

**Feather River Rail Society**  
**Board of Directors Meeting – August 12, 2017 – 4:00 PM**  
**WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA**

President Steve Habeck called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

The following Directors were present

Eugene Vicknair - phone  
Rick Gruninger  
Leisa Wesch

Charlie Spikes - phone  
Kerry Cochran  
Roger Stabler - phone

Steve Habeck - phone  
Greg Elems

**Attendance**

Paul Finnegan – webmaster  
David Elems – Asst. CMO – 4:16 PM  
Bil Jackson – CMO  
Bart Hansen – Treasurer - phone  
Bob Sims  
Ethan Doty  
Ed Powell  
David Epling

Kenneth Finnegan  
Matt Shuman  
Ann Morningstar

In spirit:  
Rod McClure  
Ron Huey

**Correspondence**

- *Habeck* – We received a letter from CalOES that said our request for public assistance (FEMA support) for road and track repair has been approved. More paperwork to do, but we are in line for storm repair funds. Bob Meacher said city is in line for several million in road repairs.

**Consent Calendar**

Approval of the minutes of the July 2017 BOD Meeting and the August Special BOD Meeting.

Minutes considered separately.

Motion 08-17-01

Approve the minutes of the July 2017 BOD Meeting and August 2017 Special BOD Meeting as presented. Vicknair / Spikes. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1. Motion carries.

**Appointment of Committees & Officers**

**Nominations open for President**

- Charlie Spikes nominates Steve Habeck, second by Kerry Cochran
- No further nominations
- Move to close nominations by Eugene Vicknair, second by Charlie Spikes
- Nomination accepted by Steve Habeck, no dissent
- Steve Habeck is President

**Nominations open for Vice-President**

- Charlie Spikes nominates Greg Elems, second by Kerry Cochran
- No further nominations
- Move to close nominations by Eugene Vicknair, second by Charlie Spikes
- Nomination accepted by Greg Elems, no dissent
- Greg Elems is Vice-President

**Nominations open for Secretary**

- Leisa Wesch nominates Eugene Vicknair, second by Greg Elems

- No further nominations
- Move to close nominations by Steve Habeck, second by Greg Elems
- Nomination accepted by Eugene Vicknair, no dissent
- Eugene Vicknair is Secretary

#### **Nominations open for Treasurer**

- Greg Elems nominates Bart Hansen, second by Eugene Vicknair
- No further nominations
- Move to close nominations by Steve Habeck, second by Eugene Vicknair
- Nomination accepted by Bart Hansen, no dissent
- Bart Hansen is Treasurer
- Department and Committee Heads are left as currently standing. President Habeck noted that the general feeling is that we have a good team and that things are progressing and building momentum. Everyone is working well together and he does not want to “fix what ain’t broken”.
- Discussion about status of Business Practices Committee
- Noted that it has been inactive, but Steve Habeck expressed that he felt the committee is still valuable
- Kerry Cochran noted that we need an update on status / results from annual planning meeting, asked that we assign that to the Business Practices Committee, committee will have report at next meeting

#### **Old Business**

None

#### **New Business**

##### **NB1 – Charles O. Sweetwood 100<sup>th</sup> Event**

Approve event and expenditures.

- Written report provided.
- Confirmed that the date for the event is September 9<sup>th</sup>. Event will be at 1:30 PM.
- Julia Pagan and her family, Sweetwood family and Red Cross representatives are planned to attend.
- Car will be in shop, hopefully powered and lit.
- There is \$3,000 marked for Special Events in the 2017 budget.
- Charlie Spikes offers his services in any way. Has contacts with VA Hospital. Will contact them.
- Will also invite Korean War veterans groups.

Motion 08-17-02

Accept the presented report and approve the \$700 expenditure from Special Events – line item 54515. Vicknair / Spikes. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

#### **Good of the Order**

##### **President’s Report**

- Verbal report provided.
- Steve is travelling, currently in Wisconsin.
- Railroad Days is moving along, has been attending committee meetings. Has a committee meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup>. Loren will handle switch crew for heritage units and yard set up on 24<sup>th</sup>. We have a tour group coming on 24<sup>th</sup>. Heritage units will be staged on 2 Rail east of shop. Will go back to UP Sunday evening or Monday morning. Motive Power desk is guaranteeing one at least, probably both, WP and DRGW. DRGW unit is in Roseville for injector work. UP Motive Power plan is to wash both units in week before Railroad Days.

- Discussion of support expressed by power Co-Op. Bart Hansen has family connection to Co-Op Board of Directors.
- We received final court order on Doug Morgan issue. Judge ordered we do own the UP GP30 849 and the SP brown boxcar and all contents. This is specified in the court order. After order was issued, we began cataloging and inspection of the car. Any personal paperwork requested by Doug Morgan's daughter and son in law will be set aside and sent to them.
- Noted that Morgan's family as well as David Dewey and his wife were in town on August 31 laying Doug Morgan to rest.
- It was found that someone did get into the boxcar around that time. Car is now secured and locked and has been moved onto the museum property. As per legal recommendation, we will report anyone non-FRRS attempting to enter the car for trespassing.
- Suggested that we pull reporting marks from car and re-stencil with FRRX marks.

### Financial Reports

- Reports provided.
- Treasurer report provided.
- Several positive points: museum store doing much better than last year
- RALs are behind, but picked up after slow start and we have a lot of RALs booked for future, some are pending track being back in service, radio advertising appears to be working
- Bart noted that year we had the billboard was a high year for RALs, unfortunately it is quite expensive; asked if we can look at that again
- Treasurer praised store workers and management, store is up over 60%
- Ed asked about plans for HVAC for museum store; was on list of projects for possible loan, but we need to repair roof first

### Director's Reports

- *Vicknair* – written report provided. Noted that our expansion plans were discussed in recent City Council meeting. Noted that past FRRS volunteer Debbie Reynolds is now on Portola City Council.

### Event Reports

- *2017 Pumpkin Patch Express* – written report provided. Bart will look at getting us haybales. Suggested to break up old haybales and spread them around picnic area. Working on acquiring 2 portable light plants. Steve would like to add one more caboose to same train set up as last year.

### Department Reports

- *Webmaster* – written report provided. Reviewed hosting issue that interrupted service. Thanked track crew for all the feedback they provided. Asking for input on Railroad Days events for the museum. Gary van Trees with live steam G scale train layout will be here again, will be set up on the dock. Will be sending stuff to Paul Finnegan for website. There will be vendors and info booths in city park. We were asked by Railroad Days committee to not arrange our own vendors for museum. Hoping that will change in future years. Noted that reports and minutes page on the website is searchable by Google. Question about Museum Store on-line. Project is in the works. Lots of compliments on web page, questions about mobile version. Mobile version has all but 2 of the main pages reproduced.
- *Roadmaster* – report to be provided. Sent before meeting. We just have 6 ties in place but needing spiking. Once these are done, planned for Monday, then balloon will be reopen for full service under 5 MPH slow order. Contractors are being researched to do additional track work, install 5-6 pieces of outside rail on balloon to replace worn rail and do basic tamping. Cost will be about \$23,000 for 1000'. Roger Stabler has got the tamper working. That is helping a lot. Wants to use contractor to do the rail and additional repairs. One contractor reported that he feels work done so far looks good.
- *Archives / Historical* – written report provided. We have made a lot of progress in cataloging archives materials. Has been finding a lot of stuff that has been set aside in years past with no notes. Thanked store for their timely processing of donation forms in last few months. Someone is coming to museum on Monday to donate some materials to us. Kerry will be there to meet them. Kerry is trying to get hold of John Walker.
- *Mechanical* – Seat covers for various engines: Bil and his wife are going to try and do those after season. Working on WP GP20 2001 injectors. WP GP7 707 is in the shop and needs batteries watered up, getting additional work. Plan is to button up WP 165 boiler after this coming work session. Goal is May or June for 165 hydro. Quincy 1100 work is delayed a bit. Model T is redflagged, getting radiator but has bad brakes.

Ann Morningstar is donating money to fix the brakes on the Model T. Model T has a brand new radiator thanks to Matt Shuman and Ann Morningstar.

## Committee Reports

none

## Legal / Insurance Report

- Rick and Steve are working to get legal billing straightened out. Rick Gruninger reports bill issue should now be straightened out. Gave Susan Scarlett, bookkeeper, a break down on legal billing for check.

## Status of Surplus Property Report

- UP GP30 849 to be sent to collections committee for formal determination.
- SP beet gon contracts with legal review.

## Safety Report

- David Elems is still waiting on fire extinguisher contractor information. Cost for renewal and inspection expected to be about \$1,000.
- No smoking is allowed in the shop.
- There was another deer in the oil separator. Need to restring fence.

## Public Comments

- *Bob Sims* – Questions about funding allocations for WP 165. Sent stock sale letter for donation to WP 165. Asked Steve Habeck to call RBC on stock letter he sent to give permission. There is currently \$500 in the WP 165 account, should be another \$4,000 transferring from restricted account to WP 165 account. Also wants to sell some WP books.
- *David Epling* – Has a Boy Scout named George Herbert looking for an Eagle Scout project. Spoke with Eugene Vicknair and Matt Shuman about turning him loose on proposed Memorial Grove project.
- *Charlie Spikes* – Asked for cost / benefit analysis on Big Fish Creations. Steve Habeck feels that the benefits are far outweighing the costs. They have the resources and contacts to do things we can't do. They are expanding our contacts, outreach, and interface with the community. Their monthly statement has a detailed list of what they have done each month, could make those public. Pointed out that Big Fish has been cultivating and connecting us with political and business contacts. Also, they have done things on our behalf that they are not charging us for. Ask Big Fish for their permission to publish their work scope as part of Board reports. Several folks have been getting questions about this.

## Notices

- The August Meeting is official election of officers and appointment of department and committee heads.
- Portola Railroad Days is coming up August 25-27.

## Closed Session – Requested by Director Gruninger – 5:49 PM – 4:44 PM

- *Business Item* – Insurance Review

The Board heard a report on a Business Item – Insurance Review. No action taken.

## Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at: 5:57 PM  
Next meeting: September 9, 2017 – 4:00 PM  
Location: WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA

Respectfully Submitted, Eugene Vicknair -- Secretary, FRRS