

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

**Wednesday, September 10, 2025
Location: 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) *, David Mielke (Director At Large) (Train School) *; Tim Koch (Director At Large) *

Chairs Present - Mike Slater *, Cindy Mielke (Owl Car) *, Jim Hebner (Website) *

Guests - None

* = attended via zoom

Officers Not present - Paymaster – open position, Dennis Janssen (Asst Paymaster)

Minutes: No changes needed from the August meeting minutes, Tim K motioned, 2nd by Bob N, approved.

Paymaster Report: No changes noted from the August report, Bob N motioned, 2nd by Tim K, approved.

Membership: Gary Hendrickson – Submitted report
September 2025 Membership Committee Report

August 2025 WISE membership = 121

July 2025 = 121

August 2024 = 132

30 day past due: Mike Slater, Dick Robinson

60 days past due: Byson Sleppy (was at Kalmbach, now with Scale Trains)

Past dues being contacted.

Gary Hendrickson

Clinics: No report from Dave Nelson, Meet's clinics will resume in October.

AP Program: Dave Poquette no report:

Layout Tours: Dave M - still looking for places to visit. Will likely be before each month's clinics. We have a few to visit in Sept in Kenosha (Dave M & Rick)

Owl Car: September issue was sent, another good issue. Cindy asked if we have a better computer for her, as Windows 10 is going out of date, and this one is very slow.

Website: Jim Hebner stated he updated the pdf files, and add the schedule flyer.

Train School: Dave & Cindy – will be a different format this year. Bring your trains, have hands, have the public help setup the benchwork, have a Lionel station for questions. Need to reserve the dates for 2026 in Oct, Robert N to handle. Ad in MR has been submitted.

Model RR Retreat: 8 am setup, 9 > 3, first clinic at 10:30 am, 3 clinics total, plus 2 layout tours after. need chips and cookies. Will do initial setup on Friday evening.
(This was also on that same day as the Soo Convention.)

Facebook: Mike Slater is posting new items.

Show Sale Schedule:

- Will sell at 5 of the 6 Lionel Club's swap dates on Oct 19, Nov 16, Dec 21, Jan 18 & Mar 15, with 3 tables.
- Will sell at West Bend's show on October 12 at Washington County Fair Park, with Tim & Burnell and any others, running this event, 2 tables reserved.
- Maybe sell at Ozaukee show April 12, 2026. Need to sign up.

Old Business

- **Zieger Estate** - Nothing new to report.
- **Trainfest 2025** –
 - November 1 & 2, downtown Baird Center.
 - NMRA booth will include WISE & SCWD. We will need help to man the booth.
 - Jenny & Lucy submitted an article for the Owl car
- From Jenny Hendricks - I would like WISE and SCWD to participate in a **Welcome to Modeling Corner**. I would like them to set up the local booth. Please focus on finding friendly and encouraging people to help newbies interested in modeling to know where to go locally and who to talk too! If this is something you can arrange and send info to Lucy I know she would love to post about this! If we can mix in some local club support in the booth, that would be awesome! Let me know what type of space and table needs are needed for this, if it can be pulled together. Bob (McGeever) suggested we contact Winnebagoland, Rock River and Fox Valley about helping with this, too.
- From Lucy Dormont - Also to add just on a personal note, we will have a media and press lounge and we are doing a big push for a special "Iron Rail Influencer Award" that should draw a lot of buzz from the content creator, YouTube world. The lounge will provide charging options for devices and a quiet area for interviews.
- Jenny hasn't had many volunteers yet. Hoping that to change as we get closer to the show. She is still working on parking for those of us working at Trainfest. (ed: Parking options have been posted to Trainfest.com)
 - Hotel deals are sent. Future dates are Nov 7 & 8, 2026 & Nov 13 & 14, 2027.
- **\$200 Matching fund** – Need ideas for this.
- **2025-2026 Meet schedule** –
 - 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 – Slinger Depot – Can seat 40 > 45. Could get folks from WLD
 - April 18 – NB Library - Annual Meeting & election results
- **John Hagen donation** – Nothing new to report.
- **Jim McKeever magazines** – Bring to Modelers meet or Trainfest to give away
- **2026 election** – Tim K's position would be on the ballot in spring '26. Contact Nelson and LaRoye to run the election.

New Business:

- **MWR Constitution and By-Laws** – MWR President John Coy has been working on revising the Region's Constitution and By-Laws.

Other news:

- Rolf Plachter's Midwest Lines - Last Open House was August 24 from 12 > 4 pm. Besides the operators, had about 15 visitors show up.

Next Meeting:

Next BOD meeting is Wednesday, October 8, via zoom.
After that, will be Wednesday, Nov 12.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm. Motioned by Robert N, 2nd by Tim K, approved.

Respectfully submitted by David A. Rohr, Chief Clerk.