

Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society
Membership and Board of Directors
Regular Meeting 3:30PM January 8, 2026
At the Medfab Conference Center
1109 Court St., Medford, OR

1. Ric called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m.
2. Those present were Mick Smith, Ric Walch, Ken Hill, Donna Hill, Janet Dock, Lyle Bozworth, Trish Callahan, and Donavin Brown.
3. Minutes from the prior meeting were reviewed and corrections were offered. It was moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected. It was seconded and passed unanimously.
4. Donavin presented the treasurers report. Discussion:
What about the acquisition fund? Ric Aubin said it used to show the money we may spend in the year but had not budgeted. We need to put a budget sheet together that shows where we are each month. In years past we didn't have money to pay our insurance and had to wait to accumulate funds to pay the insurance and in those situations.
Ric Walch said the acquisition fund is budgeted for larger purchases. He doesn't want to specifically budget for a project until we are ready to start a project and not include budget for anticipated project. Income is going to vary and adjust budget to reflect changes.
Ric Aubin: Jerry would look at the end of year budget to see what it costs and estimate what he thought would be spent for the next year. It has created confusion. We should operate in real-time numbers. Keep those figures in budget but create line items. The acquisition fund is there to have something you can look at when we are planning to spend on projects. The actual acquisition budget can increase throughout the year. We need to adjust the budget throughout the year;

create a line item and zero it and add money to it when we approve the projects.

Janet said she would help with the budget issues.

Ric A said that we should do an audit every year.

Mick asked whether we need to get an accountant to get all this straight.

Ric said we will look at these budget issues again in the next meeting. Janet said her son is an accountant who works with nonprofits in Phoenix and will see if he can help. Mick, Ric and Donnie will work on this until next month.

5. Committee Reports:

- a. Medco 4—nothing to report.
- b. 8 & Dining car: Ric bought a transfer pump and will pump out the oil pan, out of his# own pocket. He also got a tarp and will get it covered next week.
- c. Motorcar is over at Ken Scales for repairs. Ken said that clutch plate needs to be replaced. Ric said the exhaust gasket needs to be done. Also, it needs starter rebuilt and throw out bearing; tune up---plugs pints and condenser. They will probably need to pull the engine. That information will be passed along to Scales.
- d. Signs: Ric A. said that Jerry has some signs that are made plastic and they can be affixed to the car. Ric said he will give that job to Nancy. Janet said her eldest son's wife is a graphic artist and she would be interested in helping. Mick was fortunate to get Vanessa to revise our brochure and will bring in the sample to next meeting.
Ric W. said that he is working with Lebanon group to offer use of our Santa Fe caboose that is located in White City.
- e. Stuff: Ric W. wants to send the other Santa Fe up to Butte Falls. Ric A. agrees that the BN and CB&Q

wouldn't be workable there. A person from Cave Junction has offered a donation and Ric W. will take a look at what he had. Mick will get in touch with Phil Wilkinson about any of Dan's stuff. Ric wants to start selling on Ebay. Donnie will try and sell them. We will need to get Allen to get the Ebay account information.

- f. Butte Falls: Trish will fill the vacancy that Jerry Scriven's leaving the club. Trish said she tried to get in touch with the owner of the Boyer property and still looking at the connect 3 property for the loading area. Landing is waiting for an MOU, and we need to create MOU's with the rock companies. Trish had parts of the forest agreements to get information about the truck road. She will meet with Matt Brinkley, a land use person to try to figure out whether the truck road was the original railbed. Still trying to find out if it is listed as the railroad grade or if it was renamed and what that means and how it is listed with Jackson County. We have the possibility of using Don Hammon's property. Find out who owns the property to the fence, but Don says that it ends at the road. Lyle says that the maps still show it as a railroad right of way. Ric A said that we could go through the state to get that designation. What about the rails? Next week, Ethan is going to move the rails as soon as footings for the landing at the falls are done.
- g. We are committed to opening the concession stand for the Garden RR swap meet. Mick will check with Shane about dates in May.
- h. Good of order: Ken will get in touch with the NARCOA to help run our motorcar next season. Janet reported that David is getting better and can now drive his car.

Mick mentioned that Allen's wife had a recent operation and Ric asked that we keep her and Allen in our thoughts and prayers.

At 5:15 meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be on February 12, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. at the MedFab conference room.