

**Wisconsin Southeastern Division (WISE) of the NMRA  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 12, 2025  
Location: Lionel Railroad Club & Zoom**

Meeting called to order by Burnell Breaker at 7:02 pm

**Officers Present** - Burnell Breaker (Superintendent), Robert Niedermann (Asst-Superintendent), David Rohr (Secretary, Chief Clerk)

**Chairs Present** - Gary Hendrickson (Membership) \*, Jim Hebner (Website) \*, Mike Slater (Facebook) \*

**Guests** - None

\* = attended via zoom

**Officers Not present** - Tim Koch (Director At Large), Paymaster – open position  
David Mielke (Director At Large) (Train School)

**Minutes:** No changes needed from the February meeting minutes, approved.

**Paymaster Report:** No changes noted from the February report, approved.

**Membership:** Gary Hendrickson – Submitted report (That he also discussed in person):  
“ Our Feb. 28 Division roster shows 121 members. This is down from approximately. 135 members two years ago. (4) are non-renewals - 30 days overdue. Need to get after them.  
John Seaman has moved to Sanibel, Florida. Now a member of the Eastern Div. Of the Sunshine Region.

This month’s division roster from the mother ship came to us incomplete - It’s missing several of the category columns that we’ve found useful.

Grouper Benefit Update....

Per my Feb. Owl Car article, I went ahead and applied to Grouper for my NMRA dues rebate benefit. A couple weeks ago I received a notice from Grouper that my Medicare Advantage carrier (Network Health) had approved this benefit coverage.

A week ago, a check for \$50 came in the mail from Grouper.

They will continue to mail me \$25 checks quarterly as long as I remain active in NMRA. (I have to make periodic activity reports to them)

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Hendrickson, Membership Committee Chair”

**Clinics:** Meet’s clinics are being handled by M&NW Club, Oconomowoc.

**AP Program:** Dave Poquette submitted report, states that “Mark Willmering has earned a Golden Spike Award. He has submitted a Statement of Qualifications for Volunteer and Dispatcher. Bryan Wichmann has submitted a Statement of Qualifications for Scenery”

**Layout Tours:** Meet’s Layouts are being handled by M&NW Club

**Owl Car:** March issue was sent March 1, another good issue.  
Deadline for April is March 15.

Burnell asked Bob McGeever what is SCWD’s Constant Contact data. They send to 129 people, open rate is 74%, click rate is 42%. Ours is 64% and 28%. They are better than ours, but not much.

**Website:** Jim Hebner – Website is up to date, maybe missing some meeting minutes.

**Train School:** No Report – Dave & Cindy at church event (Lent).

**Model RR Retreat:** Mike Slater – no further updates.

**Facebook:** Mike Slater posted a video on how to install a rotating beacon, and has a submitted video to post. Nice to have a submitted item.

**Show Schedule:** March 16 – LRRRC Swap (WISE Meet March 22 in Oconomowoc)  
April 13 – Metro Club Swap – Cedarburg

**March 22 Meet:** 2 programs are being planned. Oconomowoc club is handling these. Coffee and treats are covered by the club.

### Old Business

- **Zieger Estate** - Nothing new to report.
- **Trainfest 2025** – November 1 & 2, downtown Baird Center. No further update.
- **\$200 matching funds program.** Will have to think what we can use it for in 2025.
- **2025-2026 Schedule of Events** – Tentative schedule was sent to BOD Members to review. Schedule looks ok. May investigate a CNW convention Joint Meet in '26/'27.
- **2025-2026 schedule** – (in another format)
  - Sept 13 Modelers Retreat – Kenosha
  - Oct 18 – NB Library
  - Nov 1 & 2 – Trainfest – Baird Center
  - Jan 10, 2026 – NB Library – Train School
  - Feb 21 & 22 – Mad City Train Show
  - March 21 – NB Library or Slinger, or ?
  - April 18 – NB Library - Annual Meeting & election results
    - Schedule the library now for Oct 2025, and the 2026 dates can be scheduled after Oct 2025.
- **John Hagen donation** – Nothing new to report.
- Terminating the use of Trainfest.com email addresses. Because we do not run TrainFest anymore, and National is now in charge. We decided to use our personal emails.
- 2026 Election – Tim's Director at Large position will be up for reelection.
- 2027 Election – Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent and Dave's DaL position up for reelection.

### New Business:

- **Annual Meeting** – No annual meeting minutes, last was from 2021. Finance brief report, State of the division report, elections, Trainfest,
- **Boy Scouts Merit Badge** – Email from David R forwarded to BoD for review. Looking for \$250 to support the PAC (Potawatomi Area Council – Waukesha office) summer camp Long Lake. They need a logo to print on the signage. Agreed to support this. Supply The scout office with flyers for coming events.
- John Coy (Incoming MWR Region Pres) is looking for past division Superintendents history, 1980 to current. Mel Andresen, Pete ?, Dave Poquette, John Tews, Bob Gallegos, Linda Sukup, Joe Russ, Reid Kahrs, Mike Slater, Burnell Breaker. Any others and need dates served.

### Next Meeting:

Next BOD meeting is Wednesday, April 9.

Meeting to be held at the Lionel Club in New Berlin at 7 pm or via zoom.

After that, will be Wednesday, May 14, or Sept 10.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted by David A. Rohr, Chief Clerk.