shuman thanked Eugene Vicknair for his assistance in getting ballots mailed and printed.

Steve Habeck noted that we are now back up to 9 directors again. Formal seating will be at the July 14, 2018 Board Meeting.

Kerry Cochran noted that all policies and directors manuals are available on-line for downloading.

Matthew Shuman also thanked Paul Finnegan for his updating and news of the election on the WPLives.org website. He felt this made everything clearer and more timely. Noted no questions were received and there were lots of comments on how clear the process was.

#### **Board and Manager Comments**

Ann Morningstar thanked everyone who has worked to clean up the museum grounds.

Noted that Don Nelson work a week recently with the backhoe clearing the grounds.

Volunteer work crew previous weekend did a lot of clean-up and repair work.

Steve Habeck expressed thanks to the members for all their hard work and to the members who have been around 10+ years.

Greg Elems was glad to see how many crew were on hand to run trains. Noted that when Loren Ross returns from vacation, they are planning to replace a broken frog on 1-2 switch. He would like to see more volunteers so we can accomplish more things.

Kerry Cochran appreciates the volunteers who have been coming to the museum.

- Hoping to attract more volunteers
- Noted there is lots of work going on “behind the scenes” and not readily apparent to casual observers
- Thanked Paul Finnegan for his work on website
- Shared that there is lots of archives work going on and the he himself just spent 9 days at the museum working mainly on archives and the archives research room
- Thanked Eugene Vicknair for work on the Salt Lake City Convention
  - Looking forward to 2019 Convention
- Asked folks to watch for more news from the Society

Eugene Vicknair discussed the Society’s growing community and political contacts and how our support in local government has grown.

- As head of Funding Department, he noted several grants and other funding work that is in progress
- Thanked those who have provided support for updating our various policies and operating systems, in particular Kerry Cochran, Rick Gruninger, Paul Finnegan and others
- Noted that several facilities projects are ongoing, large and small, including trackwork, the Archives Research Room, the Whitman Building purchase and other areas for expansion and improvement
- Funding is one of our biggest needs.

Charlie Spikes told the members that Bob Sims asked Charlie to thank the members for electing him, as Bob could not attend the meeting.

- Thanked everyone who helped with the Model T project
- Thanks those who helped with facilities work, including Bil Jackson
- Believes we are moving the Society forward faster than anyone anticipated

Janet Steeper thanked everyone who supported her and thanks to the FRRS Board.

- Commented that she is a positive person and tries to inject humor and defuse acrimony
- Noted that she sits on the Board of the Dayton Historical Society and another museum Board
- Stated that she wants to help with FRRS archives
- Thanked Paul Finnegan for sharing his audio tour code with the Dayton Museum
- Thanked everyone with the FRRS and commented that she has been treated with kindness and respect
- Hopes to encourage cooperation and civility
- Looks forward to everyone “rowing together” and moving forward

Steve Habeck comments on Kenneth Finnegan being 5 or 6 years old when he first came to the museum, while David and Matt Elems started at 8 and 10 respectively. Now, Kenneth is studying Mechanical Engineering due to his work at the museum.

Paul Finnegan noted that the museum has influenced a lot of people who started here young.

Discussion about outreach to youth and schools.

Kerry Cochran noted that Loren Ross is expanding our Scouting program.

Eugene Vicknair commented that Scouts, local youth groups and 4H have been helping with Pumpkin and Santa Trains.

### **Member and Public Comments**

Ed Powell shared that his sister is becoming a first time grandmother.

Eugene Vicknair and Steve Habeck encouraged members to find and encourage new volunteers of any age.

Fred Elenbaas thanked Steve Habeck and Greg Elems for sharing their railroad career experiences.

Steve Habeck commented how diesel shop had been abandoned for 14 years when we got it in 1984. Most of the 1,140 windows were broken and there was not water or electrical. Now we have water, heat, rewired electrical, working shop bays, etc. We added track, connected new tracks and rebuilt much of the yard.

Matt Shuman, Debbie Lentz and Ann Morningstar had to leave. They thanked everyone for the evening. Members formally thank them for their great election work.

Paul Finnegan touched on how much work has been done to share more information on the historic equipment in recent years.

- Talked about info he dug up on the WP weed burner, including oral history from former operator, color photos and a Fairmont catalog.
- Asked folks to send info on equipment so we can share on website and capture the histories.

Discussion about our unique collection and the mission of the FRRS.

Discussion about the visitor experience and reactions of visitors.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at: 8:40 PM

Next Meeting: July 14, 2018 – 6:00 PM

Location: WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA

Respectfully Submitted, Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary