All seven directors are present in person for the meeting. Don McGlothlin, Bob Showers, Mac McCulloch, John Langlot, Scott Tanner, Bill McGinley, Tom Carr.

There were 18 guests present when the meeting started, 21 were present at 9:10 AM. The number of guests fluctuated throughout the meeting.

A. The meeting was called to Order @ 8:07 AM by president Bill McGinley, who welcomed all present. He noted the minutes of this meeting will be approved by the board following the meeting, and a summary will be in the December Goat.

B. Approval of Officer and Committee Reports Package.
   The package was distributed to the board prior to the meeting and, in the interest of keeping the meeting to a reasonable length, will not be discussed at the meeting. All reports will be posted on the web site.

   Jeff Otto expressed concern over inaccuracies presented in the Archives Report.

   Moved by Scott Tanner, seconded by Don McGlothlin to accept the Officer and Committee Reports as provided. Carried unanimously.

C. Business Arising from Previous Minutes
   The minutes of the 2018 Annual Board Meeting were approved by the board on March 16, 2019.

   It was noted some unresolved issues from the last minutes, such as multi-year memberships, are still being worked on by the board.

   The most recent Membership Survey was done in 2006 with the report generated in 2007, however it was not presented at that time.

D. New Business
   a. Hustle Muscle
      - We have a signed lease with the Lakeshore Railway Museum. HM is here for us to enjoy. Will be operated on the NSSR, thanks to Gary Nelson for all his efforts in making this happen. Lease is one year, with automatic renewals, can be terminated on 120 days notice.

   b. 2020 Convention Budget
      Francina Carr presented the proposed budget of $41,734.51 for the 2020 Convention in Nelson, BC. Following some discussion it was moved by Don McGlothlin, seconded by Bob Showers. Carried Unanimously.
c. Archives Policy and Communication – Scott Tanner

Scott Tanner advised the PNRA is looking for board support for a major software project. The archive has a massive collection of history and photos related to the GNR, both at the PNRA in Burien, WA and JSRH in St. Paul, MN. As a society it is our responsibility to manage and make it available. We have the resources and talented people to make this work. There are challenges to dealing with a collection the size of ours, such as managing it and making it accessible to the people.

PNRA has requested a donation of $3,500.00 from the GNRHS towards bringing their archives up to international standards.

Bob Kelly – our PNRA representative, also board president of PNRA advised they work with several railroad history organizations. The goal is to have a standard archives format for all the collections, and they’ve hired professionals to work on this project. ATOM – Access to Memory software has been chosen and is being used at the collection level, just on top-level information. The requested funds are to make the front end of the software look good, and to help build a user-friendly interface and search engine.

It was noted there is a lot of disconnect between what is happening in Burien and at JSRH. It has built up over time and won’t be resolved immediately.

Fr. Dale Peterka asked about the size of the market served by the Burien archive. Bob Kelly advised they receive plenty of email requests, 3-5 GNRHS related requests per week. Also 30 to 40 requests per month for information from various sources, government, schools, individuals, etc.

We need a server farm to protect the equipment. This is not a one time cost, we could be looking at up to $500.00 per month to cover the necessary equipment.

Concerns were expressed about data integrity. What happens in Burien and JSRH need to be compatible with each other. At present only one computer at Burien and talk to computers at JSRH, and we don’t have a compatible database.

We now have the ability to catalogue remotely, once a person is qualified to do so. Thanks to Jeff Otto for setting this up.

Jeff Otto addressed the meeting. He advised Stu Holmquist has been very dedicated in getting the archives started at JSRH.
Jeff advised we have a wealth of information that has to be reliable and searchable online. It would be great to make a single inquiry to a single source on a database for information and get all the info you needed, including photos, plans, records, etc. He noted 90% of our membership are modelers.

He is trying to get an understanding of what is at Burien, as well as JSRH so that they can put together in a single, searchable database. We need to be able to search all the collections at both sites to do this. JSRH and Burien both started with the same software but went in opposite directions with it.

In order to make the systems compatible Jeff needs to know what the people at PNRA are doing at the working level, and what fields are needed at the international standards level to make things compatible.

Our number one goal has to be making the systems compatible, not just at the top level, data integrity. We need to be consistent at the detail level so information is accurate and searchable.

The database needs to be the foundation for anything we do in the future. We need to have a common database. We need to get the two organizations together, define who is doing what, and get everyone working on a common goal. We have been delayed by a lack of a centralized and searchable database and the west end doing their own web-based stuff.

Jeff advised he needs to know the field names Burien is using in their database so they can be incorporated into the JSRH database. We need to undertake a massive, coordinated effort to get both sides on the same page. Organize the data, set the subject fields, go from there.

Don McGlothlin stated the board knows there is a problem, and we need to determine how we are going to fix it. The board has some work ahead of us to make this work.

Consensus to put money grant to PNRA on hold until he board determines it's proper action.

The meeting took a break @ 10:23 to 10:51 AM

d. Company Store & Marketing – Mac McCulloch

Mac briefly discussed the 147 responses to the store survey. 70% in HO and 15% in N-Scale, with structures being the most popular sale item.
Store is run on a cash basis, not accrual basis. Current store software does not show revenue by item, only total revenue. We are looking to replace store software very soon.

The Store Committee members have been very helpful.

e. Membership Committee
Motion to appoint Bob Showers as Chairman of Membership Committee. Moved by Tom Carr, seconded by Scott Tanner. Carried unanimously.

We will be setting up a major committee to deal with membership issues.

f. Publications Committee
Bill McGinley announced Jas Bettendorf is new Goat editor, Bill McGinley is the board representative on the Publications Committee.

g. Creation of Convention Committee – Future convention format and sites. No action on appointing board member at this time.

h. CRM Software – Committee appointed on July 9th, 2019 by board vote.

i. Future Convention Format and Sites (2022)
We have 117 members with 185 attendees in Fargo.
Tom and Francina Carr are looking after Nelson in 2020.
Gary Nelson & Stu Holmquist are looking after Wilmer in 2021.
Everett suggested for a possible joint convention NPRHA in 2022.
Duluth, the Twin Cities or Winnipeg as possible choices for 2023.

j. Heritage Fund Awards
- Grant Request from St. Cloud Area Rail Legacy Museum (STARail) for $2,800.00 for X-240 Caboose. Moved by Don McGlothlin and seconded by Bob Showers. Carried unanimously.
- Final report received from Hillyard on our donation to them.

k. Other New Business - None

Nominations for Board positions. Bill McGinley sent out job descriptions. There was a consensus to approve this.

E. Termination: 11:50 AM Moved by Don McGlothlin and seconded by Scott Tanner.