



# ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS, INC.

*The Mackerel Flats and Goat Hill Junction Railroad*

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P.O. Box 3216 • Costa Mesa, CA 92628-3216 • (949) 548-7246

**Date of Meeting:** Sunday March 01, 2020

**Place of Meeting:** OCME Clubhouse

**Call To Order:** The regularly scheduled meeting of the Orange County Model Engineers, Inc. was called to order at 2:05 PM by President Gary Gorman.

**Board Members Present:** Hank Castignetti, Gary Gorman, Bob Harrison, Andy Nelson

**Board Members Absent:** Dalton Johnson

**Approval Of Minutes:** Motion to approve January minutes by Bob, seconded by Gary. Motion Passed 4-0.

**Other Members Present:** Allen Stephens, Dennis Neil

**Member Issues:**

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

- By Andy:
  - Store account balance \$21,332
  - New Locomotive & Construction Fund \$10,641
  - General Fund \$23,587
- Andy reported Total Checking/Savings \$55,561
- Andy reported that because tickets are subsidized by the club, the 2020 Winter Banquet loss was \$1050.
- Andy announced that Betty has transferred \$1000 from the store account to the Locomotive&Construction Fund.
- A motion to approve the Treasurers Report was made by Hank, second by Bob. Motion approved 4-0

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Hank volunteered to generate a "retention schedule" for all club records and to organize all records on file. Hank reiterated that the OCME Secretary is also OCME "Custodian of Records". (PENDING)

## NEW BUSINESS:

- Hank suggested that Dalton compose a letter to all members advising them to remove all combustibles from equipment storage containers. Some of the containers are being used to store solvents, cleaners, lubricants, etc. Hank offered to assist in the drafting of the letter. The board concurred and he will present a first draft at next meeting for approval.
- Hank submitted additional disclaimer language to be added to the Facilities Use and Storage Agreement. The addition was made to further emphasize that the club has no liability for loss or damage to stored equipment. Hank was instructed to mail all members who have equipment stored a new agreement for their signature. Members are requested to return the signed form by May 1<sup>st</sup>. **A motion was made by Andy to approve the addition to the storage agreement, second by Gary. Motion approved 4-0**
- Craig Okun submitted a storage request for SP switcher #2547. **Motion by Bob to grant storage, second by Gary. Motion approved 4-0.**
- Hank explained the overhaul to the weed sprayer car.
- Hank reviewed the contract with Andy Gump for the new portable restroom.
- Hank presented the results of Betty's search for a new venue for the club's annual banquet. Betty recommended the Costa Mesa Country Club as the only viable option. **Motion to approve the Costa Mesa Country Club and send them a \$500 deposit by Hank. Second by Andy. Motion approved 4-0.**
- Hank presented a request from Bob Brooks for 200 sticks of steel rail and two pallets of ties needed to finish track replacement on the Mountain Division. **Motion to purchase rails for \$4,600 and ties and screws for \$4,900 by Andy. Second by Bob. Motion approved 4-0.**


## BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- Bob advised that the Sunburst Academy requested to bring two crews to the club on March 7<sup>th</sup> but he determined that one hundred cadets was too many at one time and declined the offer of a second crew.
- Bob submitted a new safety speech, developed with Kenny's input, to be given by crews on run days as well as birthday parties. The safety speech is to be given to the riders on each train before departing the station. **Bob will print and laminate cards for distribution to train crews.**
- Bob addressed junior members being on site without parents present. Discussion ensued. Bob will make recommendations to address the issue.
- Gary mentioned that Myron told him Dan O'Brien advised he would not make any more frogs. Gary spoke to Dan and was advised that frogs cost \$350 each. Gary will research the number of frogs needed to complete all mainline switches.
- Gary offered his resignation from the Board with great regret as he is moving to Arizona. He will, however, maintain his membership in the club. The Board thanked him for his time as President and wished him well in Arizona. **Motion to accept Gary's resignation by Hank, second by Andy. Motion approved 4-0.**
- Hank reviewed his meeting with Cynthia D'Agosta on February 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss club issues.
  - ✓ Cynthia will elevate the issue of the city putting the dumpster on their account.
  - ✓ The club is free to proceed with all culvert replacement on the Mountain Division.
  - ✓ Requested directional signs for the club entrance are in production in the city sign

- shop. Hope to have them installed by the end of March.
- ✓ The engineering study of the entrance gate and access road to the station parking lot is progressing. An RFP from the city to the engineering company is due by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ OCME is free to replace the bridge as long as it replaced “as-built”.
- ✓ No bike rack will be installed at the station at this time.
- ✓ Cynthia is still investigating grant opportunities for restoration of the vernal pool near the station.
- Dennis would like to investigate potential Eagle Scout projects at the club.
- **Motion by Hank to select a new President at the next Board meeting or by ad hoc vote if possible, second by Andy. Motion approved 4-0.**
- Gary pointed out that there are two members present who wish to be considered for appointment to be president. They being Allen and Dennis.
- Bob asked to hear statements from Allen and Dennis.
  - ✓ Dennis states he has experience with non-profit organizations from his service with Boy Scouts organization. He sells software to machine shops to run milling machines, both his wife and employer approve of him devoting time to the club, he lives eight miles from OCME and is available by phone during the day.
  - ✓ Allen stated he has been a member of the club for sixteen years, worked extensively on the original building of the Mountain Division, and truly loves OCME. While he has spent a total of eight years on the Board of Directors as Treasurer, serving as President would be a new experience for him and he believes he could do a good job.

**ELECTRONIC VOTES:**

- **On March 12<sup>th</sup> acting President, Bob Harrison, conducted an email vote to appoint an interim president per OCME By-Laws, Article III, Section 1F. The candidates were Allen Stephens and Dennis Neil. By a vote of 4-0 Dennis Neil was appointed interim President to serve until elections in November. His appointment will be ratified, according to our By-Laws, by a vote of the membership present at the next scheduled Members Meeting.**
- **Motion to adjourn by Bob, seconded by Hank. Motion approved 4-0 at 3:45 PM**

Respectfully Submitted \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hank Castignetti, Secretary

*Orange County Model Engineers, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 33-0141601*  
 (Items in **RED** require/denote action by a member)