

THE FEVR FLASH

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA RAILROAD MUSEUM

1835 N. SOMERS, FREMONT, NE 68025, SEPTEMBER, 2013

POINTS OF CONTACT:

Nebraska Railroad Museum and Fremont and Elkhorn Valley Railroad (FEVR) depot office address is 1835 N. Somers Ave., Fremont, Nebraska, 68025, (www.FremontRailroad.com), voice and fax - 402-727-0615 (office)

BACK ISSUES:

Back issues of the FLASH and links to numerous railroad related sites may be viewed at www.FremontRailroad.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

(Note: the following is not the official meeting report. Only the approved meeting minutes sent to NRM members is the official report.)

The NRM Board of Directors met at the NRM Depot in Fremont on September 4, 2013, for the regular monthly meeting. Executive Director **Wallen** participated by speaker phone. Treasurer **Angermund** was not present so President **Fachman** reviewed the financial reports. Director **Blackmore** was absent. There were no guests at the meeting.

There was an approved motion to authorize Executive Director **Wallen** to dispose of unneeded NRM property of less than \$5000 value without prior BOD approval. This had been discussed at a previous meeting. Specifically **excluded** are items of rolling stock, real estate owned by NRM, and museum artifacts. The purpose of the authorization allows the Executive Director to dispose of unneeded items promptly when the opportunity arises.

Wallen reported on a conversation he had with Mr. **Williams**, the current owner of the former NRM track. Wallen asked Mr. Williams if NRM could plan to run trains in the next operating season. An answer had not been received prior to the meeting.

In order to conserve funds the space occupied in the depot by the locomotive will not be **heated**. The coolant must be drained and the batteries removed. **Wallen** will inform the locomotive owner of the situation.

An Executive Session was held.

The next BOD meeting will be on **October 9** after Executive Director Wallen completes his return to Nebraska.

(Editor: Look for one or more articles in the FLASH future issues for information on Dennis' work with several tourist railroads in the past two years

BOD Officer Elections:

The annual Board of Directors election process **begins** with the October meeting. All NRHS/NRM members should have received a copy of the current Constitution and By-Laws prior to the voting upon the approval in the summer of 2012.

Applicable **sections** of that document addressing eligibility, direct election by membership, election process, and conflict of interest are reproduced in the following paragraphs. The information here is abbreviated and members should review the entire document periodically.

Article VII, Board of Directors

Section 1(f) Eligibility:

Chapter Members interested in running for elective office must have satisfied being a Chapter Member for no less than one calendar year prior to being eligible to run for or be appointed to office. All officers either elected or appointed shall have attained the age of eighteen years prior to their taking office.

Section 4. Elections:

All of the seats on the Board of Directors shall be elected directly by the voting members in good standing of the NRM and NRHS. Of the nine (9) seats on the Board of Directors, two (2) shall be held by the President and Vice President, who shall be elected by the Board with the position nominees abstaining from the election vote.

Section 5. Election process:

NRM Chapter members shall elect the Board of Directors.

The Election Committee, normally consisting of three members, one of whom shall be a BOD Chapter member, but not a BOD member, shall be appointed by the President at the regular October BOD meeting. The Election Committee will prepare a solicitation for nominations which will be mailed to all NRM Chapter Members to be returned to the Election Committee at a time and date determined by the Election Committee prior to the November BOD meeting. At that meeting, the Election Committee will announce the nominations and prepare ballots to be mailed to NRM Chapter Members. Any disputes as to the qualification of a member to serve on the Board of Directors shall be

resolved by the Election Committee with a written explanation to the Board at its next meeting. The ballots will have identifying marks to certify that they are genuine and will have as many spaces for write-in candidates as there are vacancies. Ballots are to be returned to the Election Committee via paper ballot received through the United States Postal Service at a time and place determined by the Election Committee. Ballots shall be opened and counted in the December BOD meeting and the results announced. At the January meeting, the BOD will re-organize, electing the President and Vice President from its members. The Secretary and Treasurer may be elected if available among the BOD members or appointed by the President with the approval of the BOD if they are not

Section 7. Conflict of interest:

No member of the BOD shall have more than an occasional commercial relationship with NRM in goods, contracts, or services in order to avoid the perception or reality of conflict of interest. When those occasional relationships come before the BOD, the member with those relationships will not participate in the discussion of or the voting on the matter. Donations by a BOD member to NRM are not considered under occasional relationships but the donor must abstain from votes on the acceptance or terms of the donation.

NRHS DUES RENEWAL:

NRHS members have received or will soon receive notification of the 2014 dues. The NRM dues remain at \$20 but the National dues have increased to \$50 to cover the increasing cost of business. This is just below \$6 per month invested in preserving the history, artifacts, and the future of the legacy of over 180 years of the American railroad. Although there have been many changes in the operating aspects of the railroad, the steel wheel on a steel rail remains the enduring characteristic.

(Your editor, who has taught young people in grade school, high school, and the university, emphasizes the need for introducing railroads to the coming generations, as careers or avocations, through programs such as the NRHS RailCamp Scholarships)