

## Minutes of Past Meetings

Any member in good standing may request a complete copy of the transcript of board meetings from the Society. There is a nominal charge for each copy which covers postage and administrative costs. Full minutes are posted on the FRRSlist hosted by Yahoo Groups.

### Annual Membership Meeting

June 5, 2004

Portola, CA

President Rod McClure called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. The following directors were present:

Frank Brehm, Kerry Cochran, Steve Habeck, Gail McClure, Wayne Monger, Hank Stiles, Eugene Vicknair. Directors Andy Anderson and Norm Holmes were unable to attend.

Visitors present:

Thom Anderson, Lew Barnard, Rick Edwards, Carol Epling, David Epling, Victoria Epling, James Eroh, Mark Granados, Ron Huey, Russell Johnson, Jon Kinsler, Brittany Knudson, Jay Knudson, Linda Knudson, Ed Powell, Jay Sarno, Matthew Shuman, Cheri Stedje, Ed Wagner.

President Rod McClure called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. With the assistance of Victoria Epling, all visitors introduced themselves. He thanked everyone for attending and said it was good to see new faces as well as “the regulars”. He also thanked Directors Gail McClure and Frank Brehm for the BBQ tri-tip and roasted turkey dinner with all the trimmings they prepared for the members.

He proceeded to inform the membership of the following accomplishments in the last year:

*Rio Vista Trade* – FRRS every excited about the pending equipment trade through which we will add to our collection the WP 917D, SN 712, UP 5732 (caboose) and WP 483 (Caboose). He also advised the membership of the positive response we have received from all over the country for what has been touted as one of the largest Museum trades in recent history.

*WP 165* – This past year saw the addition of the first WP steam locomotive to the collection and is one of only five remaining.

*WP 705* – This GP7 was purchased by a group of members and donated to the organization. This will represent the fourth WP GP7 on the property of only six remaining.

*SP 1215* – This locomotive was de-assessed from our collection and is now under the ownership of the California Trolley & Rail Corporation. She should be returning to her home territory by this time next year.

*Santa Maria Valley Railroad* – One surplus SP beet gondola car has been traded to this organization to obtain an early SN wooden box-car and the movement of this equipment should be completed this year.

*Quincy 4* – After four years of planning and hard work, the Quincy 4 is in Portola. This Alco S-1 was originally numbered WP 504 and was the first Alco S-1 purchased by the WP.

*WP 805A* – Lives and breathes again for the first time since 1997. Special thanks go to Dave McLain and crew for their hard work and creative problem solving.

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*Webmaster* – After several years as our Webmaster, Sam Herschbein has given up the reins to pursue personal projects. David “Dynamite” Epling has been appointed in his stead.

*Walkways* – Hard not to notice the beautiful new walkways and start of the caboose loading gallery on the property. Start of a project to allow easier and ADA compliant access to many areas on the property. Special thanks to Ed Wagner for his generous contribution to this project in memory of his brother Joe. Special thanks and acknowledgement to Director Eugene Vicknair for his creative genius and as the driving force behind this project as well as the volunteer lounge remodel.

*Magnolia Tower* – Should be in Portola in the next couple of months as disassembly is complete and loading is eminent. The group involved with the restoration of a nearly identical tower in Santa Clara may be able assist with installation of a system that would allow simulated operation of the relays in the building’s machinery as well as light a CTC Board.

*Tanks* – One of the two tanks from the parking lot has been found a new home by the Government. We continue to work on placement of the second one.

*WP Portola Hospital* – A structural engineering report is in the works and fundraising to restore the building to adaptive reuse will begin once the report is in hand.

*“Road Trips”* – Select representatives of our collection went on the road twice last year and performed very well. We received many positive comments from the public as well as from the Union Pacific Railroad regarding our professional operation on their trackage.

*Museum Manager* – John Walker has been contracted for another year as our on-site manager. He has made great strides toward clean up of the property, organization of the shop and increasing profitability in the gift shop.

### Open Forum

Museum Manager, John Walker, reported that his job turned out to be more work than he originally thought it would entail, however, he was pleased by the great volunteers he has had the opportunity to work with. He stands by his assessment that the Museum is a diamond in the rough and if the members rally around it, we have a huge potential for more improvements and great things for our future. This is particularly important in light of the fact that the Society and Museum we built by rails and railfans. We have accomplished something people said couldn’t be done.

Director Steve Habeck noted that one of the biggest benefits John brings to the organization is his coordinated effort to “spread the word” about the Museum and the direction we are headed. There has been a big difference at the Museum physically and a noted difference in how the Society is perceived due in part to John’s presence at the facility as well as outside venues.

Director Hank Stiles pointed to the need for volunteers to help in all areas of the facility. All of the work done on our locomotives have been done by dedicated volunteers, some experienced in the workings of diesel equipment and some with the drive to learn. Donations and financial support are also mainstays of a volunteer based organization such as ours and are greatly appreciated. As Chief Mechanical Officer, he reported work is nearing completion on the Fairbanks Morse 1857, WP512 is next slated for repair, followed by WP 501.

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Thom Anderson, head of the WP Historical Society reported they were able to get three issues of The Headlight out last year as they had committed to. So far, one has gone out this year, second to go out around July/August and final issue before the end of the year. He also reported the WPRHS Convention went better than anyone thought it could. Besides sporting one of the highest attendances in the history of the event, a record profit was recorded which will benefit the library/archives. Special thanks go out to Frank Beavers and Steve Hayes for their excellent work.

Director Kerry Cochran reported as Superintendent of Operations that our train operations would not have been possible without the help of the many volunteers of the Operating Department. He thanked these dedicated people who not only have to run the trains, but also are the front line representatives of the Society dealing with the public. Thanks were also extended to the Mechanical Department for keeping the equipment in good running condition. Lastly, he announced that the Glad Hand Award presentation was to be postponed until Portola Railroad Days.

Director Wayne Monger, as one-half of the Society's newly formed Excursion Division, reminded all in attendance of the ACE Jazz Train Excursion scheduled August 7 as a Fundraiser for the Zephyr Project. Train departs Lathrop, CA at approximately 9 am with two return trips – one at 6 pm and one at 8 pm. There is the possibility of an on-board raffle and the car is fully ADA compliant.

Ed Wagner, Chair of the Election Committee presented the results of this year's elections, but not before thanking fellow committee members Jay Sarno and Vic Neves as well as Jay's wife and son, Julie and Ray, and Vic's wife, Annie, for all of their hard work and help.

Total ballots sent: 944      Total ballots returned: 434  
Rate of return: 46%

Election tellers (counters) were: Don Borden, John Walker, David Epling. Election results were certified by Leslie Tigan, Portola City Clerk.

David Epling read the voting results:

Cochran: 410      Holmes: 415      Monger: 407

Additional votes of one or less were placed for the following write in candidates:

Don Borden, Alan Turner, Kent Stephens, Member #1749, Jim Murphy, Ken Roller, Vic Neves, first name unknown Miller, "Someone else", Larry Hanlon, Tom Mueller.

Upon the reading of the results, Ed announced he was resigning from the position of Election Committee Chair.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectively Submitted, Gail A. McClure

May 2004 Board Meeting  
**Motions and Actions Summary**

**Motions Passed**

Consent Motions – Motion 04-05-02.

Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held April 3, 2004.

Financial Reports – Removed for Treasurer Report under motion 04-05-01.

Motions

**Motion 04-05-03.. Sale of Southern Pacific 0-6-0 1215**

Authority to proceed with sale and contract of sale pending legal review of same. Motion made by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Vicknair. All Directors voted in favor – Motion carried.

**Motion 04-05-04.. ADA Modifications to MoPac 13878 Caboose**

Authorization to proceed with modifications to MoPac 13878 Caboose in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 with one half of funding to come from budget line item 70,000 – Facilities, General items and one half of funding to come from budget line item 56000 – Restorations, Major projects, and on a funds available basis. Motion made by Director Monger, seconded by Director Vicknair. Director Monger voted in favor. Directors Brehm, Cochran, Holmes and McClure voted against. Director Vicknair abstained. Motion failed.

**Motion 04-05-05.. Zephyr Project Fundraiser**

Accept excursion proposal with funding proceeds to benefit the Zephyr Project, with expenses to come from budget line item 56490 – Zephyr Project and revenue to go to budget line item 40490 – CZ Car/Silver Hostel, and with excursion to be organized by Directors Habeck, McClure, Monger and Vicknair. Motion made by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Brehm. All Directors voted in favor – Motion carried.

**Motion 04-05-06.. Item of Urgency**

Consideration of item of urgency with respect to direction to financial and other institutions as to whom has authority to conduct business on behalf of the organization. Motion made by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Cochran. All Directors present voted in favor – Motion carried.

**Motion 04-05-07.. Item of Urgency – Financial Business Authority**

Adoption of resolution that only the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Assistant to the Treasurer are allowed to conduct business with any financial institution on behalf of the Feather River Rail Society. Motion made by Director Cochran, seconded by Director Vicknair. All Directors present voted in favor – Motion carried.

**Motion 04-05-08.. PRM GeoCache Site**

Allow placement of a GeoCache site in the picnic area. Motion made by Director Cochran, seconded by Director Vicknair. All Directors present voted in favor – Motion carried.

**Actions and Notices**

Treasurer Dan Brady provided a review of the financial status of the Feather River Rail Society including performance of investments (9.1 % rate of return), profit/loss, comparison of actual revenue/expense to budget. The Board provided consensus direction to invest up to 15% of the Society's portfolio in equity investments.

President McClure asked that the Board recognize Director Vicknair for all of the work he coordinated and completed with regard to the new ADA compliant walkways.

The Society took four locomotives and two cabooses to Sparks for display during the convention. The Board wished to express its appreciation of the wonderful job done by Frank Beavers, Convention Chair 2004.

Director Anderson reported that Quincy 4 was loaded, chained down and should be on her way shortly.

Election Committee Chair Ed Wagner reported at that time, we had a 43.75% rate of return on the ballots mailed to members. John Walker reported donation of a digital camera from George and Jan Breitwieser and him. Sales and RALs are picking up well.

#### Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 1:12 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 1:25 p.m. President McClure reported that personnel issues were discussed. Consensus direction was given, no action taken.

Adjourned to closed session at 3:47 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 4:18 p.m. President McClure reported a motion was presented and accepted regarding an offered donation of proprietary concern. Consensus direction given regarding an equipment issue, no action taken. Legal report presented, no action taken.

June 2004 Board Meeting

#### Motions and Actions Summary

##### Motions Passed

Consent Motions – Motion 04-06-01.

Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held May 1, 2004.

Financial Reports – Approval of financial reports through April 30, 2004.

Motions

##### **Motion 04-06-02.. Wheelchair Modifications to MoPac Caboose**

Move to accept report as presented and budget authority in the amount of \$3,000 provided under budget line item 70000 – Facilities, ADA Compliance and \$5,000 provided under budget line item 56525 – Caboose Restorations, and on a funds available basis. Motion made by Director Vicknair, seconded by Director Anderson. All Directors voted in favor – Motion carried.

##### **Motion 04-06-03.. Magnolia Tower Location**

Acceptance of Alternate “B” location [between the Inside

#### ***PRESERVING “THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE”***

### ***WP Lives, in Portola!***

#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Feather River Rail Society is to preserve the history of the Western Pacific Railroad. The secondary mission is to preserve the history of the subsidiary and interchange railroads within the territories it served.

#### **Mission Goals**

To preserve and interpret the history of the WP, the “Willing People” as a vital link in the development of the rail industry on the West Coast, including the steam and diesel evolution, WP’s influence in the passenger tourism industry, the impact of freight competition between neighboring railroads. WP’s influence in the lumber, mining and agriculture industry from Plumas County throughout California, Nevada and Utah

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Balloon Track and 4 Rail (next to proposed turntable lead)] as presented through report and discussion of the Board. Motion made by Director Cochran, seconded by Director Stiles. All Directors voted in favor – Motion carried.

#### **Motion 04-06-04.. Equipment Scrapping**

Authority to proceed with scrapping of US Guard car, box car with window frames cut out, UP gondola holding drop tables, two of three tank car frames currently sitting inside of the balloon track. Motion made by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Brehm. All Directors present voted in favor – Motion carried.

#### **Actions and Notices**

Quincy 4 – Arrived by flat car mid-May and has been unloaded. Special thanks go to Director Anderson for all of his hard work coordinating with the SPI folks.

Magnolia Tower – Two gondola cars should be in Oakland next week for loading of Magnolia Tower. Special thanks go to Doug Morgan for all of his hard work in coordinating and supervising the disassembly and loading of the tower on behalf of the Society.

Webmaster – Sam Herschbein has resigned as FRRS Webmaster. Director Vicknair has been working on a newly formatted site. President McClure recommended David Epling for the position of Webmaster and consensus direction was provided in support of this appointment.

Facilities – Director Vicknair reported the Volunteer Lounge is moving along and offered special thanks to Director Cochran for his hard work in finishing of the framing work that needed to be done in the car.

Mechanical – Director Stiles reported that the governor on the WP 608 and controller on the SP 2873 need to be replaced.

#### **Closed Session**

Adjourned to closed session at 2:38 p.m. and reconvened to open session 3:24 p.m. President McClure reported out the following:

Personnel item discussed. Action taken regarding continuance of employment contract.

Second personnel item discussed. No action was taken.

Legal item discussed. Action taken regarding continuance of ongoing legal action in the matter.

respectfully submitted by Eugene Vicknair, secretary

## **Upcoming Events**

**September** Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

4-5 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic  
5 Operating Season Ends  
11 Board Meeting - 6 PM, Truckee  
11-12 Truckee Railroad Days, Truckee

**October..** Winter Prep Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

2 Board Meeting - 1 PM, Portola  
2-3 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic, Facilities Work Weekend  
16-17 Track Work Weekend

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