

**PACIFIC COAST REGION**  
**NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Regular Meeting • Saturday, October 25, 2003**  
California School for the Deaf, Fremont, California

**MINUTES**

*These minutes are subject to revision until approved by the Board of Directors on April 28, 2004.*

**A. The meeting was called to order** at 1:05 PM by President L. E. “Gene” Mayer.

**B. Roll Call and Quorum Verification.** The following officers and directors were present: President L.E. “Gene” Mayer, Vice-President Dave Connery, Secretary Rich Kolm, Trustee Ray deBlieck, Daylight Division Director Brewster Bird, Coast Division Director Jack Wall, Sierra Division Director Bob Mountjoy, and Redwood Empire Division Director Ron Plies.

**C. Adoption of the Agenda.**

MOTION: It was moved by Director Bird and seconded...  
THAT the Agenda for this meeting be adopted.  
MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a unanimous voice vote.

**D. Written Communications.** Director Plies received a letter about the condition of Paul Christensen, which he read to the Board. Paul is still in a coma and his recovery is uncertain.

**E. Member Comments.** There were no member comments about matters not on the agenda.

**F. Approval of Minutes.**

MOTION: It was moved by Director Mountjoy and seconded...  
THAT the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on April 23, 2003 be approved.  
MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Bird and seconded...  
THAT the Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting on April 27, 2003 be approved.  
MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a unanimous voice vote.

**G. Officers’ Reports.**

1. **President Mayer** summarized his written report.
2. **Vice-President Connery** summarized his written report.
3. **Treasurer Altbaum** was not present, but submitted a written report.
4. **Secretary Kolm** had no report.
5. **Trustee deBlieck** commented on the proposed NMRA Regulations that will replace the NMRA Constitution and By-Laws if approved by the NMRA membership next year. He

recommends adoption of the Regulations, saying they are not perfect but NMRA needs to move forward.

## H. Directors' Reports.

1. **Daylight Division Director Bird** summarized his written report.
2. **Coast Division Director Wall** commented that all was going well at the Coast Div.
3. **Sierra Division Director Mountjoy** summarized his written report.
4. **Redwood Empire Division Director Plies** summarized his written report.
5. **Hawaiian Division** -- no director, no report.

## I. Department and Related Committee Reports

**1. Administration Department.** President Mayer said he is working on filling the position of Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Dave Connery, Chairperson of the Long Range Plan (LRP) Implementation Committee, said the Redwood Empire Division has provided feedback on the LRP. He would like other divisions to also act on the recommendations of the LRP.

**2. Membership Department.** Bob Ferguson, Chairperson of the Member Services Committee, summarized his written report. He said a Membership Promotion Chairperson and committee are needed to contact members who are delinquent with their dues. To fill that void, he has been sending out letters to those who do not renew, inviting them to comment; he received no comments. President Mayer said he is working on filling the vacant chairperson position. Rod Smith, Chairperson of the Member Aid Committee, was not present but submitted a written report.

**3. Publication Department.** Gus Campagna, Manager of the Publication Department, summarized his written report. He commented about changes in the mailing permit for the *Branch Line*, which should result in lower mailing costs. With regard to the number of pages in the *Branch Line*, Editor Bill Kaufman said his central philosophy is to include interesting articles along with the administrative stuff and announcements so the membership will want to read it. (Later, in the discussion of next year's budget, Manager Campagna said an average of about 40 pages per issue would be within the budget.) The Board recognized that this is the PCR's principal communication tool, especially for promoting the annual convention. There was concern that there will not be a consistent source of revenue for publishing the *Branch Line*. Circulation Manager Norman Morris submitted a written report. There was a comment that the PCR website is not being kept up to date; material has to be provided to Webmaster Kevin Hurley.

**4. Convention Department.** Jim Long, Manager of the Convention Department, reported on the status of upcoming conventions.

- 2004 in Napa at the Embassy Suites Hotel, April 29 to May 2. "Napa Valley '04" will be hosted by Napa Valley Model Railroad Historical Society and the Redwood Empire Division. Convention Chairperson Harold Mentzer summarized his written report on the status of convention preparations.

- 2005 in Concord at the Sheraton Concord Hotel, May 11 - 15. It will be hosted by the Walnut Creek Model Railroad Society. Bill Swindell is the Convention Chairperson. Bob Ferguson reported that they are working on getting manufacturers for a good Train Show. The

Convention Host Committee is in need of volunteers. Next fall, the Board Meeting can be at the hotel as part of the deal, and the committee needs to know what date in October to reserve it.

- 2006 in Sacramento at the Double Tree Sacramento Hotel, May 3 - 8. It will be hosted by Sierra Division, Sacramento Model Railroad Club, and Sacramento Modular Railroad Club. Gene Mayer is handling things until a chairperson is appointed.

- 2007 will be in the Coast Division and the Santa Cruz area is under consideration. Kevin Hurley and Dave Loveless are working on it.

- 2008 will be in the Daylight Division and the Fresno/Clovis area is under consideration. John Houlihan is the Convention Chairperson.

**5. Contest Department.** No report.

**6. Achievement Program Department.** No report.

**7. Non-Rail Activities Department.** Manager Mary Moore-Campagna summarized her written report on the objectives and goals of her new department.

## **J. Unfinished Business**

**1. Purchase of digital projectors.** *[At the April 23 Board meeting there was a motion by Director Plies to authorize the purchase of digital projectors. The motion was tabled and a special committee including Jim Long, Gus Campagna, and John Marshall was asked to look into the matter and report back to the Board at this meeting.]*

Jim Long summarized his written report which recommends that two or three digital projectors be purchased, with a brightness of at least 1200 lumens and a resolution of at least 1024 x 768 pixels. He noted that prices of projectors have dropped since this was introduced at the last Board meeting.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of purchasing projectors versus renting them for the PCR conventions. The issues of security, damage in handling, use at Division meets, potential for renting to other model railroad related events, and replacement of bulbs were considered.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded...

THAT the motion tabled on April 23 be removed from the table.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a unanimous voice vote.

MAIN MOTION (from April 23): It was moved by Director Plies and seconded...

THAT digital projectors be made available to the Convention Committee and Divisions to be financed from the PCR convention fund.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Wall and seconded...

THAT the main motion be amended by adding the following:

Two projectors shall be purchased at a purchase price of not more than \$1,400 each plus a spare bulb for each; the brightness shall be at least 1200 lumens and the resolution at least 1024 x 768 pixels.

MOTION TO AMEND WAS ADOPTED on a unanimous voice vote.

MAIN MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote with one "no" vote.

President Mayer appointed a **special committee** including Jim Long, Gus Campagna, and John Marshall to develop procedures for storage and use of the digital projectors, to be submitted to the Board for review.

**2. Joint activities with Pacific Southwest Region.** Trustee deBlieck reported that there have been discussions with both PSR and PNR officers, and there seems to be a lot of interest in holding joint conventions.

**3. Bequest from Keith Heinsohn estate.** PCR has not yet been informed of the outcome of the estate settlement.

*At this point the Board moved the Agenda to consider the matter listed under Item K.2, and then returned to the order of the Agenda.*

**4. Status of creating a new separate division in the northern part of Sierra Division.** Dwayne Coate, the lead on this, was not present and there was no information available.

**5. Revenue from “21st Century Limited” Convention account, consider projects and programs of benefit to PCR members.** Funds can be transferred to PCR at any time, but should be coordinated with the certificate of deposit periods. President Mayer said the divisions can submit project and program proposals through their division directors to request grant funding from PCR, which will then be considered by the Board of Directors.

**6. Status of Hawaiian Division.** There are only five NMRA members in Hawaii and apparently no interest in activating the Division. This matter will not be continued.

## **K. New Business**

### **1. Approve PCR joint sponsorship of LDSIG & OPSIG meet.**

MOTION: It was moved by Director Plies and seconded...

THAT the PCR be a joint sponsor of the Layout Design and Operations SIGs meet in Santa Clara on February 7-8, 2004.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a unanimous voice vote.

It was pointed out that the NMRA insurance requires that the NMRA group (PCR) be named first on the list of sponsors.

**2. Change PCR’s IRS status to 501c3.** The Board discussed changing its non-profit organization status with the Internal Revenue Service so that donations to PCR can be tax deductible.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Wall and seconded...

THAT PCR expend up to \$2,000 to apply for changing PCR’s non-profit organization status to IRS Code Section 501c3 so that tax-deductible charitable donations can be accepted.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a unanimous voice vote.

**3. Effect of changes at NMRA on PCR.** Trustee deBlieck said that PCR has to consider what needs to be done, and at what expense, to accommodate the NMRA changes should the reorganization under the proposed NMRA Regulations be approved in 2004. Vice-President Connery proposed that a committee be appointed by the President to also look into what is necessary for PCR to continue to function should NMRA cease to exist. President Mayer will appoint a **special committee** to report back to the Board.

#### **L. PCR Budget for FY 2004**

Treasurer Altbaum's written report presented a proposed budget for FY 2004.

Publication Department Manager Campagna said the proposed budget shown for the *Branch Line* will allow an average of 40 pages per issue, which is adequate. Editor Kaufman said the Board needs to indicate what it wants published in the *Branch Line*, since the number of pages is effectively limited.

Based on motions adopted earlier at this Board meeting, the Budget is increased for legal counsel to assist with the application to change PCR's non-profit tax status to 501c3 and increased for purchase of two digital video projectors with spare bulbs.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Wall and seconded...

THAT the Budget for Fiscal Year 2004 be adopted as proposed in the Treasurer's Report with the two changes approved during the Board meeting.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a unanimous voice vote.

#### **M. Announcements**

**1. Next Board Meeting.** President Mayer said the next Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 28, 2004 at the PCR Convention in Napa.

**N. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Rich Kolm  
PCR Secretary

Attachment

RLK 2/2/04

## ATTACHMENT

Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting, October 25, 2003

### REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD

Listed by Agenda Item:

- G.
  - President's Report, L.E. "Gene" Mayer
  - Vice-President's Report, Dave Connery
  - Treasurer's Report, Larry Altbaum
  
- H.
  - Daylight Division Director's Report, Brewster Bird
  - Sierra Division Director's Report, Bob Mountjoy
  - Redwood Empire Division Director's Report, Ron Plies
  
- I.2.
  - Member Services Committee Report, Bob Ferguson
  - Member Aid Committee Report, Rod Smith
  
- I.3.
  - Publication Department Report, Gus Campagna
  - Circulation Manager's Report, Norman Morris
  
- 1.4.
  - Convention Department Report, Jim Long
  - PCR Napa Valley '04 Convention Report, Harold Mentzer
  
- I.7.
  - Non-Rail Activities Department Report, Mary Moore-Campagna
  
- J.1.
  - Report on purchase of digital video projectors, Jim Long

Copies of individual reports in Acrobat PDF format may be obtained from the Secretary by e-mail ([IronHorseK@aol.com](mailto:IronHorseK@aol.com)).

Rich Kolm, 2/2/04