

Preliminary List of Documents
Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA,
November 12, 2017

<u>Item</u>	<u>Submitted/ Attached</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	X	Minutes
2.	X	Agenda
3.	X	Attendance
		Reports:
11.		Achievement Program Coordinator
12.		Education Department Coordinator
21.		Financial Review Committee
22.	X	Clinic Clearinghouse Committee
23.	X	Convention Committee
24.		Model Contest Subcommittee
25.	X	Photo Contest Subcommittee
28.	X	Election Committee
29.	X	Internet Committee
30.		Long Range Planning and Implementation Committee
31.	X	Membership Committee
32.		Nominating Committee
33.		Promotions and Special Projects Committee
34.		Publications Committee
35.		Youth Committee
41.	X	Director-at-Large/Daniel Brewer
42.		Director-at-Large/Gary Children
43.	X	Director-at-Large/Minton Dings
44.		Director-at-Large/Jim Landwehr
45.		Director-at-Large/Bob Landwehr
46.		Director-at-Large/Fred Robinson
47.		Director-at-Large/Paul A. Wussow
51.	X	Division Director/Central Indiana
52.	X	Division Director/DuPage
53.	X	Division Director/Fox Valley
54.		Division Director/Illinois Terminal
55.	X	Division Director/Illinois Valley
56.	X	Division Director/Michiana
57.	X	Division Director/Rock River Valley
58.	X	Division Director/South Central Wisconsin
59.	X	Division Director/Winnebagoland
60.	X	Division Director/Wisconsin Southeastern
70.	X	Regional Advisory Council Representative
71.		Secretary
72.	X	Treasurer
73.	X	Vice President
74.	X	Immediate Past President
75.	X	President
84.	X	501(c)(3) Report

Item 1

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

Approved as amended at the April 15, 2018 BoD mtg.

Steve Studley called the meeting to order at 10:30am in meeting room 2, Exposition Hall of Trainfest, West Allis, WI.

Nineteen of the 26 people attending the meeting in person or by proxy were voting members of the Board of Directors, which constituted a quorum. See item 2 for the agenda and item 3 for a list of all of the attendees who signed in.

Paul Mangan made a motion, Gary Children seconded, to accept the minutes of the April 30, 2017 meeting, with corrected spelling of "Thomsen". Motion passed.

Steve Studley thanked Trainfest for the space for our meeting.

NMRA VP-administration, Clark Kooning, was introduced and invited to speak to the Board

Clark spoke on the following subjects:

Retention problems with recruitment?

Rail Pass 9 months but at a higher cost

Hands-on Clinics with National matching funds up to \$350.00 (actually \$50.00)

Promotion of Divisions Need for Regions was discussed.

Make sure the NMRA's association is known at Train Fest

Gerry Miller from the Thousand Lakes Region (TLR) addressed the Board with a proposal that the 2019 Region Convention be a combined meeting with the Midwest Region (MWR).

This is worth considering as it would be a larger event than single conventions. The location is proposed to be La Crosse, WI, 17 – 19 May 2019. The location provides a lower price and a good selection of activities and layouts.

No Division in the Midwest Region has bid on the 2019 convention.

Reports

Keith Thomsen reported the rebate to divisions has proved to be successful. Further discussion was tabled until after further discussions of the Region's budget, funding, and excess cash.

Jim Osborn reported the election committee was awaiting materials for ballots. It was determined there were four candidates for the positions. If the ballot needed another candidate to fill out the ballot, President Steve Studley would appoint someone.

No committee reports were added beyond the reports submitted

Michael Shockley, Illinois Valley Division, Division Director, thanked the Board for their support during his time on the board.

Paul Mangan noted the Regional Advisory Council had no report.

Paul Wussow, Secretary, apologized for the condition of the reports including the near 40 items on time. Paul requested he be sent the form for the Sign-in Sheets.

Keith Thomsen, Treasurer, Reported on the reduction to the cash balance and the use of \$2000 regional grant for conventions. Paul Mangan moved, and Michael Shockley seconded, to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion was approved

Steve Studley pointed out the increases in cost and length of term for Rail Pass Memberships. Also, there will be matching grants of up to \$50 to divisions for hands-on clinics. Details will be announced by HQ clarifying the program.

501(c)(3) Project Committee

Steve Studley reported that National was turned down and the IRS is considering redoing their rules. National will not be moving forward on this issue until the IRS has finalized their rules.. Discussion followed, and the board decided to wait and see what the IRS comes up with, thus tabling the issue. Fred Henize moved and Paul Mangan seconded the motion to table this project. Motion passed.

Bruce Giersch reported on the Midwest Region 2017 convention; 140 people made the convention a success and Bruce thanked the members who supported and worked on the convention. A full report will follow.

Bob McGeever reported on the Midwest Region 2018 Convention, *Capitol 400*. Things are going well and further details will be in the publication on the Web Site. Dates are April 13-15, 2018

Minton Dings provided a written report on the Youth program. Discussion: Main reason is to carry on the program. We need an application form for the Youth Fund. Bert Lattan noted that we have never had an application form. Requests for funds were written directly to the Youth Fund Chair. History was presented that funds came from a number of locations and remain restricted. Additional communication needs to be made to the Divisions about the funds. It was suggested to post an article in the *Waybill*. Youth action is at the Division level. The program will continue as is for now.

Keith Thomsen reported on the reduction of the bank account cash: a committee consisting of Keith Thomsen, Buzz Swett, Bob McGeever, Paul Mangan, and Steve Studley. The cash balance began at \$47,000, which was reduced by \$2,000 advance to the convention, \$1,000 Region expense and distribution to the divisions of all funds from National did not add any funds brings us to 44,000 plus \$7,000 restricted youth fund and \$165 in Moskal fund in contest reduces the money to \$37000 in the general fund. The committee determined the Region needs to have 5 yrs. @ \$1000 for \$5000 and 9 years of the \$2000 convention seed money for a total of \$23000. Subtracting that from the \$37000 leaves a total of \$14000. This amount could be used up in four to five years at the present rate of expenditure.

Sources of cash include \$3,000 from NMRA as the division rebate. We are currently paying all this money to the divisions. We also get *Waybill* Subscription fees of \$6 per member, this is a wash. This money is used to provide paper copies of the *Waybill*.

Convention income profit \$354 + is our share. If seed money is used, and there is a > 2,00 profit, half would come back to the region if the convention is a break even.

To utilize the \$14000, Grants may be requested by a division to be approved by the board for additional funding. Committee should set up a procedure for requesting and guidelines set for divisions. Careful of cycle time for requests.

This would require review on, at least, an annual basis, or possibly every Board meeting, as to how much would be available. It was pointed out that the regeneration of funds is slow.

Steve Studley noted the 100% NMRA Division Rebate was for the year 2017. Bob McGeever made a motion, seconded by Michael Shockley to continue the NMRA Division rebate at 100% for 2018. Motion passed.

Reid Kahrs reported on an award to be named for Ingrid Drozdak. The award would be a photography award given for the next 5 years. Award to be designed. Walt Herrick provided three suggestions for the award.

Bob McGeever – made the motion, and Bruce Giersch seconded, to create an annual Ingrid Best of show Photo award passed. The award is to be named: “Ingrid Drozdak Memorial Award for Photography”

Reid Kahrs noted that he had submitted his report on the upcoming conventions in his report and discussion of the combined convention with TLR in 2019.

Reid stated issues needed to be worked out about contests and activities and that each Region wants to keep or share their usual contests/activities.

A discussion regarding a split based on 50/50 or by attendance would be worked out.

Motion made by Michael Shockley and seconded by Dan Brewer to approve in concept a combined TLR/MWR annual convention for 2019. The motion passed.

Reid Kahrs noted the North Central Region suggested holding a dual- or tri-Regional with MWR and possibly Mid Central Region for 2020 or beyond. There is a possibility of this convention to be held in South Bend, IN.

Michael Shockley said that IVD is considering a 2020 Peoria IL convention.

Directors at Large nominations are listed in report #28

These members submitted requests for nomination:

Eric Peterson, Central Indiana Division

Fred Henize, DuPage Division (Incumbent)

Bob Landwehr, Fox Valley Division (Incumbent)

Jim Allen, Fox Valley Division

It was agreed that if there were not enough nominees, the executive committee would complete the nominations

Steve Studley requested nominations from the floor - 3 times, for Director-at-Large. No nominations were received. Bruce Giersch made the motion to close the nominations and Gary Children seconded. Motion passed.

Bob McGeever reported on the SCWD pilot project to have a video contest in their division. Information is available on the SCWD website. It was asked if the videos could be shown at the 2018 Spring Convention.

Steve Studley made the following Presidential appointments:

Photo contest chair: Walt Herrick. Bob McGeever made the motion for acceptance and Fred Henize seconded, motion was approved

Illinois Registered Agent: Paul Wussow. Keith Clark made the motion for acceptance and Gary Children seconded, motion was approved.

Jim Osborn noted the policy and procedures for model contest and photo contest changes will be updated and will be done on the web site.

Joe Russ reported on the use of the Region's Facebook page. It has been in use for the past five years.

Reid Kahrs asked that Divisions please send newsletters to executive committee members

Next Board Meeting April 15, 2018 at 10:30 AM at Madison, WI

Reid Kahrs noted the Bylaws state the Region must hold the members' meeting in the confines of the Region. That may be accomplished by holding the Region's members meeting along with a Division's Member's meeting. This has been accomplished in the past in the President's Division.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Bob McGeever and seconded by Gary Children at 12:20 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 2
Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA,
November 12, 2017 Final Agenda

<u>Item</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
Call to order	Steve Studley
Minutes of Last Meeting	Steve Studley
2019 Dual-Host Regional TLR/MWR	Gerry Miller
 <u>Reports/Comments</u>	
Committees:	
NMRA Region Rebate Distribution	Keith Thomsen
Financial Review	Phil Berry
Election	Jim Osborn
Other	Steve Studley
Directors-at-Large	Steve Studley
Division Directors	Steve Studley
Regional Advisory Council Representative	Paul Mangan
Secretary	Steve Studley
Treasurer	Keith Thomsen
Vice President	Reid Kahrs
Immediate Past President	Paul Mangan
President	Steve Studley
 <u>Old Business</u>	
501(c)(3) Project	Steve Studley
Midwest Region 2018 Convention	Bob McGeever
Discussion Re: Updating the Youth Program	Minton Dings
Reduction of Bank Account Cash	Steve Studley
Other	Steve Studley
 <u>New Business</u>	
Midwest Region Later Conventions	Reid Kahrs
Nominations for Directors-At-Large for the 2018-2020 Term	Fred Robinson
Ingrid Drozdak Memorial Award	Steve Studley
Other	Steve Studley
 <u>BOD Approval of New Presidential Appointments</u>	 Steve Studley
 <u>Announcements</u>	 Steve Studley
Next Meeting Date, Time & Place: Sunday, October 7 th , 10:30AM, VFW 9759. 2018 Windsor Road, Loves Park, Il. 61111 (Breakfast at 10:00AM)	
 <u>Adjourn</u>	 Steve Studley

Item 3**Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA,
November 12, 2017**

Attendance

Name	Position/Term Expires/Division	Present	
		In Person	By Proxy
Steve Studley	President/2017	X	
Reid Kahrs	Vice President/2017	X	
Paul A. Wussow	Secretary	X	
Keith Thomsen	Treasurer	X	
Paul Mangan	Immediate Past President	X	
Bob Landwehr	Director-at-Large/2018	X	
Jim Landwehr	Director-at-Large/2018	X	
Fred Robinson	Director-at-Large/2018		
Fred Henize	Director-at-Large/2018	X	
Daniel Brewer	Director-at-Large/2019	X	
Gary Children	Director-at-Large/2019	X	
Minton Dings	Director-at-Large/2019		
Keith Clark	Division Director/Central Indiana	X	
Tim Schubert	Division Director/DuPage	X	
Mike Hirvela	Division Director/Fox Valley	X	
Larry Tschopp	Division Director/ Illinois Terminal	X	
Michael Shockley	Division Director/Illinois Valley	X	
Bob Blake	Division Director/Michiana		
Bruce Giersch	Division Director/Rock River Valley	X	
Bob McGeever	Division Director/South Central Wisconsin	X	
John B. Leow	Division Director/Winnebagoland	X	
Peter Lakatos	Division Director/Wisconsin Southeastern	X	
Phil Berry	Financial Review Committee Chairman		
Jim Osborn	Election & Internet Committee Chairman	X	
Bert Lattan	Election & Internet Committee Member	X	
Ron Scharping	Membership Committee Chairman		
Fred Robinson	Nominating Committee Chairman		
Lou Venema	Nominating Committee Member		
Walt Herrick	Photographer		
David Leider	Publications Committee Chair	X	
Clark Kooning	NMRA Vice President - administration	X	
Tom Ludlum	Illinois Valley Division Paymaster	X	
Eric Peterson	Central Indiana Division Member	X	
Joe Russ	Wisconsin Southeastern Asst. Superintendent	X	

Item 22

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Paul Wussow

Date: 11/1/17

Subject: Clinic Clearing House

Activities since Last Board Meeting

No Activity the On-line services seem to have replaced any use of the clearing house

Planned Activities

Consider either using this for live clinic planning or remove the clearing house function

Item 23

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Reid Kahrs

Date: November 12, 2017

Subject: Convention Committee Chairman Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Attend Golden Rails 2017 hosted by RRVD April 28-30, 2017

Note: A report and final budget should be presented by the host committee.

Planned Activities

Attend Capitol 400 hosted by SCWD April 13-15, 2018 in Madison, Wisconsin

A report should be presented by the convention chairman Ken Hojnacki

Proposed Activities

A dual regional convention TLR and MWR, to be held in La Crosse, Wisconsin. The dates are May 17-19, 2019. This needs to be discussed and voted on. Gerry Miller, former TLR President will present the proposed convention information at the MWR board meeting.

We have received a proposal from David Capron Vice President of NCR, inquiring if the MWR would be interested in attending a dual or tri regional. This would be no sooner than 2020. A discussion needs to be held.

My proposal is that we explore the possibility of holding a combined convention. It could be the NCR and your MWR or NCR and MCR or even the three of us. As we all have our conventions planned through 2019 the soonest would be 2020. Obviously I am not looking for any kind of a commitment at this time and just want to open a dialog as to the interest and possibility. If you are interested in exploring the idea I'd like to talk with you or whomever you choose. Again at this point it is just an idea to brainstorm a bit. We would need to bring our BOD's into the discussion to get their opinions. There are a lot of pros and cons but based on the success of the above-mentioned convention I would like to explore the idea

Item 25

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Walt Herrick, Photo Contest Sub-committee Chair

Date: 10.22.17

Subject: Report to the MWR Board

Activities since Last Board Meeting

I have been recommended, and will accept appointment as Photo Contest Chair MWR to replace the

late Ingrid Drozdak.

Planned Activities

1) "Learn the ropes" of Photo Contest Chair position so as to be prepared to effectively serve as chair for the 2018 MWR Convention "Capital 400" in Madison.

2) I would like to honor Ingrid Drozdak with a special photo award each year in her honor. Possible ideas for this award are:

- "Ingrid Drozdak 'Small Scales' Photo Award" for model photos in N or smaller scales.
- "Ingrid Drozdak 'Fun With Trains' Photo Award" for "fun" model or prototype subjects.
- "Ingrid Drozdak 'Best of Show' Photo Award" for the best model or prototype photo entered.

I apologize to the board as I will not be able to attend the November 12th Board Meeting.

Item 28

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Jim Osborn, Election Committee Chairman

Date: November 4, 2017

Subject: Election Committee Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

- 1) Destruction of the ballots from the last election per BoD approval.

Planned Activities

- 1) Create the election ballot after the BoD approves the candidate slate at the Nov 2017 BoD meeting per the Election Committee Policy and Procedure.
- 2) Forward the ballot to the *Waybill* editor for inclusion in the winter *Waybill*.
- 3) Receive and count the ballots after the Spring election and prepare the Election committee report for the next BoD meeting.

Item 29

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Jim Osborn, Internet Committee Chm.

Date: Nov 4, 2017

Subject: Internet Committee Report

Assistance Requested

- 1) I need photo content to populate the model and prototype picture web pages. Division Supers, please send them to: webmaster@mwr-nmra.org
- 2) I have not yet received any clinic content for the "Clinic Resources" web page.

Activities Since Last Board Meeting

- 1) Made timely updates to the MWR web site per requests from National & the membership.
- 2) Assisted with the *Waybill* electronic publishing.
- 3) Posted current PDF versions of the *Waybill* on the web site.
- 4) Assisted with several miscellaneous Division web site issue and updates.
- 5) Managed the Constant Contact Account sharing email arrangement.
- 6) Website usage statistics posted on the next page.
- 7) Assisted the DuPage division with the population of their mobile friendly web site.

Planned Activities

- 1) Continue with the general management and maintenance of the MWR web site and internet activities as appropriate.
- 2) Continue to assist with publishing electronic *Waybill* notices.
- 3) Support any division web requirements as requested.

Website Usage Report:

Metric	Oct- Mar 2014	April- Sept 2014	Oct- March 2015	April- Sept 2015	Oct- March 2016	April- Sept 2016**	Oct- March 2017	April- Sept 2017
Sessions	3446	2705	4556	2510	3090	1743	3367	2219
Users	2492	1893	3384	1823	2292	1302	2468	1457
Page Views	5616	4588	7156	4181	4996	2972	6524	4435
Content Viewed								
Home Page	1653	1936	2622	1722	1651	1290	1817	1616
Waybill	1207	1190	1317	1039	916	903	970	903
Division Map	546	513	737	520	666	439	268	169
Conventions	347	281	89	372	204	167	336	241
DuPage Div.	1353	323	1495	241	1293	378	2075	369
Contest Photos	127	127	126	29	32	73	44	157
Minutes	66	86	72	61	47	85	34	40
About us							17	26
Clinic Resources							27	20
Elections							18	24
Contact us							14	12
Model Photos							119	107
Notices							130	103
Prototype Photos							55	26
Policies							20	52
Reg Officers								131
Referrals From:								
Direct Entry	914	939	965	816	946		996	1304
Nmra.org	666	740	1167	727	708	458	730	227

Google	854	319	949	303	766	30	907	307
Railsrve.com							131	15
Michiana	2	19	31	33	22	5		
CID.Railfan.net	124	84	85	47	61	43	39	5
Trains.com	136	10	56	2	3	-	74	2
Fox Valley Div.	207	108	155	65	78	7	15	29
Bing/Yahoo	91	91	191	74	171	-	178	155
Twin Lakes							31	23
RRVD	6	8	19	4	17	12	24	11
User Devices:								
Desktop							68%	76%
Mobile							23%	15%
Tablet							9%	9%

**Note: April-Sept 2016 usage under reported due to transition to the Mobile Friendly Website.

Item 31

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Ron Scharping

Date: October 24, 2017

Subject: Membership Coordinator's Report

Activities Since Last Board Meeting

Continued to provide membership information to Division membership coordinators on a monthly basis. Completed the elimination of the printed reports. RRVD has requested the continuation of printed reports for their Division. A Division roster, which now contains all of the information on the printed reports, is emailed to those coordinators with email accounts.

Provided an interface to National in the updating of membership records; address, phone, zip code, and email address changes.

Maintained a table of Region members who have "opted-out" of a printed *Waybill*.

Worked with the Region Secretary in trying to provide corrected email addresses for those email addresses which are determined to be bad. This is done via a postcard to the member. Continued working with the Region Secretary to synchronize the Region Constant Contact list and the National database email addresses.

Provided the *Waybill* editor with mailing addresses for those members receiving a printed copy of the *Waybill*. Managed a "postage due" account with the Post Office to facilitate handling of undeliverable *Waybills*.

Planned Activities

Continue the above.

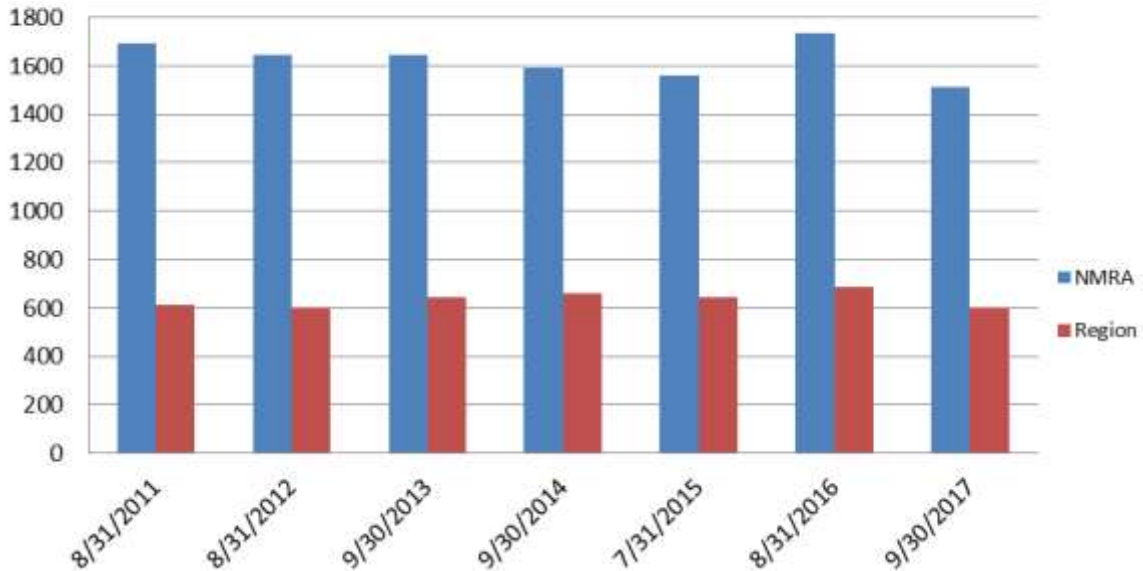
Region Membership Data

Division	NMRA	Region	NMRA	Region	NMRA	Region	NMRA	Region
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
	(8/31/11)	(8/31/11)	(8/31/12)	(8/31/12)	(9/30/13)	(9/30/13)	(9/30/14)	(9/30/14)
1	279	102	253	84	252	94	228	89
2	149	42	146	44	154	45	158	40
3	169	56	157	45	146	44	138	52
5	100	31	97	35	101	35	99	37
6	233	75	231	81	237	89	225	92
7	32	10	27	8	25	12	19	8
9	251	85	244	77	224	71	219	67
10	103	39	93	33	91	30	86	26
11	239	92	244	97	237	97	232	101
15	86	29	89	35	83	31	73	31
Out of Reg.	53	53	62	62	97	97	114	114
Grand Total	1694	614	1643	601	1647	645	1591	657

Region Membership Data (Con't)

Division	NMRA	Region	NMRA	Region	NMRA	Region
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
	(7/31/15)	(7/31/15)	(8/31/16)	(8/31/16)	(9/30/17)	(9/30/17)
1	215	86	206	82	185	66
2	159	48	161	44	153	46
3	141	52	134	54	123	47
5	102	36	97	39	96	41
6	211	86	357	106	246	94
7	20	7	32	10	21	8
9	209	67	227	79	214	64
10	90	27	88	29	94	29
11	226	95	232	96	216	89
15	80	36	89	35	81	33
Out of Reg.	108	104	111	111	84	84
Grand Total	1561	644	1734	685	1513	601

Membership



Item 43

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Minton Dings

Date: October 23, 2017

Subject: Director-at-Large

Activities since Last Board Meeting

I continue to serve as the assistant superintendent of the Illinois Valley Division, as the editor of the IVD newsletter, The Timetable and perform the division "office" function as the contact person. I also organize the division's NMRA/IVD promote booth at the train fairs in Springfield, Peoria (twice yearly) and Galesburg, Illinois.

I continue to teach clinics and write "how to" articles for the division newsletter and other newsletters.

Also see the Youth Fund report.

Planned Activities

Continue the above activities.

Item _51___

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors
From: Keith Clark, CID Superintendent
Date: November 8, 2017
Subject: Central Indiana Division Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

May 6, 2017 – Late Spring Modeler’s Meet

The meet was held at the Columbus Area Model Railroad Club at the Johnson County Park in Edinburg, Indiana. The theme will be on types of operations for model railroads with 2 clinics being presented on the topic. There were 25 members who attended this meet.

June 11, 2017 – CID Board Meeting

Location was in Indianapolis at the Wayne Branch of the Marion County Public Library with a start time of 1:30pm.

August – CID Executive Team Picnic & Meeting

The date was August 13th and location was at Trainmaster Jim Schelhaus’ house. This is a closed meeting of the board and is not open to the regular CID members.

September 16, 2017 – Fall Modeler’s Meet

The meet was held at the Wilson Church in Zionsville, Indiana. The theme for this event has not yet been selected.

October 1, 2017 – CID Board Meeting

Location was in Indianapolis at the Wayne Branch of the Marion County Public Library with a start time of 1:30pm.

November 4, 2017 – Carmel Library Show

Arrangements are made with the portable layout owners to have their portable layouts on display. There were 8 layouts in operation and the CID had their booth setup and answered many questions about the hobby. This is always a popular day for the library and their patrons. This year’s show drew 955 kids and parents.

Planned Activities

November 18, 2017 – CID Danville Train Show

The meet will be held at the Hendricks County Fair Grounds in Danville, Indiana. We will have operating layouts, vendors, door prizes, contests, food and free parking. Time will be from 10am to 3pm and cost was \$3.00 per person/\$5.00 per family. Probably our best show of the year.

December 3, 2017 – CID Board Meeting

Location is to be in Indianapolis at the Wayne Branch of the Marion County Public Library with a start time of 1:30pm.

December 9, 2017 – Naptown & White River Model Train Show

We setup our CID booth set up at the show to provide information about the NMRA and the CID. We try and get people to join the NMRA either through a 6 month Rail Pass or regular membership.

January 27, 2018 – CID Noblesville Train Show

The meet will be held at the Hamilton County Fair Grounds in Noblesville, Indiana. We will have operating layouts, vendors, door prizes, contests, food and free parking. Time will be from 10am to 3pm and cost was \$3.00 per person/\$5.00 per family. Probably our best show of the year.

February 3-4, 2018 – Great Train Show

We setup our CID booth set up at the show to provide information about the NMRA and the CID. This includes displays, operating layouts, handouts, our display of the difference model railroad scales, modelers working on projects and the Inglenook switching layout for kids. We try and get people to join the NMRA either through a 9 month Rail Pass or regular membership.

February 11, 2018 – CID Board Meeting

Location is to be in Indianapolis at the Wayne Branch of the Marion County Public Library with a start time of 1:30pm.

March 3, 2018 - Naptown & White River Model Train Show

We setup our CID booth set up at the show to provide information about the NMRA and the CID. We try and get people to join the NMRA either through a 6 month Rail Pass or regular membership.

March 17, 2018 – CID Modelers Meet

Location for this meet has not yet been selected.

April 21, 2018 – CID Franklin Train Show and Annual Business Meeting

The meet will be held at the Franklin National Guard Armory in Franklin, Indiana. We will have operating layouts, vendors, door prizes, contests, food and free parking. Time will be from 10am to 3pm and cost was \$3.00 per person/\$5.00 per family. This will be a new location and takes the place of our Martinsville Meet.

Item 52

November 5, 2017

To: Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NRMA

From: Tim Schubert, Superintendent – DuPage Division

Subject: DuPage Division Status Report

Division activities and successes since the last Board Meeting

- May 2017 – Monthly Division meeting with Show and Tell presentations by several Division members included several members who had not presented before
- August 2017 – Held our annual planning meeting for the 2017-18 season
- Sept 2018 – Launched our 2017-18 season with a presentation by Patrick Golden on 55 Years of Steam Excursions and contests on Express Refrigerator and Boxcars for Passenger Trains
- Oct 2017 – Monthly meeting with a presentation by John Goodheart on his LE&STL layout design and operation. Contest for the month was All Things Intermodal
- Oct 2017 – Attended the Southland Model Railroad Show to promote the Division and NMRA.
- Nov 2017 – Monthly meeting with a presentation by Dave Phillips on The Early Amtrak years. Contest for the month was Diesel and Steam Locomotives with Helpers
- Balance of the 2017-18 season is set with presenters and contests

Ongoing projects and events

- Every other month attendance at the Great Midwest Train Show to promote the DuPage Division, Fox Valley Division and the NMRA
 - This event has brought several new members to the Division
- Finalized the date for our 37th Annual All American Railroad Show for March 24, 2018
- Launched the DuPage Division, NMRA Facebook page to promote the Division and our events
- Began work with the MWR Webmaster to revamp and improve the DuPage Division website

Item 53

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, October 2, 2016

To: Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA

From: Michael L. Hirvela, Director, Superintendent, Fox Valley Division (FVD)

Date: October 30, 2017

Subject: FVD Report for fall MWR BoD Meeting

Activities since Last Board Meeting

- FVD volunteer members participated in Westwood Elementary School's "World of Wonder Day" event on May 12 at the school in Woodstock IL. This is a school day-long event with interior and exterior activities for the students to have hands-on experiences with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)-related items. We had MWR's Time-Saver switching puzzle for the students to try their hand at switching cars. The layout was a big hit with the students AND staff. The Timesaver garnered interest as several of the teachers used the activity as a team-building effort as the students, as a group, made decisions and planned the switching moves. It was interesting to watch the students "coach" their instructor on what move to make next. They are looking forward to us returning next year.
- The FVD conducted our last monthly division meet of the 2016-2017 season on May 21st that included a modeling presentation and model contest. Our monthly average attendance at our meets has been slipping with attendance between 30 and 35 members (33 average). Discussions were held to determine reasons why and ways to increase participation.
- The FVD participated in Railroad Day at RR Park in the Village of Franklin Park, IL on June 10th. We had our display board and other NMRA items on hand and had a nice, although hot, day in the park. At this event, a garden railway group and some vendors display, along with 12-inch-to-the-foot scale locomotives and cars from Chicago area railroads, Metra and Amtrak available to tour. We did notice several young fellas with video and still cameras railfanning the event.
- July 8th was the division's summer outing and this year we went to the East Troy Trolley Museum in Wisconsin. A light turnout of participants, however, those who were there had unlimited rides on the trolleys and enjoyed some Wisconsin gastronomic fare at the Elegant Farmer deli.
- August 13th and October 8th, FVD participates every – other month with the DuPage Division, with a membership promotion table at the Great Midwest Train Show, also known as the DuPage swap, at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, IL. The June date was cancelled due to schedule conflict with the fairgrounds. We have the table at no cost due to the generosity of the Great Midwest Train Show Staff (Randy Bachmann). We have our display board and NMRA brochures and Division literature available. We will also have the table in December 2017, February, April and June of 2018.
- On September 17th, we commenced our monthly member meetings held at the Gary Morava Recreation Center in Prospect Heights, IL, for the 2017-2018 season, absorbing a \$1 per hour increase in the room rental [now at \$55 for the afternoon, 12 noon to 5 pm].

- We re-commenced publishing electronic and print versions of our monthly newsletter – *The Semaphore*, with the September issue, featuring Part 2 of Greg Bedlek’s Great Northern Pacific model railroad, almost 3,000 square feet of model railroad representing certain features from across the northern tier of the continental US from Chicago to Seattle.
- On October 26 through the 28th, we had our display board, division and NMRA brochures and other materials on display at the Railroad Prototype Modelers (RPM) meet at the Sheraton Hotel in Lisle IL. I noted in the literature that the RPM is co-sponsored by the NMRA. During the meet, we attended presentations by several well-known names in the hobby. Interestingly, the presentations are very similar in content and format that is well known to NMRA members attending a region event. In between the presentations, attendees were in the big ballroom where both HO and N scale versions of Midwest Modutrak’s layouts were featured, three aisles of vendors, several tables of models in various stages of completion were displayed, and an L-shaped sectional track layout for hands-on operations by TT & TO was available for those who attended 2 workshops on the subject.
- The FVD is proud to announce Pete Walton’s model railroad in Huntley, IL, is a feature on YouTube video by Dave Rickaby. Pete’s railroad will also be featured in Kalmbach’s Great Model Railroads 2018.

Planned Activities

- Continue searching for potential High Wheeler Train Show location. Our venue is not available in 2017 and 2018, making the future of the show in jeopardy. We have not been successful in finding a location that meets our logistic needs. Interest in holding a train show is there, but there are too many unknowns at this point.
- Continue the bi-monthly promotion of the NMRA and the division at the DuPage Train Show, alternating with the guys from the DuPage Division.
- Participate as a displayer at the Great Midwest Train Show at the Lake County Fairgrounds in Grayslake, IL on December 30 and 31.
- Continue the monthly meeting format and activities. Division elections will be held for Superintendent and Chief Clerk positions in April 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael L. Hirvela

Superintendent,

Fox Valley Division

Item 55

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Michael Shockley, Final report from this Superintendent. Term up in March, 2018

Date: October 1, 2017

Subject: Illinois Valley Division Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

May 21, 2017 Meet at Spring Valley—2 clinics 3 layouts 20 people attending

June 24, 25, 2017 Table at Galesburg RR Days but layout absent due to lack of volunteers.

September 10, 2017 Meet at Lewistown IL, Dist 4, 3 layouts, 2 clinics

November 12, 2017 Meet at McLean, IL Trainmaster Jeff Trimble running meeting in my absence.
Layout Planning is the theme.

Planned Activities

November 19, 2017—Illinois Central College—good feedback from parents when we have had
the layout there.

January 14, 2018 meet at Chatham IL under planning. New Trainmaster-at-Large Rod Price stepping
up with ideas and execution.

February 18, 2018 Portable layout at Illinois Central College, pending volunteers

March 13, 2018 meet at Peoria ReMax Center. Elections for new Superintendent, Chief Clerk and
District 2 Trainmaster. Still working to find suitable candidates.

March 18, 2018 Portable layout at Springfield Trainfair, pending volunteers.

March 2018 Booth at Trains in the Heartland at Heartland College, Bloomington IL. Pending
volunteers

May 20, 2018 Meet at Spring Valley, IL

Item 56

To: Board of Directors

From: Dan Brewer, Director-at-Large

Date: November 12, 2017

Subject: Michiana Division Report

Activities Since Last Board Meeting

Since April of this year, we have had regular meetings that are now scheduled until next May. This marks the first time that we have set meeting dates out that far. Thanks to BOD member John Banicki for leading the charge in this regard. We are also working on our 2018 Education & Training Conference. We have had the conference at the University of Notre Dame for the last two years, but we may have to change venues due to price increases. Venues in our area are expensive, and this will likely be a challenge for us going forward.

We have had some very interesting topics at our meetings this year. A few of the topics covered were Essential Industries: Midwest Grain Elevators (Ron Christensen), the evolution of the hobby over the past 50 years (Bob Blake), Signaling with LCC components from RR-CirKits, Inc. (Dan Brewer).

Last month's meeting was a visit and lunch at the Cass County Model Railroad Club in Dowagiac, Michigan. We had not been to this club before, so it was nice to catch up with those fellas. It seems that they have an interest in becoming an all NMRA club. We will need to follow up on this.

Michiana Division Education and Training Conference 2017

BOD member Neal Thomas put together a very nice recap of our 2017 conference at Notre Dame. We have submitted it for inclusion in a future Waybill. As usual, our conference included clinics, workshops, model displays, layout tours, and a Free-mo layout. Dave Schroedle and Tony Sissons were very busy in the weathering clinic room while Chris Thompson provided expert decoder and JMRI advice next door. We had four layout tours on Friday evening including an outdoor layout (Robb Thomas), a shelf layout (Bruce Berta), a large club layout (Elkhart Model Railroad Club), and a very large private layout (Jerry Macri). This year's conference featured fourteen clinics on a wide range of subjects. We even provided golf cart rides due to our parking lot being a bit of a hike from the McKenna Conference Center. A good time was had by all!

Planned Activities

Our November 18th meeting is at the home of Henry Arndt in Elkhart, IN. We're all looking forward to visiting Henry's HO layout. His scenery work is exquisite! We are also looking forward to a schedule of regular monthly meetings and working to make next year's conference a great one!

If you have not yet made it to our Education & Training Conference, please plan to attend "Modeling like a PROTOTYPE" on Sept. 21st & 22nd, 2018 at the University of Notre Dame McKenna Hall Conference Center (1399 N Notre Dame Ave, Notre Dame, IN 46556).

Item 57

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Bruce Giersch

Date: November 1, 2017

Subject: RRVD report to MWR Board of Directors

Activities since Last Board Meeting

10/21/17 – Participated with Midway Village & Museum in their Trick or Treat Event, displaying our “Rockford Route” division layout and handing out NMRA info.

11/4/17 – With Model Train month, Division members exhibited some of their trains, buildings and dioramas. Also put on a couple of clinics for the public.

Planned Activities

11/18/17 – In cooperation with the Rockford Police Department, will co-host a first ever model train event for the kids to come and see model trains in operation along with Thomas the Train tables, activities and door prizes.

12/1/17 – 1/16/18 – The Nicholas Conservatory here in Rockford is having a new G scale Christmas layout installed at the end of November and has asked the RRVD to help promoting it by having members present to answer questions concerning model railroading as well as help dismantle the layout at the end of the season. Will also have our Division layout on hand to view and well as NMRA information.

3/24-25/18 – The Division will be hosting its annual Show & Sale that weekend. We have a new venue, using the gym at Belvidere North High School instead of Jefferson HS in Rockford. Also adding a kids section with activities and Thomas the Train tables to keep them occupied. Will have a couple of 3 rail layouts located close by since these draw the kids interest the most.

Pilgrimage Program being worked on by committee to be ready for our upcoming Show & Sale. Piggy backed off program being run in the Atlanta area where ‘joe’ public can view some of our members’ layouts.

Committee putting together program to make short videos of members’ layouts to put on our web page.

Item 58

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Bob McGeever SCWD Superintendent

Date: November 4, 2017

Subject: South Central Wisconsin Division Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

- The Division held its Regular meetings in September, October and November with clinics, model contest, photo contest, door prizes, and layout tours afterwards.
- Held annual joint meeting in May with the RRVD.
- Youth Group meetings in May, September, and October.
- Youth Group conducted summer field trip.
- The Division conducted a rail fan trip to the Illinois Railroad Museum on June 10.
- Annual Awards Banquet in May.
- Annual Summer Picnic in July.
- Continued planning for the April 2018 Capitol400 Regional Convention to be held in Madison Wisconsin.
- Division Modeling Project started in September.
- Constructed second set of T-Trak modules for youth group.

Planned Activities

- Continued planning for the April 2018 Capitol400 Regional Convention to be held in Madison Wisconsin.
- January 2018 Rail School.
- The 51th Annual Mad City Rail Show February 17 and 18.
- Regular Division meetings with clinics, model contest, photo contest, door prizes, and layout tours afterwards planned for December, February, March and April.
- Joint meeting with RRVD planned for May.
- Youth Group meetings planned for November, March, April and May. Youth Group will participate in Rail School and Rail Show.

Item 59

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: John Leow

Date: 11/12/2017

Subject:Director's Report - Winnebagoland Division (WLD)

Activities since Last Board Meeting

The Division designed and ordered two new display banners. These are 28"x75", vertical format, freestanding banners displaying the logos of the NMRA and the Division, as well as pictures of various division activities and members.

The Division attended the Title Town Train Show the weekend of April 29-30, and got to show off the new banners. We had 10 members help out at our table, which was right inside the entrance doors. We had a Timesaver layout set up, and started work on a new portable switching layout as an on-going demonstration project. We also sold a previous N-scale display layout and associated equipment, generating a tidy sum for the Division coffers.

Our spring meet was held in Plymouth in May. The meet offered several clinics, as well as the usual contests and layout tours. In conjunction with the meet we had our annual Division meeting, where we announced that Gregg Condon MMR had been selected as the 2017 Jerry Nichols Award, given for outstanding service to the Division. Officer election results were also announced, as follows: Superintendent: John Leow; Assistant Superintendent: Mike Wadinski; Paymaster: Scott Payne; and Chief Clerk: Vern Ehlke.

The Division Board held its quarterly meeting in Appleton in June. Topics included a recap of the spring meet; status of upcoming meets; a proposal for the Division to take over management of the Title Town Train Show; our Facebook page; and meet registration fees.

The Division Board held its quarterly meeting in Appleton in September. Topics included discussion of upcoming meets, the upcoming annual Division Operation Session Day, and meet content and registration fees. We also discussed a database for operating layouts within the Division, and a records retention policy.

Our fall meet was held in Sheboygan in October, and featured a really good variety of clinics and layout tours, as well as the usual contests. It also included involvement from several railroad historical societies, and a dinner banquet with speaker.

The annual operating session was held in November, with Joel Weeks and Randy Williamson acting as hosts. There was a good turnout, with a full complement of 11 members taking advantage of the event.

The Division has also started a small project layout, to be used at events as a conversation starter. It is approximately 18" wide by 96" long when open, folding on the bias into a box half as long for transport. So far, track is laid and basic wiring is complete.

Personally, I've attended the monthly meetings of our local round-robin club, and stumbled upon the West Wisconsin Railroad Club show in Eau Claire in October (we were in town for a campus tour). I also had the opportunity to help Chuck Pomazal with the restoration of Quincy & Torch Lake #6 up in Hancock in August.

Planned Activities

Our spring meet is tentatively scheduled for Merrill on April 7, 2018. The planning for this meet has encountered some setbacks, but I'm confident things will work out.

Our fall meet is still in the planning stages, but is scheduled for Fond du Lac.

Item __60__

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Peter Lakatos Superintendent

Date: October 31, 2017

Subject: WISE Division

The WISE Board has decided for the 2017-2018 season to focus on a single location for meets that is still central to our membership, though a bit more East than previous.

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Division events:

April 21-22, 2017 WISEOp, Division operations weekend throughout the Division

April 23, 2017 meet at the New Berlin Ale House, New Berlin, WI

May 5, 2017 Dupage show Bus Trip

August 6, 2017 Division Bicycle Ride along the Oak Leaf Trail, former C&NW line

September 17, 2017 meet at the Clarion Hotel, Milwaukee, WI

October 15, 2017 meet at the Clarion Hotel, Milwaukee, WI

Planned Activities

November 11 & 12, 2017, Trainfest held at Wisconsin Expo Center Wisconsin State Fair Park West Allis, WI

January 21, 2018 meet at the Clarion Hotel, Milwaukee, WI

February 17, 2018 bus trip to the Mad-City Model Railroad Show and Sale, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI

March 18, 2018 meet at the Clarion Hotel, Milwaukee, WI

April 22, 2018 meet at the Clarion Hotel, Milwaukee, WI

Item 70

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Paul Mangan

Date: Nov 5, 2017

Subject: RAC Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

No activity to report since last meeting. RAC Director Steve August reported at the NMRA board meeting in Orlando that he had been having some email issues.

Planned Activities

Will monitor the board meeting minutes at the winter meeting.

Item 72

November 3, 2017 Treasurer's

Report

Income statement and balance sheet information for October 2017 year-to-date are attached for your information.

Year-to -date October 2017 revenues totaled \$6,062.91 with net loss of \$(2,038.56). Divisional revenue sharing payments totaling \$2,833 and the Region Convention grant of \$2,000 generated the loss. October 31, 2017 cash balance was \$44,472.76, \$3,034.02 less than a year ago.

Respect fully,

Keith A. Thomsen
Treasurer

Item 73

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Reid Kahrs

Date: November 12, 2017

Subject: Vice President's report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Attended Golden Rails 2017 hosted by RRVD April 28-30, 2017

Attended MWR Board meeting, Rockford, IL April 30, 2017

Attended Michiana E & T Conference, South Bend, IN September 22 & 23, 2017

Planned Activities

Attend Capitol 400 in Madison, WI April 13-15, 2018

Please see attached PDF file

Item 74

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Paul Mangan

Date: Oct. 29, 2017

Subject: Past Presidents report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

I want to take a minute to thank all of those who served with me on the Midwest Region Board of Directors over the four years for your service to the NMRA and our hobby. Volunteering is very special and is very important for the success of our hobby.

August 2017: Rebuilding my own outdoor layout after a storm knocked trees down on the Cat

Mountain. I will be able to have it open for the Capitol 400 spring convention.

Worked with committee examining ways to reduce our cash on hand and use it

for funding things at the division level.

Planned Activities

Sept. 2017: Began signing up volunteers for the Mad City Model Railroad Show and Sale that scheduled for Feb. 17 & 18 2018 in Madison WI at the Aliant Energy Center on

Madison's South Side.

Oct. 2017: Working with the SCWD Membership Committee along with Steve Preston on looking at new ideas for recruiting new members.

Nov. 2017: Attending Trainfest in Milwaukee with the Madison HoTrak modular group.

Attending the MWR fall Board meeting

Item 75

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Steve Studley

Date: October 31, 2017

Subject: President's Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

May 6, 2017	Attended CID Modelers Meet, Columbus, IN
June 23-24, 2017	Attended RPM Collinsville Meet, Collinsville, IL
Sept. 9, 2017	Attended Illinois Terminal Division Meet, Monticello, IL
Sept. 10, 2017	Attended Illinois Valley Division Meet, Lewistown, IL
Sept. 16, 2017	Attended CID Modelers Meet, Zionsville, IN
Sept 22-23, 2017	Attended Michiana E&T Conference, South Bend, IN
Oct. 21, 2017	Attended Dubois County Train Show, Jasper, IN
Nov. 4, 2017	Attended Carmel-Clay Library Show, Carmel, IN
Nov. 11-12, 2017	Attending Trainfest, Milwaukee, WI
Nov. 12, 2017	Attending MWR Board Meeting, Trainfest, Milwaukee, WI

Planned Activities

Nov. 18, 2017	Attend CID Danville Train Show, Danville, IN
Dec. 9, 2017	Attend Naptown & White River Train Show, Indianapolis, IN
Jan. 28, 2018	Attend CID Noblesville Meet and Train Show, Noblesville, IN
Feb. 3-4, 2018	Attend Great Train Show, Indianapolis, IN
Mar. 3, 2018	Attend Naptown & White River Train Show, Indianapolis, IN
Mar. 17, 2018	Attend CID Modelers Meet, Location = TBD
Apr. 13-15, 2018	Attend MWR Convention, <i>Capitol 400</i> , Madison, WI
Apr. 15, 2018	Attend MWR Board Meeting, Madison, WI

There are two proposals voted upon (favorably) at the NMRA Board meeting in Orlando that are of interest to the Divisions and membership.

First is a **Hands On Clinic Motion**. This would establish a pilot program for the Divisions to receive a \$50 one-time matching grant to an equal amount raised by the Division to facilitate approved member retention programs or activities. Final procedures are hoped to be completed by the end of the year. Notification of the program will be made in print and electronic media.

Second is a **Rail Pass Increase Motion**. Effective Jan. 1, 2018, Rail Pass fees will increase from \$9.95 for a six-month trial to \$19.95 for nine months. All privileges and benefits will remain the same as outlined in the existing Rail Pass description

Item 84

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, November 12, 2017

To: Board of Directors

From: Steve Studley

Date: October 31, 2017

Subject: 501(c)(3) Committee Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

The following is information from the minutes of the NMRA Board meeting held at Orlando.

COUNSEL Amsler led a discussion on the Vertical Integration Project.

- i) We have contracted with a law firm specializing in tax issues to advise on a path forward to correct the legal technical issues and refile our paperwork.
- ii) The law firm gave COUNSEL a detailed description of the issues we face. The most onerous issue are the IRS reporting requirements for the regions and divisions.
- iii) Many other organizations are having similar difficulties. There is a move in the industry to change the IRS requirements in order to make this a viable option.
- iv) It has been decided that this project will be suspended until the IRS requirements are changed.

Planned Activities

Discuss with the Region Board to see what path the Board wishes to pursue.