

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

**Tuesday, February 11, 2026
Location: Zoom**

Meeting called to order by Burnell Breaker at 7:05 pm

Officers Present - Burnell Breaker (Superintendent) *, Robert Niedermann (Asst-Superintendent) *, David Rohr (Secretary, Chief Clerk) *, Tim Koch (Director At Large) *
David Mielke (Director At Large) (Train School) *

Chairs Present - Dennis Janssen (Asst Paymaster) *,
Cindy Mielke (Owl Car) *, Mike Slater * (Social Media)

Guests - None * = attended via zoom

Officers Not present - Paymaster – open position,

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

Paymaster Report: No changes noted from the January report,
Bob N motioned, 2nd by Dave M, approved.
Good sales at the swap meets.

Membership: Gary Hendrickson – Not Present - Gary submitted the following report:

Members = Jan 2026 = 125; Dec 2025 = 116; Jan 2025 = 125; Jan 2024 = 139
The gain of 9 members from December looks like it's due to a little flood of end-of-year renewals.
I'm finding that the data in January's WISE membership report is flawed.
The expiration dates for the 30 & 60 day overdue listings show folks who expired in 2024.
Impeding follow-up on recent expirations.

Looks like the Mothership got a little confused, again.... There is not a lot of consistency in these reports from one month to the next. Gary

No change in membership. No reply from those that we sent postal letters to.

Clinics: Dave Nelson - not present, no report:
We should invite WLD (Winnebago Land Div) to the Slinger event.

AP Program: Dave Poquette - not present, no report.

Layout Tours: Dave M – Layout schedule is in the Owl Car

Owl Car: January Express issue with a ballot, was sent to members with no email.
February was sent to members with email, another good issue.

Website: Jim Hebner – Not present, no report.

Train School: Dave M – Next event is January 25, 2027.
We can reserve the NB Library October 2026

Model RR Retreat: Need a new location, need a place we can charge admission and vendors.
Possibly David R's church in Menomonee Falls. Need to pick a date, to schedule the venue. Decided to have it August 29, 2026.
Joe's operating event to be on Sept 19 > 21, 2026.

Facebook: Mike Slater – Mike said schedule posts on FB are not working anymore.
Mike posted that Mad City is coming up.
Suggested to hand out business cards for a reminder of train school.

Show Sale Schedule:

- Will sell at 5 of the 6 Lionel Club's swap dates on Mar 15, with 3 tables each month.
- Sell at the Metro club's show in Cedarburg, Ozaukee show April 12, 2026. Sign up completed for 2 (not 3) tables. ~~Will get an additional table to have Tim K sell next door and to help.~~ Also, will have Jerry ? for help.
- Also sign up for KMBS October Swap at Washington Co. Fair Park on October 11, 2026. Need 4 tables. Will get an additional table (3 + 1) to have Tim K sell next door and to help.

Old Business:

- **2025-2026 Meet schedule** –
 - March 21 – Slinger Depot – Can seat 40 > 45. Could get folks from WLD
 - May 2 – NB Library - Annual Meeting & election results.
- **2026 election** – Tim K's position would be on the ballot in spring '26. Dave Nelson, LaRoye Chisley and Dave Poquette will be on the Election Committee. Need to be received by mid-April. Tim's biography and ballot included in January Owl Car and Express issues with election information mailed to members whom we do not have email addresses for. Will keep election information in Owl Car through April issue. Results to be announced at the May 2 annual meeting.

2026-2027 Schedule – Need to start planning so we have it ready for the May meeting.

Burnell's ideas:

August/September 2026 – Model Railroad Retreat, new location, date, use member retention grant from NMRA to offset cost of hall.

October 17, 2026 – Meet, New Berlin Public Library

November 7 & 8, 2026 – Trainfest, Baird Center

December – no meet

January 25, 2027 – Train School, New Berlin Public Library

February 20 & 21, 2027 – SCWD Mad City Train Show, Alliant Energy Center

March 20, 2027 – Meet, different location? CNWHS Joint Meet, New Berlin Public Library? Cudahy Library? Tippecanoe Library? Cudahy Depot? Bucyrus Museum?

When is Rockford show in 2027?

April 17, 2027 – Annual Meeting, Election Results, New Berlin Public Library

Gary Children's slide collection – over 10,000 slides with Ektagaphic Carousel projector.

Tim and I are planning to visit Neal Michel early March. Mike S can scan (digitize) the slides.

NEW BUSINESS:

Burnell is hoping to retire within the next couple years. Will likely be putting the building and business up for sale. Will need a new home for our items stored at my business. What to do with the video library?

Once the weather warms up, we should spend an afternoon at the storage unit to see what we can get rid of. Strip the last 2 layout sections of salable items and trash the tables. Mike S suggested he would offer some space at the caboose museum at a reasonable cost.

Next Meeting:

Next BOD meeting is Wednesday, March 17 at 7:30 pm, via zoom.

After that, will be April 8, 2026. (back to Wednesday)

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm. Motioned by Dave M, 2nd by Tim K, approved.

Respectfully submitted by David A. Rohr, Chief Clerk.