



PACIFIC
NORTHWEST
REGION

Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom

Saturday, February 7, 2025

12:00 Noon PDT VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

1. ATTENDANCE: Jeff Herrmann, Bob Stafford, Dave Liesse, Larry Sebelley, Shelley Shelstad, Mike Stepner, Bill Voogd, Ed Molenkamp, Victor Gilbert, Greg Kujawa, Bill Fassett, Peter Ulvestad, Bob Parrish, Dave Holden, Magnus Christerson, and Jack Hamilton.
2. OPENING: The meeting began at 12 noon Pacific. Jeff Herrmann MMR welcomed those on the call and thanked them for their service to the association and the participation in the meeting. Jeff announced his election to the NMRA Board of Directors as the RAC Director and will be serving as proxy for the current director until his term starts in July. He emphasized the need for nominations for officers for the 2026-2028 term, with Shirley Sample's nominating committee accepting candidates. Jeff also highlighted a net membership loss of 1% in calendar year 2025, urging division superintendents to address the steady decline in NMRA membership, which he believes requires action at the division and region levels.
3. PNR PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR SERVICE TO THE REGION: Dave Liesse reported that nominations are open until March 30th. Nominees from 2024 and 2025 who were not selected will be carried forward this year. Criteria for selection are in the PNR Operations Manual.

4. 2026 PNR CONVENTION OREGON RAILS: Dave Holden reported that plans are moving along for the convention with 44 full fare registrants so far. The board encouraged Dave to include specifics about the convention schedule and program offerings both on the website and in direct contact with membership to assist in promoting the convention.
5. 2027 NMRA CONVENTION: Magnus Christerson reported on updates for the upcoming convention, including a refreshed logo incorporating NMRA branding and a new banner promoting standards, advocacy, fellowship, and education. Magnus reported progress on programs, with 50 layouts signed up, plans for modeling with the Masters, and discussions on non-rail programs for partners and spouses. The marketing strategy involves distributing banners and business cards at train shows, with a call to action to sign up in the newsletter.
6. **ACTION ITEM** TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave Liesse distributed an overview of PNR's balance sheet. A motion was made by Mike Stepner to approve adding Dave Liesse as a signatory on all PNR financial instruments and accounts and to remove Rick Martin as signatory on same. Motion was seconded by Shelley Shelstad and passed.
7. **ACTION ITEM:** A motion was made by Ed Molenkamp to approve the Minutes of the November 2025 PNR Board Meeting as distributed. Motion was seconded by Mike Stepner and passed.
8. DISCUSSION PERIOD: NMRA VISION 2035 AND WORKPLAN 2026
IMPLEMENTATION: Discussion focused on NMRA's Vision 2035 strategic plan, particularly the 2026 work plan which aims to enhance member value and organizational health through division standards. Jeff Herrmann reviewed the NMRA provided checklist of requirements including division

constitutions, elected officers, regular meetings, and public outreach activities, emphasizing the need for annual goal setting and oversight. The group discussed the need for standardized organizational structures and bylaws across the seven divisions, emphasizing that the current lack of consistency has led to a significant loss of members since 2005. The board concluded that it would propose establishing standards for divisions in PNR, including organizational charts, bylaws, meeting frequency, evaluation methods and suggested best practices. The group agreed to develop a baseline summary of current divisional status and a standardized format for reporting progress.

9. PNR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. AP: Bill Fassett MMR, PNR AP Manager (written report distributed)
- b. PNR Celebration of Models/Convention Contests: Jeroen Gerritsen, Chair (written report distributed)
- c. Switchlist: Greg Kujawa MMR, Editor. Current issue to be sent electronically on February 15. Next issue will be sent in early May in advance of the convention.
- d. Website: Peter Ulvestad, Webmaster. Peter shared new color schemes and offered them to divisions for their websites.
- e. Modeling With The Masters: Jack Hamilton MMR. November 1st Session in Tacoma area went well. So far, we have 18 “certified PNR MWTM instructors.” Scheduling a session in British Columbia spring 2026. A MWTM session will be held at the PNR Convention in Tigard on May 13th.

10. Division Reports:

- a. 3rd Division: Members are encouraged to join in “coffee meetings” held bi-weekly.
- b. 4th Division: Will be making a contribution of excess funds to PNR. Staffing positions have been challenging but European Modeling groups are expanding rapidly.
- c. 5th Division: Great Train Show was held for the first time in Kennewick, WA and was very successful. The new banners were very well received.
- d. 6th Division: Train show season is in full swing. Assignments are being made for staff NMRA booths at each show.
- e. 7th Division: Looking for a MWTM location. Railway Modelers of British Columbia meet is May 22nd.

11. CLOSING COMMENTS: Jeff Herrmann thanked those in attendance for their participation and reminded the board the next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2026 12 Noon Pacific Via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted.

Jeff Herrmann MMR
President PNR