

Feather River Rail Society
Membership Meeting – June 6, 2015 – 7:30 PM
WPRM Diesel Shop – Portola, CA

Vice-President Steve Habeck called the meeting to order at 7:23 PM.

The following Directors were present

Eugene Vicknair	Charlie Spikes	Steve Habeck
Kerry Cochran	Greg Elems	Tom Carter

Attendance

Rick Gruninger	Matthew Elems	Frank Brehm
Alicia LaBrecque	Bil Jackson	Alex Wilson
David Elems	Duane VanderVeen	Burr Wilson
Deanna Fecko	Eric McKay	Fred Elenbaas
Lisa Wesch	Tracy Brehm	

Welcome to the members present.

Discussion of the value of the volunteers and thanks to them for their service and contributions.

Special thanks to:

- Charlie Spikes – particularly for his RAL and repair work
- Craig Simmons
- Duane VanderVeen – particularly for his work on the wood shop, windows and general mechanical work
- Bil Jackson
- Erik McKay – for his electrical work
- Burr and Alex Wilson
- Fred Elenbaas
- David Elems – for his mechanical and repair work
- Matt Elems – computer work and Train Sheet
- Deanna Fecko

Noted service and donations of Greg Elems

Thanks to the directors for their service and work, noted Kerry Cochran, Tom Carter and Eugene Vicknair

Floor opened for questions

- Member asked why none of the Board challenger candidates were present
- Questions about election issues and controversy
 - Description of legal action given
 - Noted that many small projects have been put on hold due to time and resource demands of the legal actions
 - Vice-President Habeck offered apologies to the membership for this
- Question about off-site events and road trips and their future
 - Noted that our road trains had excellent records
 - Never delayed a freight
 - No road failures
 - Aided Union Pacific in equipment movements
 - The hope is that circumstances will change some day and we will be able to do road trains and off-site events again
 - Members expressed support for this
- Discussion about improvements to the museum in recent past and plans for the future
 - Visitor improvements to UP business car 105
 - Work on the Silver Plate
 - Restoration progress on WP 165

- Plans for Archives room in MoP baggage car
- Question about Portola Railroad Days and Santa Trains
 - Plans are proceeding, looking for volunteers
- Question about relationship with city
 - We have an excellent relationship with the city manager, Robert Meacher
 - Are working together with city on advertising and grant applications, ways to improve visibility of the city and the museum
 - Are also working on exhibits around the city to promote local RR history
 - We have good relationship with businesses and local UP officials
 - President McClure speaks regularly with Robert Meacher and UP officials
 - Noted that Robert Meacher was at recent legal hearing and sat with President McClure and FRRS supporters
- Member noted that we appear to have excellent relationships with other railroad museums, despite claims that have been made
 - Noted that we worked with California State Railroad Museum on convention in 2013
 - We have done equipment trades and share information regularly with Western Railway Museum / Rio Vista
 - Our steam work crews include volunteers from Golden Gate Railroad Museum, Pacific Locomotive Association and Hercules Steam Tug group
 - Excellent relationship with Golden Gate Railroad Museum
 - Recent convention included a lot of cooperation with Nevada Northern Railway Museum
 - We also receive assistance and support from Southern Pacific 4449 group
 - Noted that President Rod McClure was the driving force behind several of these relationships
- Question about Rod McClure's health
 - He is currently in the hospital but is improving from a serious illness

Vice-President Habeck noted that the Western Pacific has been gone for 33 years and we are now responsible for upholding its legacy

Director Greg Elems thanked Steve Lee and Chris Allan for their work on the WP 165 restoration program

- Habeck noted how lucky we are to have these two talented experts working on this project
- Steve Lee is responsible for drafting the current FRA steam regulations

Director Carter noted that Steve Lee and Rod McClure recently worked out the donation of professional welding work needed for the 165 restoration.

Vice-President Habeck confirmed this and noted it is through Wasatch Railroad Contractors and John Rimmasch, with whom we also have a close relationship

Director Carter noted that Steve Lee has also brought in a painting specialist from the UP Heritage Program to teach our volunteers painting of equipment and is donating some of the needed equipment

Director Vicknair discussed future projects including grant work with the city, the on-going 165 work, the building the Society is working to acquire, the archives research room and other facilities improvements

Floor opened to last comments by members

- Eric McKay noted he received a letter from Keith Gillette and challenger candidates for board
 - He did not care for the tone and it reinforced his dedication to the current board and the core volunteers

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at: 8:23 PM
 Next meeting: July 11, 2015 – 4:00 PM
 Location: WPRM Meeting Room - Portola, CA

Respectfully Submitted,
 Eugene Vicknair - Secretary, FRRS