

Train Mountain Railroad Board of Directors Meeting

July 30, 2015

Location: Train Mountain Library

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

Present: Tom Watson, President; Chuck Barnes, Secretary (telephone); Jim Armstrong; and, Jerry Crane

Absent: None

Others in attendance: Marg Hope; Carl Vanderspek; Joyce Merwin; Dennis Ward; Frank Bartholomew; and, Jeff Pape

2. Upcoming Elections (September Annual Meeting)

Currently there are two vacant Board positions (Dennis Ward has resigned and there is one unfilled position) and the terms of Tom Watson and Chuck Barnes will expire September 1, 2015. After discussion it was decided that the election for Board members should be held during the Annual Meeting that will be held during the Big Build Meet (September 11 thru 13). However, this means the Annual Meeting will be held after Tom and Chuck's terms expire on September 1st. Discussion was held on correcting this potential problem. There was additional discussion about amending the Train Mountain Railroad (TMRR) By-Laws to change the expiration date of a Board term from September 1st to September 30th.

The Board appointed Jerry Crane and Jim Armstrong as a nomination committee and to review the By-Laws for any additional changes that may be required.

Tom and Chuck agreed to run again.

Motion: Modify the By-Laws to change the expiration date of a Board member's term from September 1st to September 30th. Crane/Armstrong. Approved. 4-0

3. Board Duties and Candidates

The TMRR Treasure has resigned, so at this time there is no Treasurer. To facilitate banking and signing checks the Board determined the Treasurer should be a local TMRR member. The Board also thought it would be preferable to have two local individuals with check signing authority.

4. Train Meets

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the 2016 membership and meet fees and the problems last minute meet registrations create for the office staff. In 2015 discounted meet fees were offered to encourage early registration. This met with limited success. Discounted meet fees and other ideas to encourage early registration were discussed, but no consensus was reached. It was

decided that the Board members should give this matter some thought and discuss the issue via emails.

5. Status Report – Jerry Crane

a. Another client would like to use the cell towers. Justin Throne is coordinating with all parties and will handle the contracts.

b. Containerville: Bill Shepherd is preparing a plan that eliminates the transfer table and allows the north row containers to have direct track access from the north. This design will limit the north row to perhaps 14 containers. The current plan with a transfer table will allow up to 21 containers.

Unfortunately the automobile lift that was purchased a couple of years ago is unsuitable for the transfer table. That lift was designed for indoor use, needs to be modified to operate on rails, and does not have adequate safety stops. Jerry recommends it be sold and a commercial outdoor lift, similar to the ones at the steaming bay, be purchased. The transfer table will be moved manually and a power cord will be used to supply electricity. Richard and Dustin can install the foundation for the lift. Jerry has requested quotes for a commercial lift.

The Board discussed the two options for the north row and the use of a transfer table or direct track access.

Motion: Support the transfer table option. Crane/Armstrong. Approved. 4-0

TMI will make the final decision on the container layout.

6. Day-to-Day Operation Items

Tom again stressed the need for more on site volunteer help. Tom also discussed an incident that occurred on July 9, 2015. With out permission or the knowledge of TMRR staff or volunteers the mother of two young children (ages four and seven) took a TMRR riding car that was parked in front of Central Station to push her children around the TMRR top area. She was unfamiliar with the track layout and when she let go of the car it became a run-a-way. Fortunately, the two children were found unharmed approximately four miles away near the Azusa Siding. More on site volunteers would help monitor parked cars near Central Station.

7. Member Engraved Badges

If TMRR wants to continue making engraved badges for new members we will need a new engraving machine (\$15,000) or purchase an upgraded interface and software for the existing New Hermes machine (\$4,000). The existing computer is broken and the software outdated. Another option is stop issuing the engraved badges; purchase engraved badges; or, provides plastic badges. Russ Wood is currently making the engraved badges with materials provided by TMRR. The Board discussed the issue but made no recommendations.

8. Encourage Preregistrations

Discussed under Agenda Item 4, Train Meets.

9. Annual Meeting

After discussion it was determined that the Annual Meeting will be held in the Hall of Flags after the Big Build Meet banquet on Saturday, September 12, 2015.

10. Last Minute Item(s)

- a. Jerry provided an update on the TMI track fund. Approximately \$40,000 has been collected. A truckload of plastic ties has been purchased. Witcombe Wye to Aspen and Rabbit Run have been constructed. The fund balance is approximately \$10,000.
- b. Frank Bartholomew discussed a memorial for members.
- c. Jim Armstrong stated that he couldn't commit to being the Ops Meet coordinator in 2016.

11. Adjourn

Motion: Adjourn the Board meeting. Armstrong/Crane. Approved 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.

The minutes were taken and submitted by Charles Barnes, Secretary.
The TMRR Board approved the minutes with an email vote.

(Approved Minutes, August 28, 2015)