

**Meeting of the Board of Directors
Spring 2025 Conference
May 3, 2025**

Minutes approved July 17, 2025

President White Called the meeting to order at 2:07PM.

Ellen Scott to attendance:

First Name	Middle	Last Name	Job Title	Present	Absent
Tony		White	President	A	
Scott		Andes	Vice President	A	
Ellen		Scott	Secretary/Director	A	
Ralph	Robert	Bitzer	Treasurer/Director	A	
Ward		Wells	Asst. Treasurer	A	
Mike		Yugas	Director	A	
Kevin		Feeney	Director	A	
Ken		Mosby	Director	A	
Eric		Fogg	Director	A	
Larry		Pearlman	Director	A	
Thomas		Gallagher	Director	A	
Jon		Baake	Director	A	

Also in attendance: John Fiorilla, Doug Scott, Sue Bishop, Charlie Webb, Linda D. Himpsl, Stephen L. Himpsl, Elizabeth Guenzler, Christopher Guenzler, Robert Ernst, Joseph C. Maloney, Paul Hopkins, Ruston Fannon, David Sloan, Richard Shulby, David Foster, Scott Stodola, Pam Cook, Kenneth Eddy, R. Victor Varney, Dawn Holmberg, Dan Meyer, Bob Leslie, Ron Gawedzinski, Jim Perry. Attending via Zoom: Val Hoski, Marlin Taylor, Wes Ross Skip Waters, Regan Rickson, John DeRoo, Patti Webb.

Reports:

The following Committees have nothing new to report since the morning session:

- Convention
- Conferences
- Heritage Grants
- Membership
- Membership Awards
- Historic Preservation Award

Treasurer's Report – Bob Bitzer. A financial report for the year was sent out with a 2015-2014 10-year comparison. It gives a better perspective of what has happened over the years. Ward will go over all the reports and answer any questions. Ward advised that going forward reports will be done on a quarterly basis. The reports sent included a Balance Sheet and an Income Statement, 23/24 Yr vs current year Comparison, and a 10-year Comparison. In that one you can see the change in dues. There was an increase in the publication of the Bulletin. He included a summary of the conventions for the past 3 years, and a 2025 budget. The 2nd quarter report will also include a Year-to-Date budget comparison. Kevin Feeney also explained that they did a housecleaning of the past

and did a deep dive into some of the small accounts. Now they know better what is there. They have gone to a full accrual basis. Also, dues are now spread out over the year as opposed to the past when they came in all at once. Mike Yuhas questioned on the Income & Expenses there is an asterisk by the Deerfield Beach convention. Ward explained that in the past travel was sometimes done in the prior year for the next year's convention. Mike thanked Ward for the reports. Bob thanked Ward and Kevin for all the work they have done.

Kevin stated that he will be providing a cash flow statement for each quarter. This is something that hasn't been done in the past. We're now on the accrual method of accounting which means we recognize income when we earn it and recognize expenses when they are incurred. The money doesn't follow that. Going to have more cash because of RailCamp and the convention in June. Then we will have the expenses. Tony asked for a motion to approve the report, a motion was made, seconded, and passed. Tony then thanked Bob, Ward, and Kevin for their work.

Unresponsive Chapters- Ellen Scott and Tony White. See Appendix 1 for report.

Tony thanked Elizabeth and Ellen for their work. They have been sending reminders for the Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality forms. We are still missing forms from 27 Chapters. Tony stated that with the lack of response from these chapters, they do not want to be engaged.

Tony read the list of the unresponsive originally brought forward from the Advisory Council. We have contacted these chapters and still receive no response. However, all of them have current paid members. They feel that when a member pays their dues, NEON automatically brings up the chapter they are a member of. They probably don't realize that their chapter is non-responsive. They feel that until these chapters have no members, we should leave them as is. However, we will consider the chapter as inactive and note on the website since there is no contact information available. They will remain in this status until there are no current members. Ellen will get all the information to Dawn. Mike moved that the current unresponsive chapters will be marked as inactive until the last member is gone, seconded by Kevin, passed.

The Cornell Chapter sent a letter requesting dissolution of the Cornell Chapter. Mike made a motion to accept the letter of resolution, seconded by Eric, passed.

Another issue with the chapters is we still have two that although were dissolved, they still have current members: Blue Water has 10, and Rochester has 16. Blue Water was dissolved several years ago, and although Rochester was also dissolved its members are claiming it was done behind their back. Mike requested that a letter be sent to the members of Blue Water explaining that they are no longer a chapter, and we will be changing them to at large members. Rochester is a little different situation. They would need to start a new chapter complete with officers, etc. John Fiorilla will draft the letters.

Mike Yuhas advised that he is seeing members in a Ludlow KY chapter, Cincinnati Northern Kentucky. However, there is no information in NEON. Mike and Skip will talk about this to get it straightened out. Dawn also mentioned there are 3 chapters with no listings on the website.

New Business

Chapter Development – Skip Waters. He has another new chapter. They are very excited to become a chapter. They would be called the Hub City Chapter. They have a logo, are incorporated. He requested approval for this new chapter. Mike moved that we accept Hub City as a new chapter, Ellen seconded. Discussion followed. There is an existing Hagerstown Chapter with 22 members. This is a new chapter with a different name. In the past, chapters in the same area need approval from the existing chapter to form. Skip will table this for now and investigate it. He will contact the existing chapter for its approval. Elizabeth will get the information to Skip.

Advisory Council – Richard Shulby. The Advisory Council is proposing that the At-Large members should have a representative on the Council. Tony requested the At-Large members be contacted to get their opinion. The Council will investigate the By-Laws to see if this is valid.

Kevin Feeney stated that in the last 2 years RailCamp has lost money RailCamp should always break even. He made a motion that in the event RailCamp does not break even, the NRHS should automatically transfer from the Restricted RailCamp account to cover that loss. In the event the amount is over the amount in that account, they should ask for reimbursement from the Fund which has the same accounts. Discussion followed. Bob Ernst stated that there is a procedure in place that the Treasurer request a transfer of funds. They need to know what the money is for. A motion wasn't necessary; Kevin withdrew the motion.

NRHS Comptroller – Tony White. When Kevin moved to the Comptroller for the NRHS, he requested a job description. There is nothing in the By-Laws. Jon Baake stated that Kevin should have input into the description. Bob Bitzer stated he has a description from when we were looking for people for the position in the past. He will send to everyone.

Fall Conference- Bob Bitzer. Information regarding holding the Fall Conference in Milwaukee was presented earlier. The conference would be in conjunction with the Wisconsin's chapter's 75th Anniversary. Eric made a motion to accept Milwaukee as the Fall Conference location, seconded by Mike, Motion carried. The conference will be October 2-4.

Mike thanked the George L Carter Chapter for the fun we had this weekend.

Convention. Jon Baake stated that usually the convention committee advises of future conventions at our meetings. Thoughts on future locations, etc. They have been looking into Denver/Colorado in 2026, and Baltimore/East Coast in 2027. Richard Shulby stated that the B&O museum is planning events in 2027 for their 200th anniversary. The committee is looking ahead for future locations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Scott

Ellen Scott

Report on Unresponsive Chapters

The following chapters now have Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Policy signature forms on file:

- Ulster & Delaware
- Utica & Mohawk
- Greenville
- Rio Grande

Since they now have contact information with us, they should be removed from the Unresponsive List.

The White River Junction Chapter is in the process of disbanding. This was noted on the signature page of William Wittik.

The Grand Canyon Chapter was listed by the Advisory Council as "No Contact". I have added them to the remaining Unresponsive Chapters.

Unresponsive Chapters:

Tony and Ellen discussed how to go forward with the chapters we were unable to contact. All of the chapters currently have members that are paying dues. After discussion, it was decided that we would consider these chapters as inactive as they have no officers as far as we know. We will continue to show the chapter until there are no more active members. I am listing them below by the number of current members:

Chapter	Current Members
Shenandoah Valley	1
Mississippi Great Southern	3
Delmarva	5
Grand Canyon	5
Nashville	5
Old Pueblo	8
Collis P. Huntington	14

Chapters to Dissolve:

The following email was received from Ronald Koger on March 3 of this year:

From: Ronald Koger
Subject: Cornell Chapter NRHS

Message Body:

I am/was the treasurer of the Cornell Railroad Historical Society. Since the Covid crisis, we were not able to rebound. We have not collected membership dues to our chapter since 2019. In April of this year the remaining Board members decided to start the dissolution process. After attorney fees we are planning on transferring over our

remaining assets to the Susquehanna Valley Railway Historical Society. We basically have not had an active membership or Board members since 2020. Is there anything else that we need to do as a chapter of the NRHS?

President White sent a reply understanding the situation of the chapter and I also replied that we would dissolve the chapter at our next meeting on May 3.

Thank you,
Ellen Scott

Note: The Chapter Missing Forms Document is a separate document.