

**General Meeting**  
**NMSL & RHS**

**Date: March 12, 2011**

**Purpose & Location: Monthly meeting @ the AT&SF site, 1833 8<sup>th</sup> St. NW, ABQ, NM.**

**Old Business: N/A**

**Introduction: President Mike Hartshorne opened the monthly meeting by introducing Jeff Schmit who was in town and had asked to visit the restoration site. Mike said Jeff was currently working for the BNSF on a future Employee Appreciation Special and was interested in seeing the 2926. Jeff then spoke and described the different functions he performed during his 40+ year railroad with the Frisco and then with BNSF. He also explained the role he played with the St. Louis Steam Train Foundation that restored and operated the former Frisco #1522.**

**Secretary's Report: Mike Minutes of January were approved by the BoD Meeting this morning.**

**Treasurer's Report: by Ernie Robart**

**Ernie and Karla have been working on putting our annual report together for the auditors and they are now working on it.**

<b>Total Cash Assets as of 2/12/11</b>	<b>\$45387.86</b>
<b>Total Cash Assets as of 3/12/11</b>	<b>41472.79</b>
<b>Checking Account Balance on 2/12/11</b>	<b>25212.14</b>
<b>Ending Balance on 3/12/11</b>	<b>21271.85</b>
<b>Deposits from 3/7/11</b>	<b>1307.44</b>
<b>Expenses from 2/12-3/11/11</b>	<b>5247.73</b>
<b>Expenses for various items such as hardware for fabrication of side rod bearing pullers, gravel hauling charge for track work project, postage, printer cartridges, used welding rod oven, used steel plate for the welding table, new merchandise (T-shirts, mugs, caps and shipping) for the gift shop, gasket materials, monthly phone bill, first payment for the 2010 audit, drill bits, steel slabs, scrub pads and scrapers for rod polishing, rock-hard packing, gasket material, felt gaskets, gasket tooling, band saw blades, and other miscellaneous expenses listed on his report.</b>	
<b>Savings Account Ending Balance</b>	
<b>Including Interest as of 2/28/11</b>	<b>\$20126.34</b>
<b>Cash Box, On-site Cash (formerly "Petty Cash")</b>	<b>50.00</b>

**Bob DeGroft reported that the audit was progressing rapidly and that Karla DeGroft had the first interview with the auditor scheduled for next week.**

**A motion to approve by Ed Strebe and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Adair was approved by a unanimous vote.**

**CSO Report: Jon Spargo reported that there would be a new member safety orientation on Saturday, March 19, beginning at 0900 in the Reefer Conference Area. So far 3 new members have signed up. More can be accommodated.**

**Jon reported that he and John Cekela have been refining procedures for the extraction of people from confined spaces, such as the boiler. These procedures need to be in place before welding begins inside the boiler. Tests have been done, simulating an extraction situation. These tests revealed the need to acquire some specific rescue equipment that will soon be ordered. Once the equipment arrives, training session scheduled to certify several people to perform confined space rescue. A written plan and procedures to be followed is also under development.**

**A motion to approve the report was made by Ed Strebe and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Taylor. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**CMO Report Chief Mechanical Officer's Report: Rick Kirby reported that good progress has been made this past month: research on the Timken roller bearings used on the side rods, removal of those roller bearings (engineer's side), removal of paint from those side rods paint and polishing, staybolt removal, pipe repairs, fabrication of bearing pullers, hydraulic press reconditioning and construction of the welding table to be used for building up new superheater units.**

***Track Reconditioning Project:* Rick reported that last week he met with a General Contractor regarding the site track reconditioning. He provided an estimate that covers concrete removal, excavation, tie removal and disposal. The estimate has been turned over to Jon for use in the grant application.**

***Check Valve Springs:* Rick reported that he had been looking for replacement check valve springs for the hot water boiler feed pump. The quote from the first spring manufacturer in Houston had been unsatisfactory. The biggest part of the cost was the engineering and set up needed to produce them. Rick said that Bob Kittel, CMO from the San Bernardino Railroad Historical Society (SBRHS) had steered him onto a second company and was successful in getting a more satisfactory quote for the eight springs using 316 grade stainless steel. Bob Kittel was also interested in obtaining springs and a second set could be purchased for about \$20 more. So Bob Kittel said the SBRHS will split the cost for two sets with our Society. That means instead of getting one set for about \$900, both organizations can now get a set for about \$500.**

***Superheater Project:*** Regarding the build-up of new superheater units, Rick said he, Carlos Ortega, and Danny Ortega are still experimenting with an efficient way of jointing the new superheater parts to the old. Rick said that it had been hoped that some type of heat swedging could be used, but that had not worked as well as hoped. So, Carlos Osuna is looking into cold swedging. He also noted that Carlos has joined the Society on an individual membership and donated a high-low gauge that will be necessary for the welding process.

***Side Rod Project:*** Bob DeGroft said some of the roller bearings on the fireman's side eccentric rod are cracked and they will have to be replaced. The bearing has a sleeve pressed into it but Bob has not been able to discover why it is there. Bob Gunter has agreed to take the eccentric bearing brasses, do a metal analysis, make a mold and create new brasses. He is in contact with Timken and replacements can be obtained. Timken has told him that it is important that they be involved in the inspection and repair of any of the roller bearings and assemblies. Timken may send a bearing expert out to inspect our bearings on site. Meanwhile, Bob DeGroft said he wants pull the engineer's side eccentric rod today and remove the he can compare both bearings with each other.

Rick reminded everyone that since Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, beginning with next Wednesday's work session, work would start at 0800.

Report moved by John Taylor and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Adair, unanimous report.

**Fundraising Report:** Andy Rutkiewicz reported on the activities of the Fundraising Committee:

***Continuing Efforts:*** Grant applications were in the works to the National Railroad Historical Society (NRHS) for \$5K and to NARF for \$35K. There was no news on the status of applications previously submitted to Grainger Corp and the BNSF. Meanwhile he said he is exploring with Albert Leffler the idea of a raffle of a caboose ride on the C&TS. Finally John Taylor, Dave Traudt, Steve Bradford and Gayle Van Horn were putting together the "Railroading in Valencia County" Exhibition for the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Culture. It will run from March 26 through the end of June.

***Developing Efforts:*** The state has notified the Society that it has been awarded the \$5K matching grant for the NM Centennial exhibit grant; the Society is taking part in the "Savor Albuquerque" events in June. The site will be one of the venues on 4, 8 and 11 June. And finally preliminary planning was beginning for the 1 October Open House.

**Motion to adjourn made by Ed Strebe and, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Bradford was approved and the meeting was adjourned.**

**Next meeting 3/9/11 @ 9 am on site.**