

# THE FEVR FLASH

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA RAILROAD MUSEUM  
1835 N. SOMERS, FREMONT, NE 68025 JULY, 2008

## POINTS OF CONTACT:

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For Dinner Train only- 402-727-8321  
(The Fremont Dinner Train is a separate business for which the FEVR provides motive power and trackage.)

## BACK ISSUES:

All back issues of the FLASH may be viewed at [www.fremontrailroad.com](http://www.fremontrailroad.com).

In addition, numerous links to other websites of commercial railroads, tourist railroads, the Fremont community, and more information on the FEVR history and equipment may be found there.

## MAILING LIST:

If anyone wishes to be added to the list they should send an email request to [NPTCHM@Hotmail.Com](mailto:NPTCHM@Hotmail.Com). The address will be used for no other purpose than the Flash.

## BOARDS OF DIRECTORS :

The Boards of Directors for FEVR and the NRM met July 2, 2008, at the Wilderness Lodge in Fremont. Those in attendance for their respective board positions were **Darrel Miller (FEVR only)**, **Al Schlaffer**, **Erik Mutthersbough**, **Ron Spahni (FEVR only)**, **Charles Sedlacek**, **George Blessing**, **Bob Ubberrheim (FEVR only)**, and **Shirley Angermund**. President **Angermund** conducted the meeting.

Minutes of previous meetings and the treasurer's reports were presented, reviewed, and approved.

**Ms. Angermund** gave an update on the preparations for the Day Out With Thomas<sup>™</sup>. Approximately 2580 tickets were sold as of June 27. Friday run tickets were to be sold at a \$2 discount. The Thomas engine will arrive on July 10 and the big merchandise tent will be set up on the adjacent **Ronin Park** ball diamond on July 16. The person to play **Sir Topham Hat** and the needed

musicians were located and the telephone wiring for the sales area will be installed by **Mutthersbough** and **Blessing**. **REACT** equipment and personnel will be on-site for assistance with emergency communications.

**Maynard Porter**, who was unable to be at the current BOD meeting, had been in Lincoln at the Nebraska Department of Roads (**NDOR**). At the June 27 meeting the early failure problems associated with highway crossing panels at the recently completed **US 275** bypass were discussed. Representatives of the panel manufacturer and the installer were also present. **Maynard** will present a complete report at the next BOD meeting.

The disposal of non-critical assets to mitigate the current financial problems was discussed. **Lawrence Addleman**, who performs maintenance work, has prepared a list of such items. Work on this is continuing.

The need for all volunteers to complete the **Volunteer Agreement** and waiver of liability form was emphasized. A **Visitor Permit and Agreement** should be used for non-revenue visitors.

All contractors for the railroad have their own insurance.

A **train crew policy** was approved. This essentially states that only the assigned train crews will participate in the operation of the train. There are exceptions which will be determined by the assigned conductor in case of emergency or when additional help is needed. A written record will be kept of all such additional personnel used.

The track and bridge repair in the vicinity of the golf course is completed or will be by the time of the Thomas event. **Schlaffer** reported on track work and emphasized the need for additional help.

The purchase of several small items by members was approved. The disposal of the unused large International truck was discussed.

(Note- a complete set of minutes of **BOD** meetings is available on-line shortly after the meetings.)

## NRHS DUES:

The National Railway Historical

Society (**NRHS**) revised method of member dues payment has encountered problems, both with chapters and with their contractors. Some of the smaller local chapters do not have the resources or personnel to be able to utilize the spread sheet on-line reporting.

For the **NRM**, as with some other chapters, the problems have resulted in their being listed as "inactive" while that is not true, because information in the required format has not reached the contractor.

## DAY OUT WITH THOMAS™:

There were nearly **ten thousand** riders for event which was held on July 18,19,20,25,26 and 27. The preliminary count was 9725 at the end of the event. Although the advance ticket sales were low, walk-in riders made up the difference. The weather was typical hot Nebraska weather, but there were no storms although there were some "near misses". The total rider count was lower than that of the previous visits but was still very good considering travel costs and the lack of extra spending money for many which has reduced attendance at such events nationally.

The event was truly a **community** event because of the help of so many workers from **Fremont** and the area. Without them, the success would not have been possible.

The adjacent "water park" used extensively by children made the hot weather more bearable. The FEVR volunteers worked many hours, many taking time off from their occupations.

There were **no** accidents to persons or equipment and Thomas<sup>™</sup> left safely on the 28th, bound for the next visit to be held in New England. The help of civil authorities, organizations such as **REACT**, and the efforts of the FEVR volunteers insured the event safety..

## EXCURSION SEASON:

Regular excursion trips board at the Depot at 1835 N. Somers at 1:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are recommended since the trip schedule may change because of special events.

Charters continue to be available for schools and other groups.