

Feather River Rail Society
Board of Directors Meeting – April 18, 2026 – 1:00 PM
Western Pacific Railroad Museum Meeting Room – WPRM, Portola, CA

President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 1:29 PM.

Attendance

The following Directors were present:

Michael Coen – phone
Greg Elems
Matt Elems - phone

Charlie Spikes - phone
Bob Sims – phone
Tom Hervey - phone

Janet Steeper – phone

7 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

Visitors:

Matt Shuman – Elections Chair - phone
Nick Manos – CMO
Ethan Doty – phone

Brian Waller – Facilities Manager – phone
Steve Habeck

Correspondence

Nick Manos

- Discussed an offer from an equipment dealer for a donation of a fork lift with 40,000 lb capacity. Nick will forward the details and contact info to the board. Discussion held about donation to museum but the society would be responsible for transportation to the museum.

Michael Coen

- Ardenwood event email for museum to have the invitation to have a booth for selling museum items and promotion of museum. Event will take place Memorial Day Weekend. Volunteers needed and museum pop up and merchandise will need to be taken to event.

Kyle Oles' left a voice mail asking about volunteering at the museum. Greg Elems will get in contact and answer questions.

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the March 2020 BOD Regular and Special Meetings.

Tabled to April meeting

New Business

none

Old Business

none

Good of the Order

Mechanical Department

Mechanical Report - moved ahead to allow Nick Manos to give it and get back to working on the 1503

- WP 1503 will be ready for service by April 21
- SP 2873 unlikely to be ready by June
- Support equipment not ready
- Model T is not working, more damage noted from public viewing
- Diesel shop will be cleaned by April 21, when Nick is finished with the mechanical work and leaving for the month of May
- SP 2873 was requested to be spotted at west end of shop to block viewing and access to shop bay when WP 1503 is started and used for switching and crew training.

President's Report

- Verbal report given.
- Greg thanked the society members for all their hard work at the Big Boy Event.

Financial Reports

- Financial reports provided.
- Bob Sims asked about deposits and electric bill.

Director's Reports

- *Vicknair* – written report provided.

Event Reports

- *Big Boy 2026* – written report provided.
 - Discussion on overall impressions of event.
 - Favorable comments and suggestions of possible improvements.
- *Future possible events: Ardenwood Farm and Sumpter Valley 50th Anniversary*
 - Discussion about both events.

Department Reports

- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
 - Thank you to Paul Finnegan for his work on the website.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided
 - Matt Shuman has an article, will forward to Eugene Vicknair and Michael Coen
- *Museum Store*
 - Discussion held about Coke and the soda machine. Charlie Spikes talked to Coke, result was we don't buy enough product for Coke to support and sell us syrup to continue to offer the produce to the visitors and members. Coke will take back the machine. With the ice machine up and running the museum will offer ice and remaining stock of cups to the public for those who don't want to drink from the container. Canned soda will be sold to the public and at a discount to the members. Suggestion for a separate donation box for the members to pay for canned soda and candy bars was made for when no store staff to take care of sales. When museum is open to the public, store staff will sell to the members and give them the discount. Ice machine will still be off limits for general use, ice to be made available to public and members in a separate holder/dispenser. More discussion next BOD meeting.

Committee Reports

- *Election* – written report provided.
 - Matt Shuman stated next step for balloting requirements
 - Ballot counting location needed
 - Ballot counters need to be identified
 - 564 eligible voters noted, 671 eligible ballots sent out
 - Postage - \$360, printing & envelopes \$956
 - discussion of electronic election and possible options- Bob Sims will look into what is currently the standard for electronic balloting.

Legal / Insurance Report

none

Safety Committee

- No reportable incidents or accidents.
- Charlie Spikes will set up fire extinguisher servicing for mid May.

Notices

- Membership Dinner and Meeting coming up, June 6th - begin planning and promotion

- Sub sandwiches - (Port of Subs) suggested. Passing of the hat suggested for paying back the WPRM for sandwiches.
- Ask for RSVP be requested on the Web Site for members meeting and dinner..

Public Comments

- UP steam, no new additions to schedule noted as of meeting
- Nick Manos commented about not seeing a real need for WPRM to buy mobility scooters or second golf cart at this time. Cost is reasonable enough for time being to continue renting as needed. Suggested further discussion, storage and maintenance items to consider. .

Closed Session – none requested

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 PM

Next Meeting: May 9, 2026 – 4:30 PM
Location: WPRM Meeting Room, Portola

Respectfully Submitted – Eugene Vicknair – Secretary from notes by Greg Elems - President

PRELIMINARY

This file (BOD_Meeting_04-18-26_preliminary.pdf) was posted to
WPLives.org at Sun May 10 06:22:08 AM PDT 2026