New Mexico Steam Locomotive & Railroad Historical Society

Date: 04/11/09
Subject: Restoration of 2926
Subject: General Meeting
Call to Order: 9:00 AM

OLD BUSINESS:

Call to Order: President Hike Hartshorne called the April General Membership meeting to order at 9:00 AM April 11, 2009 at the IPCC. Mike indicated that the March minutes would soon be posted on the website.

Treasurer’s Report: Ernie Robart had previously e-mailed the treasurer report for April to the Board and a summary of it is being included in the April minutes. Ernie’s report for April reported that the checking account had a beginning balance on March 14, 2009 of $31892.40 and the ending balance on April 11, 2009 of $27682.12. Deposits for the period totaled $8804.85. Expenses were $13015.13 the most significant of which were $6629.00 related to the costs of construction of the inspection pit. In addition, $2705.66 was used to purchase a magnetic drill and $1050.05 was spent on parts and repairs for to the large forklift and the car mover. Another $20,000 was received from Carlson Engineering for pit construction and deposited into the savings account. The savings account balance was $40102.18 with net total petty cash of $50.00, resulting in total cash assets of $67834.30. Frank moved and Rick Kirby seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

Safety Officer’s Report: Jon Spargo reported that not much had changed since last report. New member orientations had been given to two new members: Scott Clark and Chuck Mangold. He said he plans to do an Annual Refresher Training session in the June time frame. Ernie Robart moved and Steve Bradford seconded acceptance of the Safety Officer’s report, which was approved by voice vote.

Chief Mechanical Officer’s Report: Bob DeGroft reported the scanning project had completed its fourth week and there were about six weeks to go. Although the weather had presented difficulties, good measurements were being obtained. Dave Traudt reported that the safety grate and related equipment was on-site and installation at the pit would begin next week. Jim Hills and Rick Kirby will be doing the work but Jim has more work to do on the cab deck first. Bob reported that there have bee a lot of mechanical problems with the big forklift and may not be available for use when the owner of the passenger car arrives today. He may have been planning on using it. His current plans are for his passenger car to leave in May.

Pit Construction Update: Frank Gerstle updated the group on the status of the pit construction. He reported that Randy McEntire and Don MacCornack have not submitted bills for their services and have been asked how much they want to charge. Randy has not identified an amount and Don has donated his time. Rick Kirby has
donated all his welding time and materials. Jim Hills is working with Reliance Steel to get their best price on the steel that is needed. Mike handed out Certificates of Appreciation to Dave Traudt, Frank Gerstle, Don MacCornack, Randy McEntire, Jim Hills, and Rick and Gail Kirby for all their enormous contributions to the pit project.

**Gil Bennett Painting:** Mike reported that ten full size reproductions have been made of the Gil Bennett painting of 2926 which we will sell for $50 each, along with smaller sizes for $20 each. Dave Traudt is checking with John Bond to see if he has any interest in purchasing the original. We can sell the original for about $3000 and retain rights to it for reproduction purposes.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mike reported that Marlin is looking for folks who can help with computer support. Right now Marlin is the Webmaster and system administrator for the Society, and the only person familiar with our systems. This is a critical function for the society and there needs to be several qualified people available to help when necessary.

Mike also reported that the CFC application for 2009 has been submitted for the Fall CFC campaign. The Society receives a small amount of funding each year from CFC.

Ed Strebe reported on the meeting that he, Steve Bradford, and Earl Rosner had with Antonio Sandoval from Congressman Heinrich’s office. Mr. Sandoval handles constituent services for the Congressman Heinrich. Ed said that Mr. Sandoval was very interested in the 2926 restoration as it was presented to him. He was given a binder with information on the society, the Centennial Train, ISTEA funding of similar projects around the country (but not in New Mexico), other large steam engine restoration projects, cost estimates for the 2926 restoration, and a copy of the 2008 LUCC report. He suggested that the society should try to quantify the economic impacts, especially as relates to tourism of having 2926 operate out of Albuquerque. He also asked for an update of the ISTEA information covering 2007-2008. He indicated a strong interest in coming to our site for a first-hand look at the restoration project.

**Next Meeting:** The next Membership Meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on May 9, 2009.