

Mid-Continent Railway Historical Society, Inc.
Minutes of the March 2012 Regular Board of Directors Meeting

Date: March 24, 2012.

Location: MCRHS Office Building

Roll Call:

Directors:

R. Anderson, Treasurer (12:03 PM) -- Absent
J. Bloohm, President
S. Brist
M. Deets
P. Endres, Takes His Seat at 12:02 PM
B. Handschin
A. Joyce
R. McLeod
C. O'Brien
D. Schumacher, Vice President
J. Sorrel
K. Thomsen -- Absent
D. Viste

Other Officers:

K. Bauman, Secretary

Guests:

N. Miller
R. Kokemuller
B. Schumacher
L. Rowe
S. Lichter
E. Ripp

Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM by president Bloohm.

12:01 PM – B. Handschin moves and R. McLeod seconds to approve the agenda and allow the president the option to go out of order as needed to effectively conduct the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting regular meeting of the Board is June 23, 2012 at 12 Noon in the MCRHS Office Building.

12:02 PM – B. Handschin moves and D. Schumacher seconds to appoint Paul Endres to the vacant Director position formerly held by J. Dillenburg. Motion passed unanimously.

12:03 PM – S. Brist nominates R. Anderson as Treasurer of MCRHS. D. Viste seconds the nomination. D. Schumacher moves and B. Handschin seconds to close the nomination and elect R. Anderson as treasurer. Motion passed unanimously and R. Anderson is elected as treasure of MCRHS.

12:10 PM – B. Handschin moves and M. Deets seconds to accept and approve IRS form 990 as prepared by Wagner LLP. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the December 2011 annual meeting stand approved as presented

12:20 PM – D. Schumacher moves and B. Handschin seconds to approve the Election Committee of K. Bauman (Chair), M. Deets, and D. Kitzkie. Motion passed unanimously.

12:21 PM – S. Brist moves and B. Handschin seconds to approve the Flood Way Recommendation Committee of J. Bloohm (Chair), K. Bauman, J. Sorrel, and D. Bierman. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

Mt. Harvard:

Superintendent Kokemuller is asking to remove the tarp from this car and take steps to weather proof it and clean it up for evaluation. He feels if this car were operational, it would allow us to almost double the current seating capacity. Also it would allow us to take one car out of service and repair it if needed without greatly impacting seating capacity. There is currently \$4,500 in a restricted account for that car which could be spent on exploration of the car.

12:25 PM – S. Brist moves and A. Joyce seconds to approve the proposal of exploring the viability of returning the Mt. Harvard to service as proposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Financials:

For this time of year, we are doing generally well, as we have not borrowed into line of credit at all this year. Today we have almost \$21,000 left in general fund at Community First Bank. With approximately \$30,000 in mixed general and restricted funds at Harris Bank, and approximately \$6,000 in Wells Fargo of which some is general fund money.

Management:

The Parmen Building needs to be emptied of remaining archives. The restoration of the puppets at the Museum in Mazomanie will allow us to be open there all week with the Museum for the Milwaukee Road. The Shay lift must continue and at this point we may finish that prior to the 1385 boiler lift. The Sauk County board of adjustments will be having a public hearing on the 29th of March. Prior to this meeting, the township had approved of a camp ground for MC, now Sauk County must also approve. The meeting on the 29th will determine if this can happen. The Flood Way changes that are forth coming, may put the entire museum proper under the flood way. Management is also recommending that security gates be reconsidered to secure the south yard, as moving the camp cars may make gates more acceptable to members. The new brochures are out; the web cams are kind of working. Advertising is ongoing, and they are trying to stay within budget. We have joined in with Baraboo Chamber of Commerce to try to get more people here from Devil's Lake. We are letting go of our last two billboards, however

we will still have the two billboards at Smith's well drilling and by Circus World. Coach wheel work is being planned. They aren't as bad as we thought but still need work. The 425 is condemned due to wheel wear. Management recommends that Pete Deets be appointed to the 1385 task force to replace Dick Wagner.

Meyer Report:

His written report was presented. He is doing work promoting MC as part of the fund raising effort.

Secretary's Report:

Currently MC has 262 Associate Members, 16 Honorary Members, 181 Life Members, and 117 Regular Members for a total of 576 Members. Since the last meeting, we have had Beverly Keiper request to upgrade to Regular Member status, and we have had Daniel I. Jamison IV, Tom Brilla, George Huff, Kurt Feind and Rick Duresa join as new associate members.

By the request of the Board, I have been working with N. Miller and P. Weeden to create a plan for a new computerized ticketing system. The product we are looking at is from Vendini. The system that was quoted does not contain a computer, probably a laptop for the ticket office. Also extra to the cost will be the networking infrastructure to connect the ticket office to the main office. This system also is not a point of sales system for the gift shop, but that the vender had included several compatible systems should we wish to expand in that direction at a future time.

1:16 PM: S. Brist moves and B. Handschin seconds to designate \$4,000 from the mechanical work fund to the purchase of a ticket system. Motion passed unanimously.

PL #2 Progress Report:

Three of the drivers have been returned to MC and thee crown brasses are in driving boxes. R. Lichter is currently working on shoes and wedges. The fourth driver is having a new axel installed.

CNW #1385 Progress Report:

The tender is progressing; the trucks are next to be repaired or replaced. The back deck has not been installed yet, but everything else is in place. The state DOT grant has funded the tender work. We have now spent everything we can from the grant, except for the 10% that has been held out pending completion of the project.

Private Equipment Oversight Committee:

The PEOC report was presented.

1:34 PM: S. Brist moves and D. Schumacher seconds that the PEOC be given the authority on behalf of the Board to negotiate with and enter into agreement with private equipment owners per the Private Equipment Policies, and that if the owner is unsatisfied with the committee's response, they may then appeal to Board. These agreements may extend beyond just simple leases if the situation warrants it. Motion passed unanimously.

Management Committee Report:

The Management Committee report was presented.

Recess was called at 1:50 PM.

Meeting was recalled to order at 2:00 PM.

2:02 PM: J. Sorrel moves and C. O'Brien seconds to approve the membership upgrade for Beverly Keiper. Motion passed unanimously.

2:03 PM: B. Handschin moves and A. Joyce seconds to appoint M. Deets to the 1385 taskforce as a replacement to Dick Wagner. Motion passed unanimously.

2:03 PM: B. Handschin moves and R. McLeod seconds to Allow W. Buhrmaster to seek grants to fund the Copper Range #25 project from the NRHS. Motion passed unanimously.

2:04 PM: B. Handschin moves and D. Schumacher seconds to approve hiring G. Sugden, R. Schramm, R. Colby, O. Hughes, L. Tourdot, R. Dipping, D. Lee, L. Emberson, M. Mast, C. Clandening, N. Kaney, and T. Leverenz; and to allow management to hire additional seasonal employees not yet identified. Motion passed unanimously.

2:07 PM: J. Sorrel moves and C. O'Brien seconds to designate tip money from Snow Train 2012 in the amount of \$989.00 to the CNW #440 and SOO #2017 car funds. Motion passed unanimously.

2:08 PM: J. Sorrel moves and B. Handschin seconds to designate the donation box money for the CNW #1385 restoration fund. Motion passed unanimously.

2:10 PM: J. Sorrel moves and A. Joyce seconds to cancel the Parman Building lease once all MC items have been removed. Motion passed unanimously.

2:13 PM: M. Deets moves and B. Handschin seconds that the relocation of outfit cars be referred to the flood way recommendation committee, and that the committee be authorized to act on behalf of the board with regards to designating location of said cars. Motion passed unanimously.

2:23 PM: S. Brist moves and B. Handschin seconds to authorize the president to explore annexation of MC property into the Village of North Freedom. Motion passed unanimously.

2:27 PM: J. Sorrel moves and B. Handschin seconds to table the discussion on securing the south end of the property with gates. Motion passed unanimously.

2:28 PM: J. Sorrel moves and D. Schumacher seconds to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Kelly R. Bauman
Secretary,
Mid-Continent Railway Historical Society, Inc.