

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



**BOARD OF OPERATIONS MINUTES**

Date: November 8, 2010

Time: 7:30 pm

Place: San Leandro Historical Railroad Society  
1302 Orchard Ave.  
San Leandro, CA

1) Call to Order: By Mark Schutzer, Superintendent at 7:30

In Attendance: Bob Ferguson, Bill Swindell, Rod Smith, Pat LaTorres, Mark Schutzer, Darrell Dennis, John Marshall

2) Introduction of Guests/Guest Business: While there were no guests, Mark recognized our host for the evening, Pat LaTorres.

3) Minutes of previous Board Meeting: Approved by prior email

4) Announcements: None

5) Executive Reports:

a) Superintendent: Mark Schutzer (Submitted items of interest and comments attached #1)

Mark asked Bob for an update on the Coast Convention outstanding bank account. Bob said he had contacted Tom Blinn and Tom agreed to close the account at Chase, and send the proceeds check to Bob.

Mark stressed we still have a dire need for meeting sites. Our next meet December 12<sup>th</sup>, at Buchser is set, and Bethel 129 will be providing the food service. In addition, the NMRA Insurance is due and paperwork has been requested for the Dec. Meet. Ted Stephens is looking into a school site, but has not reported back to Mark

Mark asked if anyone had any 'unusual' expenses coming up. Bill Swindell indicated he needs to replace the 5 year old computer server used for the Coast Auction. He has found a system that meets our needs; Lenovo IBM ThinkPad for approximately \$529.00, with an additional \$59.00 for extended warranty and \$60.00 for a new suitcase to carry it and additional equipment. Darrell made a motion, seconded by Rod, to allow the expenditure. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Mark remarked on his request for volunteers to look into new ways for the Division to attract new members, based on recent comments on the internet. So far, he has received three people who said they would help, but no one wants to take ownership of the committee. The board discussed the problems for a short time.

The board discussed the idea of using Skype to hold our Board meeting, with no decision.

b) Chief Clerk: Darrell Dennis. Nothing to Report

c) Paymaster: Bob Ferguson Bob reported a net loss for September of \$237.54. The low attendance at the last two meets and low number of auction items is a major cause for this. Bob also reported Dispatcher cost of \$301.10 for printing, and postage of \$228.80. The board discussed the costs for the Dispatcher, auctions and attendance.

d) Director: Rod Smith Rod reported that there was nothing of importance from the recent PCR Board meeting.

6) Standing Committee Reports

a) Auction: John Marshall - John reported the item count from the last meet was only 160 items.

b) Auction Accounting: Bill Swindell

c) Clinics, At Meets: John Marshall John reported the date change for the Dec Meet cost us one clinic, but he found another presenter. Dave Biondi will be doing "Backdrops and Beyond", and Brad Lloyd will present "Roads Less Traveled". A discussion was held concerning the auction and clinic and possible variations in the schedule.

d) Editor – Coast Dispatcher: Tom Crawford

e) Meeting Sites: Steve Wesolowski

f) Registration: Ted Stevens

g) Call for Reports from Other Committees:

i) Achievement: Kermit Paul

ii) Model Contest: John Sing

iii) Photo Contest: Keith Wandry

iv) Switching Contest: Steve Peters

v) Membership: Darrell Dennis

vi) Nominations: Dave Connery

vii) Publicity: Steve Wesolowski

vii) Quartermaster: John Marshall

viii) Roundtable Facilitator: Jerry Littlefield

ix) Ad Hoc Committees

7) Old Business The board had additional discussion on the proposed Steering Committee.

8) New Business There was no article about the Coast Division in the Dispatcher again. After a short discussion Mark will ask for volunteers to write the quarterly article.

9) Next Meeting: Date: January 10 , 2011, Time: 7:30 pm Place: San Leandro Historical Railroad Society 1302 Orchard Ave. San Leandro, CA

Meeting Adjourned at 8:47

Submitted by Darrell Dennis, Chief Clerk

Attachment #1 Superintendent's Report

**Coast Board of Operations Meeting  
Nov 8, 2010  
Superintendent's Report  
Mark Schutzer**

**Convention Items**

- Discuss the resolution of the Coast convention bank account. Have Bob and Dennis resolved this? Follow up report from Bob.

**Meeting Sites**

- We need to continue to solicit new meeting sites. We are set for December 12<sup>th</sup> at Buchser and Bethel 129 (a new Bethel group) will be providing the food services.
- Ted Stevens knows a princile at a Palo Alto School and is inquiring into the use for the school's multi-purpose room.

**Financial**

- Any Unusual expenses expected in the next 3 months that warrant discussion at the Board?

**Old Business update**

- I've had very little response to the call to volunteers to form a committee to look into how Coast meets may be improved. After additional pleading Tom Crawford, and John Sing have said they will help with the committee. Tom thinks we should get Bill Kaufmann also as this is part of his charter as a special projects VP. I will continue to solicit volunteers until we get critical mass.

**Other**

- What do folks think of the idea of conducting BOO meetings via a Skype video conference or a Skype teleconference? It might improve attendance as the timing and location of the meetings may be more convenient to folks. Thoughts?