

**Mid-Continent Railway Historical Society, Inc.**  
**Minutes of the March 25th, 2023 Regular Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date:** March 25th, 2023

**Location:** MCRHS Office

**Roll Call:**

**Directors:**

R. Anderson, Treasurer  
G. Bjorge  
J. Bloohm - seated at 12:13 PM  
R. Colby  
J. Huttenburg, Vice President - Absent  
C. O'Brien, Secretary  
C. Salmonson  
R. Wagner

**Other Officers:**

A. Spinelli, President

**Other Guests:**

J. Lentz

**12:13 PM:** Meeting is called to order by President Spinelli

The next regular meeting will be held on June 24th, 2023 at 12:00 PM.

A planning meeting will be held on June 24th, 2023 at 10:00 AM.

**12:13 PM:** G. Bjorge moves and C. Salmonson seconds to appoint J. Bloohm to fill the vacant appointed Director position for the remainder of A. Spinelli's term. Motion passed unanimously.

**12:17 PM:** C. O'Brien moves and R. Wagner seconds to accept the resignation of R. Miller with thanks for his time served. Passed unanimously.

**12:18 PM:** R. Anderson moves and J. Bloohm seconds to approve the minutes of the December 10th, 2022 annual meeting with the correction to the date of the elected and seated directors. Motion passed unanimously.

**Reports:**

The Endowment Committee report was presented.

The Financial report was presented.

**12:34 PM:** G. Bjorge moves and C. Salmonson seconds to approve the February financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

The Manager's report was presented.

**Membership Upgrades:**

**1:13 PM:** J. Bloohm moves and G. Bjorge seconds to approve the upgrade of Joseph Amy, David Baldwin, Gary Bothe, Daniel Pahl, George Popelka, Duane Reichel, and Nathaniel Werra to Regular Member status. Motion passed unanimously.

**1:13 PM:** R. Wagner moves and C. O'Brien seconds to approve the upgrade of Robert A. Ohlsen to Life Member status. Motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

**1:14 PM:** J. Bloohm moves and R. Wagner seconds to approve the fiscal year 2021-2022 audited financial statement. Motion passed unanimously.

**1:15 PM:** Mid-Continent's Board attests to receiving the 2021-2022 tax form 990 and approve of its preparation by Wegner LLP.

R. Anderson - Yes  
G. Bjorge - Yes  
J. Bloohm - Yes  
R. Colby - Yes  
J. Huttenburg - Yes (via email)  
C. O'Brien - Yes  
C. Salmonson - Yes  
R. Wagner - Yes

**1:29 PM:** G. Bjorge moves and R. Colby seconds to table the purchase bookcases for the library for the railroad book collection. Motion passed with J. Bloohm voting against.

**1:40 PM:** R. Wagner moves and R. Anderson seconds to approve a private equipment lease for Brian Miller to purchase Phil Blinderman's caboose with the requirement that the rehabilitation of the exterior of the caboose be accomplished in a two-year period from the purchase of the car. Motion passed with J. Bloohm voting against.

**1:45 PM:** J. Bloohm moves and C. Salmonson seconds to appoint the President's committee appointments for 2023 of:

General Manager/Management Committee - A. Spinelli (ch), Roberta Wagner, Robert Anderson, Jeff Huttenburg

Private Equipment Oversight Committee - James Busse (ch), Edward Ripp, Roberta Wagner, Jeffrey Bloohm

Collections Committee - William Buhrmaster (ch), Casey Thiele, Tom Blewett, Rick Thiele

Election Committee - Chris Salmonson (ch), Pete Deets, Colin O'Brien

Rolling Stock Disposal Committee - Andy Spinelli (ch), Roberta Wagner, Robert Anderson, William Buhrmaster

Endowment Committee - Robert Anderson (ch), Colin O'Brien, Jeff Huttenburg

Steam/Diesel Training Committee - Colin O'Brien (ch), Ed Ripp, Robert Dischler, Chris Salmonson, Pete Deets, Andy Spinelli

Motion passed unanimously.

**1:46 PM:** C. O'Brien moves and R. Wagner seconds to approve Superintendent, General Foreman, and Department Head appointments for 2023 of:

Collections Manager – Rick Thiele  
Restorations Manager – William Buhrmaster  
Museum Store Administrator – Jeff Haertlein  
General Foreman of Diesels – Jeff Bloohm  
General Foreman of Steam Power – Ed Ripp  
General Foreman of Rolling Stock – Richard Colby  
Superintendent of Buildings and Ground – vacant  
Superintendent of Engineering – Nick Verstein  
Roadmaster – Dave Bierman  
Superintendent of Operations – Jeff Lentz  
Trainman/Conductor Training - Colin O'Brien  
Certification of Trainman/Conductors - Andy Spinelli  
Dispatcher - Rick Thiele  
Director of Visitor Services – vacant  
Member Services – Office Staff  
Superintendent of Dining Services – vacant  
Educator – Richard Colby  
Gazette and Steamer Editor – vacant  
Webmaster – Pat Weeden

Motion passed unanimously.

**1:48 PM:** J. Bloohm moves and G. Bjorge seconds to approve the hiring of the seasonal employees listed (below) and to allow the President to hire additional employees not yet known to fill vacant jobs and to report the names of the new employees to the Directors via email.

Gift Shop: Lois Emberson

Engineer: Rusty Schram, Robert Dischler

Signals: Joe Slatter

Restorations: Owen Hughes, Larry Tourdot, Richard Potthast

Motion passed unanimously.

**1:49 PM:** J. Bloohm moves and C. Salmonson seconds to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Colin O'Brien

Secretary

Mid-Continent Railway Historical Society, Inc.