

**Feather River Rail Society  
Board of Directors Meeting – March 9, 2019 – 1:00 PM  
WPRM Meeting Room – Portola, CA**

President Steve Habeck called the meeting to order at 1:17 PM

**Attendance**

**The following Directors were present:**

Steve Habeck

Charlie Spikes

Janet Steeper - phone

Kerry Cochran - phone

Greg Elems

Matt Elems - phone

Bob Sims - phone

Eugene Vicknair - phone

8 directors present – Quorum achieved.

**Guests present:**

David Elems – Asst. CMO

Bil Jackson

Ethan Doty

Ali Doty

**Correspondence**

*Habeck* – Gave Kalmbach media sales card to Greg Elems. Michael Bamford needs a calendar. Gold Creek productions sent letter showing RV park ad. NRHS soliciting a donation for visitor guides.

**Consent Calendar**

Approval of the minutes of the February 2019 BOD Meeting.

Question about election write-in cutoff date showing as March 4 in minutes. Decided to be March 15 after the meeting by Election Committee.

Motion 19-03-01

Approve the minutes of the February 2019 Board Meeting as presented.

Vicknair / Spikes. Aye – 8, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

**Old Business** - none

**New Business**

**Railroad Days Replacement Event**

Discuss opinions / options for holding an event in summer to replace Railroad Days.

- Discussion about holding our own Railroad Days style event.
- Noted that Todd Plimpton and Stan Peiler have offered to city to take over event next year.
- Steve Habeck noted that we have been approached to take over event, but we cannot support anything beyond the gate. All local events are suffering from lower volunteer levels.
- Habeck said we will see what the future brings. We may get some support from UP for heritage units.

- If we do an event, we will just do our regular Railroad Days events. Basically a busy operating weekend. Noted that some people schedule their vacations around Railroad Days.
- Discussed that dates have been issue the last few years due to late in August and interfering with schools, Plumas County Fair and Hot August Nights.
- Some members have suggested that we run some period freights as part of Railroad Days. Noted that this will put more strain on operations and crew.
- Discussion about dates and crew availability. Right now have 9-10 people signed up for crew training.
- Suggested that we not move date this year. Should see what new committee wants to do.
- Eugene Vicknair will get contact info for Plimpton and Peiler and set up meeting to discuss.
- Noted that Railroad Days weekends have always paid for itself and made us money.
- Discussion that goal for WP 165 steam up if it passes hydro will be around August.
- Eugene Vicknair to contact owner of "Chiggen" steam engine, Stathi Pappas to see what his schedule and cost looks like for Railroad Days 2019.

## **Good of the Order**

### **President's Report**

- Written report provided.
- Discussion about running rotary for John Bartell and doing fundraising to bring in money to help with expenses.
  - Noted that rotary is staged in a good place to move the rotary into position.
  - SP GP9 2873 needs prep and mechanical work anyway.
  - Rotary is in good condition.
  - Switches will need to be dug out. Will need to dig paths to reach equipment.
  - We are low on fuel, but would not need to buy fuel to run rotary.
  - Discussion about how to raise money on rotary run.
    - 6 seats in rotary in cab – eBay tickets, minimum \$250
    - Ride the caboose and locomotive – 4 people in 2873 @ \$150, 4 in cupola of DRGW caboose @ \$150
    - Watch the plow run – 10 spots to watch \$50
    - Multiple runs after to experience rotary operation – can ride caboose and locomotive for ticket, rotary cab ride will be \$20 per ride
  - Snow over rail for entire yard for about 1 ft. Will be throwing snow down lead. About 3 feet of snow over rail from sewer crossing around corner about ¼ of balloon. About 2-3 feet out near signal shack.
  - March 22, Friday. 10 AM gate opens, 11 AM first run. No guarantee on snow. Refund if not run.
    - Park at own risk, dirt / mud parking area.
    - Hike out into snow.
    - Rotary has no heat.
    - Heat in locomotive and caboose.
    - Not responsible for mechanical failures.
    - No member discounts.
    - Museum store will be open.
  - Bob Sims suggested we advertise on Trainorders and other railfan sites.
- Bob Sims asked about borrow out from restricted funds.

### **Financial Reports**

- Financial reports provided.

- Eugene Vicknair reported that business sponsorship email solicitation has gone out and Spring fundraiser will start soon.
- Bob Sims had question about coding for expense on WP PFE 55069. Reviewed how donations on reefer are coming in and being processed.

### Director's Reports

- *Vicknair* – written report provided.
  - Update on PFE 55069. Discussed movement and fundraising progress. Almost all money to cover expenses has been raised.
  - Greg Elems asked to handle all winter mailings of calendars and other products next year. Goal to eliminate double work and confusion.
  - Reviewed fundraising efforts going on.
  - Jeff Asay has agreed to give us a lower cost on “Iron Feather” when we reorder.

### Event Reports

- *2019 WP – PCR Convention* – written report provided.
  - Steve Habeck noted that we need to order more Zephyr mysteries and Iron Feather books for the convention. Suggestion to do presale on books for the convention with books picked up there.
  - Steve and his wife are offering to cover store table at convention.
  - Vendor sign ups low, probably due to conflict with Ogden 150<sup>th</sup> Gold Spike event.
- *2019 Work Weekend* – April 13-14. Planning for breakfast.
  - Project to get picnic tables out of McCloud car and need some repair.
  - Will be doing sign-ups and community outreach soon.

### Department Reports

- *Marketing* – Business sponsorship, Kalmbach ads in, Fundraising and convention email blast going out soon.
- *Webmaster* – written report provided. Discussion about putting calendar back up at \$10.
- *Train Sheet* – written report provided. Layout of next issue almost done. Deadline March 15.
  - Discussion about Boy Scout troop coming up on April 3-4 and staying in Troop Sleeper. This is same Scout troop that donated mattresses for the Troop Sleeper.
  - Paul Finnegan concerned about having funding to make sure issue goes out on time.

BREAK – 3:00 PM to 3:10 PM

- Steve Habeck stated that we need to adhere to the schedule. Costs for Train Sheet have come down substantially.
- Discussed the TeeSpring website that has been set up for WPRM related merchandise.
- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
- *Mechanical* – written report provided.
  - David Elems reviewed plans for radiator swaps.
  - Discussed plan for forklifts.
  - Plans to have shop cleaned up and reorganized.

### Committee Reports

- *Election* – written report provided.
  - No write in notices as yet. Deadline is March 15.
- Bob Sims suggested we solicit email updates and addresses in next Train Sheet.
  - Eugene Vicknair will write up notice.

### **Legal / Insurance Report**

- Liability insurance went up. Insurance is paid.
- All insurances currently paid up.
- Have insurance certificates on caboose from Bill Parker, David Wallace and Wayne Monger. They are also up to date on rent. Vic Neves and Bill Wisneski are in arrears and no insurance.
  - Steve Habeck to send info on back rent and Eugene Vicknair to send letters.

### **Status of Surplus Property Report**

- No updates on VIA lounge car and "Magnolia Grove".
- Eugene Vicknair still talking with Bill Wisneski about Santa Fe diner.

### **Safety Report**

- David Elems working on various safety projects.
  - Overhead fall protection. Checking into load rating on ceiling trusses.
- Question about testing and procedures for forklift training.
  - Kerry Cochran and David Elems to coordinate on training materials.
- Hoping to have safety equipment updated and installed on forklifts by end of April.
- Question about structural plans for Diesel Shop. May be in archives in the Cotton Belt car. Will help with stress calculations for fall protection mounting.
- Kerry Cochran and Paul Finnegan are working on forklift training as part of crew training. Will have more info in a couple weeks.
- Bob Sims suggested having forklift training session tied to start of Steam Work Session.

### **Public Comments**

*David Elems* - has samples of his proposed numberboard fundraising items. Showed them to the Board. ½ scale numberboards. Discussion about WP logo light up signs for convention.

### **Notices**

- April 13-14 will be Work Weekend to get museum and exhibits ready for opening. Volunteers needed!
- Set clocks ahead 1 hour tonight.

### **Closed Session** – requested by Director Vicknair – 3:46 PM – 4:12 PM

- Business Issue – Whitman Building Update
- Legal Issue – Meeker vs. FRRS and Vicknair

The Board heard a report on a legal issue – Meeker vs. FRRS and Vicknair. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a business issue – Whitman Building Update. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at: 4:13 PM (Vicknair / Greg Elems)

Next Meeting: April 13, 2019 – 1:00 PM

Location: WPRM Meeting Room - Western Pacific Railroad Museum - Portola, CA

Respectfully Submitted, Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary