

Minutes

NMRA Midwest Region Meeting of the Board of Directors

DATE

November 2, 2024

TIME

10:00 AM – 12:00 P.M. CDT

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY

Bob McGeever, President MWR NMRA

IN ATTENDANCE

Bob McGeever, Connie J. Coy, Jim Landwehr, Phillip Burnside, John Coy, Dan Banks, Jim Osborn, Steve Studley, Michael Hirvela, David Leider, Dave Mashino, John Poray, Robert Perry, Precilla Roderick, Burnell Breaker, Art Dawson, Jr., Gary Baker, Mike Lehman, Marty Hendrickx, Alex Schneider, Greg Bueltmann

Guests present: Michael Roderick, Larry Nelson, Bob Landwehr, Rod Thomson, Denis Zamirovski

Absent: Thomas Ose, Paul Hillmer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 2, 2024 were presented. John Coy moved to approve the minutes. Precilla Roderick seconded. Motion carried. There were no Minutes for the Meeting of the Members, as it did not occur in May.

REPORTS

The Committee Reports were approved and placed on file. Director at Large reports were approved and placed on file. Business related to the following reports were dealt with as they arose: Regional Advisory Committee, the Treasurer's Report, DuPage Division.

Old Business:

Items 1, 2: Marty Hendricks reported that the Illinois Business Agent and MWR D&O Insurance were in order and on file in his report. MWR is insured and payment will be made by 12/1/2024.

Item 3: Bob McGeever moved that the MWR Bylaws be amended to state that meetings of the BOD would take place the first Saturday in May and the First Saturday in November each year from 2025 forward at 10 a.m. to Noon CDT via ZOOM. John Poray seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3: Reactivation of WISE Division. Bob McGeever noted that the WISE Division has updated its Constitution and bylaws in accordance with NMRA standards. To that end, he moved that WISE go active effective November 4, 2024. Burnell Breaker will get hard copies out of the documents and they will be on file with the MWR. Precilla Roderick seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Item 1: Meeting of the Members was discussed. It did not occur in May and by NMRA standards it must be held twice a year to allow members of the NMRA to have a voice in Regional Business. Discussion followed. An Ad Hoc Committee

was created to decide how to best proceed in having the MOM. The Committee is comprised of: Marty Hendrickx, Jim Osborn, John Coy, Alex Schneider.

Item 2: Bob McGeever noted that the Regional Advisory Committee has requested the development of a graphics program for Brand standardization. Dan Banks and Phil Burnside volunteered to assist with this. Jim Osborn states there is a Template for Community Relations online. Jim will assist with distribution of materials online.

Item 3: Treasurer's Report was appended to Reports prior to meeting as Keith Thomsen has resigned the position, Bob McGeever created the report and noted that concerning was the cost of producing hardcopy of The Waybill newsletter: Printed newsletters are no longer cost effective for the region. Dave Leider moved to discontinue production/distribution of the hard copy version of the newsletter and phase it out at the end of 2025. Dan Banks seconded the motion. Discussion about distribution for the Division Waybills was included in this item. Jim Osborn, Bob McGeever, Dave Leider and Dave Mashino formed a committee to help implement the elimination of hard copy newsletters. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 4: Discussion came from Treasurer's Report that Youth Funds are not tied to the Boy Scouts to support youth activities. Included was how to redirect these funds to the Youth Participation Committee to assist Thomas Ose in his efforts. Alex Schneider offered to update the application form which he will get from Tom Ose. Item tabled until May Meeting.

Item 5: DuPage Division informed to place its revised Bylaws and constitution on file with their Division and the MWR.

Item 6: Steve Studley moves to accept the slate of Nominees for 2025: President: John Coy, Vice President: Bob Perry and Michael Roderick, Director at Large: Jeff Dean, Mark Faust, Michael Hirvela, Larry Nelson, Precilla Roderick, Jim Temple and Bob Landwehr. Motion Seconded by John Coy. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 7: Jim Osborn requested that the MWR pay up to \$1045.00 for its share in maintaining the MWR share of web expenses. A portion of the website cost is shared with the Fox Valley Division. Precilla Roderick so moved; seconded by Michael Roderick.

Item 8: Conventions: Bob McGeever noted that Trainfest is coming up and will be nationally funded. Divisions will participate in planning, Jenny Hendrick to do the booking.

Dan Banks discussed possibilities of Dual Region conventions. He is asking for help from divisions for northern MWR. He also requested that the CID 2025 convention be removed to not coincide/compete with Trainfest. John Coy Moved to accept Dan's request; John Poray seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trainfest will be November 23-24, 2024 at the Baird Center, Milwaukee, WI from 9:00a.m.to 5:00pm, both days.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting of the Midwest Region Board of Directors of the NMRA will be by Zoom on May 3, 2025 from 10 AM – Noon (CDT).

ADJOURN

There being no other business, Jim Landwehr moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Dan Banks. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Daniel Banks

Date: 4/17/2025

Subject: Convention Chair's Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Attempted to join Division 7 of the MCR as they are hosting a 2027 regional convention but there was no interest by Div 7.

Planned Activities

In discussions with John Coy, the region will not be doing a convention in 2025 or 2026 as to not compete with national conventions which are close to the region. There is some thought of doing a virtual convention much like NERx. Will investigate this as an option for 2027.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Jim Osborn, Election Committee Chairman

Date: April 8, 2025

Subject: Election Committee Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

- 1) Created the election ballot after the BoD approval of the candidate slate at the Fall 2024 BoD meeting per the Election Committee Policy and Procedure. The ballot was in both “paper” form for the *Waybill* and as an e-ballot as specified in the revised Election Policy & Procedure.
- 2) Forwarded the “paper” ballot and voting instruction for on-line voting to the *Waybill* editor for inclusion in the winter *Waybill* and launch the on-line e-ballot form.
- 3) Received and counted the ballots after the forthcoming election.
- 4) Prepared and distributed the Election Results report. The report is reprinted on pages 2 and 3 of this report.

Planned Activities

- 1) Destroy and delete the past election ballots per the election policy after approval of the BoD.
- 2) Prepare future election ballots per the Election Committee Policy and Procedure.
- 2) Continue to explore additional electronic voting applications.

To: Midwest Region NMRA Executive Committee

From: Jim Osborn & Steve Miazga

Date: February 8, 2025

Subject: Election Results

The ballots of the recent election were counted and audited on February 6, 2025 by Election Committee members Jim Osborn and Steve Miazga. Ron Scharping, MWR Membership Chairman, verified that all but 3 voters were current members of the Midwest Region December 1, 2025 through January 31, 2025. Ballots from the 3 non-member voters were marked as spoiled.

The results of the voting are as follows:

For President:

John Coy - CID	(132)
Mike Roderick - CID Write-in	(2)
Michael Hirvela - FVD Write-in	(1)
Bob McGeever - SCWD Write-in	(1)
Dan Banks - CID Write-in	(1)
Eric Petersen -CID Write-in	(1)
“Anyone else” Write-in	(1)

For Vice President:

Bob Perry - CID	(97)
Mike Roderick - CID	(46)
Tom Cain - CID Write-in	(1)
“Anyone else” Write-in	(1)

For Director-at-Large:

Mike Hirvela FVD	(86)
Bob Wundrock SCWD	(75)
Larry Nelson IVD	(70)
Jeff Deasy IVD	(56)
Mike Roderick CID	(51)
Mark Faust CID	(39)
Jim Temple Michiana	(40)
Michael Shockley - IVD Write-in	(1)

The winners of the election are:

President:	John Coy – CID
Vice President	Bob Perry - CID
Director at Large	Michael Hirvela – FVD
Director at Large	Bob Wundrock - SCWD
Director at Large	Larry Nelson - IVD

Balloting Summary:

Total E-Ballots Received	154
Total Paper Ballots Received	17
Total Ballots Received	171
Canceled Ballots	12 (Members that voted twice.)
Spoiled Ballots	3
Valid Ballots	156
Votes not cast (under voted)	77 out of 780 opportunities

Ballots Cast By Division (Includes spoiled and duplicates):

Central Indiana (2806)	52
Wisconsin Southeastern (2801)	20
South Central Wisconsin (2802)	19
Illinois Valley (2805)	19
Fox Valley (2809)	18
DuPage (2811)	13
Michiana (2815)	12
WinnebagoLand (2803)	10
Illinois Terminal (2807)	5
Rock River Valley (2810)	3

Thank you to all the candidates for participating and congratulations to all the new officers.

Respectively submitted,

Jim Osborn, Committee Chairman
Steve Miazga, Committee Member

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Jim Osborn, Internet Committee Chm.

Date: April 8, 2025

Subject: Internet Committee Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

- 1) Made updates to the MWR web site per requests from National, the Region & 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 issues and updates.
- 5) Assisted the DuPage division with the population of their mobile friendly web site.
- 6) Assisted the President & Secretary with various web related documents and associated emails.
- 7) Continued to support the use of the Constant Contact email application. Currently the Constant Contact Account is shared among the FVD, SCWD, WISE, CID & RRVD as well as the MWR.
- 8) Tended to monthly updates of the MWR email account.
- 9) Shared the various internet application account credentials with Dan Banks for safe keeping.

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) Supported any division web requirements as requested.
- 4) Assist the Secretary and President with the use of the Constant Contact application for the region.
- 5) Continue to manage monthly updates to the email data base per inputs from the Membership Chairman.
- 6) Support the upcoming election process.
- 7) Paid web related application fees as required. Constant Contact was \$739.20 paid 3/4/25 and JotForm of \$45 12/11/2024.
- 8) Future expenses: JotForm annual expense of approximately \$45/ year due December 11, 2025. KnownHost annual server rental approximately \$165/year due July 31, 2025. Constant Contact annual pre-payment due April 2026 of approximately \$740.00 (plus any price increases.)

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors
From: Steve Studley
Date: 19 April, 2025
Subject: Long Range Planning

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Continue to increase MWR's assistance to the region's divisions during the planning and hosting of yearly conventions. The plan is to make it easier for divisions – regardless of the division's size – to host a convention.

Continue to demonstrate membership opportunities to the general public enticing them to become NMRA members. This is accomplished at the Division level, typically at Division meets.

Planned Activities

My time on the Board is now over. Thanks to all who have served on the Board during the years I was fortunate to have served.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May3,2025

To: Board of Directors
From: Ron Scharping
Date: April 20, 2025
Subject: Membership Coordinator's Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Continued to provide membership information to Division membership coordinators on a monthly basis. The monthly report includes a roster, and the following reports as appropriate: 30 days past due on renewal, 60 days past due on renewal, new members, renewed members, rerailed members, members subscribing to the *Waybill* in the current month, deceased members, and change of address.

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*.

Maintained a table of Division zip codes.

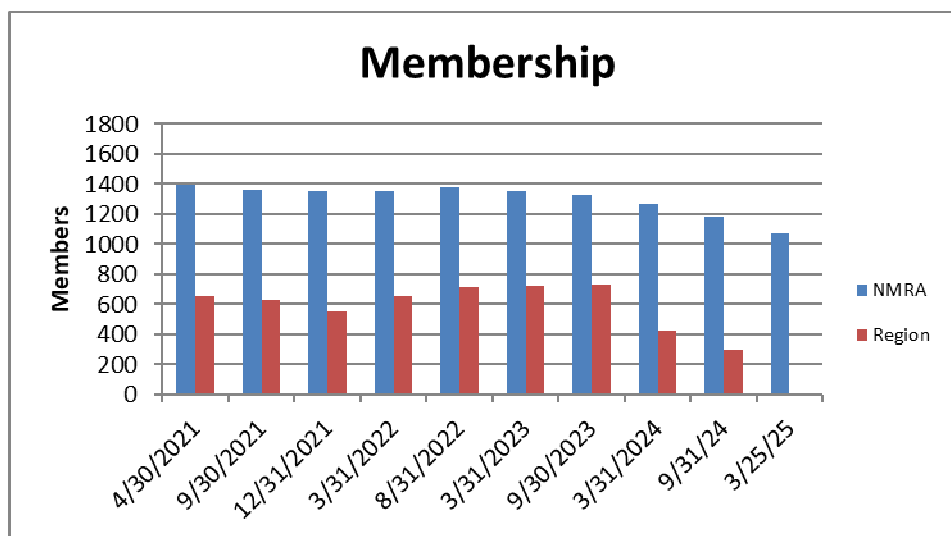
Continued working with the Region Constant Contact Coordinator to synchronize the Region Constant Contact list and the National database email addresses.

Provided the *Waybill* editor with mailing addresses for those NMRA 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

No planned activities. This is my last report to the Board. It has been an honor providing membership information to the Board and the Division officers over these many years. I look forward to working with Bob Landwehr as he takes over this office with the swearing in of the newly elected officers.

Region Membership Data



(Since National has stopped supporting Region newsletters, there is no Region Data for the current period.)

Date		Division										Out of Region	Grand Total
		1	2	3	5	6	7	9	10	11	15		
8/31/20	Region	46	40	40	31	80	9	59	16	66	32	224	643
4/30/21	NMRA	150	131	104	92	217	21	177	76	179	65	182	1394
4/30/21	Region	59	49	42	32	91	11	67	21	67	33	182	654
9/30/21	Region	58	51	42	34	93	11	66	21	71	37	149	633
9/30/21	NMRA	141	137	106	90	219	20	173	76	179	68	149	1358
12.31/22	Region	46	42	38	29	76	11	62	19	62	25	141	551
12.31/22	NMRA	139	134	111	88	218	20	173	77	183	68	141	1352
3/31/22	Region	60	55	47	33	96	11	74	25	76	38	143	658
3/31/22	NMRA	137	140	114	87	217	20	171	77	181	69	143	1356
8/31/22	Region	61	53	45	32	102	11	77	23	85	40	181	710
8/31/22	NMRA	139	137	108	88	213	23	170	66	179	70	181	1374
3/31/23	Region	65	51	49	32	103	11	86	24	79	34	192	726
3/31/23	NMRA	139	134	112	89	213	20	167	64	163	59	192	1352
9/30/23	Region	64	50	49	35	108	12	87	24	77	35	191	732
9/30/23	NMRA	134	126	114	88	208	21	165	65	156	61	191	1329
3/31/24	Region	31	32	27	20	57	8	39	14	43	14	143	428
3/31/24	NMRA	136	133	110	81	213	19	143	70	160	61	143	1269
9/30/24	Region	21	19	25	22	46	8	29	13	30	10	77	300
9/30/24	NMRA	134	127	109	82	202	22	141	70	152	63	77	1179
3/31/25	NMRA	121	124	109	85	197	21	135	68	152	60		1072

(Region members are those members with a Waybill subscription. Since National has stopped supporting Region newsletters, there is no Region Data for the current period.)

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Steve Studley

Date: 19 April, 2025

Subject: Nominations

Activities since Last Board Meeting

A slate of nominees was presented to the Board at the last meeting. There were 10 nominees who were vying for offices of the President, Vice President, and three Directors-at-Large.

Files for the Nominating Committee have been passed to John Coy.

Planned Activities

My time on the Board is now over. Thanks to all who have served on the Board during the years I was fortunate to have served.

Meeting of Board of Directors, MWR, NMRA May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Dr. Robert Perry, MMR #782, Director at Large (term limited),
MWR Vice President Elect

Date: May 3, 2025

Subject: May MWR BOD Zoom Meeting

Activities since Last Board Meeting

- Continued as a Trainmaster for the CID after filling a vacancy. This is in addition to my roles as Layout Tour Manager, Avon Train Display Manager, Mooresville Library Train Display Co-Manager and Co-Manager of Modeler's Meets for the CID.
- Worked on organizing the Modeler's Meet in Carmel, IN for April 5, 2025 at the Carmel Historical Society and Train Depot with Co-Manager John Coy. The main presentation will be by Dave Mashino on Making Realistic Water.
- Attended the Avon Library Train Display at the Avon-Washington Township Library and represented the CID with my Marieville Diorama as well as John and Connie Coy's Toy Train layouts. The event was well attended and garnered a lot of interest in Model Railroading. Discussions ensued with several attendees that are model railroaders (or wannabees) about the merits of NMRA membership.
- Have received the nomination for the VP position in the MWR.
- Have received AP merit for my Prototype Model diorama of the Marieville Train station area. This was my seventh AP certificate which entitled me to receive the Master Model Railroader #782.
- Will be eligible after this meeting to apply for my 8th AP certificate for the "Official" after being on the board of the MWR for three years this April.

Planned Activities

- Will be pursuing arrangements for a Library train show at the Mooresville Public Library for next year. The library is undergoing renovations and will not be available to host us this year.
- At a future date, I will be assisting John Coy in setting up a lecture(s) on Model Railroading and the NMRA at the Avon-Washington Township Library.

- I hope to reschedule a layout tour in the Lafayette area at some point to hopefully include Purdue University as well as they have expressed interest in this. I am in contact with Charles Tuttle to arrange various layouts.
- At the Great Train Show in Indianapolis recently I made contact with the President of the Rose-Holman University Model Railroad Club. We are attempting to get them into a student NMRA membership and get them more involved with the CID and MWR events.
- I am hoping to be able to create, along with MWR President Elect John Coy, a more diversified schedule of events that will be open to members of the MWR and be easier to attend for members that are across our Midwest Region.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Ron Johnson

Date: 3 April 2025

Subject:

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Regarding regional activities, I have done nothing. If I was supposed to be doing something, I have not been informed about it.

Planned Activities

My Division Superintendent, Marty Hendrickx, mentioned to me months ago there was mention (I'm assuming from the Regional Board) that I might be interested in drafting a proposal regarding ways Divisions in our Region could create a model railroad youth organization within the boundaries set by the NMRA AT-RISK PERSONS POLICY. I have not heard any further mention or discussion concerning this idea.

Regarding

I would be interested in working on such a proposal with the help from at least one other Regional Board member - perhaps another member at large.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 2025

To: Board of Directors
From: Burnell Breaker – WISE Interim Superintendent
Date: April 14, 2025
Subject: WISE Division Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Monthly meets December 2024, February and March 2025. Train School January 2025 with over 50 people attending and many of them non-NMRA members.

We are still accepting model railroad estate donations to sell the items as a way to raise money for the WISE Division

Planned Activities

Model Railroad Retreat – September 13, 2025

October 12, 2025 – KMBS Model Railroad Show, will have tables to sell estate items and promote the Division and NMRA.

Membership Meetings – October 18, 2025, March 21, 2025, April 18, 2025

Dates TBA – Lionel Railroad Club Show, will have tables to sell estate items and promote the Division and NMRA.

November 1 & 2, 2025 – Trainfest with a booth to promote the Division and NMRA.

January 10, 2026 – Train School with various stations to help modelers

April 2026 – Metro Railroad Club Train Show, will have tables to sell estate items and promote the Division and NMRA.

To: MWR Secretary

From: Burnell Breaker

Date: April 14, 2025

Subject: Current Roster of Division Officers Report for May 2025

Division: Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE)

President/Superintendent

Name: Burnell Breaker

NMRA Membership Number: 3762

Vice President/Asst Superintendent.

Name: Robert Niedermann

NMRA Membership Number: 134315

Secretary/Clerk

Name: David Rohr

NMRA Membership Number: 3422

Treasurer/Asst. Paymaster

Name: Dennis Janssen

NMRA Membership Number: 148855

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Arthur Dawson Jr., Superintendent, SCWD

Date: 04/20/2025

Subject: Activity report for the South Central Wisconsin Division.

Activities since Last Board Meeting:

- Our Annual Rail School was held in January and well attended.
- The division's Youth Group is doing well and is well supported.
- The Mad City Model Rail Show and Sale in February was a success and will happen again next year.

Planned Activities:

- The Spring Banquet is happening this week.
- The Summer Picnic is scheduled for mid-July at Little Americka in Marshal Wisconsin.
- Division BOD meeting will be held in May and June, to restart again in August prior to first Division meet in September.

To: MWR Secretary
From: Arthur Dawson
Date: 04/20/2025
Subject: Current Roster of Division Officers Report for May 2025

Division: South Central Wisconsin Division

Superintendent
Name: Arthur Dawson
NMRA Membership Number: 097311

Asst Superintendent.
Name: David Down
NMRA Membership Number: 161999

Clerk
Name: David Dingman
NMRA Membership Number: 163716

Paymaster
Name: Bob McGeever
NMRA Membership Number: 143948

Meeting of Board of Directors, Winnebago Land Division MWR, NMRA, March 29, 2025

To: Board of Directors
From: Vern Ehlke
Date: 04/21/2025
Subject: Quarterly BOD Meeting items

Activities since Last Board Meeting

1. Held Zoom call "Workshop Wednesday" March 12th.

Planned Activities

1. Zoom call "Workshop Wednesday" scheduled for May 14th.
2. WLD Elections scheduled for early April.
3. Annual membership meet April 12th in Sheboygan Falls, WI
4. Booth at Titledown Train show on May 3rd -4th.
5. WLD Fall Meet in Marinette October 3rd-4th.
6. WLD Annual Operating Session November 8th.

To: MWR Secretary
From: Vern Ehlke
Date: 04/21/2025
Subject: Current Roster of Division Officers Report

Division: Winnebagoland

President/Superintendent
Name: Paul Hillmer
NMRA Membership Number: 070233

Vice President/Asst Superintendent.
Name: Philip Herman
NMRA Membership Number: 142984

Secretary/Clerk
Name: Vern Ehlke
NMRA Membership Number: 108786

Treasurer/Paymaster
Name: Paul Mastalir
NMRA Membership Number: 143173

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Gary Baker

Date: 4/16/25

Subject: Illinois Valley Division Activity Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Our portable layout continues to be very popular in central Illinois as we have added some new venues where we allow kids to actually run the trains. The annual 4 day Spoon River drive event last October at the narrow gauge museum in Lewistown continues to be a perennial favorite. In December we added the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield to our list of venues with a very good turnout of smiling kids. Unfortunately the regular December setup at the Peoria Train Fair did not happen due to inclement weather. At the Springfield Train Show in March we added a new feature to the annual layout setup by rewarding the kids with a locomotive engineer's license to take home with them. And once again our members were able to put together a starter layout to raffle off for free at the Springfield event.

While the layout is the main draw, we also set up a membership table at each event to promote the NMRA and I am happy to announce that over the past six months this has resulted in signing up five new rail pass members, bringing our membership back up to 85. The challenge now is to get them involved by participation in both the regular IVD meets and future public events involving the portable layout where they can see the impact it has on not only the kids, but the public in general.

Operating sessions among our members are increasing with more of a focus on prototypical operations for those interested in pursuing the Dispatcher AP. Sign up sheets and time logged in each category are recorded and witnessed at each session.

Regarding the AP program, in the last six months two more IVD members have achieved AP awards.

Planned Activities

May 10th is the next scheduled setup of our portable layout at Wildlife Prairie Park. This is a special occasion because the Park has a 24" gauge train that makes a tour of the park over more than a mile of track with out and backs occurring every half hour all day long. The layout will be set up in the train depot which is sure to generate a lot of activity in between train rides all day long. We'll need to make sure to have plenty of spare batteries on hand for the throttles!...

May 17th will be our next regularly scheduled membership meeting at a local library facility.

Finally the summer pot luck at Peck Park in Galesburg will happen again in July. Peck Park is a favorite because it is situated at the junction of two BNSF main lines which makes it a great railfanning location.

To: MWR Secretary

From: Gary Baker

Date: 4/16/25

Subject: Current Roster of Division Officers Report

Division: Illinois Valley

President/Superintendent

Name: Gary Baker

NMRA Membership Number: 126759 00

Vice President/Asst Superintendent.

Name: Minton Dings

NMRA Membership Number: 126114 00

Secretary/Clerk

Name: Randy Sommer

NMRA Membership Number: 168830 00

Treasurer/Paymaster

Name: Jeff Deasy

NMRA Membership Number: 169890

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Daniel Banks
Date: 4/17/2025

Subject: CID Superintendent's Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

The division has held three modelers meets over the winter.
We held a very successful second train show of the year in January.
We continue to have monthly events, both in person and virtually.

The CID helped the Purdue Model Railroad Club with a \$5000 donation to help them acquire new equipment and upgrade existing rolling stock to a more modern standard. Eric Peterson is also working with the club to implement a chapter of American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association providing not just a model railroad experience but an opportunity for students to explore the rail industry as a career.

On 4.12 the Purdue club hosted an open house. Several CID members attended and spent quite a bit of time interacting with the club. We look to continue to foster this relationship with the club.

We are beginning to talk to the Rose Hullman model railroad club as well.

Planned Activities

Continued monthly activities.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Michael L. Hirvela, Superintendent, Fox Valley Division

Date: April 1, 2025

Subject: Fox Valley Division Activity Report for MWR Board of Directors' meeting May, 2025, Rev 1

Activities since Last Board Meeting

The division has continued holding monthly member meetings both in-person and over the Zoom computer system. In-person meetings have been held at the Gary Morava Recreation Center of the Prospect Heights Park District in Prospect Heights, IL, and at the Glenview Public Library in Glenview, IL. The Division Board decided to continue to use the library in Glenview as there is no charge to use the space as long as we have members who reside in the library district. The only drawback is that the requested meeting dates are subject to the library's schedule with not much advance notice. For comparison, the PH Park District charges us \$32 per hour for the meeting room, thus for a 4.5 hour meeting time period, the park district charges \$145.

Member participation in the monthly meetings averages 18 in-person and another 15-18 over the net for an overall average of 34. This is an average attendance before the COVID situation arose and we are encouraged by the monthly attendees whether in-person or over the net.

Presentations in-person and via the Zoom computer system. We have had local presenters talking about fabricating pulpwood cars, and a vacation trip to Switzerland. Over Zoom we have presenters from CID about dry-powdered glues and from the Sunshine Division on Long Island, NY, about modeling Urban landscapes and the tunneling under Grand Central Terminal in Manhattan, NY; along with two presentations about livestock and other livestock; and a presentation about 3-D printing.

The Division was contacted after Thanksgiving 2024 by the Chaplain of the Children's Hospital at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL, for assistance with two small N scale layouts that were not working. Division personnel troubleshooted the units and diagnosed faulty electrical switches and a lack of basic maintenance. The switches were procured and installed, the locomotives and rolling stock wheels along with the track were cleaned and both units were restored to running condition in February 2025. Additionally, Kato USA responded to a letter for support and kindly donated two N scale train sets and offered further assistance in maintaining the two layouts. A win-win for the FVD, MWR and The NMRA.

Planned Activities

The division plans on holding member meetings on April 27th (our Annual Meeting of the Members) and on May 18th, which concludes our 2024-2025 season. We will re-commence monthly meetings in September. We do plan on holding a summer outing in July to the Illinois Railway Museum for a "behind-the-scenes-tour" of one of the backshops. We also encourage our members to take advantage of historical society gatherings, announced train tours and activities over the summer, such as the

Pullman Railroad Days in historic Pullman, IL; the 90th Anniversary NMRA National Convention in nearby Novi, Michigan; and other railroad-related events during the summer. Also, plans are in work for the upcoming 2025-2026 modeling season.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Alex Schneider, Superintendent, Du Page Division

Date: April 18, 2025

Subject: Du Page Division Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

1. Monthly meetings, generally the second Sunday of September, first Sundays October through April. Model railroad presentation, member-judged contest, refreshments, business as needed.
2. Division board meetings following monthly meetings, November and February. April meeting postponed due to illness of superintendent and several board members.
3. All American Railroad (public) show, Lyons Twp. HS, La Grange IL – March 29, 2025. Paid attendance ~ 1800.

Planned Activities

1. Layout tour planned for afternoon of Sunday, May 4.
2. Outing during summer months, date TBA.
3. Promoting attendance at NMRA National, July 2025.

To: MWR Secretary
From: Alex Schneider
Date: 4/18/2025
Subject: Current Roster of Division Officers Report

Division: Du Page

President/Superintendent
Name: Alex Schneider
NMRA Membership Number: 028355

Vice President/Asst Superintendent.
Name: Bill Drzal
NMRA Membership Number: 144861

Secretary/Clerk
Name: James Marciniak
NMRA Membership Number: 098532

Treasurer/Paymaster
Name: Ron Scharping
NMRA Membership Number: 029908

David Angus	1277 Seabury Cir	Carol Stream	IL	60188-4822	Trainmaster	L00774	12/31/2099
Bill Drzal	38w419 Mcquire Pl	Geneva	IL	60134-6072	Asst. Superintendent	144861	5/31/2025
Patrick Golden	1525 Harrison St	La Grange Park	IL	60526-1338	Trainmaster	120829	10/31/2025
Fred Henize	23009 S Frances Way	Channahon	IL	60410-3103	Trainmaster	076486	12/31/2025
James Marciniak	249 Gage Rd	Riverside	IL	60546-2348	Chief Clerk	098532	6/30/2026
Ronald Scharping	6145 Plymouth St	Downers Grove	IL	60516-1783	Paymaster	029908	8/31/2025
Robert Schiavone	811 Erie Ct	Carol Stream	IL	60188-1418	Trainmaster	088775	10/31/2026
Kim Schlytter	6554 Deerpath Ct	Lisle	IL	60532-3309	Trainmaster	147789	4/30/2026
Alexander Schneider	610 E Belmont Ave	Addison	IL	60101-2909	Superintendent	028355	8/31/2027
Tim Schubert	1278 Oxford Ln	Wheaton	IL	60187-8410	Trainmaster	098531	9/30/2025
Richard Strebendt	26 W 135 Durfee Rd	Wheaton	IL	60189	Trainmaster	021216	9/30/2025
Perry Sugerman	1500 Dickson Ave	Downers Grove	IL	60516-3243	Trainmaster	L03564	12/31/2099

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Greg Bueltmann, Michiana Division

Date: May 3, 2025

Subject: Michiana Activity Report

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Michiana BoD Meetings (12/15//2024, 3/9/2025)

Michiana Division Outings (Elkhart Train Club Show, Layout Tours, Division 9 Joint Meeting)

Weekly Thursday Evening Zoom Calls

Date	Topic	Presenter
12/5/24	Modeling Bowstring Truss Roofs	Seth Lakin
12/12/24	Steamboat Rock and NMRA Trivia	David Nelson and John Coy
12/19/24	A Lazy Man's Steamer	Clark Propst
12/26/24	Piggy Back Cars	Ron Christensen
1/2/24	Flat Car Loads and the Cars that Haul Them	Mont Switzer
1/9/25	LCC Update	Dan Brewer
1/16/25	Layout Done	Steve Miazga, MMR
1/30/25	Pennsy Extended Bunker Tenders	Ken Hough
2/6/25	Employee Timetable for the Blackhawk Lines	Bob Blake
2/15/25	Electronic Blue Flag Project	Dan Brewer
2/20/25	Running Trains Scheduled and Extra on the M&NRC	Lester Breuer
2/27/25	M&StL Station Car Record Book	Clark Propst
3/6/25	Scale Size Wheels	Ken Thompson
3/13/25	Mason City and Clear Lake RR	Jason Klocke
3/20/25	Sill Steps or Stirrup Steps	Dave Nelson
3/27/25	2016 Favorite Freight Car Projects Monon 40' Boxcars	Mont Switzer
4/3/25	Favorite Freight Car Projects Monon 40' Piggy Back Trailers	Mont Switzer

Planned Activities

Quarterly BoD Meetings, Monthly Clinics, and weekly Thursday sessions will continue.

To: MWR Secretary
From: Greg Bueltmann, Michiana Division
Date: May 3, 2025
Subject: Current Roster of Division Officers Report for May 2025

Division: Michiana Division

President/Superintendent
Name: Greg Bueltmann
NMRA Membership Number: 164834 00

Secretary/Clerk
Name: John Banicki
NMRA Membership Number: 159566 00

Treasurer/Paymaster
Name: Jim Temple
NMRA Membership Number: 131269 00

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors
From: Steve Studley
Date: 19 April, 2025
Subject: Immediate Past President

Activities since Last Board Meeting

Files for the Nominating Committee have been passed to John Coy.

Planned Activities

My time on the Board is now over. Thanks to all who have served on the Board during the years I was fortunate to have served.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Connie Coy

Date: May 3, 2025

Subject: MWR Secretary Report

This is my 4th year as Secretary for the Midwest region, NMRA. I have been involved with the CID as a Board Member and Trainmaster, assisting with Modelers Meets, Library Shows that promote the hobby and train shows.

I have continued to serve as MWR Secretary and appreciate the timely submission of reports from our Board of Directors. I plan on remaining Secretary as long as my health permits.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve my fellow modelers in this capacity.

Respectfully,

Connie J. Coy, MMR #763
MWR Secretary
Central Indiana Division

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors
From: Bob McGeever
Date: 4/19/2025
Subject: Acting Treasurer Report

Cash on Hand as of 4/19/2025 total is \$37,961.25 held in following accounts:

- BMO 13 Month CD \$15,856.23
- BMO Elite Money Market \$ 5,058.98
- BMO Checking \$17226.04

Net transactions since November is negative \$960.49

- BMO 13 Month CD \$ 270.51 Interest
- BMO Elite Money Market \$ 17.47 Interest
- BMO Checking \$ 1028.03 Deposits
- BMO Checking \$ 2096.30 Expenses

The details are in the attached Transaction Detail report.

Some of our cash on hand is reserved. The total reserved is \$ 8,822.24

- Moskal Awards Fund \$ 165.20
- Youth Program Funds \$ 6,560.74
- Division Revenue Sharing \$ 2,044.00

That leaves \$ 29,139.01 available for general regional operations.

Comments

- The final hard copy of the regional newsletter has been mailed. This will reduce operating expenses by about \$2,000 a year. That is the lions share of our annual expenses these days.
- I plan to send the Division Revenue sharing checks out prior to MWR BOD meeting.
- Although we are not in immediate difficulty, we have no regular form of income. Without the expenses of a hard copy newsletter and a regional convention, we have enough cash on hand to cover operations for several years. But sometime in the future we are going to need a source of income to support our operations.

11:38 AM

04/19/25

Cash Basis

Midwest Region NMRA Transaction Detail By Account

November 1, 2024 through May 1, 2025

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Class	Clr	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
Bank Accounts										
BMO 13 Month CD										
Deposit	01/02/2025		Interest Income	Deposit			Interest Income	201.76	201.76	201.76
Deposit	02/03/2025		Interest Income	Deposit			Interest Income	68.75	68.75	270.51
Total BMO 13 Month CD									270.51	270.51
BMO Elite Money Market										
Deposit	11/29/2024		BMO	Deposit		X	Interest Income	4.11	4.11	4.11
Deposit	12/31/2024		BMO	Deposit		X	Interest Income	3.43	3.43	7.54
Deposit	01/31/2025		BMO	Deposit		X	Interest Income	3.42	3.42	10.96
Deposit	02/28/2025		BMO	Deposit		X	Interest Income	3.09	3.09	14.05
Deposit	03/31/2025		BMO	Deposit		X	Interest Income	3.42	3.42	17.47
Total BMO Elite Money Market									17.47	17.47
BMO Harris Checking										
Deposit	11/15/2024		NMRA	Deposit		X	Subscriptions	23.03	23.03	23.03
Check	12/26/2024	5001	Jim Osborn	JotForm Yea...		X	Web	-45.00	-45.00	-21.97
Check	12/26/2024	5002	Ideal Printing & Gr...			X	-SPLIT-	-685.17	-685.17	-707.14
Check	02/10/2025		State Farm	D&O ins 1 ye...		X	D&O Insurance	-180.00	-180.00	-887.14
Check	03/11/2025		Jim Osborn	Constant Co...		X	Web	-739.20	-739.20	-1,626.34
Deposit	03/12/2025		NMRA	Deposit		X	Revenue Sha...	1,005.00	1,005.00	-621.34
Check	04/07/2025		Ideal Printing & Gr...				-SPLIT-	-447.13	-447.13	-1,068.47
Total BMO Harris Checking									-1,068.47	-1,068.47
Bank Accounts - Other										
Check	02/03/2025	2098	State Farm	D & O Ins			D&O Insurance	-180.00	-180.00	-180.00
Total Bank Accounts - Other									-180.00	-180.00
Total Bank Accounts									-960.49	-960.49
TOTAL									-960.49	-960.49

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Michael L. Hirvela, MWR Vice-President and Special Projects

Date: April 1, 2025

Subject: Vice-President Report for MWR BoD – Oct 2024 – May 2025

Activities since Last Board Meeting

As Vice-President I have continued to represent and support the President and the Region. I kept in contact with President McGeever during the fall and winter months going into 2025 and was excited to see WISE Division become an active division again.

Special Projects: None assigned, therefore no report.

Planned Activities

Continue to be supportive of the Region's efforts and participate in MWR-related activities, until relieved as Vice-President.

Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, May 3, 2025

To: Board of Directors
From: Bob McGeever
Date: 4/20/2025
Subject: President's Report

One item that keeps falling down my to-do list is the reactivation of the Youth Programs Fund.

As noted in the Treasurer's report, the MWR is holding about \$6,500 designated for youth programs.

I have given up on finding a copy of the application form and have created a new one. It is attached to this report. Also attached are the sections in our Executive Handbook that cover the Youth Fund.

I recommend the BOD adopt the new application and start accepting applications for funds from the Divisions.

Planned Activities

I have been asked to be the Layout Coordinator for the new NMRA sponsored Trainfest.

Kick back and enjoy the job of being past president of the MWR.



Midwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association



Application for Youth Funds

Date: _____

From: _____

Division: _____

The above Division requests that the MWR BOD grant funds from the MWR Youth Fund to be used in support of youth activities per the Midwest Region Youth Fund Policies and Procedures.

Amount Requested: _____

Description of Youth activity to be funded: (attach supporting documentation if needed)

Explanation of Costs: (attach supporting documentation if needed)

Youth Committee Recommendation to MWR BOD:

Item 88

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, April 19, 2009

Midwest Region Youth Fund

Mission: To promote the interest and participation of youth in the model railroad hobby.

Enactment: Implementation shall be, but not limited to, the following activities.

1. Advisor instruction and guidance to:
 - a. Youth model railroad clubs.
 - b. Boy Scout merit badge.
 - c. Rail school activities.
 - d. Rail show "Make & Take" projects
(With the exception of a. & b. an adult must accompany each child.)
2. Financial support coverage of:
 - a. Kits required for projects @ 100%
 - b. Modeling materials required @ 100%
 - c. Miscellaneous supplies: glue etc. @ 100%
 - d. Tools required; knife, screwdriver, file etc. @ 50%
3. Method of payment:
 - a. Report of activity submitted with request for payment to Youth Fund Chairman for review and evaluation to include:
 - 1) Essay explanation of event date and location, project undertaken, public adult participation, youth participants, and sponsoring organization volunteers participating and hours expended.
 - 2) Detailed accounting of expenses for materials, kits, tools, awards, etc.
 - 3) General review statements from public participants.
 - 4) Supporting photographs, if available.
 - 5) Request for payment must be submitted at least 30 days prior to next Board of Directors meeting.
 - b. Payment will be limited to \$500.00 maximum per division per year.

Gary Children said he had received a Certificate of Liability Insurance for 2008-2009. The Certificate is attached as Item 82.

Old Business

Tim Schubert said attorney review of our draft 501(c)(3) application is in progress. He is optimistic about getting the application filed later this year or early next year.

The Board discussed the Nominating Committee report. Since there were no nominations from the floor, on motion by Jim Osborn, seconded by Dave Poquette, the Board unanimously slated the following candidates for the 2009 election:

For President	Bill Litkenhous, Central Indiana Division
For Vice President	Paul Mangan, South Central Wisconsin Division
For Director-at-Large	Chris Roeben, South Central Wisconsin Division Jim Wise, Illinois Valley Division Duke Yerman, North Shore & Western Division

On behalf of Don Brindle, Bert Lattan reviewed the flyer attached as Item 81 regarding Rockford Route – Ride the Line 2009, the Region’s 2009 Spring Convention at the Clock Tower Resort & Conference Center in Rockford, Illinois. Dates are April 17, 18 & 19. A registration form will be included in the Winter 2008 *Waybill*.

Due to the NMRA 75th Anniversary National Convention in Milwaukee, there will be no 2010 Spring Convention. However, the Region will need to hold an Annual Meeting of Members and a Spring Board of Directors meeting. Paul Mangan said that SCWD planned to hold the 2011 Spring Convention at the Radisson Hotel Madison. The Region needs convention bids for 2012 and later years.

The Board discussed the Rock River Valley Division’s request for \$847.11 from the Youth Fund and Capt. Nelson’s recommendation for a \$425.00 grant. During the discussion the Board asked the Secretary to research and report on past Board actions with respect to the Youth Fund. Following the discussion, on motion by Bill Litkenhous, seconded by Jim Wise, the Board approved a \$425 Youth Fund grant for the Rock River Valley Division.

(Secretary’s Note: As requested, I have researched Board action regarding the Youth Fund. The October 11, 1997 Board meeting minutes include the following paragraph: “A discussion was held relating to the unexpected profits from the National Auction. The \$5,171.00 will be placed into a special account and held unused until a committee can draft a special motion for assigned use to support ‘youth in scouting’ as an escrow account.”

At the January 17, 1998 meeting, Bob Guinter volunteered to be a member of the committee. At the April 19, 1998 meeting, Bob submitted a draft resolution for a Youth Development Fund (copy attached as Item 83). A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the proposal for further review. In subsequent minutes, the Youth Fund was included in the Treasurer’s report, but I could not find a motion adopting this resolution.

At the May 7, 2000 meeting, a \$338.00 donation to the Youth Fund from the Lake Junction 2000 auction proceeds was reported. At the August 24, 2002 meeting a \$931.77 donation to the Youth Fund by the Park Ridge & Western Modelers Society was reported.

Also at the August 24, 2002 meeting, the Board approved the current Youth Fund Policies & Procedures. They are attached as Item 84. At the September 27, 2003 meeting, Dick Cecil appointed a committee to make recommendations regarding the Youth Fund. The committee reported its ideas at the December 24, 2004 meeting. Because the Board was unable to reach a consensus on the committee's recommendations, it decided to ask the Divisions for input. Accordingly, I sent the e-mail attached as Item 85 to the Division Superintendents.

At the April 24, 2005 meeting, the Board funded four requests, two in cash and two in kind. The minutes included the following commentary: "Although the Youth Fund was created almost eight years ago, this is the first time that the Youth Fund has granted money to a Division or allocated car kits to a Division without reimbursement. From the discussion, the Board expects to continue funding Division youth programs on a case-by-case basis, but it prefers programs where there is a direct correlation between the requested funding and the youth being served."

The Board approved another cash grant on April 22, 2007. At the May 11, 2008 meeting, the process for requesting funds stated in Item 85 was reviewed. That resulted in the request considered at this meeting.)

New Business

On motion by Dave Poquette, seconded by Paul Mangan, the Board approved the appointment of David Leider as *Waybill* Editor (Publications Committee Chairman).

Announcements

Gary Children thanked the DuPage Division for hosting the Board meeting and providing lunch.

Gary Children said that the Spring 2009 meeting of the Board will be held on Sunday, April 19, 2009 at the Clock Tower Resort & Conference Center in Rockford, Illinois. The meeting will begin at 9:00 am.

On motion by Dave Poquette, seconded by Chris Roeben, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bert Lattan
Secretary

Item 83

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, October 5, 2008

Note: The following is a draft motion that was submitted to the April 19, 1998 meeting of the Board. It was accepted for review, but never adopted.

MIDWEST REGION, N.M.R.A.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE REPORT

RESOLVED:

That the monies received by the Midwest Region from the auction at the 1997 National Convention in Madison, Wisconsin, shall be designated as the Youth Development Fund.

That these funds be used only to encourage young people to join the N.M.R.A. through programs such as: "Make and Take" where young people are coached to build a model railroad car at train shows and take it with them when they complete it; the Boy Scout Railroading Merit Badge program where Scouts are aided in their efforts by N.M.R.A. member counselors; and similar programs which may come to the Midwest Region Board's attention.

That the disposition of the funds be managed by the Midwest Region Board of Directors who shall respond to written requests for funding assistance at regular board meetings. This fund may not be used for any operating finances of the Region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That if the Region begins collecting dues of its members this Fund shall become a part of the Region's budget and be funded from the dues collected. The amount set aside for this item of the budget shall be determined by the Region Board of Directors when the operating budget is developed.

Item 84

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, October 5, 2008

3.12 Youth Fund

Policy

The Midwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association has established a monetary account officially known as the Midwest Region Youth Fund. The purpose of this fund is to make available printed educational materials, tools and other necessary items to introduce youth to the hobby of model railroading.

1. Printed materials available are in abbreviated booklet form for individual students, accompanied by a full set of instructions for the sponsoring organization.
2. Basic tools available at present are 2-piece small screwdriver set, 12-piece file set & 6-blade hobby knife set.
3. Model railroad freight car kits are available at a very minimal price.
4. Region Youth Fund Chairman is available for travel to organizations wishing to conduct a "Rail School" for 15 or more students simultaneously. This is to be a one-time trip per organization to assist in the set up and operation of a rail school. A two-month lead time request is necessary to acquire services of Chairman.
5. Organizational activities must be approved by recommendation of Youth Fund Chairman to Board of Directors prior to reimbursement for any expenses incurred in youth activities.
6. Upon establishment of an activity, it shall become listed as a procedure and no further Board of Directors approval is necessary, provided materials and supplies are purchased through Midwest Region Youth Fund.
7. THE OBJECTIVE OF MIDWEST REGION IS TO MAINTAIN THE PRINCIPAL OF THIS FUND USING INVESTMENT EARNINGS TO FINANCE GENERAL OPERATIONS AND INCIDENTAL COSTS.

Procedures

Boy Scouts of America Merit Badge.

1. Scout registration fee of \$8.00 covers purchase of two model rail cars, printed study booklet, and use of available tools.
2. Sponsor organization will purchase from Midwest Region Youth Fund two model rail cars and printed study booklet for each scout at a cost of \$6.50 per scout.

3. Additional \$1.50 collected by sponsor organization will be used to purchase basic tools, as indicated in policy sheet, and any rental or associated charges connected with event.
4. Charges to individual scout (\$8.00) may be waived or reduced by sponsoring organization at their discretion; however the \$6.50 per scout cost payable to Midwest region is not negotiable.
5. MB101 form shall be returned to Midwest Region for reference.
6. Name, address and NMRA Membership number of instructors to be furnished to Youth Chairman for submission to National Model Railroad Association for Association Volunteer Credit.

Item 85

Minutes, Meeting of Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, October 5, 2008

From: (Secretary)
To: (Division Superintendents)
Cc: (President)
(Treasurer)
(Youth Committee Chairman)
Subject: Youth Fund Budget Requests for 2005;
Reply Requested by February 15, 2005
Date: Thu, 16 Dec 2004

Since the Youth Fund was established several years ago, the Midwest Region Board of Directors has struggled to develop a policy for utilization of the fund. Some Directors believe the fund should be used to purchase rolling stock or other kits for use in youth "make & take" programs. Others think the fund should be used to underwrite NMRA youth memberships or subscriptions to model railroading magazines. Or to provide "per capita" reimbursements to Divisions to help finance their youth programs. Or to...

Unfortunately, no consensus for utilization of the fund has developed. As a result, at its meeting on Sunday, December 12, 2004, the Board decided to ask the Divisions to submit budget requests for utilization of the fund in 2005. If your Division wants to participate, please prepare a budget request describing your youth program. Include the number of youth participating in your 2005 program, the expected cost per capita and the expected total cost of the program. E-mail your budget request and any supporting material to (the) Region Treasurer, and to (the) Youth Fund Chair.

(They) must receive your request no later than Tuesday, February 15, 2005. They will review your request and submit it to the Board for consideration at its meeting on Sunday, April 24, 2005, during the Region's Spring Convention in Madison, Wisconsin. You will be advised of the results of the Board's consideration of your request shortly after the meeting. Because the Board may fund all of your request, some of your request or none of your request, do not make any commitments prior to being advised of the Board's action that you are not prepared to fund exclusively from your Division's resources.

If you have any questions about this e-mail, please contact (the Treasurer).

Secretary, Midwest Region

**Midwest Region
National Model Railroad Association, Inc.**

Bylaws

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**Midwest Region
National Model Railroad Association, Inc.**

Bylaws

Article I – Purpose, Authority, and Administration

1. The purpose of these Bylaws is to facilitate the governance and administration of the Midwest Region (hereinafter the “Region”) of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. (hereinafter the “NMRA”).
2. These Bylaws are established pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the Region’s Constitution. The Region’s Constitution, these Bylaws and the Policies & Procedures provided for in Article IX below set forth rules regulating the affairs of the Region. Collectively these organizational documents constitute the Executive Handbook.
3. The Region’s principal office shall be at the address of the President or such other address as determined by the Board of Directors (hereinafter the “Board”). The Region may have additional offices at other places as determined by the Board.
4. Cash assets shall be maintained by the Treasurer in one or more bank accounts pursuant to Article II, Section 4, Subsection a below. Non-cash assets shall be entrusted to members as determined by the President.
5. The fiscal year of the Region shall be the calendar year.

Article II – Officers

1. President.
 - a. The President shall have general supervision over all of the affairs of the Region; shall preside at all meetings of the members, of the Board and of the Executive Committee; shall appoint all committees except the Executive Committee and except as provided in Article IV below; shall fulfill all of the functions of the office prescribed in the Region’s Constitution or elsewhere in these Bylaws and with the approval of the Executive Committee shall take action on all matters not covered in the Constitution or these Bylaws which will advance the purposes of the Region.
 - b. The President shall be elected in odd-numbered years by the resident members of the Region for a term of two (2) years. Balloting shall be regulated by Policies & Procedures adopted by the Election Committee provided for in Article IV, Section 1,

Subsection d below. In the event of a tie, a majority of the incumbent Board members attending the Spring meeting of the Board shall break the tie by written ballot. The President may serve two (2) complete consecutive terms in office before a break in service. The President may not serve concurrently in any other office, as a Director-at-Large or as a Division Director.

- c. Any vacancy occurring in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice President.

2. Vice President.

- a. The Vice President shall serve as Chairman of the Promotions and Special Projects Committee provided for in Article IV, Section 1, Subsection j below and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President. The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the President's absence or temporary inability to serve.
- b. The Vice President shall be elected in odd-numbered years by the resident members of the Region for a term of two (2) years. Balloting shall be regulated by Policies & Procedures adopted by the Election Committee provided for in Article IV, Section 1, Subsection d below. In the event of a tie, a majority of the incumbent Board members attending the Spring meeting of the Board shall break the tie by written ballot. The Vice President may serve two (2) complete consecutive terms in office before a break in service. The Vice President may not serve concurrently in any other office, as a Director-at-Large or as a Division Director.
- c. Any vacancy occurring in the office of Vice President shall be filled by appointment by the President and confirmed by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

3. Secretary.

- a. The Secretary shall prepare minutes of all meetings of the members, of the Board and of the Executive Committee; shall maintain the Executive Handbook; shall distribute the minutes and the Executive Handbook to the members of the Board by electronic or regular mail; shall publish the minutes and the Executive Handbook on the Secretary's Page of the Region's Website; shall advise the Board of changes in the Regulations of the NMRA (hereinafter the Regulations) that may affect the Executive Handbook and shall fulfill all of the functions of the office prescribed in the Constitution and elsewhere in these Bylaws.
- b. The Secretary shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board. The Secretary may serve indefinitely. The Secretary may not serve concurrently in any other office, as a Director-at-Large or as a Division Director.
- c. Any vacancy occurring in the office of Secretary shall be filled by appointment by the President and confirmed by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

4. Treasurer.

- a. The Treasurer shall maintain books and records of the financial transactions of the Region; shall, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, open and close bank accounts and make investments as necessary; shall report the Region's financial position and results of operation for the prior calendar year to the Board at its Spring meeting; shall submit the books and records for the prior calendar year to the Audit Committee provided for in Article IV, Section 1, Subsection a below within thirty (30) days after the Board's Spring meeting; shall report the Region's financial position and results of operation for the current calendar year to date to the Board at its Fall meeting; shall submit a budget for the next calendar year to the Board at its Fall meeting and shall fulfill all of the functions of the office prescribed in the Constitution and elsewhere in these Bylaws.
- b. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board. The Treasurer may serve indefinitely. The Treasurer may not serve concurrently in any other office, as a Director-at-Large or as a Division Director.
- c. Any vacancy occurring in the office of Treasurer shall be filled by appointment by the President and confirmed by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

5. Immediate Past President

- a. The Immediate Past President shall serve as Chairman of the Long Range Planning and Implementation Committee provided for in Article IV, Section 1, Subsection g below and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.
 - b. The President shall become the Immediate Past President at the end of his or her tenure. The Immediate Past President shall serve until his or her successor as President completes his or her tenure. The Immediate Past President may not serve concurrently in any other office, as a Director-at-Large or as a Division Director.
 - c. Any vacancy occurring in the office of Immediate Past President shall be filled by the appointment of a former President by the President and confirmed by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.
6. An officer may be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) roll call vote at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Article III – Directors

1. The Directors-at-Large and the Division Directors in conjunction with the Officers shall form the Board and shall be responsible for the governance and administration of the Region between meetings of the members.

2. Three (3) Directors-at-Large shall be elected in odd-numbered years and four (4) Directors-at-Large shall be elected in even-numbered years by the resident members of the Region for a term of two (2) years. Balloting shall be regulated by Policies & Procedures adopted by the Election Committee provided for in Article IV, Section 1, Subsection d below. In the event of a tie, a majority of the incumbent Board members attending the Spring meeting of the Board shall break the tie by written ballot. A Director-at-Large may serve two (2) complete consecutive terms in office before a break in service. A Director-at-Large may not serve concurrently as an Officer or as a Division Director. Any vacancy among the seven (7) Directors-at-Large shall be filled by appointment by the President and confirmed by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.
3. Each Division shall designate a Division Director to represent that Division and an Alternate Division Director to receive copies of communications from the Region to the Division. The name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of each Division Director and Alternate Division Director shall be certified by the Chief Clerk or Secretary of each Division to the Secretary by electronic or regular mail whenever a change occurs. Unless proscribed by his or her Division, a Division Director or an Alternate Division Director may serve indefinitely. A Division Director may not serve concurrently as an Officer or as a Director-at-Large. Unless Article V, Section 8 below applies, each Division will promptly designate a replacement Division Director and Alternate Division Director whenever a vacancy occurs. If a Division fails to designate a Division Director or an Alternate Division Director, the Division Superintendent or President will be deemed to be the Division Director and the Division Assistant Superintendent or Vice President will be deemed to be the Alternate Division Director.
4. A director may be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) roll call vote at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Article IV – Committees

1. The following Standing Committees and Subcommittees are established to carry out prescribed functions:
 - a. Audit.
 - 1) Function: Responsible for annually reviewing the Treasurer's books and records for the prior calendar year. The review shall begin no later than forty-five (45) days after the Spring meeting of the Board. The results of the review shall be reported at the Fall meeting of the Board.
 - 2) Membership: A Chairman and other members as deemed necessary by the Chairman.

b. Clinic Clearing House.

- 1) Function: Responsible for compiling, cataloging and disseminating a list of currently available clinics.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman and the Division Clinic Coordinators provided for in Article V, Section 4 below. A Division's Clinic Coordinator should be the individual who schedules clinics for the Division.

c. Convention.

- 1) Function: Responsible for securing one (1) or more bids at least two (2) years in advance of the Annual Convention provided for in Article VII, Section 1 below and for coordinating the Region's requirements with the host organization after its bid is accepted by the Board.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman, the Chairmen of the Subcommittees enumerated below and the Division Convention Coordinators provided for in Article V, Section 4 below. A Division's Convention Coordinator should be an individual who is familiar with the conduct of Region conventions.
- 3) Requirement: Establish and maintain Convention Committee Policies & Procedures.
- 4) Subcommittees:
 - a) Model Contest: Responsible for conducting model contests at conventions and for selecting qualified judges for the various contests.
 - b) Photo Contest: Responsible for conducting photo contests at conventions and for selecting qualified judges for the various contests.

Each Subcommittee shall consist of a Chairman and other members as deemed necessary by the Chairman.

d. Election.

- 1) Function: Responsible for preparing, distributing and counting ballots for the election of the President, Vice President and Directors-at-Large and for amendments to the Constitution.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman and one other member who lives in the vicinity of the Chairman.

- 3) Requirement: Establish and maintain Election Committee Policies & Procedures that preserve the right of members to write in names not otherwise on a ballot.

e. Internet.

- 1) Function: Responsible for establishing and maintaining a Region Website for the purpose of disseminating Region information to members and to the general public.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman, who will normally be the Region's Webmaster, the Secretary and the Division Internet Coordinators provided for in Article V, Section 4 below. A Division's Internet Coordinator should be the Division's Webmaster or, if the Division does not have a Webmaster, a member with sufficient knowledge of the Division's operations that he or she can facilitate maintenance of a Division web page within the Region's webspace by the Region's Webmaster.

f. Long Range Planning and Implementation.

- 1) Function: Responsible for formulating and implementing approved long range goals, plans and programs to foster the purposes of the Region as stated in Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman, who as provided in Article II, Section 5, Subsection a above shall be the Immediate Past President, and other members as deemed necessary by the Chairman.

g. Membership.

- 1) Function: Responsible for coordinating membership matters between the Administration Department of the NMRA (hereinafter the "Administration Department") and the Divisions, for disseminating membership data received from the Administration Department to the Divisions and for providing member electronic and/or regular mail address information to the Officers and/or appropriate Committees for purposes of fulfilling responsibilities enumerated in Article VII below and elsewhere in the Executive Handbook.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman and the Division Membership Coordinators provided for in Article V, Section 4 below. A Division's Membership Coordinator should be the individual who is the point of contact for membership matters within the Division.
- 3) Requirement: Establish and maintain Membership Committee Policies & Procedures that include the table provided for in Article V, Section 1 below that correlates each Zip Code in the Region with the appropriate Division.

h. Nominating.

- 1) Function: Responsible for developing a list of candidates to be placed on the annual ballot by its own nomination and/or by acceptable nominating petitions. The list and a biography & photograph for each candidate shall be filed with the Secretary by electronic or regular mail at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Fall meeting of the Board.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman and two (2) other members, each of whom are from different Divisions.
- 3) Requirement: Establish and maintain Nominating Committee Policies & Procedures that preserve the right of members to place a resident member's name in nomination by filing a petition signed by at least ten (10) resident members with the Chairman at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Fall meeting of the Board.

i. Promotions and Special Projects.

- 1) Function: Responsible for developing programs promoting model railroading and membership in the NMRA and for developing special offers for fund raising and other purposes.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman, who as provided in Article II, Section 2, Subsection a above shall be the Vice President, and other members as deemed necessary by the Chairman.

j. Publications

- 1) Function: Responsible for publishing and distributing the *Waybill* pursuant to Article VIII, Section 1 below.
- 2) Membership: A Chairman, who will normally be the Editor of the *Waybill*, and the Division Publications Coordinators provided for in Article V, Section 4 below. A Division's Publications Coordinator should be the individual who is the editor of the Division's newsletter or similar publication.
- 3) Requirement: Establish and maintain Publications Committee Policies & Procedures.

k. Youth

- 1) Function: Responsible for coordinating Region support of the Scout Merit Badge or similar programs and for administering the Youth Fund.

- 2) Membership: A Chairman and other members as deemed necessary by the Chairman.
 - 3) Requirement: Establish and maintain Youth Committee/Youth Fund Policies & Procedures.
2. The President may establish ad hoc committees for any purpose. All such committees shall be dissolved at the end of the appointing President's tenure.
 3. Committee members shall be members of the Region, but do not need to be members of the Board.
 4. Except as otherwise provided in the Subsections of Article IV, Section 1 above, Chairmen and members of standing committees shall be appointed by the President, where practicable within ninety (90) days after assuming office, and shall serve at the President's pleasure.
 5. Whenever a Chairman determines that additional committee members are necessary to accomplish the functions of his or her committee, the Chairman will submit names of recommended individuals to the President for appointment. If the President declines to appoint a recommended individual, he or she will notify the Chairman so that the Chairman can recommend another individual.
 6. Chairmen may, at their discretion, call meetings of their committees or subcommittees for the purpose of coordinating, initiating, planning and implementing a particular project, function or duty for which their respective committees or subcommittees are responsible. Committees or subcommittees may meet in person, by teleconference or by other electronic means.

Article V – Divisions

1. Pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Constitution, the following Divisions are established:
 - a. Wisconsin Southeastern (WSE) – 2801

Includes the following counties in the State of Wisconsin: Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha.
 - b. South Central Wisconsin (SCW) – 2802

Includes the following counties in the State of Wisconsin: Adams, Columbia, Dane, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, Lafayette, Richland, and Sauk.
 - c. WinnebagoLand (WLD) – 2803

Includes the following counties in the State of Michigan: Alger, Baraga, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon, and Schoolcraft.

Includes the following counties in the State of Wisconsin: Brown, Calumet, Clark, Dodge, Door, Florence, Fond du Lac, Forest, Green Lake, Iron, Kewaunee, Langlade, Lincoln, Manitowoc, Marathon, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Outagamie, Portage, Price, Shawano, Sheboygan, Taylor, Vilas, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago, and Wood.

d. Illinois Valley (IVD) – 2805

Includes the following counties in the State of Illinois: Adams, Brown, Bureau, Cass, Fulton, Grundy, Henry, Knox, LaSalle, Livingston, Logan, Marshall, Mason, McDonough, McLean, Menard, Mercer, Morgan, Peoria, Pike, Putnam, Rock Island, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott, Stark, Tazewell, Warren and Woodford.

e. Central Indiana (CID) – 2806

Includes the following counties in the State of Indiana: Bartholomew, Benton, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Crawford, Daviess, Delaware, Dubois, Fountain, Gibson, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Harrison, Hendricks, Howard, Jackson, Jennings, Johnson, Knox, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Martin, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Orange, Owen, Parke, Perry, Pike, Posey, Putnam, Scott, Shelby, Spencer, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vanderburgh, Vermillion, Vigo, Warren, Warrick, Washington and White.

Includes the following counties in the Commonwealth of Kentucky: Ballard, Butler, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Daviess, Fulton, Graves, Hancock, Henderson, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Logan, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, McLean, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Todd, Trigg, Union, and Webster.

f. Illinois Terminal(ITD) – 2807

Includes the following counties in the State of Illinois: Champaign, Christian, Clark, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas, Edgar, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Macon, Moultrie, Piatt, Richland, Shelby and Vermillion.

g. Fox Valley (FVD) – 2809

Includes the following counties in the State of Illinois: Cook (north of Roosevelt Road and east of Austin Boulevard to North Avenue and north of North Avenue and east of Interstate Highway 294 and north of the eastward extension of the Cook-DuPage county line and west of Interstate Highway 294), Kane (north of the westward extension of the Cook-DuPage county line), Lake, and McHenry.

h. Rock River Valley (RRV) – 2810

Includes the following counties in the State of Illinois: Boone, Carroll, De Kalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, and Winnebago.

Includes the following counties in the State of Wisconsin: Green and Rock.

i. DuPage (DUP) – 2811

Includes the following counties in the State of Illinois: Cook not otherwise included in Fox Valley, DuPage, Ford, Iroquois, Kankakee, Kane (south of the westward extension of the Cook-DuPage county line), Kendall, and Will.

j. Michiana (MD) – 2815

Includes the following counties in the State of Indiana: Elkhart, Fulton, Jasper, Lake, La Porte, Marshall, Newton, Porter, Pulaski, Saint Joseph, and Starke.

Includes the following counties in the State of Michigan: Berrien and Cass.

Because the Administration Department assigns members to Divisions based on a member's Zip Code, the Membership Committee provided for in Article IV, Section 1, Subsection h above shall maintain as part of its Policies & Procedures a table that correlates each Zip Code in the Region with the appropriate Division. The table shall be based on the geographic parameters cited above.

2. Each Division shall adopt organizational documents that are consistent with the Regulations and the Executive Handbook. Each Division shall file a complete copy of its organizational documents with the Secretary by electronic or regular mail whenever a change is made to those documents.
3. In its organizational documents, each Division shall provide for the periodic election or appointment of a Superintendent, an Assistant Superintendent, a Chief Clerk, a Paymaster and such other officers and directors as it deems appropriate in its circumstances. The names, addresses, telephone numbers and electronic mail addresses of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Clerk and Paymaster shall be reported to the Secretary by electronic or regular mail whenever a change occurs.
4. In its organizational documents, each Division shall provide for the periodic election or appointment of Clinic, Convention, Internet, Membership and Publications Coordinators as provided under applicable Subsections of Article IV, Section 1 above. The names, addresses, telephone numbers and electronic mail addresses of these Coordinators shall be reported to the Chairman of the applicable Committee by electronic or regular mail whenever a change occurs.
5. Divisions may accept NMRA membership applications and may collect NMRA dues. Applications and dues shall be forwarded pursuant to Policies & Procedures established by the Treasurer in coordination with the Membership Committee Chairman.

6. Each Division shall advance the purposes of the Region by holding meetings or other events in its territory. However, Divisions shall not hold meetings or other events within five (5) days of a convention that is held pursuant to Article VII, Section 1 or Section 2 below.
7. Each Division is expected to hold at least one meeting each calendar year. If no meetings are held for three (3) years, a Division will be deemed inactive. Any assets of an inactive Division will be disposed of in accordance with the Division's organizational documents. If no provision has been made for the disposition of such assets, they will be converted to cash, remitted to the Treasurer and added to the general funds of the Region.
8. If a Division is inactive and upon the recommendation of the President, the Board may appoint a new Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Clerk and/or Paymaster who will try to reactivate the Division or the Board may combine the Division's territory with an adjacent active Division.
9. Resident members of one or more existing Divisions may petition the Board to create a new Division as follows:
 - a. The petition shall be signed by ten (10) or more members who reside in the county or counties comprising the proposed Division. The petition must include:
 - 1) the names, addresses, telephone numbers, electronic mail addresses and NMRA numbers of the petitioners,
 - 2) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the petitioners' representative,
 - 3) the county or counties that will comprise the new Division,
 - 4) the reasons for establishing a new Division and
 - 5) proposed organizational documents that are consistent with the Regulations and the Executive Handbook.
 - b. The petition shall be filed with the Secretary by electronic or regular mail. Within thirty (30) days of receiving a petition, the Secretary shall forward it to the Board by electronic or regular mail. Within sixty (60) days of receiving a petition, the Secretary shall forward it for comment to resident members of the existing Division(s) by electronic or regular mail.
 - c. After a minimum of sixty (60) days have elapsed for receipt of comments, the petition shall be placed on the agenda of the Board's next regularly scheduled meeting. The petitioners' representative shall be given an opportunity during that meeting to present arguments in favor of the new Division. Copies of all comments received prior to

distribution of the meeting notice shall be provided to the Board and the petitioners' representative.

- d. If a majority of the Board members attending the meeting approve the new Division, within thirty (30) days of the meeting the Secretary will notify by electronic or regular mail the NMRA, the petitioners' representative and the Superintendent(s) of the existing Division(s). Within sixty (60) days of the meeting the Secretary will appropriately revise Article V, Section 1 above.
- e. If a majority of the Board members attending the meeting do not approve the new Division, within thirty (30) days of the meeting the Secretary will notify by electronic or regular mail the petitioners' representative and the Superintendent(s) of the existing Division(s).

10. Subdivisions.

- a. To ensure that NMRA members can participate in NMRA activities within a reasonable distance of a member's residence, a Division may establish one or more Subdivisions within its territory.
- b. Subdivisions should consist of groups of NMRA members who want to affiliate and should be named for cities, counties, towns, etc. that identify the area served by the subdivision, but should not be defined with specific geographic boundaries.
- c. Subdivisions must comply with NMRA membership and other policies applicable to Regions and Divisions and with any policies established by the Midwest Region or the sponsoring Division.
- d. Subdivisions must designate a leader and report his or her name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address to the sponsoring Division.
- e. A Division must report the names of any Subdivisions that it establishes or dissolves to the Secretary by electronic or regular mail whenever a change occurs.

Article VI – Members.

- 1. As set forth in Article 2, Section 1 of the Constitution, except to the extent otherwise provided in the Regulations, each member of the NMRA who resides in the Region's territory as defined in the Regulations shall be a resident member of the Region.
- 2. As set forth in Article 2, Section 2 of the Constitution, except to the extent otherwise provided in the Regulations, each member of the NMRA who does not reside in the Region's territory as defined in the Regulations may become a non-resident member of the Region by providing his or her name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address to the Chairman of the Membership Committee. If a non-resident member does not provide an electronic mail address,

annually he or she shall pay an administration fee equivalent to the dues allocation that the Region receives annually from the NMRA for each resident member.

Article VII – Meetings

1. The Region shall hold an Annual Convention each Spring, generally in April or May. Any Division or other organized group within the Region may offer to host a convention by submitting a bid in accordance with Policies & Procedures established by the Convention Committee provided for in Article IV, Section 1, Subsection c above. Upon acceptance of a bid by the Board, the host organization shall comply with the Convention Committee's Policies & Procedures. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in any year in which the Region or a Division of the Region hosts the National Convention of the NMRA, the Board may suspend the requirement for an Annual Convention provided that the Board makes alternate arrangements for the Annual Meeting of Members provided for in Section 3 below and for the Spring meeting of the Board provided for in Section 4 below.
2. The Region may hold additional conventions as authorized by the Board.
3. The annual meeting of members shall be held during the Annual Convention. The host organization for the convention shall schedule one-half hour for the annual meeting of members prior to the date and time for the Spring meeting of the Board. The room for the meeting should accommodate the number of people expected at the convention.
4. The Board shall meet during the Annual Convention. The President will inform the host organization of the date and time of the meeting, and of any special arrangements, equipment, etc. that may be required. The room designated for the meeting shall accommodate at least forty (40) people.
5. The Board shall meet in the Fall, generally in October or November, on a date and at a time and place determined by the President and announced to the Board at its Spring meeting. If circumstances subsequently require a change to the original date for the meeting, the new date for the meeting shall be later than the original date for the meeting.
6. The President may schedule a special meeting of the Board when necessary or desirable.
7. Any five (5) members of the Board may petition the President in writing for a special meeting of the Board. The petition must state the reason for the meeting and must include a proposed agenda. Upon receipt of such a petition, the President shall schedule a meeting within thirty (30) days.
8. Each member of the Board shall receive notice of each meeting of the Board. The notice shall be sent or mailed by the Secretary at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting to the last electronic or regular mail address filed by the member with the Secretary. The notice will include the agenda for the meeting. The agenda may not be set aside, altered, or amended without majority approval of the Board members present at the meeting in person or by proxy.

9. Each member of the Board may appoint a proxy for any meeting of the Board by filing a form prescribed by the Secretary with the Secretary before the meeting begins. The form may be filed with the Secretary by electronic or regular mail or it may be delivered by the proxy. Any member of the Board who is unable to attend a meeting of the Board may submit a request to the President by electronic or regular mail to be excused from that meeting.
10. Five (5) or more members of the Board, who are present in person and who represent more than one Division, shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business at any meeting of the Board.
11. The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of the Region except insofar as they are inconsistent with the Constitution or these Bylaws.

Article VIII – Communications

1. The Region shall publish a quarterly newsletter known as the *Waybill* on a schedule determined by the Publications Committee in its Policies & Procedures. The *Waybill* shall be distributed without charge to each resident and non-resident member who provides an electronic mail address to the NMRA or to the Chairman of the Membership Committee. Resident and non-resident members who do not provide an electronic mail address or who want a printed copy of the *Waybill* may receive a copy by paying an annual subscription fee. The annual subscription fee shall be determined by the Board at its Fall meeting when it approves the budget for the next calendar year that is provided for in Article II, Section 4, Subsection a.
2. As provided in Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution, each resident member shall receive notice of the annual meeting of members by electronic or regular mail. In addition, each resident member shall receive notice of the Annual Convention, notice of candidates for election as President, Vice President and/or Directors-at-Large and a ballot for any election or amendment of the Constitution. The notices and the ballot may be combined with any issue of the *Waybill* that allows sufficient time for completion of the election process established by the Election Committee in its Policies & Procedures.
3. As provided in Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution, each non-resident member shall receive notice of the annual meeting of members by electronic or regular mail. In addition, each non-resident member shall receive notice of the Annual Convention. The notices may be combined with an appropriate issue of the *Waybill*.

Article IX – Policies & Procedures

1. Pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of the Constitution, the Officers and each Standing Committee or Subcommittee established in Article IV, Section 1 above may adopt Policies & Procedures to facilitate implementation of their responsibilities. Policies & Procedures shall conform to the Regulations, the Constitution and these Bylaws.

2. Within thirty (30) days of adopting Policies & Procedures, the Officer or the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee shall forward a copy of the Policies & Procedures to the Secretary by electronic or regular mail.
3. Within thirty (30) days of receiving Policies & Procedures from an Officer or the Chairman of a Committee or Subcommittee, the Secretary shall forward the Policies & Procedures to the Board by electronic or regular mail and shall publish them on the Secretary's Page of the Region's Website.
4. The Secretary may establish a table of contents and a common format for Policies & Procedures.

Article X – Amendments

1. Amendments to these Bylaws may be initiated by any member of the Board or Chairman of a Standing Committee or Subcommittee by filing a proposed amendment with the Secretary by electronic or regular mail. A proposed amendment must include the current wording of the Article and Section to be amended, the proposed wording and an explanation of the proposed change.
2. Within thirty (30) days of receiving a proposed amendment, the Secretary shall forward it to the Board by electronic or regular mail. The Board shall consider the proposed amendment at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The originator of the amendment shall be given an opportunity during that meeting to present arguments in favor of the proposed amendment.
3. If a majority of the Board members attending the meeting approve the proposed amendment, it shall be adopted. Within thirty (30) days of the approval of the amendment, the Secretary shall forward revised Bylaws to the Board by electronic or regular mail and shall publish them on the Secretary's Page of the Region's Website.

Proxy

The undersigned, a member of the Board of Directors, Midwest Region, NMRA, hereby
appoints (please print) _____ as
proxy to vote in his or her place at the May 3, 2025, meeting of the Board of Directors.

Name (please print) _____

Signature _____

Date _____