**Item __1__**

**Midwest Region, NMRA Preliminary Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Details:**

- Date: November 14, 2026
- Time: 10:00
- Location: Zoom
- Attendees: Gary Baker, Daniel Banks, Greg Bueltmann, Jan Burnside, Phillip Burnside, John Coy, Dave Down, Marty Hendrickx, Michael Hirvela, Rich Hoker, Ron Johnson, Jim Landwehr, Mike Lehman, Jim Marciniak, Larry Nelson, Jim Osborn, John Poray, Gerry Ring, Alex Schneider, Eric Smith, Bob Wundrock, Denis Zamirowski.
- Absent: Burnell Breaker, Paul Hillmer, Bob Landwehr, David Leider, Bob McGeever, Thomas Ose, Robert Perry, Prescilla Roderick, John Schaffer, Rod Weinschenk
- Facilitator: Jim Osborn

**Agenda:**

- Call to order by John Coy
- Roll Call by Jan Burnside (via Zoom list)
- Minutes from Meeting of May 2, 2026, introduced by Jan Burnside; Phillip Burnside moved to approve. Jim Landwehr seconded. No discussion. Motion to approve passed.

**Reports:**

- **Committee Reports:** John Coy asked whether the Treasurer's Report be handled separately. John Poray moved to do so; Phillip Burnside seconded. Motion approved.
- **Director-at-Large Reports**: Phillip Burnside moved to approve all of the Director-at-Large reports. Bob Wundrock seconded. Motion to approve passed. No further comments.
- **Division Director Reports:** Motion to approve all of the Division Director reports by Gary Baker; Phillp Burnside seconded. Motion passed.
- **Officer's Reports**: John Coy clarified that this excludes the Treasurer's report. Daneil Banks moved to approved; Phillip Burnside seconded. Motion passed. Phillip asked for questions concerning the Treasurer's report and stated that explained that there needs to be discussion but that is in "New Business." Rich Hoker moved to approve. Jim Marciniak seconded. No discussion or objections. Motion passed.

**Old Business:**

- **Insurance**: Status of the annual certification of Regional and Divisional BOD members for NMRA insurance program. Bob Perry is not available, so tabled. If anyone has any questions, please email Bob Perry and copy John Coy.

**New Business:**

- **Destruction of Documents Over Seven years old:** John Poray moved to approve, Bob Wundrock seconded. Discussion followed concerning the rules about various document types. Phillip suggested keeping financial documents and bank statements. Eric Smith expressed curiosity about the need to destroy. John Poray noted that some are already digital. Phillip Burnside explained that the more modern documents are already digital. John Poray explained that that a prior organization never destroyed digital, but paper documents were destroyed after seven years. Phillip Burnside stated that he would do whatever the Board wants and he is already keeping all of the data files. Jim Osborn mentioned that there is a difference between what Illinois and the Federal authorities require based on prior experience with the MWR. John Coy related his experience with IRS attorneys and he's been told seven years was the requirement. He is open to whatever the Board wants. Jan Burnside related information from the IRS. Jim Osborn recommend that all incorporation documents and other related documents be kept. Phillip Burnside agreed. John Poray also included meeting minutes should be retained. Jim Marciniak suggested keeping electronic documents after seven years is sufficient. Rich Hoker added that tax records be kept for proof of filing. Phillip Burnside explained that that the Federal and state tax documents are kept electronically but ledgers relating to them are backed up electronically. Mary Hendrickx mentioned that the tax documents are key to compliance. John Coy clarified that electronic records will be maintained while paper documents (i.e., bank statements, receipts) could be destroyed after seven years. Denis Zamirowski and Alex Schneider seconded the motion. No objections were made. Motion passed.

- **Executive Board Nominees**: Jim Osborn gave a synopsis of the nominees for the upcoming election. The only real contest is for Vice President: Dan Banks and Michael Roderick. Others are uncontested: John Coy for President; Bill Drzal, Bob Petit, and Steve Preston for DAL. Phillip Burnside moved to accept the slate. Jim Osborn mentioned that Bill Moede was running, but since then has been unreachable and his membership expired. Jim Landwehr seconded the motion. No objections. Motion carried.

- **Internet Expenses:** Pre-approval for the next 12 months' internet related expenses - maximum of $1,335.00. Jan Burnside moved to approve. Jim Marciniak seconded. Motion passed

- **Discussion involving "Awards" check from National**: Phillip Burnside reported that this came up at the last meeting. In the past, the funds received as a portion of membership has been divided evenly amongst the Divisions based on membership numbers. John Coy explained that he does not think all Divisions need the funds and should be based on need. Further discussion followed. Phillip Burnside suggested he send a questionnaire to the various Divisions to ask about the needs of each Division. These checks are received twice each year. Phillip suggested a set formula. Gary Baker moved to approve. Rich Hoker seconded. Motion passed. Dan Banks asked what other Divisions might need funds. Eric Smith questioned the timing. Phillip provided October and May for timing of the checks received. Eric Smith suggested focusing on the smaller Divisions. John Coy does not think it should be automatic; CID does not need it, but the MWR has no other source of revenue. Eric Smith asked about the amount. Phillip Burnside stated it is $2 per member per year and asked for clarification because he has not dispersed the money from last year. John Poray noted that this was

created to cover the dues collection issues or waive it; he suggest that it be kept in place. Phillip Burnside suggests reaching out to inquire as to need. Mike Lehman discussed the needs of a small Division and asked for a clear process. Discussion followed. Per Phillip Burnside the check comes with the data per Division. Gary Baker moved to approve. Rich Hoker seconded. Dan Banks asked what other Divisions rely on that money. Eric Smith asked when the checks come in and expressed concerns as to potential bad timing; he suggested it be dispersed when received. Phillip Burnside moved to send funds out every six months when received preceded by an inquiry as to whether the funds are needed; this became a motion. Eric Smith seconded. No objections. Motion carried.

- **MWR Convention 2029:** John Poray reviewed the MWR Convention 2029. It is at the point where the NMRA is finalizing the contracts, volunteer structure, a timeline, and other details. Discussion followed. Alex Schneider asked about the layout locations; John Poray explained the cut-off distance from his past experience. John Coy explained how, at Novi, the layouts were organized by direction. Mike Lehman related how he has done it in the past.
- **MWR Convention 2027:** reviewed the MWR Convention 2027. John Coy reports that “we have hit a snafu.”

**Announcements**:

- Jim Osborn provided information about the upcoming election process and dates
- Mike Lehman (IT Division) announced an upcoming show in February 20-21; no charge for a vendor area. Contact him for more information.
- Jan Burnside reviewed the end of year document requirements and said to make sure that officers are current with membership for the sake of insurance coverage
- Phillip Burnside moved to adjourn the meeting. Dan Banks seconded the motion. No objections.

**Next Meeting:**

Date: Saturday, May 1, 2027

Time: 10 EDT

Location: Zoom

**Adjournment:**

Adjourned at 10:48 am