

# Great Northern Railway Historical Society

## Director's Meeting Minutes

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Held Virtually on Zoom

### A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM Pacific time by President John Langlot. All seven directors were present for the meeting, four officers were also present at the start of the meeting.

The agenda and document package was verbally verified as being received by all.

### B. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

None

### C. Officer and Committee Reports

All reports were distributed to the board prior to the meeting. It was moved by Jeff Mayer, seconded by Don McGlothlin to accept the reports as provided. **CARRIED**

Under Committee Reports there was a discussion on the 2019 Membership Report and the merits of recruiting at train shows. As of September 30, 2020 the society has 1973 members, down from 2061 members on October 1, 2019.

It was noted there have been no train shows since the Covid-19 pandemic was declared, this has affected our recruiting efforts, as membership is showing a decrease this year. Due to Covid-19 restrictions train shows are not feasible during the pandemic. It was noted only a third of our new members come from train shows, so we need to look at other methods of recruiting and advertising, including social media (Facebook) and the Internet (society web site). It was also noted that we generate a lot of good will by talking to folks, including our own members, at train shows. The society also has the ability to do broadcast emails to provide updates to our members.

### D. New Business

#### 1. 2020 GNRHS Budget

The 2021 Society Budget was reviewed, it is based on having 1,900 members. There was discussion on the publication allocation, which should be good at \$45,000.00. There was some discussion on obtaining a digital copy of The Goat and Reference Sheets from Spectra Print. With no further discussion it was moved by Mac McCulloch, seconded by Bob Showers to approve the 2021 budget. \* **CARRIED**

#### 2. 2021 Convention Budget

It was noted we have not yet received the 2021 convention budget. Don & Mary McGlothlin will be meeting with the committee in the coming week to review their planning and budget. It was noted they appear to be behind in their planning.

Treasurer Bill Sornsins questioned whether we have contracts in place for the 2021 Willmar convention. The hotel contract is in place, we have not seen any contracts for tours or busses, and no speaker list yet. Bob Kelly advised he has agreed to run the Rail Fair.

3. Company Store & Marketing – Mac  
The current status of the Company Store was briefly discussed, with congratulations to Mac McCulloch and Bill Sornsin for all their hard work in getting the new store online and functioning. Positive comments have been received from members on the number of new items in the store. Jeff Meyer suggested a possible new item of interest to kids, including a stuffed “Rocky”, the suggestions will be looked into.
4. New Web Site  
There was significant discussion on the current state of the society’s web site, with Bill Sornsin providing some recent history. The site received a major upgrade from Ben Ringnalda 5-years ago, and currently any board member can access the site to do updates. It was noted the site appears to be out of date and an easier way to do updates needs to be found for those who are not familiar with Wordpress, the online software being used on the site. It was noted that social media (Facebook) tends to be more user friendly for people posting information. We need to solve the problem of getting outdated material off the website. Bill Sornsin advised it is up to us to keep the site current, and every officer needs to send him updates. Director Jeff Meyer offered to help with the web site updates, his offer was accepted by the board. Bill Sornsin will send Jeff the necessary credentials to allow him access.
5. Membership Committee  
Director Bob Showers proposed giving complimentary memberships to both the Belton Chalet and the Izaak Walton Inn, due to their long histories with the Great Northern Railway and their ongoing promotion of GN history. Following a brief discussion it was moved by Bob Showers, seconded by Jeff Meyer to give the Belton Chalet and the Izaak Walton Inn complimentary GNRHS memberships. **CARRIED**
6. Operations Manual Update  
There was a brief discussion on the society operating manual. Director Don McGlothlin is working on updating it.
7. Future Convention Sites (2022 and beyond)  
The postponed Nelson, BC convention will be held in September 2022, with the CPHA joining us as originally planned. Duluth, MN was discussed for 2023, with director Dan Bolyard following up with people in Duluth. Additional future convention sites include either Wenatchee, WA or Sandpoint, ID in 2024, and a possible joint convention with other Hill Line societies in the Twin Cities in 2025. At this point the September 2021 Willmar, MN convention is proceeding, a final decision will be made in the spring of 2021 based on the Covid-19 restrictions still in place.  
  
Director Don McGlothlin advised that if we are not able to get a local committee for a proposed convention site we should not be going there. We may not have a national convention chairman, but we need a local chairperson for the committee.
8. Heritage Fund Awards  
Under Heritage Fund grants President John Langlot advised he is following up with the Hillyard people regarding their already approved grant. Other possible grant requests may be received for Willmar engine 2523; the Tenino, WA NP depot with a GN X596 caboose; the Salmo, BC GN depot; and Inland Northwest for painting a GN SD9 in simplified scheme.

9. Other New Business

Bob Kelly advised there is lots of new material on the joint GNRHS – NPRHA web site, including photos and blueprints.

Bob further advised he will serve one more year as PNRA President and will then retire from that position.

E. Termination

Motion to terminate at 10:52 AM. Moved by John Langlot and seconded by Jeff Meyer.

**CARRIED**

\* **Note:** Following the meeting the following motion received a unanimous approval vote of the board: *The current convention budget amount which was approved be reduced to \$0 until the committee appropriately sends to the board a proposed budget for approval.*

## Board Email Actions

2019-2020

August 11, 2019

Move that the GNRHS approve the \$3500 grant for phase 3 of the PNRA's effort to create an online portal for public access to both the PNRA collections and the Jackson Street Roundhouse collections. The Board directs that the PNRA and the JSRH (Jackson Street Roundhouse) continue to collaborate together to make the online portal compatible with all of the current collection databases at both locations. The board expects an update by January 1, 2020 as to the progress of the project and how it is relating to both archives. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

September 11, 2019

Motion to accept Shopify as the software for the GNRHS Company Store. Moved by Langlot, second by McGlothlin. CARRIED by a vote of 5 – 1.

September 12, 2019

Motion to appoint John Langlot as GNRHS President in accordance with bylaws 4.04 and 4.06, and to appoint Don McGlothlin Vice-President in accordance with bylaw 4.04. Looking for a second on the motion and a vote. Moved by Carr, second by Showers. CARRIED unanimously

September 20, 2019

To direct Mac McCulloch to edit Reference Sheet 168 down to a two page document that STARail may post on the internet if, and only if, as part of each posting they include an active link to our website and remind viewers that this is copyrighted material which they may download only for personal use. Page one will include our usual top banner, the photo of X244 on page 1 of the Reference Sheet, and a photo of what appears to be X222 behind the rear helper of an eastward freight train at Windy Point MT in October 1945 from page 7 of the Reference Sheet. Mac is further directed to revise both captions to make them more meaningful for the general public. Page two will be only the roster from page 4 of the Reference Sheet. Moved McGlothlin, second Carr. CARRIED unanimously.

October 14, 2019

Motion to approve the amended minutes summary of the 2019 board meeting. Moved by McCulloch, second by Langlot. CARRIED unanimously.

November 16, 2019

Move that the GNRHS Board to allow for the disbursement of the Cole brass model collection as follows:

1. To give to the convention committees those models which are in good condition which could be used as convention raffle prizes. No more than 3 good quality items to be set aside for the Nelson convention.
2. To allow Cordell Newby to sell on eBay those items which are listed in excellent or good condition with the proceeds to go into the GNRHS Heritage Fund.
3. To allow the rest of the models to be disposed of at various show venues and the proceeds to go into the GNRHS Heritage Fund.

Moved by McGlothlin, second by Carr. CARRIED unanimously.

December 31, 2019

Motion to accept the 2020 GNRHS Budget as presented.  
Moved by McCulloch, second by Showers. CARRIED unanimously.

January 13, 2020

Access Data Base at JSRH. Move by Director McGlothlin to approve the proposal submitted by Dan's Consulting Custom Database Solutions for estimated cost of \$3960. Also to approve Director McGlothlin to sign the contract for the GNRHS. CARRIED unanimously.

February 17, 2020

The Board directs the President to subscribe to the ZOOM teleconferencing service at a cost of \$15.00 per month for an indefinite period. Moved McCulloch, second by McGlothlin. CARRIED unanimously.

February 17, 2020

Motion to approve the opening of a Cross Border bank account for use by the Nelson 2020 Convention registrar Francina Carr, for the purpose of accepting convention registration fees and paying convention suppliers and vendors. The account will be closed after the final reconciliation following the convention. Moved by Carr, second by McGlothlin and McCulloch. CARRIED unanimously.

March 3, 2020

Move that the GNRHS BOD directs the GNRHS Attorney to draw up an indemnity agreement which will have the Great Northern Railway Historical Society indemnify the Nelson Convention Chair and registration secretary against legal action which may occur as a result of the Nelson 2020 Convention. Moved by McGlothlin, second by Carr. CARRIED unanimously with one abstention.

March 19, 2020

Motion to hold the 2022 GNRHS convention in Wenatchee, WA.  
Moved by Carr, second by Bolyard. CARRIED unanimously.

March 19, 2020

The Board directs President Langlot to inform our current Webmaster, Bill Sornsin, that the board plans to replace the current web site, which is extremely outdated and not serving the current needs of the GNRHS. Director Kuglin is requested to recommend a replacement site, which he may construct, and to recommend whether or not the Board should contract with a professional site or service to meet the future needs of the GNRHS. Moved by McCulloch, second by Kuglin. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

April 7, 2020

Moved the GNRHS board denies the request the Inland Northwest Rail Museum for a grant of \$2,500.00 to paint a passenger car. The reason being that the car was not originally a Great Northern passenger car. Moved by Showers, second by Carr. CARRIED unanimously.

April 7, 2020

Motion to appoint John Langlot to the GNRHS Board of Directors to replace John Kuglin. John's term will be decided after discussion with the BOD. Moved by McGlothlin, second by Carr. CARRIED unanimously.

April 22, 2020

Motion to postpone our Nelson convention until 2022.  
Motion by Carr, second by McGlothlin. CARRIED unanimously.

June 25, 2020

The Board hereby approves the Hillyard Heritage Museum Society's request for a \$2,000 Heritage Grant to complete painting Great Northern box car number 11330 recently painted Glacier Green, by adding logos, car Initial and number on sides and ends, capacity, dimensional data, and all other stencils as they would have been at or reasonably shortly after the GN began painted boxcars Glacier Green. The Museum Society will consult with a GNRHS expert to be appointed later. Moved McCulloch, second Carr. CARRIED unanimously.

August 13, 2020

Moved that the GNRHS Marketing Officer is hereby directed to discontinue offering for sale physical copies of Goats, Goat predecessor materials, Reference Sheets, and Modelers Pages after December 31, 2020. He is directed to continue to market these products in electronic format world-wide, and to continue to offer physical calendars in the United States only. Moved McCulloch, second McGlothlin. CARRIED unanimously with one abstention.

September 6, 2020

Amended Motion:

- To allow the archive committee to transition the current JSRH Database to V2 Cloud Site, with the initial purchase of four virtual desktops.
  - To carry out the transition to allow for the expenditure of up to \$5000 for the transition and any unforeseen expense during the transition.
  - To allow Director McGlothlin to sign any necessary contract for the implementation after approval by the Board of Directors and the GNRHS Attorney.
- Moved McGlothlin, second McCulloch. CARRIED

October 4, 2020

Motion that the current convention budget amount which was approved be reduced to 0\$ until the committee appropriately sends to the board a proposed budget for approval. Moved by McGlothlin, second by Mayer. CARRIED unanimously.