

**Wisconsin Southeastern Division (WISE) of the NMRA  
Executive Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday January 12, 2022  
Location: Lionel Railroad Club**

Meeting called to order by Burnell Breaker at 6:57 pm

**BOD Present -** Burnell Breaker (Interim Superintendent & Video Library),  
Dennis Janssen (Treasurer, Paymaster),  
Robert Niedermann (Interim Asst-Superintendent, & Contests),  
David Rohr (Secretary, Chief Clerk),

**Chairs Present -** None

**Guests -** Bob McGeever (Midwest Region President),  
Mike Hirvela (Midwest Region VP & Fox Valley Division Superintendent)

**Absent -** None

- No changes to the minutes from December 16 as sent out were mentioned, and stand as approved.
- No changes or questions to the paymaster report were mentioned and stand as approved.

**Meets:** Burnell stated the next meet is January 23, 2022 after the Lionel Railroad Club's swap meet, at the New Berlin Entertainment Center (Ale House). The plan is to have the contests, video library sign in, and a clinic (but the one we had planned fell through), followed by a "State of the Division" discussion.

Future dates are: February 27 (New Berlin), March 27 (New Berlin) and April 24 (Oconomowoc). Sounds like Steve Miazga will do a clinic for February? Keith Kohlmann will do a clinic in March. Have survey sheets available at all meets.

Mr. McGeever offered a clinic that he did for the SCWD. An "un-Clinic" as he called it, or "what are you working on..." It will be on hard shell scenery. Since he got us in this mess, and is planning on being at the meet in January. Thank you for the offer. Bob will bring his laptop, and Dennis will bring a laptop, projector, a mic & amp, and the bucket of "meet" items in storage. We do pay mileage.

Total cost of the hall is \$550, The Lionel Club will pay \$300, and WISE Div can pay \$250, for each event.

McGeever said to do a door prize, to hold folks till the end. We have gift certificates, they are in the "meet bucket" in storage.

Should we do a zoom session? Maybe wait till next time, we would need to broadcast the link. And have more testing, training, and equipment.

Entrance table can have a computer for signing up new members.

Layout on tour for after meet would be the Lionel Club, but don't advertise the layout before the event.

Primary communication with the membership is via email, and the MWR (Mid-West Region) has a Constant Contact account. So, we all split the cost. Max subscribers is 2500, and folks in the MWR this works well.

**Items to sell:** Burnell asked if we should we sell items in storage at Roma Lodge (second Sunday) and/or Lionel Club swaps (\$18/table). Do we want to try selling at Lionel Club @ Jan/Feb/Mar swap and maybe Mad City? Do we sell or donate the DVD video library? We have the turntable & roundhouse module to sell. NMRA members have free tables.

**Bus Trips:** Mad City Show bus cost is \$1,814.00 for a 56-seat bus. Full bus \$32.39/person, half bus \$64.79/person, show admission \$11.00/person. DuPage Swap bus cost is \$1,125.00 for a 56-seat bus. Full bus \$20.09/person, half bus \$40.18/person, swap admission is \$6.30/person. Looks to be too costly to do. Lucky to get half capacity lately. The old cost was \$800 per bus. Was agreed to cancel both bus trips. Encourage carpooling.

**CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS** – Reviewed changes originally suggested by Ken Jaglinski, along with other changes suggested by the Executive Committee. Dennis will type the changes and send out, to review at the next meeting.

**RECOGNIZING FORMER BOARD OFFICERS and DIRECTORS, & Trainfest service** – Need a paper certificate or a plaque. We did have an annual banquet. Maybe time to bring this back. Would need a hall for 50 people, or so. Have a cash bar. We have not had this for the last 3 superintendents.

**SURVEY RESULTS** – We reviewed the survey results. A number of possible volunteers, and some good ideas to look into.

**TRAINFEST** – Burnell and Dennis had a Zoom call 12/21/21 with Brian Schmidt from Kalmbach. They've been talking to David Swanson from Great Midwest Train Show to run a train show in the Expo Center on the second weekend of November. They would like to use our Trainfest name. Do we sell it outright or lease it on an annual basis? They would also give us space at the show to display. We would need to decide: do we sell or include the trainfest.com website? If so, we would need to go to a new site, change our email addresses and what do we do with everything we have for sale on the current website?

An agreement of the BOD to continue the discussion. Possible dollar amount could be \$5000. Dennis said we will work a lawyer (lawyer name not disclosed), and we can dictate to have, or not have swap tables at Trainfest. DuPage/Wheaton Swap is also on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in November. It takes \$10K – 12K per year to run the division (prior to 2020). Still have \$2500 bill coming for renewal of the TrainFest website. (not received yet)

**Meet admission** could be a minimal \$\$ amount for non-members, like \$5 to \$1. NMRA Members would get in to the meet for free, and free swap tables. We could start the admission in February at the soonest.

Next meeting is Wednesday February 9, at 7 pm at the Lionel Club in New Berlin.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by David Rohr, Chief Clerk