

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Saturday, November 6, 2004
Concord Hotel, Concord, Calif.**

MINUTES

•• *These minutes are subject to change until approved by the Board of Directors on May 11, 2005* ••

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by President L. E. “Gene” Mayer.

A. Roll Call and Quorum Verification.

The following officers and directors were present: President Mayer, Vice-President Dave Connery, Secretary Rich Kolm, Treasurer Larry Altbaum, Daylight Division Director Doug Wagner, Coast Division Director Kermit Paul, Sierra Division Director Jesse Menefee, Jr., Redwood Empire Division Director Ron Plies. and Trustee Ray deBlieck.

B. Adoption of the Agenda.

MOTION: It was moved by Vice-President Connery and seconded...

THAT the Agenda for this meeting be adopted.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

C. Written Communications.

Trustee deBlieck received a letter from *Scale Rails* that PCR was a winner in the NMRA’s 2003 Membership Contest for recruiting 9 new members during the 3-month contest period and has earned a Life-Like Proto 2000 diesel locomotive. It can be used as a door prize.

D. Member Comments. None.

E. Approval of Minutes.

MOTION: It was moved by Vice-President Connery and seconded...

THAT the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on April 28, 2004 be approved.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

MOTION: It was moved by Vice-President Connery and seconded...

THAT the Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting on May 2, 2004 be approved.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

F. Officers’ Reports.

1. President Mayer summarized his written report.

2. Vice-President Connery talked about the proposed revisions to the By-Laws and Manual of Operations (see Item H.1 below) spelling out a 3-step process: (1) today act on the changes necessary to conform to the new NMRA Regulations. (2) next year make changes in the

Manual necessary to improve and update it, unrelated to the new Regulations. (3) next fall make further changes as needed when more is known about NMRA's implementation of the new Regulations.

3. Treasurer Larry Altbaum summarized his written report that included a proposed budget for fiscal year 2005 (see Item K.1. below). He said generally we are where we expect to be with regard to income and expenditures.

4. Secretary Kolm had no report.

5. Trustee Ray deBlieck reported on activities at NMRA, moving ahead with the Long Range Plan and reorganization of NMRA now that the new Regulations are in place. More details will come out of the Board of Trustees meeting in January.

G. Directors' Reports.

1. Daylight Division: Director Wagner commented on Division activities.

2. Coast Division: Director Paul commented on the Board of Operations meeting.

3. Sierra Division: Director Menefee had no report.

4. Redwood Empire Division: Director Plies summarized his written report on activities, commenting that the Division is doing well. Director Plies said he would like to begin a dialogue regarding model contests and how they are conducted. He included with his report copies of Redwood Empire Division newsletter articles on this subject for Board members to read. His concern is that people feel they cannot work up to the current high level of entries and are discouraged by the judging. He wants find a way to encourage more modelers to enter the contests and will make a proposal at the next Board meeting to consider some different approaches.

5. Hawaiian Division -- No director, no report.

H. Department and Related Committee Reports

1. Administration Department.

• **By-Laws and Manual of Operations Committee.** Vice-President Connery, Chairperson of the Committee, presented proposed amendments to conform the By-Laws and Manual to the new NMRA Regulations.

– **Amendments to the By-Laws.** The draft of the amendments (see attached) shows the changes. Director Paul recommended in Article 3 Section 8.C that the wording "If the Board feels..." be changed to "If the Board determines that..."

MOTION: It was moved by Vice-President Connery and seconded...

THAT the proposed amendments to the By-Laws, with the change recommended by Director Paul, be presented to the membership for approval at the Annual Business Meeting on May 15, 2005.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

The proposed amendments will be summarized in a future issue of the *Branch Line* and will be posted on the PCR website. After the membership approves the amendments, the By-Laws will be sent to the NMRA for review.

– **Amendments to the Manual.** The draft of the amendments (see attached) shows the changes. In the Board discussion, the words "...and other fees" were added to the proposed second sentence in Section 2 Article C at the top of page 3 so it reads: "The Treasurer shall receive payment of the allocation of dues and other fees from the NMRA."

MOTION: It was moved by Vice-President Connery and seconded...

THAT the proposed amendments to the Manual of Operations, with the additional words at the top of page 3, be approved.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

The changes made by these amendments were effective immediately.

• **Nominating Committee:** Acting Chairperson Gus Campagna presented his report with nominations of L.E. "Gene" Mayer for President and Dave Connery for Vice-President.

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

THAT the candidates be certified to the Ballot Committee.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

2. Membership Department.

• **Member Services Committee:** Chairperson Bob Ferguson reported that he had to furnish NMRA a list of the more than 1800 Zip Codes in the PCR territory. These will be used in NMRA's new membership data base.

• **Member Aid Committee:** Chairperson Rod Smith submitted a written report. He said there have been a few inquiries from PCR members and he needs to appoint a Key Contact person in each Division (except Coast) to provide member aid.

3. Publication Department. Manager Gus Campagna submitted a written report. He was unsuccessful in obtaining a Non-Profit Standard Mailing permit for the *Branch Line* because the Post Office said PCR is a hobby club. PCR will continue to use its 2nd class mailing permit. The average page count for the last four issues of *Branch Line* was 39, which is within the 40-page limit set by the Board.

4. Convention Department.

• **2004 in Napa, "Napa Valley '04":** Harold Mentzer, Convention Chairperson, distributed his written report. He said it is expected to break even financially. Treasurer Larry Altbaum pointed out that registration was lower than expected, but Mentzer and his committee did a good job of adjusting the program to balance with the finances.

• **2005 in Concord, "Devil Mountain '05"** at the Concord Hotel May 11-15: Bill Swindell, Convention Chairperson, reported that the convention, hosted by the Walnut Creek Model Railroad Society, will have some unusual features. The Convention will end on Sunday with the Annual Business Meeting followed by a midday barbecue in the park next to the Walnut Creek club, which is included with the registration. In place of prototype tours there will be a variety of other activities.

• **2006 in Sacramento, "Overland Limited 2006"** at the Double Tree Sacramento Hotel, May 3 - 8: L.E. "Gene" Mayer, Convention Treasurer, talked about this Convention being hosted by the Sierra Division, Sacramento Model Historical Society, and Sacramento Modular Railroad Club. He said the Convention will include a Train Show on Friday and Saturday. Bob Warner is the Convention Chairperson.

• **2007 in Coast Division,** possibly in the Santa Cruz area. Kevin Hurley and Dave Loveless are working on it. No report.

• **2008 in Daylight Division**, possibly in the Fresno area. John Houlihan is the Convention Chairperson. No report.

5. Contest Department. No report.

6. Achievement Program Department. No report.

7. Non-Rail Activities Department. Manager Mary Moore-Campagna submitted a written report which comments on non-rail activities and contests at the Napa convention.

I. Unfinished Business.

1. Change PCR's non-profit organization status to IRS 501(c)3. There was no report. Treasurer Altbaum recommended the matter be put in abeyance until the relationship with NMRA under the new Regulations is better understood. Information will be gathered from other regions that are 501(c)3. This will not be carried to the next agenda.

2. Joint conventions with Pacific Southwest Region. Jim Long submitted a written report saying there seems to be little interest at PSR and he recommends that the matter not be pursued further at this time. This will not be carried to the next agenda.

3. Bequest from Keith Heinsohn estate. President Mayer said the matter is on hold since he hasn't heard whether probate has been finalized. PCR needs to verify what is included in the bequest. This will be carried to the next agenda.

4. Revenue from "21st Century Limited" Convention account; consider programs and projects of benefit to PCR members. Vice-President Connery said the Board needs to consider how to handle the funding of projects. They should (1) be of benefit to a large percentage of the membership, (2) be non-recurring expense, and (3) help grow the hobby.

J. New Business

1. Layout Design and Operations SIGs Meeting at Santa Clara. It was requested that PCR be a joint sponsor of this event scheduled for February 12-13, 2005.

MOTION: It was moved by Vice-President Connery and seconded...

THAT: The Pacific Coast Region be a joint sponsor of the Layout Design and Operations SIGs Meeting at Santa Clara, February 12-13, 2005.

MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

2. Create position of Storekeeper in the Administration Department. Secretary Kolm submitted a report at the request of the Board on April 28, 2004. A Storekeeper is needed to prepare a computer-based inventory of PCR physical property, which is stored in many different places. The Storekeeper will provide ongoing administrative control and assure that the storage of the physical property is suitable and secure. The report recommends an amendment of the Manual of Operations to create the position.

MOTION: It was moved by Director Plies and seconded...
THAT the position of Storekeeper be created and that the Manual of Operations be amended by adding Section 6.B.7, as described in the report.
MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

K. Budget

1. Budget Approval. Treasurer Altbaum presented the proposed FY 2005 Budget, explaining that the PCR is in good financial shape. There is uncertainty about PCR's future revenues under NMRA's new operating philosophy as the details are yet to be determined by NMRA. The proposed Budget is provisional based on continuing to operate as in the past, but can be updated when more is known six months from now.

MOTION: It was moved by Vice-President Connery and seconded...
THAT the Budget for fiscal year 2005 be approved as presented by the Treasurer.
MOTION WAS ADOPTED on a voice vote.

L. Announcements

1. Next Board Meeting. President Mayer said the next Board Meeting will be on May 11, 2005 at 1:00 pm at the Concord Hotel in Concord, during the PCR Convention "Devil Mountain 2005".

M. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Rich Kolm
PCR Secretary

Attachment

RLK 2/23/05

ATTACHMENT

Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting, November 6, 2005

WRITTEN DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD

Listed by Agenda Item:

- C. • Letter from Scale Rails, Oct. 29, 2004

- E. • Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on April 28, 2004
• Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting on May 2, 2004

- F. • President's Report, L.E. "Gene" Mayer
• Vice-President's Report, Dave Connery
• Treasurer's Report, Larry Altbaum

- G. • Redwood Empire Division Director's Report, Ron Plies

- H.1. • Draft of Revisions to the By-Laws, Dave Connery
• Draft of Revisions to the Manual of Operations, Dave Connery
• Report of the Nominating Committee, Gus Campagna

- H.2. • Member Aid Committee Report, Rod Smith

- H.3. • Publication Department Report, Gus Campagna

- H.4. • 2004 Napa Convention Report, Harold Mentzer
• 2006 Sacramento Convention Report, L.E. "Gene" Mayer

- H.7. • Non-Rail Activities Department Report, Mary Moore-Campagna

- I.2. • Report on Joint Conventions with Pacific Southwest Region, Jim Long

- J.2. • Report on Creating Position of Storekeeper, Rich Kolm

- K.1. • Budget for FY 2005 (part of Treasurer's Report, Item F above)

Copies of individual documents in Acrobat PDF format may be obtained from the Secretary by e-mail (IronhorseK@comcast.net).

Rich Kolm 2/23/05