

MINUTES OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING, JULY 16, 2006
RED LION INN, KALISPELL MT

The meeting was opened at 8:05 am by President Duane Buck.

The following persons were in attendance: **Directors:** Duane E. Buck, Robert R. Bye, James F. Chinquist, Lindsay Korst, Clifford H. Salmon, William C. Sornsins, Beverly Tracy. **Officers and Staff:** Duane V. Amdahl, Raymond A. Chappell, Ronald Erickson, Phillip Gjevre, Tyrone Johnsen, Fr. Dale Peterka, John Thomas, David Thorsett, John Tracy, Max Ulver. **Members and Guests:** Tom Arms, Robert Downing, Don McGlothlin, Greer Neilsen.

After determining a quorum was present, President Buck continued with the meeting.

Item 01: On motion by, Salmon, seconded by Sornsins the minutes of the Director's Meeting of July 17 and 18, 2005, at Fergus Falls, MN were **accepted**.

Item 02: Max Ulver was nominated for the position of Vice President. On motion made by Korst and seconded by Sornsins, the President and all other Operating Officers were **reelected** and Max Ulver was **elected**.

Item 03-12a,b & c: Reports were received, either written or oral from the following:

03: Presidents Report: Duane Buck reported on the status of the AFE files. He also reported that the corporation fees had been paid to the State of Illinois and that the Society was now in good standing with the State.

04: Publications: Phil Gjevre reported on the status of the publications. He related that we may have copyright issues when using photos. He also is investigating use of color inside the "Goat". Another issue being investigated is distribution in hobby shops. President Buck thanked Phil for an excellent publication.

05: Ask Bev: Bev Tracy reported that she had 154 inquires this year. She thanked everyone who helped her get the answers.

06: Master Information Book: Pres. Buck reported that he is working on updating revisions to the By Laws. He hopes to have everything completed by the fall.

07: Web Site: Lindsay Korst reported that the website was updated on July 8, 2006, and that since April of 2002 the website has received approximately 132,430 visits. He also related that Cliff Salmon has created a Paypal account for the GNRHS.

08: Back Issues: Cliff Salmon reported that there were some problems early this year, but everything is now on track. Lead time is about 30 days.

09: Freight Cars & Mugs: Dave Thorsett explained his printed report. The report is filed with these minutes. There was discussion about the possibility of having a structure kit. Dave will look into it.

11: Convention Chairman: John Tracy reported that he had taken over both the convention planning and registration this year. He handed out a printed report with the details for the convention and briefly explained the activities. John showed sample badges for the Rail Fair only and one for guests. He also showed several others with different activities on them. He then went on to discuss how he would book keep charges for mugs and convention cars. Jim Chinquist then handed out a report about the 2007 convention at Minot, ND. He then explained the various activities.

12: Convention Apparel Sales: Jim Chinquist handed out a printed report discussing the apparel for the Kalispell convention. He then discussed the type and color of the apparel.

12a: Membership Report: Duane Amdahl reported that 172 members have not renewed this year. He also reported that the North Dakota State Archives will be made an Honorary Member.

12b: Nominating Committee: Bill Sornsins reported no activity at this time. He congratulated Jim Chinquist on his reelection and Duane Buck and Lindsay Korst on their election to the Board and Duane Amdahl and the ballot counting committee.

12c: Hustle Muscle: Ron Erickson reported that the engine is back in the roundhouse again. He talked about the cost of insurance to move the engine and difficulties with moving it dead in the train as if it was a box car. The brakes have to work. Painting is now scheduled for October 9th. Ron explained that over the last 5 years, he has spent \$942.95 for maintenance. The wheels are becoming thin and have been re-contoured by BNSF.

Item 13: Archives: Cliff Salmon reported on the activities at the Jackson Street roundhouse. John Thomas then reported that he and several other members have been working on AFE series #1 (from the beginning to 1915) and can always use more help. Cliff then reported on the status of the off-site leased storage property and said that the rent might be going up. He said that the triangle room is now ready for us to move in, but needs to have shelves installed. Once that is done, the AFE's can be moved in. The computer server may need to be replaced and additional lines may have to be run. Cliff went on to explain the proposed 2007 Jackson St. Roundhouse budget.

Item 31: Lease: Cliff Salmon reported that the lease on the Jackson Street Roundhouse was about 95% ready to go. There are still some issues to be worked out.

Item 14: Budget/Distribution of Funds: Because of upcoming cost increases, such as postage, storage costs, etc., an increase in the dues was discussed. It was decided to raise the dues as follows: United States -\$30, Canadian - \$40, Europe - \$55, and Asia - \$60. On motion made by Bye, seconded by Sornsins the dues increases were **approved**.

Item 15: President/Vice President Candidates: See item #2.

Item 16: St Paul & Pacific Coach #25 and Caboose X-240: Coach #25 is now in the hands of MTM so that issue is out of our hands. Ownership papers for the X-240 Caboose – we do not have the original ownership papers for the caboose. Also, the document is only signed by two members of the Buckston, ND City Council, but there is not a signature of an Officer of the GNRHS. Jim Knollmiller has been asked to determine if this is a legal document. We need to get the original document and get it into the archives. We do have ownership papers for Hustle Muscle. There has been difficulty in finding anyone to work on the caboose. A letter will be sent out asking for help.

Item 17: See Item #13.

Item 18: Survey Assessment: Bob Bye reported that the results of the survey had not arrived at this time. About 550 people responded and the University of North Dakota is compiling the results.

Item 19: 2008 Convention Site: John Tracy reported that the proposed 2008 convention site is Wenatchee, WA at the Red Lion Inn. A question about moving the convention time frame out of the July/August was raised. It was pointed out that this is the only time teachers and some other people can take vacation. On motion made by Salmon and seconded by Chingquist, the convention site for 2008 was **approved**.

Item 20: Modern Membership Payment Plan: A PayPal account has been established. There are fees involved. We could recover the fee by having a 2% surcharge for the use of the system by members.

Item 21: Merchandising: No action.

Item 22: Convention Attendance Policy: John Tracy presented an email of July 11, 2006 which had been circulated to all Board Members outlining a policy for convention attendance by members and nonmembers. After discussion, on motion made by Salmon and seconded by Buck, the policy outlined in the referenced email was **approved** for inclusion in the Convention Handbook.

Item 23: Society Property Accountability: Cliff Salmon reported that a list of those members that have GNRHS property or collections has been made and some people have been assigned to track items down, but little else has been done at this time.

Item 24: By-Law Changes: Already covered in Item 06.

Item 25: Operating Manual: President Buck reported that he is working on the manual. The By-Laws must be approved before the manual can be completed.

Item 26: Publication Organization Plan: Phil Gjevre reported that it is difficult to come up with any kind of plan. He said that he keeps on looking for people to assist him. Some ability to write would be nice if you want to help.

Item 27: Insurance Review and Coverage: Coverage was discussed.

Item 28: Committee Purposes and Assignments: Tabled.

Item 29: Convention Handbook: John Tracy reported that the handbook will be ready sometime in 2007.

Item 30: Advertising in the Goat: The subject having been discussed and a vote taken by email that resulted in the **approval** of advertising in the Goat, Phil Gjevre reported that Walthers will take a 2 page spread in the September Goat about their Empire Builder series of passenger cars. Jim Chinquist reported about the advertising budget. He proposed that an advertising budget be established. After discussion, a motion made by Bye and seconded by Sornsin to establish up to a \$1,000 per year budget for advertising, i.e. caps, etc. was **approved**.

Item 32: Professional Recruiting Kit: President Buck proposed that we make 3 recruiting kits to be placed at designated locations in our system. Gjevre will look into establishing these kits. Held for further investigation.

Item 33: Rent Locker for Inventory storage: Bev Tracy asked about renting lockers to free up space in members homes. Discussion about cost and how to store items. Tabled for further discussion between those who might need to rent a locker.

Item 34: Create written Policy for Travel Expenses: Discussion was held about travel expense policy. Will be addressed in By-Law changes.

Item 35: Additional Items:

a. Request from Williston ND Park and Recreation Dept. for a grant for \$3,000 to help paint Engine #3059. After discussion, a motion was made by Salmon and seconded by Buck to award \$3,000 for painting, which is to include a plaque acknowledging the GNRHS donation. The motion was **approved**.

b. Bob Kelly reported that yard track at Skykomish is being ripped out and would the GNRHS like a piece of 1892 , 60 pound rail? It was decided that the GNRHS would like a 3 foot section. The rail will be delivered to the Jackson Street Roundhouse.

c. Membership Roster: Should we issue an annual roster or not? It was decided not to publish it.

d. Donation to MTM: On motion made by Chiquist and seconded by Sornsin a donation of \$750 was approved.

Item 36: Motion to Adjourn. At 1:35 pm a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was **approved**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Raymond A. Chappell
Secretary