

Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society
Board of Directors
Regular Meeting 3:00PM July 17, 2025
At the MedFab Conference Center
1109 Court St., Medford, OR

Meeting Called to order by President Ric Walch at 3:10 p.m.

1. Roll Call: Those present: Ric Walch, Mick Smith, Donavin Brown, Ken Hill, Donna Hill, Trish Callahan, Eric Muller, Jerry Scriven and Allen Dobney.
2. Minutes: May meeting minutes were made available via the website and reviewed in the meeting. It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved, and it was unanimously passed.
3. Treasurer's Report: Donnie Brown presented the Treasurer's report and Run Day Reports for May and June. We need to set up a new budget. Ric suggested that we each review the recent budget figures and meet with ideas and figures at the next board meeting. The report was accepted as presented.
4. Old Business:
 - Board meetings will continue to be held on the Second Thursday of each month.
 - Motorcar cover: Ken is looking to have a 4'x8'x20' treated post. Ric has manpower lined up—Dylan replaced the burger shack roof is ready to do the cover as well as the shelter at the end of the museum.
 - Lean-to at end of the museum: Ric has talked to Pacific Lumber about supplying the lumber and wants that done soon so the newly repainted motorcar can be protected from the weather. We will set up a workday and get it done.
 - Sale of the GMC truck. Joseph Newstead had suggested keeping it as a work truck in Butte Falls. Apparently as a 5-ton truck it needs commercial licensing and additional insurance that would increase the cost of getting it running again and using it. Ric has agreed to donate a 2-ton flatbed truck for use by the park and Butte Falls. Ric had acquired the truck from MedFab and had paid half the cost which was \$750.00. It was moved and seconded that the truck be sold for no less than the initial cost of \$750.00 and it was passed unanimously.
 - Dining Car: Ric has lined up the MedFab employees to close the holes in the roof and will see that it is done before the end of our season (end of October).
 - Yard cleanup and inventory and disposal of unneeded scrap. Allen thinks the Bettendorf trucks from the SP boxcar should be moved up to Butte Falls and used for completion of a flat car there; and that there are several switch stands, spikes and tie plates in the yard that also need to go to Butte Falls. Ric talked to the scrap dealer who will haul what we want moved out and pay us for the scrap.

Ken mentioned that a lot depends on #4 as there are several items in the yard that may be necessary to complete the #4 and that we will also need rail, spikes, a switch, and ties to connect the motorcar line to the engine house line. Ric directed Mick to be sure that everyone needs to look over the items in the yard, identify anything that is either owned by them or is needed for our park or Butte Falls operation and present their suggestions/review to the board by the next meeting which will be on August 14.

5. New Business:

- Aid station: The need for an aid station was evident at our last run day when the temperatures were hovering around 100. We agreed to convert the telegraphers shack to an aid station. We will clean it out, bring in a small table and chairs as well as first aid supplies. The ramp/stairs will need to be repaired, and Bruce Kelly has given us all the “trek” decking material the Steamers have.
- Bee swarm under flanger is still there. Mick will call the OSU extension office to get names of beekeepers who can help relocate the bees.
- Membership meeting: Plans are underway to have a general membership meeting in September at the railyards in Lebanon or Eureka. Ric will make calls, set up and provide details at next board meeting.
- New applications: Ronald Robello, Bernice Rohds, Randy Bray, Jacob Enwright (Jerry Scriven’s grandson) proposed, and all members voted to admit.
- We will install a permanent shelter near the burger shack. Ken wants a slab under the cover. This is a project for next year.

6. Committee Reports:

- a. Butte Falls: Jerry Scriven talked to Chris Bray and scheduled a cleanup of the CN on 8/16 and the city will loan its vacuum truck and provide a new battery for the motorcar. Per the Butte Falls Committee meeting it looks like repairs are doable. It needs motor and front mounts. Chris is talking to Western States Hydraulic about what we need for the hydraulic repairs. Ric said they need to cost it out so we can budget for all this. Jerry Scriven proposed that we set aside funds for promotional budget to get town interest going and will come back next month with a plan. Ric wants a sign in Butte Falls noting the future location of Butte Falls railroad. Trish asked Allen about getting a web connection between SORHS and Butte Falls website. Allen will do that by going up to Butte Falls and meeting with their website person. The plan is to have at least a short piece of track in place by spring. The Butte Falls committee is arranging for a self-loader to move track from the park and White City to Butte Falls. Trish wanted to pin down how much space we need. 5 acres is the starting point. Allen suggests building a little bit of the yard, the Y and then build engine house at the end. A phased approach. Silver Butte and Lone Rock has given us approval. Some of that documentation is on the

website. Ken suggested that we have a picture of proposed Butte Falls project drawings for future meetings.

- b. Medco 4: No report. In order to move ahead with Butte Falls and work toward getting the park in shape we need a schedule on #4 that identifies what is completed on the restoration, what is yet to be completed including who needs to do the work, and a cost estimate on each step that needs to be taken. A formal request for that information needs to be sent to Jerry Hellinga. Allen says 80% complete. Once we get a report we can deal with what needs to be done next.
 - c. Burger Shack: Cook tops are a good thing for the cooks. Based on demand we will continue preparing pulled pork and drop the chicken sandwiches. Grilled cheese sandwiches are going well. Popcorn maker is going away. Trish bought aprons, dish drainer, and wash tub. Donnie will be gone on 8/10 and he will work with Trish to change the Square account.
 - d. Website: Allen has changed the web membership application so that it can now be completed online.
7. Good of the Order:
- Mick spoke with Nick Carpenter of the IBEW union and will send copies of the minutes and pictures of the rails that need to be moved and will contact Nick regarding projects to which the trades may contribute equipment, materials, or labor.
- Club shirts: Jennifer has made up the last batch of them for a fraction of what we have been paying.
- Motion to adjourn meeting was made, seconded, and passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:30p.m.

Next meeting will be August 14 at 3:00PM