

Why We Do This

—Ed Wagner

Several times when I have been at the museum volunteering I have enjoyed talking with our visitors and pointing out that everyone they see working are volunteers from all parts of the state as well as other states. Sometimes the question of why we do this comes up. Do we work for the railroad? (a few) How did we become involved? What brings us back? For me, that was answered about 15 years ago when I had an encounter with some very nice visitors.

I was working in the Operating Department at that time. This particular Saturday morning I was conductor on the caboose train. We were waiting for the air to come up so we could start the first run of the day. I noticed an elderly couple coming through the gate. They asked about riding the train and I directed them to the gift shop for tickets. While the lady went to buy the tickets the gentleman waited outside with me.

He said that they lived in southern California and were driving to Oregon to visit friends and relatives and had to take a side trip to our museum.

It seems he had a life-long dream to ride in a Santa Fe caboose, and he had seen on a video tape of tourist museums that we had one. That was why they had come. When his wife returned with the tickets he got up on the rear platform and she took several pictures of him. Then, ignoring my stern warnings of possible serious and irreparable damage to his camera, he insisted I join him for a picture or two.

I then helped him up to the cupola and his wife took a few more pictures of him waiving out of the window. It was then time for the ride to start. They settled in and enjoyed the ride. After the ride was over they got off the caboose, thanked me, and left.

As I watched them walk to their car I was struck by the feeling that in a very small way I

was part of this gentleman realizing one of his dreams... to ride in a Santa Fe caboose. I always wondered if his memory of this was as fond as mine.

To me, that answered the question of why we do this.

October 2013 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

Correspondence

Rod McClure – Chris Skow responded that his company will still be trying to run an excursion train to Portola in 2014 even if we cannot participate. Says he has several hundred people interested. Also received letter from Cascade Rail Foundation asking for extension of free storage of Milwaukee 5057 through end of this year

Motion 13-10-01

Motion to grant Cascade Rail Foundation free storage through December 31, 2013 for Milw Road U25B 5057.

(Elems / G. McClure) Aye – 5, Nay – 1, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the September 2013 BOD Meeting.

Motion 13-10-02

Motion to remove consent calendar from agenda.

(Vicknair / Habeck) Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

Old Business

Disney Zephyr Location / Placement Work

Approve proposal to permanently locate Disney Zephyr cab. Tabled from September.

- Written report provided.
- Questions about location and how to secure until it is ready for visitors.
- Suggestions to place Plexiglas in end of cab for viewing.

- Concerns about structure of dock. May need to rebuild dock completely.
- Discussion about access to the dock and utilization of the dock.
- Idea to place Disney cab inside shop presents concerns about space usage and blocking track 2.

Motion 13-10-03

Motion to accept the proposal to permanently site the Disney Zephyr cab in the proposed location on the east end of the Loading Dock. (Carter / Vicknair) Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1. Motion carries.

Calendar Review

Review and make changes to 2014 Event Calendar. Tabled from September.

- Preliminary calendar provided.
- Discussion about off-site meetings.
- Request that we place track and mechanical work weekends on the calendar.
- Review of dates.

Motion 13-10-04

Motion to accept the amended calendar for 2014. (Vicknair / Carter) Aye – 5, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

New Business**Changes to Election Procedures**

Suggested changes to FRRS Board Election procedures. Continued from September.

- Written report / recommendations provided.
- Discussion of how to assign expenses and prepayment of mailing costs.
- Suggestion that candidates only pay for reproduction, not postage costs.
- Review of suggested changes.
- Recommendation to continue to November so the Board can review and provide suggestions to Election Committee and Kerry Cochran as

Policies and Procedures Chair.

The Board thanks Matt Shuman and Ron Huey for their work on this.

Good of the Order**President's Report**

- Spent a day with the CCT General Manager concerning possible donation of locomotive 1790. Received donation of used ties and switch stands. Need to arrange trucking.
- Spoke with Matt Monson for turning wheels on S1 switcher 512 and other locomotives.

Director's Reports

- Vicknair – Kickstarter and Rally.org updates. Written report provided.
- Habeck – We had break-in to the Volunteer Lounge Car. Lots of food and a can opener were taken. Damage to south side door of Lounge Car. 2001, 707, 925-C, 608 and 805-A are all drained and set-up for winter.
- Monger – Cascade Rail Foundation had two volunteers working with FRRS volunteers to prep Milwaukee Road U25B 5057 for movement. Work will continue into next year. (report provided by email)

Financial Reports

- Financial Reports provided
- Received final check from scrapping. Added \$21,000 to reported cash on hand.
- Discussion of status of operating accounts and restricted accounts.
- Discussion on Board of Trustees meeting. Questions came from Trustees meeting.
- Suggestion that Board have discussion in May with Susan Scarlett and Chad Hoelsing

concerning how finances and taxes are handled so that Board can ask questions.

- Discussion of how restricted accounts are structured.
- Place on agenda for November a determination of how RAL proceeds are being used to repay and build Endowment. Also need to review Endowment status.
- Trustees have questions about their role and scope. Review at November meeting.
- Suggestion that the Chair of the Board of Trustees receive the monthly financial reports from the Endowment. Requires a motion and action by the Board of Directors. Place on November agenda.
- Matt Shuman is now chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Event Reports

- Planning has begun for Santa Trains. Charging \$10 per car or \$5 with donation of 3 canned food items for food banks. Setting up cookies and advertising.

Department Reports

- Publications – Train Sheet status. Written report provided. Two issues in process. Editor Vicknair will be resigning from position after these issues are complete.

Legal / Insurance Report

- With sale of Fourth Street house, insurance has been canceled.

Safety Report

- Use of personal protection gear is improving.

Public Comments

- Norman Holmes went on WWII honor flight from Reno to Washington DC.

Closed Session – requested by President McClure and Director Vicknair – 7:08 PM – 7:15 PM

- Legal Item – Worthen v. FRRS

The Board heard a report on a Legal Item – Worthen vs. FRRS. No action taken.

November 2013 Board Meeting Minutes Motions and Actions Summary

Correspondence

- G. McClure – Received email from Patricia Ryan from Portola community. City has cancelled Christmas Tree Lighting, but will still do parade. Wants to know if we want to participate. Would be December 6.
- Received bill from Tibbedeaux Surveying for property survey work.

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the September and October 2013 BOD Meetings.

Motion 13-11-01

Separate minutes so that they are voted on individually.

G. McClure / Vicknair. Aye - 7, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carries.

Motion 13-11-02

Motion to accept September Minutes.

Vicknair / Monger. Aye - 6, Nay - 0, Abstain - 1. Motion carries.

Motion 13-11-03

Motion to accept October Minutes.

Vicknair / Carter. Aye - 3, Nay - 0, Abstain - 4. Motion fails. Place on December agenda.