

**PACIFIC COAST REGION OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION  
A California Nonprofit Corporation**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday, October 20, 2018, 1:00PM  
Big Four Conference Room, California State Railroad Museum  
111 I Street, Sacramento, California

MINUTES

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm. MERRIN, MARKOVICH, SKOLD, VAN HORN, PALERMO were present. A quorum was reached with 4 voting members present. Earl Girbovan, Doug Smith, Tom Crawford, Dave Connery also attended.

**Adoption of Agenda.** The agenda was adopted with no changes.

**Convention Department.** Tom Crawford provided a written report. There was discussion of use of questionnaires and obtaining reports. There was a suggestion to hold beginner clinics at regional conventions during Board meeting time to avoid conflict with the Board meeting and clinics. Tom agreed to propose revisions to the MOO to remove requirements to rotate conventions among Divisions in a fixed manner.

- 2020 (Coast) – Crowne Plaza Walnut Creek is likely location, contract under review. April 30, May 1, 2, 3, 2020 approximately. The group needed a general Chair of the convention.
- 2019 (Sierra, McLellan) – appears on track.
- Future Conventions Special Committee
- 2021 (Regional) (Daylight) – Discussion of co-location with 2021 National or holding 1-day mini-meet.

**Approval of Minutes from prior Board of Directors Meeting.** Markovich moved to approve, Van Horn seconded, the minutes were approved.

**Approval of Minutes from prior Business Meeting.** Approval was deferred to the May 2019 business meeting.

**Officers' Reports**

1. President, Ed Merrin – Markovich moved to approve spending \$89 on ElectionBuddy for the 2019 election. SKOLD seconded and the motion passed. Regarding the new photo racks, it was noted that photo contest entrants should use mount photos on a matt board (with backing) otherwise light shows through. Branch Line, website – Ed volunteered to update.
2. Vice President, Carol Alexander. No report.
3. Treasurer, Bob Osborn. Provided a written report. PCR had a net loss in the past period that is mainly attributable to the cost of printing Branch Line. An audit or review has not been done but will be scheduled. Other income streams need to be explored.
4. Secretary, Chris Palermo. No report.

## **Directors' Reports**

1. Daylight Division, Neil Fernbaugh
2. Coast Division, Frank Markovich. BOO meeting held Oct 15, Coast lost \$600 last year, mainly owing to lower dollars in the auction and increase in rent for Elks Club, so numbers may get worse in the future. Currently has a bank balance of about \$27,000. Will propose moving some cash to a CD to generate interest. Rent is \$400 per meet. Approx. 1000 SF total used.
3. Sierra Division, Tom Van Horn. No longer printing the Short Line and requiring e-mail addresses to distribute by e-mail. Division benefits from International Railfair, second weekend in November in Roseville, and may be best show in N Ca. Needs new Superintendent, existing one is termed out.
4. Redwood Empire Division, Steve Skold. No longer printing its Call Board. Consequently, its treasury has increased to about \$6,200. Will be offering \$100 prizes at meets. Down to only 10 members who don't have email addresses.

## **Department Reports**

2. Administration, Ed Merrin. New vacancies: Contest Department chair, need divisions to volunteer someone; Membership Department chair (Doug Wagner) would like to serve as Superintendent of Daylight Division so if we can replace Membership chair it would help.
3. Nominations for 2019 Election, Dave Connery. Need to update MOO to reflect use of electronic balloting. Chris volunteered to revise the MOO to incorporate changes for e-balloting. See Dave's report for sections needing updating.
4. Membership, Doug Wagner
5. Publications, Gus Campagna
6. Contest, Guiseppe Aymar
7. Achievement Program, Jack Burgess
8. Non-Rail Activities, (vacant)

## **Old Business**

1. Convention Manual Update – Tom Crawford. See Conventions Dept report, work has been suspended pending report on future of conventions.
2. Adoption of new PCR logo – Chris. Union Pacific was contacted, agreed to review logo for clearance and never replied after follow-up, so its objections are regarded as waived.
3. Report of Special Committee on Future of Conventions. Detailed report was provided. Markovich provided review of the main recommendations and there were questions from the Board. A key recommendation is creating a Publicity & Marketing Officer to do things like place ads in hobby publications according to their timelines. This is a Department Chair. Palermo moved to adopt report and direct convention department to modify the Convention Manual to be consistent with it. Skold seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.
4. Vacancies in committee positions and others – Ed. Addressed in President's report, see above.
5. Disposition of N scale Build-a-Memory layout – Chris. Discussed briefly.

## **New Business**

1. Discontinuing print publication of Branch Line – Ed. Printing contract about to expire. Board discussed impact on members who have not provided e-mail addresses (about 125 of 950 members); Life members (there are 180). Board discussed possible increase in Branch Line

- subscription fee. Ed volunteered to survey other regions to see if any other regions are printing their newsletters.
2. MOP section 4E, Electronic Meetings – obsolete, needs revision – Ed. Chris volunteered to update the MOP.
  3. Obtaining a PCR tax ID number for use with PayPal account – Chris. Switch to PCR tax ID number from an individual SSN. Associate multiple checking accounts to existing PayPal account.
  4. Ideas from Frank ...
    - a. Financial reviews of Divisions. (a) Encourage divisions that have surpluses to move cash to CDs to generate interest income. Frank will talk to Bob Osborn about working with divisions to move money and book in account lines of region. (b) Informal review of books managed by Paymasters. Ed to discuss with Treasurer and Auditor.
    - b. Web space for presentations or videos of clinics. Chris to create unique Google account and YouTube channel for PCR.
    - c. Discuss how to get more spouses involved in the PCR - particularly the conventions. May be another team effort. Example is the Narrow Gauge where spouses are free. Frank noted that spouses pay the same registration fee but have little to do.
    - d. Consider setting up a team to discuss changes for the contests to get more members involved. Frank to discuss with Contest Chair.
    - e. Develop a list of people who could fill in when there is a vacancy - we seem to do it on an emergency basis right now. Backup positions. Each officer or committee chair should think of someone who could be a successor or backup. Discussed written job descriptions for use by successors.
  5. Groups.io discussion group: make it “official”? – Chris. Chris to give login credentials.

### **Announcements.**

#### **Date of Next Board Meeting**

Date: May 1, 2019

Location: TBD

**Adjournment.** Markovich moved to adjourn, Merrin seconded and passed on voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 3:37PM.

Respectfully submitted,

/ChristopherJPalermo/  
Chris Palermo, Secretary