

**Feather River Rail Society  
Board of Directors Meeting – February 10, 2024 – 1:00 PM  
Western Pacific Railroad Museum Meeting Room – WPRM, Portola, CA**

President Greg Elems called the meeting to order at 13:20.

**Attendance**

**The following Directors were present:**

Greg Elems  
Steve Habeck – phone  
Kerry Cochran - phone  
Charlie Spikes – phone

Roger Stabler - phone  
Matt Elems – phone  
Eugene Vicknair - phone

7 directors present at meeting start – Quorum achieved.

Noted that Director Bob Sims tried to call in but was having issues with his phone connection. Was part of the meeting intermittently.

**Visitors:**

David Elems – CMO, Safety Officer  
Matt Shuman – Election chair – phone

**Correspondence**

*Habeck*

- Did not get bill in mail again for Plumas Sierra internet. Most recent bill just showed up.
- Electric bill was very high during November and December 2023. Usage was down, rates are climbing.
- Duane vander Veen has been in balloon cutting up leftover wood. Worked with Rotary to get wood donated to folks around town who needed it. Rotary donated \$600 to us in thanks.
- EPCAN deliveries of food from Santa Train totaled 1,100 lbs. Dec 8-9 was 300 lbs. Dec 16 was 400 lbs. Duane brought all that over to EPCAN.

**Consent Calendar**

1. Minutes – Minutes of the January 2024 BOD Regular Meeting. .

Motion 24-02-01

Approve the January 2024 BOD Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.  
Vicknair / Spikes. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

**Old Business**

**Diesel Shop Roof Work**

Discuss proposal for Diesel Shop roof work.

- Greg Elems is in contact with Paul Mast at Mast Roofing on various questions:
  - Cleanup of screws and retightening is all in quote. No extra charge for prep work before foaming.
  - Breaking job into 2 sections. Would consider it, but would increase cost 8% to 10% due to extra costs.
  - Timeframe for job completion: would happen in May, July or August.
  - Warranty: coating should last 18-20 years before possible recoat. Has 12 year warranty on they work.
  - Timespan on quote: good for a while. Only possible change may be material costs.

- Would still like 50% down and that would lock all prices.
- Now dealing with Samuel Mast, the son.
  - Mast Roofing would want to be on site to help with solar panel install to help guide installers. If we do decide to add solar panels to roof, we would be able to do it, but should have rep from Mast come up to guide roof work.

### **2024 Budget Preliminary**

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Presentation of preliminary 2024 budget for Board review.

- Tabled to March meeting.
- Preliminary budget to be sent to Susan for reference.

### **New Business**

#### **Private Equipment Agreement Document**

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Review agreement to be signed by equipment owners.

- Written report provided.
- Draft agreement sent.
- Recommendation to aim for June 1 to be active.

Motion 24-02-02

Approve the draft agreement as presented and send to legal for review.

Cochran / Vicknair. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

#### **2024 Fundraising Proposals**

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Proposal for multiple fundraisers.

- Written report provided.
- Notes from Steve Habeck on history items.
- Consensus direction given to proceed with Corporate Fundraiser as outlined and to proceed with printing 2024 Spring Mailout Fundraiser.

Motion 24-02-03

Approve the postage expenses for the 2024 Spring Mailout Fundraiser from line item – 56600 Fundraising Expense.

Cochran / Vicknair. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

#### **2024 Marketing and Promotion Proposals**

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Discuss proposals for expanding WPRM marketing.

- Written report provided.
- Kerry okay with moving forward with items under Marketing Vectors.
- We have some more items to discuss under Webpage.
- Discussion about followers on Facebook. We currently have 7,400 followers. Nevada Northern currently have 184,000 followers. Sumpter Valley has 20,000 followers and almost 20,000 riders. California Western had 90,000 riders last year.
- Consensus direction given to proceed with Marketing Vectors aspect.

### **Good of the Order**

#### **President's Report**

- Verbal report provided.
- Major work lately has been on roofing and that was already reported.

#### **Financial Reports**

- Financial reports provided.

## Director's Reports

- Vicknair – written report provided
  - Including Museum Store report
  - Update on grants

## Event Reports

- *2024 Convention* – update on progress.
  - Full slate of shows.
  - Looks like all but 1 of vendors spaces full.
  - No depot tours. Have several model layouts to set up.
  - Want models and photos to send out.
  - Have been discussing send out a mailer.
    - Kerry recommends we do a mailer and charge it against the convention.
    - Eugene has a mailer ready to go.
    - We will proceed with mailer.

## Department Reports

- *Webmaster* – written report provided.
- *Headlight* – written report provided.
  - Thanks to Paul Finnegan for “herding the cats” on getting the next issue together. Thanks to everyone who worked on it. There will be 75 additional copies being printed for sale at the convention.
- *General Superintendent* – written report provided.
- *Historical / Archives* – written report provided.
  - Fire suppression system in Archives car was reviewed by installer and an issue was found with the smoke chamber sensor. Replacement part has been ordered.
  - Eugene's company recently acquired some AI photo retouching and enhancement tools. They are working well.
- *Mechanical*
  - Been coming to museum more often. Trying to come 3-4 days during the week to work on stuff. Getting work schedule settled.
  - Fired up units in the shop recently for freeze protection. Temperature looking good for next week. Putting them in shop was a good call.
  - SP GP9 2873 puking oil out right side airbox drain. Suspects problem is a weak cylinder #2. Does not do anything when engine is running. Has little compression. When injection is isolated, gets some extra combustion but incomplete. Suspects issue with injector or compression. Looking at working on it first week of March. We may have some injectors on hand that should work. This is a cylinder we have had problems with in past.
  - Need to do semi-annual on WP SW1500 1503 and will combine with 2873 work.
  - Will be swapping WP GP7 707 work for WP FP7 805-A. Working to get that done early summer. Wants to get 805-A put down on 3 rail for easy access.
  - Starting March 1: semi-annuals on 1503 and Quincy TR6A 1100, then work and annual inspection on 2873. Goal is to complete end of May. Next would be WP 805-A.
  - Has been talking with Nick Manos about work on rubber tire equipment.
- *Facilities*
  - Not much to report. Snow and water in usual spots.
  - Steve Habeck has been checking batteries in various equipment to make sure they are okay. Three sets of batteries in shop. All batteries are holding up well except those in Army F-M H-12-44 1857.
  - Discussion on heater in women's restroom.

## Committee Reports

- *Election* – written report provided.
  - No nominations except for incumbents.
  - Notification has been made via social media and Train Sheet.
  - Requested Board ratify report and remove all affected calendar items.

Motion 24-02-04

Ratify white ballot results for the 2024 Board Election.

G. Elems / Cochran. Aye – 4, Nay – 0, Abstain – 3. Motion carries.

Nominated directors abstained from vote.

- *RAL Committee* – written report provided.
  - From last night's meeting, we are putting forth recommended prices for 2024:

		Retail	Member
▪ QRR 1100	SW 8	\$400.00	\$320.00
▪ WP 1503	SW1500	\$500.00	\$400.00
  - Reviewed recommendations and items to start with right away.
  - Have come up with a deposit and payment policy.

Motion 24-02-04

Approve two locomotive pricing, deposit policy and promotion so we can start advertising.  
Cochran / Vicknair. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

### Legal / Insurance Report

- Liability policy in place for this year. Thinks premium went down from last year. Payments will be 9 installments through October following down payment.
- Still have a credit balance.
- Property insurance renewed in January. All insurances are now in effect and current.

### Status of Surplus Property Report

none

### Safety Committee

- Snow, ice. Some areas cleared of snow.

### Public Comments

*Habeck*

- Steve Habeck and Ethan Doty dug into Santa Train and got all lights and decorations off the cabooses. Everything stored in MoP caboose and needs to be resorted and repackaged. All decorations down and out of the weather. Cabooses locked and secured. Only cord still out is to the MoP caboose. All cabooses except MoP are free to be moved. MoP needs cord attended to. Will transfer stuff to Party Car when weather warms up.
- Possibility that Brecky may be going away to school. Looking for some possible alternatives.
- Had someone else asking about employment. Eugene needs to talk to Ann.

### Notices

none

Roger Stabler left the meeting at 3:10 PM.

### BREAK 3:15 PM – 3:20 PM

**Closed Session** – requested by President Greg Elems and Director Eugene Vicknair – 3:21 PM – 4:20 PM

- *Property Issue* – Museum Property
- *Business Issue* – Budgeting and Fundraising
- *Business Issue* – Possible Summer Event

The Board heard a report on a Property Issue – Museum Property. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Business Issue – Budgeting and Fundraising. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

The Board heard a report on a Business Issue – Possible Summer Event. Consensus direction given. No reportable action taken.

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 16:20 (Habeck / Vicknair)

Next Meeting: March 9, 2024 – 1:00 PM  
Location: WPRM Meeting Room, Portola

Respectfully Submitted  
Eugene Vicknair – FRRS Secretary

PRELIMINARY