

Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society
Membership and Board of Directors
Regular Meeting April 9, 2026, 3:30PM
At the MedFab Conference Center
1109 Court St., Medford, OR

1. Meeting Called to order at 3:35 by Vice President Ken Hill.
2. Roll Call: Ric Walch, Frank Epperson, Robert Hirning, Donnie Brown, JR Donovan, Rick Aubin, Mick Smith, Trish Callahan, Lyle Bozworth, Ken Hill, Francis Gauthier, Allen Dobney, Eric Muller, and Randy Bray.
3. Consent of the Agenda: The agenda was approved by consensus.
4. Approval of Minutes: A copy of the minutes of the March meeting were made available. Ken moved that they be accepted, Frank seconded and was unanimously passed.
5. Treasurer's Report: Donnie Brown presented the Treasurer's report. It was accepted. Ken Scales charged \$1400 and Donnie will take a check over to Ken Scales offices during the meeting.
6. New budget items: Reviewed the expenses for the dining car and clearing the oil from the #8. Mick reviewed his recent transactions and will get with Donnie to see if the maintenance budget figures need to be revised up.
7. Committee Reports:
 - a. Medco 4: Allen has called and left message for Jerry. He will make call again to get information about the status of the shafts in Ft. Bragg.
 - b. Burger Shack: Donnie said the shack is fully stocked and he will be setting it up tomorrow and Saturday. Menu is generally the same as last year. Microwave is being put back up. We will hold off on the pizza for the first run day. We will be open for the swap meeting in May. We will serve a regular menu based on how well items go on the run days in April. Trish will bring her griddle to be used at the Burger Shack.
 - c. Newsletter: Ric is working on it. Email or hard copy. Most other clubs do email. Mick will check with postmaster about nonprofit permit for break in cost. 1st class postage will go up to over \$.80 in July. Mick will alert members of the increased cost and suggest that those members will need to pay an additional \$5 each year if they want hard copy. It should be issued every other month.
 - d. Website: no update

- e. Butte Falls: Trish had a meeting with Christine Gleason and was told that we need to have a meeting with Charles Bennett, county planner and Francisco Hernandez, land use consultant who contracts with the county and it will cost \$175 and there are new rules about RR in Jackson County. Ric will want to attend that meeting. Trish will talk to him and see about scheduling for her and Ric. She had a Butte Falls Committee meeting last month with 10 people and the next meeting is Monday. Allen gave a presentation to the group. Birthday parties, bake sales, car washes, railroad dinner (using RR plates, etc.) were suggested as ways to engage the local. There weren't a huge number of responses, and they are still looking for a new chairperson. There are 2 additional members who were interested in joining the group. They also discussed making some improvements to the CN motorcar so we can show the city what we have done so far. Don Hamann is working through his land guy, and we want to stay in contact with him. Nick Rogers as a local logger is also a good local resource for the project. Trish and Allen are working on getting MOUs from other stakeholders. Timber lands have not changed hands since we started, so we should be able to get the MOUs updated.
- f. Excess Sales: Allen has 120 slides running Ebay and another 130 will be put on in the next week. The first Tuesday of every month we should get a check for the proceeds of the items sold.

Philosophy: We have a region that we focus on Black Butte in California to Roseburg and Lakeview west. He has 19 GBs of pictures already. Research is difficult because these items are not well organized. Paper documents: originals should be scanned and kept and modern documents just scanned and disposed of. Allen has a 40-minute narrated slide show of the Siskiyou lines from 1868 on that he has set up in the museum. He was talking to folks at the Woodville museum, and they are taking their digitized copies sent to a national archive and suggested that we do the same.

- g. RR Park: Preparation for opening run day. Ric is putting a plug in for Ken Scales: they put in head gaskets, clutch and numerous other repairs and fixed everything that needed fixing and we paid for the parts and Scales only charged us 2.5 hours of labor. Go to Ken Scales and say thanks to George. The motor car is a 1950 vintage, but the motor is a 1938-40. George located parts from a 1938 Plymouth to replace some of the parts.

Ric will try to get frames for the blue signs. Meanwhile we will try and use those we have for opening day. JR wants to cover the sign with plexi-glass.

- 8. Membership Applications: none

9. Old Business:

Sign machine. Give Larry 2 weeks to arrange to have it removed from the track shed. If it isn't Ric said he will dismantle it and take it to the landfill.

We have lots of metal scrap. We need to bring an empty bin, sort the worthwhile metal and get rid of the rest.

10. New Business:

Rick Aubin informed the group that the #4 boiler hasn't been completely certified. The measurements for completion of the Form 4 had not been taken before it was put back together. When you put the first tube in the clock it starts running and it is now beyond the certification time. Tubes will need to come out and will have to be measured. There is a guy who will do all the measurements and complete the form 4 certification free. Rick Aubin will get his name.

Questions about #4. We need to check out what needs to be done. The Ft. Bragg guy (who has the line shafts) also runs Stockton Locomotive Works. We need to identify someone with the skills to help Jerry work on the #4. What about Mt. Ranier, Skunk Train in No. Cal., Oregon Coast RR to see what help we can get? Allen will find the contact's name for the person in Ft. Bragg and find out the status of those parts.

Engine shed door is stuck. We need to open the door. Mick has an appointment with Overhead door folks on Friday April 17.

11. Good of the Order:

Dennis and Leslie Lensegrav are sending in a check for \$400 to help with the cost of repairing the motorcar motor and anyone who wants to donate for the motorcar is encouraged to do so as well.

12. Meeting Adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be May 14, 2025, at 3:30PM