

Midwest Region NMRA Preliminary Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details

- Date: May 3, 2025
- Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (CDT)
- Location: Zoom
- Attendees: Bob McGeever, Robert Perry, Connie Coy, John Coy, Phillip Burnside, Michael Hirvela, Larry Nelson, Bob Wundrock, Prescilla Roderick, Mike Roderick, David, Mashino, Ron Johnson, John, Poray, Dan Banks, Alex Schneider, Mike Lehman, Gary Baker, Greg Bueltmann, Marty Hendrickx, Jim Osborn, Bob Landwehr, Thomas Ose, Jim Landwehr
- Absent: Art Dawson, Jr., Paul, Hilmer, Burnell Breaker, David Leider
- Facilitator: Bob McGeever

Agenda

- Call to Order by Bob McGeever
- Roll Call by Connie Coy
- Minutes introduced, Dan Banks moved to approve. John Coy seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Committee Reports presented and placed on file.
- Director at Large Reports presented and placed on file.

Discussion Points

Old Business

- Tom Ose requested that the Board create a Youth Fund Application form. Bob McGeever created and presented it to the Board. Discussion followed concerning the purpose of the Youth Fund. It was set up years ago to support Youth groups such as the Boy Scouts in the modeling of trains. Dan Banks moved to accept the form; John Coy seconded the motion. Discussion continued before the vote which included how the MWR generated revenue for the fund. At present, the sole source of revenue is the interest accrued from the MWR bank account. Alex Schneider proposed delaying the motion until the Board could find ways to generate more revenue for the fund. Thomas Ose seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- Jim Osborn requested the board accept the election results as previously published and permission to destroy election ballots. Bob McGeever moved to do so; second by Prescilla Roderick. Motion carried unanimously.
- John Coy presented the need to make clear the purpose of proxies and suggested the need to update the outdated By-Laws for several other changes needed. After some discussion, John was given the go-ahead to do so and make sure they were sent to the Board Members for review well in advance of the next meeting.
- John Coy presented the need to create an ad hoc committee per the NMRA constitution and MWR By-Laws named the Education Committee. Bob McGeever said as in-coming president, he could do this. Phillip Burnside will chair the committee.
- Convention Committee: Dan Banks discussed the upcoming conventions in the region. Since the National Convention is so close to the MWR, there will be no MWR convention this year. John Coy mentioned that MWR would start field trips for regional members, with assistance from the Divisions. Such trips would include railroad museums, train sights with layouts and excursions. Dan Banks suggested virtual conventions with presentations done online. John Poray stated that in-person conventions were still good for the NMRA as it promoted the hobby and provided the camaraderie and interaction with fellow modelers that virtual meetings can't. New Convention committee members: Prescilla Roderick, Bob Wundrock, Phillip Burnside.
- The date of the next meeting needs to be moved due to conflicts with Trainfest. Mike Roderick moved to change the date to Saturday, November 8 at 9 a.m. (CDT); John Coy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Follow-up on Waybill publication: Jim Osborn reported that Dave Leider has moved forward with eliminating hard copies and will be using the PDF online version. Only 13 out of region NMRA members indicated the desire to remain on the publication email notice list.
- Ron Johnson asked for help in ways to create Model Railroad Youth organizations. Bob McGeever gave him the name of a person to contact.
- Dan Banks said the CID wanted to help the Youth Fund by returning his Division's regional disbursement to the MWR. Bob McGeever told him how to best do that.
- The newly elected Directors at Large and Executive members were officially seated.

- Incoming president, John Coy, appointed Phil Burnside as Treasurer and appointed Prescilla Roderick to fill out the remainder of his DAL term. Robert J. Perry is the new Vice President. Connie Coy continues as Secretary for the Region. Bob McGeever is now the Immediate Past President. Larry Nelson, Bob Wundrock and Micheal Hirvela are the new incoming Directors at Large.

Bob Landwehr will be taking over as Membership Chairman for outgoing chairman Ron Sharping.

- Bob Wundrock requested the Divisions help him contact the members involved in providing clinics.

Next Meeting

- Date: November 8, 2025
- Time: 10 a.m. (CDT)
- Location: ZOOM
- Agenda: 1) Revisions to MWR By-Laws. 2) Generation of Revenue for MWR to support Divisions and Youth Fund.

Adjournment

Bob McGeever moved to adjourn the meeting; Connie Coy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.