

General Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2018

Call to Order – Dr. Mike Hartshorne

Treasurer’s Report – John Gibbons

Total Cash Assets, March 3, 2018	\$219,349.17
Deposits (Incl. Inv. Plus Dividend)	\$22,837.88
Expenditures (Miscellaneous)	\$ 9,651.66
Total Assets April 4, 2018	\$232,535.39
Less Encumbered Cash	\$118,929.00
Free Cash	\$113,606.39

This report was received, reviewed and filed for audit.

CMO Report – Rick Kirby

An update regarding the tool car is that Mark has taken the disassembled truck parts to get them sandblasted. The parts are heavy so he takes a few at a time. Things should begin to move ahead now that the weather has begun to turn for the better.

Rick has begun picking the folks that will be on the fire-up crew. Other workers will be invited and observe at a safe distance. Rick will be notifying the folks he feels are best suited for firing the engine as support people. These are the only ones authorized to be in and around the engine.

The rest of you may come get a chair and sit under the forge canopy. We will be planning the steam-up to begin on a Sunday with mortar curing.

Full steam should be sometime on Tuesday. All the media and dignitaries will be notified. When the engine has reached 290 PSI we’ll blow the whistle, ring the bell, etc. Then shut down the fuel and put it back in the engine house at the end of the day.

Rick has contacted the insurance carrier for the static fire-up and we need to decide at which level of protection we want. The policy is for a full year but can be refunded on a prorated unused portion of the policy.

Rick is sure all of you have heard of Amtrak’s draconian announcement regarding special trips and private cars. He spoke at length to our Amtrak car inspector and he advises we should carry on with what we are doing as he feels that this will hopefully blow over, maybe not right away, but he can’t imagine it as being the final word.

CSO Report – Jon Spargo

The plans for first steam up have almost congealed. Just a few minor refinements are to be made. We also have a separate Safety Checklist that will be used during the steam up.

The first draft of the Operational Safety Plan is complete and approved by the board. The “draft” has been sent to NMDOT, hopefully for their blessing. We have also sent Bob DeGroft’s outline for testing “draft” once the steam up process is complete and everybody is happy with the result. We envision extended negotiations with NMDOT over test operations.

We also have a final copy of the fire-up procedures with checklist approved by the board.

GCOR rules for rolling stock are 25’ for the “hot zone”. You MUST be away from the track and pay attention. Otherwise the move will be halted until everyone is clear and aware.

Elections to Board – Larry Lukens

Three board positions are running out as we run on three year terms for each member. These members have agreed to run again. You must have 500+ hours and a member in good standing for membership. You can petition the board if you feel you want to run and don’t meet those qualifications. We have nomination forms and they need to be in by the end of the month. Ballots will be mailed to every member in good standing. They will not be available on email or in the offices on the site.

Bob D. says the testing plan draft has been sent to the NMDOT. We have 171,000 volunteer hours in the project as of today. The plan was sent to BNSF as well.

Dr. Mike discussed the Amtrak ban on PV, etc. He has been on a letter-writing campaign since the announcement on 3/28 and has made available the names and addresses of our city, Congressional, Secretary Elaine Chao, Visit ABQ, Mayor of Las Vegas, NM, and others for our members to hopefully write some letters as well. It’s the only way to hopefully get some attention at Amtrak.

Fundraising – Dr. Mike

1. Smith’s Community Reward card charities (Kroger) check for 1st quarter?
2. SmileAmazon.com: We get 0.5% of qualified purchases. 1st quarter?
3. Website parts sponsorship funding ZERO since last report
4. Albuquerque Community Foundation. Report for expended \$10K 2017 grant submitted 3-1-18
5. BNSF Foundation – \$5,000 March 2018 for Testing costs with report due when \$ expended.
6. United Way . **\$69.00, \$125.00 3-1-18, \$24.00, \$23.09 3-23-18**
7. Benevity since 1-1-18 10, \$10, \$20 Morgan Stanley (Mary Williams), 2-28-18 \$1000 (John Roberts) deposit to NMSL&RHS minus administrative fees ~\$50
8. Tool Car GoFundMe campaign = \$118,929 as of 4-6-18

9. Emery Rail Heritage Trust verbal promise in 3/18 of \$30,000 to support LeapTC prototype building and testing. This will probably not be given due to AMTRAK Policy change about charter special trains dated 3-28-18. Funds for other projects might be committed at end April, 2018. Dr. Mike, after speaking with Mr. Sharratt, said they might go ahead and give us money if we think we might can run somewhere like GCRY. Mike changed the Grant paperwork real quick to ask for money for jacketing and testing, etc. Decision towards the end of the month.

All future requests should be for General Fund when possible. This increases flexibility of fund expenditures.

Announcements

Oil being put in next Wednesday with Mesa Oil

Time sheets – please remember we’re on a 24 hour clock, please write legibly and put in your time-out time and totals.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting – **May 12, 2018 @ 7:30am at our work site**

Submitted by,

Gail Kirby

Secretary, NMSL&RHS