# Feather River Rail Society **Board of Directors Meeting** March 5, 2005 1 pm

## Volunteer Lounge, Portola Railroad Museum Portola, California

President Rod McClure called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. The following directors were present:

Andy Anderson

Frank Brehm (via phone)

Kerry Cochran

Steve Habeck (arrived 1:40 pm) Norm Holmes

Gail McClure

Wavne Monger

Hank Stiles

Director Eugene Vicknair was unable to attend.

Staff present:

Visitors present:

David Epling

Charlie Spikes

### Correspondence

### **Consent Calendar**

- 1. Minutes Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held February 5, 2005.
- Financial Reports Profit & Loss statement through 03-04-05 and Balance Sheet through 01-31-05.

Motion # 05-03-01 -- Approval of consent calendar reports as presented. Motion made by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Cochran. All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

#### **FRRS Mission Statement**

The Board of Directors considered changes to the present Mission Statement to shorten and focus its content. There was some discussion as to the addition of a Vision Statement as well. Additional changes and recommendations were presented. The consensus of the Board was to adopt the following: "The Feather River Rail Society is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation and education of the public, as to the history and people of the Western Pacific Railroad." Information to be forwarded to the Policies and Procedures Committee for formal presentation as change to the appropriate policy.

Motion # 05-03-02 — Adoption of proposed change of the Mission Statement as proposed. Motion made by Director Stiles, seconded by Director Holmes. All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Vision Statement was tabled for further refinement and consideration.

### **New Business**

### **Dunsmuir Railroad Days**

President McClure advised he has not had the opportunity to visit Dunsmuir and speak with the principals involved with Dunsmuir Railroad Days (DRD), although he has been working with them by phone. It is likely we will be able to obtain a financial commitment to cover most if not all of our expenses, although nothing more. The event is currently scheduled for July 8-9, 2005. There have been some problems with unauthorized comments represented as being forwarded by the FRRS. President McClure has spoken with DRD organizers to see that this is not repeated. There is a high likelihood that we may be requested to move Union Pacific equipment as well as our own.

### **WPMW 37 Crane Restoration Proposal**

President McClure presented a written proposal for overhaul/restoration of the WPMW 37 Crane with work (including recabling) on a funds available basis.

<u>Motion # 05-03-03</u> – Adoption of written proposal and authorization to proceed with restoration of WPMW 37 Crane with a budget of \$3,750, from budgetary line item, 51020 – Equipment Maintenance, Other and on a funds available basis. Motion forwarded by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Habeck. All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

# Operations Department Report

Director Cochran discussed his written report outlining volunteer participation in the Operating Department. He continues to see declining trends in Operating Department Volunteers and is uncertain as to why, although it is possible some people are having a difficult time with new guidelines. New as of 2004 is tracking of RAL volunteer hours.

The new guidelines are particularly geared toward engineer certification and recertification as based on industry standards. This is due in part to changes in the insurance industry and should help to keep us insurable as well as keep our premiums in check.

Charlie Spikes recommended increased advertising for volunteers and Director Cochran will be trying to increase the Operating Department's visibility on the FRRS website.

# Truckee Railroad Days

President McClure advised he had a conference call with the principals involved with Truckee Railroad Days. They have advised they will have a contract to us for approval by June 1. They have acknowledged the critical nature of our participation in their event which is currently slated for September 9-11, 2005.

### Good of the Order

### **President's Report**

President McClure reported that WP 705 is on its way to Portola after many months of protected care in Cheyenne, WY. He is keeping a close eye on it to make sure it arrives without incident.

He has also arranged for the Union Pacific to donate WP 4408, one of three remaining "shorty" gondolas, after spending a number of years in MOW service. Special thanks to the UP for their generous donation was noted for the record.

President McClure also noted that as of the beginning of March, all stored pipe flats have been removed from the branch at Cannon and assurances have been made that the switch will not be removed, at least until after our equipment trade with BAERA (Rio Vista) has been physically completed. Target dates for this move are end of March, beginning of April. Much work remains in preparation for the move including load/tie down of the 44 tonners and a flat car. The hope remains that we will be able to drop two flat cars at Hearst (PLA) for loading of WP 165 while down at Rio Vista, and that we will bring the gondolas with the contents of Maggie Tower back on the return trip.

The Silver Lodge should be on its way from storage in Texas by the end of the month.

At this time, President McClure requested the addition of a closed session Item of Urgency regarding a proprietary business item of financial nature which arose after the publication of the agenda. Item to be added prior to adjournment of the meeting where closed session would normally appear.

### **Director's Reports**

None

# **Department Reports**

<u>Excursion Division</u> – Director Habeck reported that the Reno Fun Train Amtrak equipment is currently committed through the end of August which would make an excursion in conjunction with Dunsmuir Railroad Days impossible. The estimated cost for the excursion is currently anticipated to be in the neighborhood of \$40,000-50,000 which also makes it a near financial impossibility as well.

# Committee Reports

<u>Election Committee</u> – Written report presented on behalf of Ed Wagner, Election Committee Chair. All requirements as outlined for the election are currently on or ahead of schedule and ballots are out to the membership. Director Cochran reported that Mr. Wagner has been working with the Policies and Procedures Committee regarding physical changes to the ballots.

<u>Funding</u> – Director McClure advised that the latest mail out fundraiser had raised, as of the meeting date, slightly over \$4,800. She recommended mailing of a "reminder letter"

to see if we can generate additional donations. She also reported her attendance at a training class for the donor management software purchased by the FRRS at the beginning of the year. The software provides a greater flexibility for volunteer/member management than originally realized.

BREAK: 2:29 pm-2:43 pm

Meeting reajourned at 2:43 pm. Discussion proceeded with regard to the Sierra Pacific Power bill. Museum Manager John Walker was directed to investigate the phenomenal increase in the charges.

<u>Museum Manger Report</u> – Museum Manager Walker welcomed everyone back after a long and snowy winter. The Diesel Shop has sustained a number of broken windows as is usual after a heavy winter. He also has concerns about the siding nails popping out of the building. Mr. Walker expressed a concern regarding the impact of rising gas costs on visitor levels and revenue. He was happy to report the donation of a new HP 4-in-1 scanner/copier/fax/printer as well as a 1984 extended cab Ford pickup truck from member Tom Barton.

Mr. Walker is investigating having the City of Portola paint a line on the street and include signage to provide direction to the Museum. He will advise once he receives a reply.

<u>Layout Committee</u> – David Epling reported that the old model railroad has been disassembled/demolished and bench work to start upon receipt of the most recent track plan as well as purchase of the required lumber. Project is currently behind schedule due to the winter's inclement weather conditions.

**Legal Counsel Report** 

None

Status of Surplus Property Report

None

Safety Report

None

**Public Comments** 

None

**Notices** 

Winterail: Facilities/Track Work Weekend:

Zephyr Project Work Weekend:

March 12, 2005

March 19-20, 2005

March 26-27, 2005

Motion # 05-03-04 — Addition of Item of Urgency regarding a proprietary business opportunity of financial nature which arose after the publication of the agenda. Motion made by Director Cochran, seconded by Director Habeck. All Directors present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Closed Session**

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 3:04 pm and reconvened to open session at 3:30 pm. President McClure advised that a report was given regarding new developments regarding a proprietary financial business opportunity. No action was taken.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Next meeting: Saturday, April 2, 2005

Location TBD

Portola, CA

Respectively Submitted Gail A. McClure