

**Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – January 13, 2024 – 1:00 PM
Western Pacific Railroad Museum Meeting Room – WPRM, Portola, CA**

President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 13:11.

Attendance

The following Directors were present:

Bob Sims – phone

Greg Elems - phone

Steve Habeck – phone

Kerry Cochran - phone

Roger Stabler - phone

Matt Elems – arrived 1:59 PM. phone
(driving, contact was intermittent)

Janet Steeper - phone

Eugene Vicknair - phone

8 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

Visitors:

Matt Shuman – Election chair – phone

Correspondence

Vicknair

- Followed up with person who is interested in New Melones Building Frame. Need to work up cost and find plans.

G. Elems

- Tim Ash from Union Pacific has a friend who wants to move a locomotive from New Hampshire. Greg is talking to them.
- Matt Thompson from Florida. Discussing documentary he is making on the *California Zephyr*.

Habeck

- Received a member renewal from daughter of former WP official Richard Bridges. She sent us a nice note about how her dad “bled orange and silver”.
- Someone is asking for colors we used on SP 4706 caboose. All Rustoleum colors.
- Discussion about utility bills and heating around the museum.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes – Minutes of the December 2023 BOD Regular Meeting.

Bob Sims has corrections for the minutes:

- He is scanning material to help Paradise Museum. Corrected Correspondence item for this.
- Noted that Preliminary Minutes were missing Closed Session and RAL Committee Report.

Motion 24-01-01

Approve the December 2023 BOD Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

Vicknair / Sims. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Old Business

Diesel Shop Roof Work

Discuss proposal for Diesel Shop roof work.

- Proposal for roof sealing work presented to Board.
- Discussion about direct appeal fundraiser.

- Discussion about large capital project corporate fundraiser. Proposal to be presented in February.
- Review of scope of work.
- Roofer reported many potential issues with main building roof. Concerns about sheeting on roof coming off and other concerns.
- Discussion about possibility of breaking work into two phases, with main roof and lean to. Water problems in lean to are now known to in some cases involved issues with main roof.
- Bid to include resealing loose panels in main roof.

David Elems joined meeting at 1:59 PM.

- Greg Elems to ask about splitting job into two phases.
- Discussion about modifications to upper windows in main diesel shop, need for gutter replacement and improved drainage.
- Greg also has question of what time frame this could be done in. Will talk to roofer. How soon it could start and how long it will take.
- Reviewed past work by D&D Roofing.
- Concern about timeframe to confirm contract and possible change in price. Greg had explained our situation and it sounds like roofer will work with us.
- Discussion about grant options.
- Greg to talk to roofer. Eugene to work on funding options

New Business

2024 Budget Preliminary

Presentation of preliminary 2024 budget for Board review.

- Preliminary budget sent.
- Discussion about fundraising needs.
- Review of possible battery and mechanical needs.
- Will review in February 2024 BOD Meeting.

Signal Department Budget Request

Request for funds for IT improvements.

- Written report provided.
- Request of \$1,200 for improvement of storage systems.
- Review of how to structure payment.

Motion 24-01-02

Approve the \$1,200 budget request under line item 70XXX - IT / Signal Department for payment to Kenneth Finnegan's IT services company.

Vicknair / Steeper. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

2023 Operating Department Report

Final report on Operations Department for 2023.

- Written report provided.
- Review of report.
- Question on abbreviations for positions shown in report.

Good of the Order

President's Report

- Verbal report provided.
- Contacts to be made with roofer with feedback from Board.

Financial Reports

- Financial reports provided.
- Review of financials and end of year.
- Ann Cary getting inquiries about purchasing convention car outside of convention registration.

Director's Reports

- Vicknair – written report provided
 - Emphasized that we need to find a Volunteer Coordinator.
 - Eugene hoping to talk to Des Powers on audit timing tomorrow.

Event Reports

- *2024 Convention* – update on progress.
 - Have confirmed several new presentations. Total of 14 confirmed programs.
 - Eugene will have vendor forms done today and sent out this weekend. Also following up on Dam tour and Depot tour.
 - Bob Sims to look up possible model railroad tours.
 - Promote on Facebook.

Department Reports

- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided.
- *Headlight* – written report provided.
- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
- *Museum Store*
 - Inventory in progress. Ann counting and sending reports to me.
 - Looking at new products for 2024, including new custom products.
- *Mechanical*
 - Not much has gone on after Santa Trains.
 - Got shop cleared in record time and UP 105 business car is back in shop. Did get 2/3 of UP 105 roof coated. Hoping to get some more roof work done in next few weeks.
 - Got some work on SP GP9 2873 and WP SW1500 1503 done. Serviced automatic brake drain valves. Leak in front radiator of 2873 has returned. Going to talk with Roger Stabler about brazing leak.
 - Got rotary set pre-lubed and is doing more work to get rotary ready to go.
 - Initial plan for 2024 was to do injector work on WP GP7 707 as first major mechanical work of the year. Would like to not put it off. If WP FP7 805-A comes into queue after, may not be until end of summer. Asked Board if he should swap those. Eugene recommends yes we swap them. David wants to put some of the grabs back on the nose of 805-A for safety reason. May be some costs for radiator paneling. Major issue with 805-A is the air brakes. Needs to investigate.
- *Facilities*
 - Most snow has melted. Did not get as much rain as expected.
 - David Elems needs to get with Steve Habeck to discuss what to do with women's restroom heater. Steve still has the quote from Heat Transfer.

Committee Reports

- *Election* – written report provided.
 - No nominations to date.
 - eMail sent nominating Matt Elems and Steve Habeck.
 - Noted that nomination for Eugene Vicknair will be sent.

Matt Shuman left meeting at 3:54 PM.

- *RAL Committee* – update, written report provided. Next meeting Monday, January 15, 2024.

Legal / Insurance Report

- Still have credit balance, but is lower since we had some work done recently.

- Liability insurance report recently completed and sent to Vivian. Policy renews February 1. Vivian is out of office and returning Tuesday. Will go on installment payments.
- Property policy renewed January 1. On installment payments.

Status of Surplus Property Report

none

Safety Committee

- Slush and puddles around museum.
- Watch for ice.

Public Comments

- *Bob Sims* – Interesting item on eBay / Facebook Marketplace: a Western Pacific steam locomotive gauge tester. Came out of Keddie Roundhouse. Been completely rebuilt. Would make a great display. Bob going to contact seller.
- *David Elems* – Starting back at work January 22 when semester starts.

Roger Stabler and Matt Elems left the meeting.

Notices

Report of Volunteer Hours for 2023.

Motion 24-01-03

Add item of urgency to Closed Session: Personnel Issue – Member Conduct.
Vicknair / Cochran. Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

David Elems left the meeting at 4:10 PM.

Closed Session – requested by President Greg Elems and Director Eugene Vicknair – 4:10 PM – 4:32 PM

- *Property Issue* – Museum Property
- *Personnel Issue* – Member Conduct

The Board heard a report on a Property Issue – Museum Property. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Personnel Issue – Member Conduct. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 16:33 (Habeck / Vicknair)

Next Meeting: February 10, 2024 – 1:00 PM
Location: WPRM Meeting Room, Portola

Respectfully Submitted
Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary