

**Pacific Coast Region of National Model Railroad Association**  
A California Nonprofit Corporation

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors – October 22, 2016  
Western Railway Museum, Suisun City, California

I. Organizational Matters

The President called the meeting to order at 12:58pm. All officers and directors were present. Mr. Pat LaTorres also was present.

The Board reviewed the agenda and DELETED the agenda item for approval of minutes from the Association's business meeting as erroneous. MARKOVICH moved to adopt the agenda. SKOLD seconded. The motion passed by oral acclamation.

The Board reviewed the minutes from its prior meeting and noted the following correction:

K.7. NMRA has approved the 2021 National Convention to be held within the PCR region, hosted by 21<sup>st</sup> Century Limited. SKOLD moved and MARKOVICH seconded a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion passed by oral acclamation.

II. Officers' Reports

President's Report. The Board reviewed the President's written report, which had been previously circulated, and there was no discussion.

Vice President's Report. ANDERSON gave an oral report and expressed the intention to move forward with certain projects soon.

Treasurer's Report. OSBORN reported that the written reports circulated before the meeting were erroneous and distributed a corrected set of reports. He has bought a copy of Quickbooks and has reviewed the prior Treasurer's entries as of April 1, 2015 and re-entered data through end of March 31, 2016. MERRIN observed that the total negative net income of the corporation essentially is attributable to income and expense for Branch Line. BOARD thanked Osborn for his work and Merrin noted that stability in the Treasurer position is essential for year-over-year accounting comparisons. Two convention bank accounts have been created and funded with \$2000 each; one account is for convention in an odd numbered year and the other is for an even numbered year. This provides each convention with an account for two years and permits reusing accounts by merely changing signature cards.

Secretary. No report.

III. Directors' Reports

**Daylight Division.** GRENIER reported that Daylight held two meets in Bakersfield and Goleta. The spring meet included an airbrushing clinic by Ed Hall MMR, a sound demo, a layout visit. The summer meet, at Goleta's South Coast Railroad Museum, featured a clinic by Bruce Morden on SP TTO operations. Daylight's White Elephant Auction continues to be quite popular and fun to run and was held at both meets. (Your Secretary can attest to picking up several treasures in Goleta.) A third meet was scheduled for November 2016 at the historic

Oceano Depot. Two meets at two different classic SP depots in one year is something to be proud of!

**Coast.** MARKOVICH reported holding 2 meets since last convention and the last meet had 107 attendees and over 500 items at auction. Division has \$24,000 in the bank. New PA system acquired and MARKOVICH donated microphones. Resumed giving plaques for contests which induced 15 entries. Did a clinic on paper buildings outside of a meet for the first time and it was sold out. Tom Knapp MMR will do the John Allen Memorial Clinic next. Coast is growing in membership numbers. Meeting locations continue to be an issue as it is difficult to rent buildings on Sundays in the Bay Area.

There was extensive discussion of the Build-A-Memory program. The Board discussed setting up a subcommittee of the Membership committee to further expand the program and also provide mentors or go-tos for new members to contact via email. Combining this program with a small layout SIG was discussed.

**Sierra.** Director reported consistent attendance at meets of 20 to 35 people. The large geographical spread of the division is a challenge but it offers high quality activities. Last meet was for ops at a club layout in Sacramento. Also have visited Rancho Cordova live steam layout plus clinic. Last meet included visit to James Railcar services for maintenance explanation followed by layout tour, lunch, indoor meet, two clinics, then choice of 3 other layouts. This is PCR's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest membership of divisions with 250+. Considering Reno meet annually in summer. Three future events are planned: Reno layout tours on 3 different days with 20 layouts open; Winterail; then Feb 11 in Modesto. (See master calendar for layout tours.)

**Redwood Empire.** Significant increase in members to 140+ and usually 25 at meets. Currently has a fee-free meeting location. Show-and-tell has been popular and included high quality models.

#### IV. Department Reports

**Administration.** Insurance memo from National was reviewed. Awards. Reminder to Divisions to recommend award winners for Convention. Names are needed by January.

**Membership.** Overall membership change was -7.

**Storekeeper.** Department chair not present. Written report was received and reviewed.

**Publications.** Department chair not present. No report.

**Conventions.** Department chair not present. PALERMO gave a brief report on planning and program.

**Contest, Achievement, Non-Rail.** Department chairs not present. No reports received.

#### V. Old Business

1. Status of convention manual update. ALEXANDER reported that this is in progress with Ray DeBlicek but there was no specific action to report.

2. Status update on new PCR logo. ALEXANDER reported that this is in progress but there was no specific action to report.

3. Status of research into legality of making the positions of division Superintendent into voting members of the Board of Directors, to permit credit for Association Official AP certificate rather than Volunteer. PALERMO provided a memorandum which MERRIN reviewed. MERRIN also reviewed responses to a survey of about 11 regions with membership of Div supers on Board. Of 10 responding regions, only PCR and PSR do not have Div supers on Board. One region has the jobs combined. Also reported that draft bylaws changes had been prepared for BOD review (see agenda package for draft). SKOLD is master editor of Bylaws.

MARKOVICH moved that the Board place, on the agenda of the next business meeting of the corporation, a vote of members to amend the bylaws to add the Division superintendents as voting members of the Board of Directors. VAN HORN seconded. Discussion on the motion occurred. Issues included text of the amendment, whether quorum rule would be changed, whether "voting members of the board" should be added. MERRIN, ALEXANDER, MARKOVICH, VAN HORN, GRENIER voted YES, SKOLD voted NO. Motion passed.

4. PSR move to online voting. PRES reviewed reports of other regions. One reported 50% increase in total votes as well as reduction in paper balloting costs. Cost of electionbuddy service is a factor and was not reported at this time. Current paper balloting cost is \$300; total membership 900. MERRIN to contact Jim Providenza to investigate burden of using online voting. There was discussion of how to announce the availability of the ballot and the impact on mailing costs for Branch Line.

#### VI. New Business

1. Editorial changes to the Manual of Operations to address dissolution and merger of the Hawaii division were discussed. PALERMO to update MOO to reflect the changes.

2. Editorial changes to the Manual of Operations relating to the Audit committee were discussed. PALERMO to update MOO to reflect the changes. A new Auditor is needed.

3. Email security. An incident involving fraudulent e-mail solicitation of funds from PCR via check was discussed. A fraudulently solicited check was disbursed but stopped using bank processes, and OSBORN is managing restoration of the funds to PCR.

4. Board approved contacting LDSIG, OPSIG, Prototype Modelers, Westside Reunion and other groups for purposes of marketing promotion and membership outreach. PCR is volunteering to co-sponsor for insurance purposes and to have a chance for publicity.

5. NMRA project to verify that all Division Officers are NMRA members – ongoing, MERRIN is handling reporting to National.

2019 is 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of PCR.

#### VII. Concluding Business

**Date of next Board meeting** was set Wednesday April 19, 2017, 1:00PM at Bakersfield.

MARKOVICH moved to adjourn. SKOLD seconded. Motion passed by oral acclamation.