

**Wisconsin Southeastern Division (WISE) of the NMRA
Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday September 9, 2020

Location: Virtual (via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Superintendent Slater

BOD Present - Burnell Breaker (Library), Andy Greco (WISE Ops), Harry Grieshaber (joined at 7:15pm), Dennis Janssen (Treasurer, Paymaster), Steve Miazga (Owl Car), David Rohr (Secretary, Chief Clerk), Mike Slater (Superintendent), Ted Zieger (Contest).

Chairs Present - None

Absent - Andy Breaker (Asst. Super), Gary Children (Achievement AP), John Hagen (Layouts), Jim Hebner (Chair - Website), Mark Hintz (ex-Youth), Art Oseland (Bus Trip).

Guests - None

Minutes - August minutes: Janssen had corrections: Hebner was present, Children and Zieger were not present. B. Breaker motioned to approve as corrected, 2nd by Zieger. The motion carried unanimously. Corrected minutes will be emailed.

Paymaster - Reports were submitted by Janssen to the BOD via email.

Zieger asked if we have enough money in the bank to put on a show next year. Since we give a 10% discount if pay by July for manufactures, vendors, we have some money that is keeping the bank account alive.

Miazga suggested that there are a number of Big Box stores available to hold Trainfest, but this may have limited or no bathrooms, limited electrical, we would need to get janitorial, security, etc. We would need to confirm the location 6 > 9 months prior, because you need to advertise the venue (and not location TBD). Greco asked if we could ask SFP (State Fair Park Expo Hall) for a reduced rate. Slater stated SFP is 200K sq. ft, what would happen if the SFP is not available in Nov 2021. Other locations available are Waukesha Fair grounds, which is 50K in 2 buildings, Washington County Fair is 50K in 2 buildings. Mecca (Wisconsin Center - downtown Milwaukee) would have enough space, but has poor parking options, and is expensive. Another option could be to do a split show with Madison, do one show in Madison one year, and another show in Milwaukee the next year.

Harry joined the conversation.

Greco asked to talk about this later on. Think about this, discuss this before January, or via email.

Miazga made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report, seconded by Greco. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Membership: No changes this month.

Meets: (& Clinics).

- Slater stated the survey results from Facebook and other inquires, He said there was no interest in doing a virtual RPM meet this year. Cut our losses, and move to the next event. Push this out to next year. The folks Slater talked with stated they would attend an in-person event, but not a virtual RPM. It is not the current policy to have in-person events.
- We can do the October Meet via Zoom, and have the annual meeting. Have reached out to the scheduled presenter from March, and waiting for a response. The presentation is digital, and could work well for a zoom call.
- Slater has been taking part in multi Divisional Zoom Meets/calls. There are some scheduled, the Owl Car can publicize.
- Going to broadcast via Facebook

Layouts: Hagen not present, no report.

Contests: Zieger stated the contest award plaques are with Miazga & Slater, total of 3 (or 4) to be redone, at some point. Rally does not have any plaques, they can't keep track of them.

Video Library: B. Breaker stated nothing new, status quo.

Owl Car: Miazga stated the deadline for Owl Car is Sept 24. Need more details on Trainfest X, NMRA-X. Have 7 to 8 pages so far.

Facebook: No updates.

Website: No updates.

Bus Trips: No report, Oseland not present. We hear to wait until October to get input from the Madison show crew if the Madison show is still on. (before scheduling the bus)

Achievement: No report from Children, as he was not present.

WISE Ops: no report

Trainfest: (Slater/Janssen) –

Old Business:

- RPM is scrubbed for Sept. Could we do it at another time of the year, will discuss later.
- Picture issue still on hold due to Covid-19, but Walthers is starting to open up in some fashion. Employees are starting to work two days a week.

New Business:

- Multi-divisional zoom calls from around the USA. There is one on Sept 19 at noon.

- Slater asked for comment on getting a division Zoom Account. If you get annual account, you pay 10 months for and get 2 months free.
- Miazga motioned to get an annual account, 2nd by Grieshaber, passed.
- Discussed moving items in storage to the boxcar at Sturtevant Caboose Museum. But would be too far from Trainfest show location.
- It was suggested to take picture of items in storage to sell. A date of Sept 12 was picked to take pictures and do an inventory. These items would appear in the next Owl Car, for members to submit bids/offers. If no one is interested, it could go to the boxcar. Janssen, Miazga, Grieshaber, Rohr volunteered.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned 7:50 pm. Motioned by Miazga, 2nd by Grieshaber, all were in favor.

The next meeting is Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 PM, via Virtual "Zoom".

The next BOD meetings. November 11, December 9. (2nd Wednesday).

Respectfully submitted by David Rohr, Chief Clerk