New Mexico Steam Locomotive & Railroad Historical Society

Date: 10/10/09
Subject: Restoration of 2926
Subject: General Meeting
Call to Order: 9:00 AM

OLD BUSINESS:

Call to Order:

President Dave Mike Hartshorne called the October General Membership meeting to order at 9:00 AM on October 10, 2009 at the restoration site.

Treasurer's Report:

Ernie Robart had previously e-mailed the October Treasurer's Report to the Board. Ernie reported that for October the checking account had a beginning balance on September 12, 2009 of $36,513.04 and the ending balance on October 10, 2009 of $24,705.64. Deposits for the period totaled $9,444.08, including $1000 for new memberships and three new flue sponsorships; $2325.52 open house cash sales and donations and $4716.30 in donations for Jim Hills flue sponsors, merchandise sales and sale of scrap iron. Expenses were 21,251.48. The largest expenditure was a one-quarter payment of $18,760 for the new boiler flues and superheater tubes. The ending balance in the savings account (including $1.36 interest) was $40,110.23. There was $50.00 in petty cash yielding total cash assets of $64,865.87 as of 10 October 2009. Steve Bradford moved and Ed Strebe seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

Safety Officer's Report:

Jon reported that the open house was a great success from a safety standpoint. Everybody had a good time and there were no incidents. One benefit is that the Society gained six new recruits who want to take the safety orientation and get to work. Accordingly Jon has scheduled a New Member Safety Orientation for Saturday, October 24, 2009 beginning at 0900 in the Reefer Conference Area.

Jon said he has requested that the “Toolmeister,” Ed Strebe to purchase a Lockout/Tag out center with padlocks and tags and some individual locking devices for circuit breakers. Jon said he would consult with Ed on this purchase. One acquired there will be a couple of new rules about when and how to use lockouts.

Jon said he is also developing a couple new rules about ladder safety. He said his intent is to make a revision to the safety rules and to the new member and refresher safety presentations to incorporate the new rules. The bottom line is that step ladders may not be used to transition from one level to another. They are to be worked from.

Jon also reported that he and Dave Anglen are nearing the completion of a new presentation for work site safety supervisors. Shortly Jon will be asking for more volunteers to take this training (several have volunteered already).

Also in November Jon will be running the final Annual Safety Refresher Session for 2009 and will
publicize the date soon. Check the Authorized Worker List posted in the WHQ. Members' names that don't have an “X” in the 2009 column will need to attend this session. Otherwise they will not be allowed to work on site in 2010 until they complete a refresher session. Steve Bradford moved and Ed Strebe seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

Chief Mechanical Officer's Report:

Dave Traudt reported for Bob DeGroft who was out of town. He summarized recent activity reporting that Rick Kirby and Randy McIntire have been busy converting the new 48' trailer into a flue & tube welding shop, while Larry Lukash has been aligning the bolt holes for the cab's attachment to the locomotive. Pete Adair and Morris have been at work on the trailing truck brake system. Bob DeGroft is expected back at the end of October. Steve Bradford moved and Ed Strebe seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

Fundraising Committee Report:

Ed Strebe reported that the committee has been hard at work implementing the recommendations in fundraising study conducted by Wendy Wintermute and Marsha Lichtenstein. Development and implementation of a fundraising strategy was a major recommendation of that report. The report went on to identify preparation of a “case statement” as one step in developing a fundraising strategy. According to the report this should be an educational and succinct statement of the Society's programs/activities, current needs, and plans. It should include the Society's mission, its track record of success, its people, programs, and services as well as its future vision. This document is used to persuade funders to give you money.

Ed reported that the committee has done this and had earlier presented to BoD members a new “case statement.” It was adopted. They also recommended changing the structure for minimum annual contributions from the current amounts to $29.26 for individuals, $48.40 for family memberships, and $500.00 for lifetime memberships. The BoD also approved these changes to be effective January 1, 2010.

In other fundraising developments, Andy Rutkiewic is planning to attend the Tourist Railway Association's annual conference in Williams, AZ on 4-8 Nov. Finally, Chuck Mangold has completed and submitted an application for $50K to the McCune Foundation. Steve Bradford moved and Doyle Caton seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

Open House Report:

Mike Hartshorne reported that the open house was a success due to the great turnout of “yellow hats.” As Ernie had already reported, the open house generated over $2300 in revenue, six new members, and 456 attendees. Three bands had entertained throughout the day. Mike and Dave Traudt thanked all who had taken part and made it a success.

Advisory Board:

Albert Leffler reported that he is looking ahead to when excursion operations begin. Much of his focus has been on trying to get the footprint of the Wheels Museum in shops complex expanded to include the blacksmith shop area, which would be the ideal floor space to store and maintain operating steam locomotives. He and others are working on a presentation to be given to New Mexico and
Albuquerque, business and tourism organizations, outlining our vision of plans for running steam excursion plans in New Mexico from Albuquerque. Albert said this a continuing process needed to obtain “buy-in” and support from business and political leaders. Doyle Caton moved and Ed Strebe seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS: None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

Next Meeting:

The next Membership Meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on November 14, 2009 at the restoration site.