

General Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2021

Dr. Mike opened the meeting with a welcome back.

Treasurer’s Report – John Gibbons

Total Cash Assets June 5, 2021	\$348,803.93
Total Cash Assets May 1, 2021	\$350,188.07
Less Encumbered Cash as shown on April 3 corrected report	\$22,484.88
Free Cash	\$326,319.05

Report was received, reviewed and filed for audit.

CMO Report – Rick Kirby

Welcome everyone to the first General Membership meeting in more than 15 months.

For those of you who haven’t been here we have been doing small projects; electrical installations, tool car jobs including 480 pass-through brackets, interior painting, generator installation equipment and also fabricating new doors.

Our AMTRAK inspector was here last Saturday. Rick requested an answer one way or another regarding our frame repairs. After several letters and conversations since December, he finally agreed to provide us with a letter to proceed. Rick is still waiting on that letter.

Matt C. and Spargo have been working the folks at NMDOT for an operating agreement. This has been in the works for several years and the delay has been blamed on PTC and COVID to mention a few.

We are planning to do a hydro in the near future. We have done some welding on the boiler so by code we need to do a hydro plus one should be done every year. Rick will keep all informed.

The first move will be a test run on compressed air as a safeguard. After that we’ll do a 5th steam-up and let her roll. Everyone will be given notice as to when this will happen. It all depends on when we can have a large contingent of volunteers who may want to be present for the first steam move.

We currently have a problem with our track and Frank has been heading that up.

As everyone knows we are officially in the heat of summer. Stay hydrated. We provide water so when you get a bottle put your initials on the cap. We find half drank water all over the place. If you get a bottle please drink it all, squash it and place in the recycle bin.

If you feel hot or flushed get to my office or the reefer to cool down for a few minutes. The coolers have been turned on and they stay on. Also, don't forget the sunscreen prior to leaving your house and if need be use it during the day as well.

CSO Report – Jon Spargo

Reminder of what Rick said; to hydrate.

Annie S., one of our safety officers, has been rehired for training at the PNM merger or buyout. She will be out and not around for a while. Unknown for how long.

Annual Safety Refresher will be sometime in July. All depends on Rick's CMO projects with the locomotive. Need a place for at least 100 folks. Right now we're overdue, but all are grandfathered into safety at present. There's a new email system with Rich B. so make sure you subscribe with your email on our website. We'll try to let people know on the website as well when it will be.

New Member class as of today after the meeting.

Elections to BoD – John Roberts, Committee Chair

The election this year had three openings and we had three nominees to the Board. There were no further new nominee forms given to John, so there doesn't need to be an election. We'll elect the Board officers at next month's meeting. John will be retiring and Robert (Bob) McMahon is anticipated to be elected as his replacement next month.

A Monsoon of Watercolors – Gayle Van Horn

Today in Mountainair Gayle will be hosting an event at La Galleria at The Shaffer Hotel in Mountainair. 4-7 is the event time. They are very interested in putting his paintings on display in the hotel galleria and of the 2926 engine. Gayle does our Christmas cards each year and does a fantastic job. We appreciate all he does for the organization.

Reopening the Site – Dr. Mike Hartshorne

The website is going to get an overhaul to declutter things that are not used and make it more user friendly. We are overhauling the way we do the emails and all are asked to opt in or out of our emails. Some aren't working, but Rich has made those that didn't work to be on a special email list that people will still receive our emails. Go to our website and see where to add your email.

Lots of junk and scrap are laying around the site that we need to get rid of. If there's something you see you want, take it with you. If not, things will be scrapped or tossed.

We plan to have our normal open house on September 25, 2021 from 9-5. We will plan for now and if the governor changes things around we may have to cancel. We've got the tool car this year and possibly people like the model RR people can set up in the tool car for their displays.

Scott E. was asked by John T. to make a full-scale replica of the 14-inch projectiles fired by the battleship USS New Mexico (BB-40). He did a nice job on that project.

Announcements

Frank Gerstle says our track is widening when the engine rolls over our track in the curves. He's had a couple people out to look at what's happening and we'll get estimates from both and see what needs to be done. The tie plates are cutting into the ties. Our plan is to keep the rail and widen the gauge. The engine needs to be able to roll safely. Several of our volunteers have helped in the efforts to resolve and are appreciated. Don M. has recalculated the pit and it's doable over the pit to standards we need.

There's a Rail Trail public meeting on June 22nd from 5-7 at the Rail Yards if anyone is interested.

Meeting Adjourned – **Next Meeting – July 10, 2021 at 8:00 AM**

Submitted by,

Gail Kirby

Secretary, NMSL&RHS