

Train Mountain Railroad Board of Directors Meeting

September 4, 2014

Location: Train Mountain, 36941 S. Chiloquin Rd, Chiloquin, OR

1. Call to Order

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

Present: Tom Watson, President; Dennis Ward, Treasurer; Chuck Barnes, Secretary; Jim Armstrong; Jerry Crane; and, John Black (TMI, non-voting)

Absent: None

Others in attendance: Steve Panzik; Jeff Mills; Marg Hope; Les Dent; and, Jeff Pape

2. Annual TMRR Meeting Items

A discussion was held regarding the election of TMRR officers.

Motion: Elect Tom Watson as President; Dennis Ward as Treasurer; and Chuck Barnes as Secretary. Crane/Ward. Approved 5-0

3. Fire Plan Report – Jeff Mills

A review of all TM vehicles has been completed. All TM vehicles must carry fire fighting hand tools. The list of hand tools required to bring the TM vehicles into compliance with fire requirements was discussed. The fire truck requires hand tools for a crew of 25. The fire truck and the water truck need additional hose. TM must provide driver training for the fire truck. "Safe Areas" need be identified and developed to provide safe refuge areas. The estimated cost of purchasing the hand tools required to bring all TM vehicles into compliance is \$10,000.

Motion: Appropriate \$10,000.00 to Jeff Mills to acquire fire fighting and prevention equipment. Crane/Ward. Approved. 5-0

Russ Wood has volunteered to make Fire Danger Level Signs that will comply with USFS and ODF design standards provided TM purchases and provides the necessary materials.

The Board discussed requiring fire fighting hand tools on individual trains, what will be required, and how to enforce the requirement. TM could make gondola cars that are equipped with the necessary hand tools available to TM Members.

Motion: Make standard Forrest service equipment required on all trains. Ward/Crane. Approved. 5-0

4. Museum – Steve Panzik

A general "clean up" around the antique equipment is needed. The existing water supply is not adequate for any additional landscaping around and near the displayed equipment. Additional landscaping should be part of any beautification project for the museum area.

Steve suggested a 3-foot high fence be installed along the west and south sides of the displayed equipment. There was concern that people could jump over a 3-foot fence and a taller fence was discussed. Marg suggested planting a hedge next to the fence to make it wider and more difficult to jump over the fence. The Board had no objections with installing a fence as part of a beautification project, but did not believe all the details should be worked out at the Board meeting.

Motion: Authorize the design of a beautification plan for the antique equipment area. Ward/Crane. Approved. 5-0

A significant expense for the beautification project will be providing the additional water required for landscaping. Two options were discussed; (1) Install a water line from the existing well that is north of S. Chiloquin Rd. Estimated cost \$6,000; (2) Install a new well on the south side of S. Chiloquin Rd. Estimated cost \$12,000 to \$14,000. After discussing the issue, the Board supported the new well.

Motion: Prioritize a new well. Crane/Ward. Approved. 5-0

Steve provided a brief overview of the existing railroad equipment at TM. He suggested that the center beam, an early version, be brought down to the museum.

5. Financial and Budget Items – John Black and Tom Watson

John stated that the total balance is approximately \$36,000. All the bills have been paid and the monthly expenses are around \$5,500 per month. Approximately \$30,000 is available for use.

Tom recommended TM purchase a HP M476dw color laser printer/copier to allow the TM office staff to make quality color prints. The cost of the printer is approximately \$500.00.

Motion: Purchase a HP M476dw color laser printer/copier. Ward/Crane. Approved. 5-0

Tom informed the Board that additional network data storage, accessible from all of the TM office computers, is needed. After discussing different options the Board supported the RAID system at a cost of approximately \$500.00.

Motion: Purchase the RAID system. Ward/Crane. Approved. 5-0

6. Meet Registration Fee Anomalies Need Fixing – Tom Watson and Dennis Ward

With the current membership descriptions some families are joining as an “Individual Membership” and then bring the other family members as guests to the meets to save money. Families are also able to save money using individual day passes. The Board members were asked to give some thought to this issue so it may be discussed by emails.

7. 2015 Triennial –Tom Watson and Dennis Ward

The same issues discussed in Item 6 hold true to the 2015 Triennial. Further discussions on this issue will be by email.

8. Blue Caboose RV Parking – Tom Watson and Dennis Ward

Some RVs are not being removed after meets as required. This does not allow sufficient space for members providing labor at TM to park their RVs. It can also present a maintenance problem. The Board believed it is important to provide parking for members providing labor at TM.

Motion: Change rules as necessary to allow members providing labor at TM to leave their RVs at Blue Caboose, provided they receive approval from the TM office. Ward/Armstrong. Approved. 5-0

9. Corporate Memberships – Tom Watson

Some local businesses have expressed an interest in a TM corporate type membership. The Board discussed the definition of a corporate membership. There was concern that the individual employees would become TM members due to the use of “membership”. John suggested the Board look at the Experimental Aircraft Association’s sponsorship program. With a business being a TM sponsor and not a corporate membership the concern of their employees being a TM member should be eliminated. The Board supported the concept of some type of corporate support. The Board members were asked to give the matter some thought and address the issue with emails. An article should be placed in the Gazette asking a TM member to volunteer to coordinate this project.

10. Revisit Zoning Restrictions – Dennis Ward

There have been requests to install buildings north of S. Chiloquin Rd in the areas that currently restriction additional buildings. After discussing the issue the Board determined it was not warranted to change the existing zoning restrictions.

11. Special Excursion Runs From K&W to TM – Dennis Ward

Some people riding K&W trains have requested a train ride on TM property to allow them to view the TM railroad. The current TM policy only allows TM members and their guests on trains operating on TM property. This policy was enacted to prevent TM from being subject to the Amusement Park Regulations and to reduce liability exposure. After discussion the Board chose to make no changes to the existing public train ride policy.

12. Facilities – Jerry Crane

a. Central Station: The east wall in the Hall of Flags is nearing completion and should be finished before winter. The bathrooms are in operation. Care must be taken to winterize Central Station.

b. Sewer System: The system has been installed and is in full operation. Adkins Engineering needs to submit the final paperwork to DEQ. Richard and Dustin will do the final grading of the leach field area.

c. The installation of a commercial dishwasher in Central Station is being reviewed.

13. Status Report – John Black

- a. The original plastic supplier is out of business. A company in Louisiana offers 10-mil plastic at \$0.08 per sq. ft. with a minimum order of 2,000 lineal feet. John would like to test this material.
- b. A settlement conference regarding the TM zoning will be held on September 8, 2014.
- c. The draft 2013 tax returns have been reviewed and look good.

14. Security – John Black

Some items at TM have gone missing. Installing a security system should help with this problem in the future. The security system will cost around \$2,000.

15. Last Minute Items

- a. Outdoor Amphitheater in South Meadows: In May 2015, the Boy Scouts will hold an event at TM with an estimated attendance of 750 to 1,000. They would like a venue to hold their programs. The construction of an amphitheater could provide a facility that would meet their needs. It could also be used for community functions. The Board liked the idea of an amphitheater, but expressed concerns regarding the availability of construction funds. It was suggested that the construction could be a Boy Scout project, but that would require their support and cooperation. No action was taken.
- b. Tom discussed the need for the Board to review methods to keep the TM volunteers motivated and happy.
- c. John told the Board that TM is out of plastic ties. \$10,000 is a minimum order and \$40,000 is required for a truckload. After the new well near the antique equipment area, the security system, and the necessary fire equipment, purchasing additional ties should be next on the list.
- d. Additional charging stations for electric locomotives should be provided for the 2015 Triennial. The yard west of Containerville was suggested as a possible location.

16. Public Comment

- a. Jeff Pape suggested the preparation of guidelines for the removal of brush and high fuel items next to the tracks. All the debris piles must need to be removed.
- b. The unused railroad ties on TM property need to be removed. They will be given to TM members. There was a suggestion to put an article in the Gazette offering the ties to TM members.

17. Set Next Scheduled Board Meeting

No date set.

18. Adjourn

Motion: Adjourn the Board meeting. Watson/Ward. Approved 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:16 pm.

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