

# THE FEVR FLASH

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA RAILROAD MUSEUM

1835 N. SOMERS, FREMONT, NE 68025, MAY, 2012

## POINTS OF CONTACT:

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For excursion only- 402-727-0615

**Fremont Dinner Train (FDT)** - 650 N. H St., Fremont, NE 68025

For Dinner Train only- 402-727-8321

(The Fremont Dinner Train is a separate business)

## BACK ISSUES:

Back issues of the FLASH and links to numerous railroad related sites may be viewed at [www.FremontRailroad.com](http://www.FremontRailroad.com).

## MAILING LIST:

Questions about the list may be sent to the FLASH editor at [nptchm@hotmail.com](mailto:nptchm@hotmail.com).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The NRM Board of Directors met at the Clarion Inn in Fremont on May 2, 2012. Present were Treasurer/Executive Director **Angermund**; BOD members **Swetnam** (BOD Secretary), **Eveland**, **Blessing**, **Peterson**, and **Fachman**.

Absent: **Daniels** (BOD president), **Blackmore** (BOD Vice President), **Mutthersbough**, **Powers**.

Guests: **Charles L. Sedlacek**, **Mel Cunningham**, and **Hunter Lafferty**.

In the absence of both the President and Vice President, both of whom had event conflicts, Secretary **Swetnam** conducted the meeting.

## Announcements:

**Angermund** described the preparations she made for the school excursion run on May 3. She also presented the BOD with a copy of a letter from the Nebraska Department of Roads to track owner Williams concerning failing crossing road panels on the US 77 crossing near Winslow and on the US 275 bypass north of Fremont. (*Note: the US 275 crossing has since been repaired*).

**Cunningham**, who maintains the railroad signals, reported an upgrade to LED lights at the N. Broad Street crossing.

Guest **Sedlacek** showed a security camera that might be of interest for purchase.

## BOD actions:

The treasurer's report was approved by unanimous vote.

The Draft Constitution and Bylaws document was approved by unanimous vote.

The plan for vote by the membership on the same document was approved by

unanimous vote.

The purchase of ten high security switch locks and fifteen keys was approved. These will replace all the current locks, including those stolen from the railroad recently.

The purchase of four reconditioned narrow band radios for installation in the locomotive, the high railer, and in the depot, plus one spare unit, was approved. Funds from a member's donation are being used for both the locks and the radios.

The restoration work on the RPO car was discussed. A member's research has found that the car is the last surviving operational unit of the particular type. Approval for painting in the original scheme was approved. Funds from the Union Pacific Foundation and a NRM member's donation are being used.

The suggestion that application for a grant from the Fremont and Dodge County Visitor's Bureau was tabled until the next meeting as was the decision on the repair options for the outside engine house light.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

President **Daniels** writes:

"Track work is underway. The Board approved President Rudy Daniels to send an update of the track work to the FRA. There has been no response from the FRA as of May 28th.

We have not heard any response from Michael Williams to the previous letter which informed him of the ditch, Hooper situation and other issues.

We ask that everyone give the new constitution and by-laws serious consideration. We should have an update by the next board meeting"

## BYLAWS COMMITTEE:

Pending the outcome of the membership vote, the Constitution and Bylaws document will become effective **June 1, 2012**. As mentioned in the minutes of the BOD meeting, the document was approved unanimously by the BOD. Subsequent to the meeting, a ballot was mailed to all current NRHS/NRM members with a return deadline no later than **June 21** with that being the pending document approval date. The BOD members were not included in the mailing since they had already voted. The text of the document was distributed by email because its length made other methods impractical.

The returned ballots will be counted at the June BOD meeting. If the document has received membership approval, it will be sent to the Nebraska Secretary of State for filing. This document supersedes the first such

document which was developed for NRM's predecessor under the name of the Eastern Nebraska Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society in the 1980's.

The Committee's work began in **October**, 2011, with a subsequent consideration of at least a dozen iterations. The BOD's suggestions were incorporated and resulted in the production of the final document.

**Two** areas received special attention in the document. The eligibility, conflicts of interest, term limits, attendance requirements, and voting procedures of the **BOD** and its members was one area. The other was the area of **disciplinary** actions regarding members, the content of which closely parallels that of the similar NRHS document adopted in June 2011.

## UNION PACIFIC:

The problems encountered by locomotive 844 on its publicity tour in Texas were described at some length in the April FLASH and at great length on the Internet.

The unit was **returned** to service in a short time and completed its tour in Cheyenne on May 15. According to UP posted information, it will **leave** there Friday, June 8, for its display in Omaha at the College World Series June 14-26. Current schedule indicates a 3:30PM service stop in **Fremont**, June 9. The UP site should be accessed for updated information.

The cause of the Texas problem apparently has not been officially revealed and may not be.

There appears to be little activity in the local double track project but there is construction of another track west of Missouri Valley, Iowa.

## BRIDGES:

The new FRA **Bridge** Safety Standards mandate that railroads have in place bridge management safety standards in place no later than **September 13, 2012**. This includes a deadline for railroads to have determined the safe **load** capacity of their bridges (and includes turntables). This must be determined by someone having the credentials mandated in the rule.

## CHARTERS AND EXCURSIONS:

**Excursions** are boarding at the Depot at 1835 N. Somers Ave, Fremont, Nebraska, at 1.00 PM every Saturday and Sunday until the end of October. For more excursion and other railroad information the see NRM site at [www.FremontRailroad.com](http://www.FremontRailroad.com)

**Charters** available by reservation. See Points of Contact at the start of this publication.