

**Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – March 13, 2021 –1:00 PM
Conference Call due to COVID-19 Shelter Protocols**

President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 1:06 PM. All attendance by phone.

Attendance

The following Directors were present:

Kerry Cochran	Charlie Spikes	Matt Elems
Bob Sims	Greg Elems	Janet Steeper
Steve Habeck	Eugene Vicknair	

8 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

Guests present:

David Elems – Asst. CMO, Safety Officer
Bil Jackson

Correspondence

- *Habeck* – Got two donation thank you letters back due to street address vs. PO box delivery. Received solicitation from Florida real estate group that wants to buy our property. Received letter from NRHS, want to invite us to participate in their 2021 Directory of Rail Attractions. Received letter from state about COVID-19 actions. Got flyer from Railroadiana Collectors Inc. Wants us to sign up for their newsletter.
- *Vicknair* – Got call from Eric McKay. Order from Daylight Sales for us was sitting at their office. They had not contacted Eugene Vicknair about questions on order made back in October and could not reach anyone at museum. Eugene contacted Daylight Sales and corrected the issues. Order has been delivered. Also, we have been seeing more views to our Google and Facebook pages.

Consent Calendar

Approval of the minutes of the February Regular Meeting.

Motion 21-03-01

Approve the minutes of the February 2021 Regular Meeting as presented.

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

Old Business

UP 6946 Fundraising and Restoration Proposal

Review concept to raise funds and cosmetically restore UP Centennial for its 50th birthday.

- Written report provided.
- Ed Wagner called and expressed opinion that we should prioritize WP NW2u 608. Eugene Vicknair talked with mechanical folks and gave Ed an update on mechanical condition and needs of WP NW2u 608.
- Noted that we have stairs to pieces of equipment that need to be upgraded and improved.
- David Elems stated that discussion on stairs and railings should be held under safety.
- Discussion about the goal of this project to be using contractors for work on 6946 rather than volunteers and reaching different fundraising demographic as opposed to our usual WP related donors.
- Steve Habeck talked about plan he, Greg Elems and David Elems had to do some cosmetic work on the 6946. Noted that we do need new stairs to the engine. Its vertical ladders and stepwells are not suited for visitors to climb.
- Discussion about needs for RAL program and pros / cons on starting a fund for 6946.
- Idea about improving access as first priority and then improving cab.
- Steve noted that trucks need new coat of silver paint and would dramatically improve look.

- Suggestion to do smaller campaign to buy steps and restore cab and trucks.
- Eugene will rework into smaller campaign targeting access, cab, trucks and other cosmetic works. Target \$20,000. Safety and cosmetic improvements.
- Review at April meeting.

New Business

COVID Prevention and Precautions for Reopening

Discuss needs and issues surrounding COVID-19 protection needed for museum reopening.

- It appears that we will be allowed to open but will require masks and will need spray shields on sales counter.
- We can require employees to get vaccinated, but there are obligations.
- Discussion about RAL engineers. Ask that they be vaccinated and wearing faceshields and masks.
- Volunteers should be masked and wearing faceshields.
- Recommend that we have 2-3 max riders and 1 instructor on RALs.
- So far all regular RAL engineers talked to are getting vaccine and are willing to run RALs following vaccination.
- Will need air filters for interior areas and inside cars.
- Concerns about keeping volunteers safe and not infected.
- Will need signage informing requirement for masks and distancing, RAL requirements.
- Will need cleaning stations and disinfectant stations. Look at leasing stations from Plumas Sanitation.
- Keep cars and locomotives closed except for appointment tours.
- Clean cabooses between runs. Disinfectant fogger may need to be used. Limit riders in the cabooses.
- Discussion about rebuilding vista flat and adding to the train. Use SN caboose 1642 and take out half the seats. Use it as pass onto vista flat. Add fan into roof vent box for now, remove later.
- For next meeting, need preliminary plan. Work on designs for face shields. Look at mask suppliers.

Good of the Order

President's Report

- Verbal report given.
- Contacted Chase Bank on credit card for the mechanical department. Waiting to hear back from credit person at the bank to complete application.
- Talked to D&D Roofing. They will be contacting Steve Habeck to coordinate work. Family issue delayed work by roofing company.

Financial Reports

- Reports provided.
- Reviewed current financial status.
- Follow up with Bart on long term funds.

Director's Reports

- *Vicknair* – written report provided.
 - Discussion about NCO group being affiliate organization. Board gives consensus approval.
 - Discussion about RAL scheduling software and Facebook version. Facebook version not looking promising.
 - Review plans for west end diesel shop walkway and planning for construction.

Event Reports

- *2021 WP Historic Convention* – Tom Hervey has agreed to be banquet speaker for convention in September. Discussion about possibly holding Zoom portion of the convention. YouTube Live presentation is also an option.

- *Future Events* – Discussion about whether we do Pumpkin Patch and Santa Trains and COVID concerns. Possibly having pumpkin patch accessible without riding train.

Department Reports

- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
 - Kerry Cochran received positive comments from member on the new modeling section of the WPLives.org website.
 - Question about whether we have discussed digitizing model articles out of the Headlight for posting. Years ago we elected not to post any Headlight info to the website.
 - Kerry is working on getting permission to reuse some articles from previous years.
 - Steve Habeck has question about image that was discussed in historical question on the website.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided.
- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
 - President Greg Elems noted once again how much he appreciates the great work by Paul Finnegan on the website. The Board thanks Paul for the hard work.
- *Funding* – written report provided.
 - Presented examples of proposed fundraising letter for Spring. Board consensus direction to proceed with fundraiser.
- *Mechanical* – verbal report given.
 - Spring break coming up and will be doing a lot of time at the museum working on stuff.
 - Will bring WP SW1500 1503 into the shop for its annual work.
 - Working on SP GP9 2873, WP GP7 707 and WP GP20 2001 to determine cost and parts needed for radiator and engine work.
 - Waiting for Chase credit account to be set up before ordering parts.
 - Annual inspections starting. Quincy TR6A 1100 is next after 1503.
 - Need to do an annual inspection on WP FP7 805-A. Needs brake stand work. Recommendation is to ship everything to shop in Southern California for rebuild. Goal is to have 805-A done before we reopen in July.
 - Concerns about WP GP7 707 radiators. Needs to do troubleshooting.
 - Some work needs to be done on WP SW1500 1503.
 - After meeting going to take a look at the two vista flats and see which looks best for rebuild.
 - Holding off on heavy mechanical work on F-Units until WP 0-6-0 165 is complete. We are in critical final work on the 165 and do not want to be in the way of that. After 165 steaming, going to shift to heavy work on diesels.
 - WP F7A 921-D needs engine rebuild and radiator work. Other engines need new hoses, liners and other heavy work. Being scheduled over the next 5 years after 165.
 - Greg Elems is in discussion with a contract track work company about having balloon track being completely rebuilt.
 - Rubber tire fleet is in dire need of some serious work. Telehandler has a hydraulic cylinder that needs rebuild or replacement.

Committee Reports

- *Election* – written report provided. So far no requests for write in campaign. White ballot is still in effect.
 - Comment about using Train Sheet for written election notices in 2022.
 - Kerry Cochran is working with Matt Shuman on improving election process. Looking at designating Train Sheet and website as written notice. Could even include electronic voting.

Legal / Insurance Report

none

Status of Surplus Property Report

- No contact recently from Oroville group on WP burned caboos.

Safety Report

- Next month we need to do a set of fire extinguishers.

- Going to put caboose extinguishers until May. Wants to spread cost through the year.
- Still some snow and ice around.
- Noted that we need to replace all stairs into equipment.
 - Centennial, rotary, loading dock, Silver Plate, F-units.
 - Need portable stairs for road shows.
 - Need to plan what and where we need stair sets.
 - Consensus to proceed with planning on where we need stairs and what the specifications will be.

Public Comments

none

Notices

none

Closed Session – 4:04 PM – 4:41 PM

The Board heard a report on a Business Item – Potential Business Opportunity. Consensus direction given, no reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Property Item – Property and Buffer Zone. Consensus direction given, no reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Legal Item – Meeker v. FRRS and Vicknair. Consensus direction given, no reportable action taken.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at: 4:42 PM (Vicknair / G. Elems)

Next Meeting: April 10, 2021 – 1:00 PM

Location: Conference Call – COVID-19 Protocols

Respectfully Submitted, Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary