

**Feather River Rail Society  
Board of Directors Meeting – August 8, 2020 –1:00 PM  
Conference Call due to COVID-19 Shelter Protocols**

President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 1:13 PM. All attendance by phone.

**Attendance**

**The following Directors were present:**

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

7 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

**Guests present:**

David Elems – Asst. CMO, Safety Officer  
Ed Wagner  
Bart Hansen - Treasurer

**Correspondence**

- *D. Elems* – Talked to Craig Simmons. Found engine maintenance manual for Fairbanks-Morse locomotives on eBay. Craig is trying to get it for us. Bob Sims may have some F-M manuals that he may be able to donate.
- *Vicknair* – Responded to email about touring the museum. Person acknowledged that they understood we are not prepared for visitors. Made a donation to the Society.
- *Habeck* – Trading letters with someone in Virginia with info on Union Pacific DDA40X 6946. Steve has received three typewritten letters from this person.

**Consent Calendar**

Approval of the minutes of the July 2020 Regular Meeting.

Noted that Bob Sims was asking under Financials if we could look at putting excess money from Hostel settlement into interest bearing account.

Motion 20-08-01

Approve the minutes of the July 2020 Regular Meeting as corrected.

Vicknair / G. Elems. Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

**Election of Officers**

**President**

Greg Elems nominated by Hansen and Cochran.

No further nominations.

Greg Elems elected President.

Greg Elems accepts the nomination and election to President.

**Vice-President**

Steve Habeck nominated by Spikes and G. Elems.

No further nominations.

Steve Habeck elected Vice-President.

Steve Habeck accepts the nomination and election to Vice-President.

**Secretary**

Eugene Vicknair nominated by Bart Hansen and Steeper.

No further nominations.  
Eugene Vicknair elected Secretary.  
Eugene Vicknair accepts the nomination and election to Secretary.

#### **Treasurer**

Bart Hansen nominated by Spikes and G. Elems.  
No further nominations.  
Bart Hansen elected Treasurer.  
Bart Hansen accepts the nomination and election to Treasurer.

#### **Appointment of Department and Committee Heads**

- K. C. Dunn is no longer store manager.
- Noted that Ethan Doty received museum key back from Taj.
- Kerry to update list and send out to Board.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Event Changes / Delays Due to COVID-19**

---

Review upcoming events and revise calendar, including crew training.

- Letter from Chris Skow and Norman Holmes asking us to open for Labor Day Weekend was presented and read to the Board.
- Steve Habeck noted that Eric McKay has brought up supplies over the two trips he has made and that is the majority of the cleaning supplies on hand. Notes that museum is not set up for any distancing. Cabooes too close inside. Building has no viable ventilation. Biggest problem is the public. We are getting people who do not take this seriously calling and emailing us and volunteers are concerned these people will cause issues.
- We have had people calling from the front gate. Interface with some of the public has been very poor and they have been combative with us. One damaged the gate and some have been rude and threatening on the answering machine.
- Guests noted that most of our regular volunteers fall into one or more of the high risk categories.
- Habeck further commented that, due to ongoing work, the museum is a mess and many projects are in the middle of process. Balloon track is blocked to clear RIP tracks. With museum being closed, we are taking the time to clear things up that have been sitting for a while as well as rearranging the yard for better access and security. Also catching up on trackwork.
- Ed Wagner spoke. Stated that he is a 27 year member. He opposes opening right now and feels that the risks outweigh the gains. We need to put the health and safety of public and members first. He noted that California State Railroad Museum and Pacific Locomotive Association are not running. Based on what he sees, he feels it would be irresponsible to open now.
- Comments of approval for Mr. Wagner's statement from guests and directors.
- Noted that regular volunteers currently working on museum projects have stated they will not volunteer if we reopen now. Likewise, RAL engineers will not take RALs.
- It appears that only Southern California Railroad Museum, formerly Orange Empire, is currently open in the state.
- Habeck asked how much money we stand to spend on rushed opening.
- David Elems comments that cleaning supplies are only lasting because we are having only a small group of volunteers who are basically quarantining together. We are still having supply issues and cannot get quantity of needed cleaning supplies. We do not have enough supplies for public.
- Kerry Cochran recommends that the Board gracefully acknowledge the letter and decline respectfully for reasons stated. Board acknowledges appreciation to Chris Skow and Norman Holmes for their request, despite declining.
- Based on current view, noted that there will be no Pumpkin or Santa Trains this year.
- Janet Steeper feels that we can come back fresher at the events in 2021.
- Ed Wagner noted that Fremont did not hold 38<sup>th</sup> annual Art and Wine Festival this year.
- Greg Elems noted that Nervino Airport has cancelled their Fly-In Breakfasts.

- Greg Elems made statement that 7-8 volunteers are quarantining together to get work done around the museum. He also commented that we need to formally remove all events from the 2020 calendar.
- Ed Wagner thanked the Board for his chance to speak and left the conference call.
- Eugene Vicknair will get sign made for gate stating we are closed through 2020.

Motion 20-08-02

Formal announcement that museum will be closed through 2020.

Cochran / Spikes. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

## **New Business**

none

## **Good of the Order**

### **President's Report**

- Written report provided.

### **Financial Reports**

- Reports provided.
- Bob Sims had question about amount of convention refund for attendee Gersch. Amount should be \$84. Eugene Vicknair to double check.

### **Director's Reports**

- *Vicknair* – written report provided.
  - Announced that a new group has been started concerning the Nevada-California-Oregon Railway and he has been asked to join as a director and vice-president.
- *Habeck* – written report provided.
- *Sims* – Talked to Roger Stabler about repairs to the “Clover Plot” roof as well as the “Silver Hostel”. Habeck suggested that we build a wood box to support tarp over dome. Estimated \$500 in materials. Do one for Lodge and Hostel. Janet Steeper suggested buying old PVC billboard material. Noted she has used that in past for covering domes. Comments that other equipment needs covers. Janet will look into the PVC material.

### **Event Reports**

- *Historical Convention*
  - Bob Sims provided refund report.

### **Department Reports**

- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
  - Paul Finnegan and Kerry Cochran were discussing updates to archive webpages. Now going to issue update once a month. Created WP Headlight reprint PDFs. Sending Hayward derailment report for Headlight.
  - Kerry, Eugene and Greg were discussing WP GP7 705 repainting. Donor put up \$500 to match incoming donations. We did an email on August 3 and got \$1,700 in donations to WP 705 paint. Paint donation link is on the website.
- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
  - Webcam outages were due to power outages.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided.
- *Funding* – written report provided.
  - Bob Sims will be recontacting remaining convention attendees about refunds.
- *Mechanical*
  - Have not done much on locomotives. Helped out on track and steam 165 work. Had to help with school set-up.

- Looking to get back on locomotive work now that trackwork is done.

### **Committee Reports**

none

### **Legal / Insurance Report**

none

### **Status of Surplus Property Report**

- Museum in Oroville accepted WP 646 caboose donation. Working on getting truck lined up.

### **Safety Report**

- Wants to do fire extinguishers in September. Reminder that next month is inspection of fire system in archives car.

### **Public Comments**

none

### **Notices**

none

### **Closed Session – 2:27 PM – 2:50 PM**

- The Board heard a report on a potential business opportunity, no reportable action.
- The Board heard a report on a potential equipment donation, no reportable action taken.

### **Adjourn – Vicknair / Spikes**

Meeting adjourned at: 2:52 PM

Next Meeting: September 12, 2020 – 1:00 PM

Location: Conference Call – COVID-19 Protocols

Respectfully Submitted, Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary