

Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad Commission Meeting

11:00 a.m. – Friday, June 13, 2014

Conejos Parish Hall

West of US Hwy 285 in Conejos

1. Meeting Called to Order – 11:13 am

Attendance-

Chairman Billy Elbrock

Secretary Randy Randall

CTO President John Bush

Vice Chairman Dan Love

Treasurer Pete Foster

2. Approval of Agenda - Additions to new business- Randy requested adding Dick Cowles on grants research. Commissioner Randall motioned. Commissioner Love seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 4/0.
3. Approval of Minutes from March 20, 2014 – Commissioner Love Motioned, Commissioner Randall seconded. Motion carried 4/0.
4. Presidents Report – John Bush
 - a. Train Operations Report – John Bush
 - i. Changes to schedule, returning to full service seven days a week out of each depot.
 - b. Maintenance and Repair Report – John Bush
 - i. Starting season with five operational steam locomotives. First time since 1996.
 - ii. 487 is due to be overhauled at the end of this year, 488 will be overhauled in 2015.
 - iii. Remodeled two ADA/concessions cars. Allows for each train to depart with an ADA car on it. Mountain View Bus Company will also be providing an additional ADA Motorcoach.
 - c. Reservation Report – John Bush
 - i. Ridership and revenue is above projected budget. Up 13% of bookings compared to 2013.
 - d. Marketing Report – John Bush
 - i. Marketing director has resigned effective May 30. John stated he intends to have a new marketing manager on board by August 15.
 - e. Other – John Bush
 - i. We recently acquired a parcel of land for extending the wye to allow ease in turning train quickly. Closing is set for June 24.
 - ii. Commissioner Foster asked about our preparedness for fire and vehicles available. John stated that we have fire patrol following each engine, 2 functional brush trucks. Pete requested we set meeting with Forest Service.
5. Finance Manager Report – John Bush
 - a. Future CTO financial reports will reflect ridership numbers and be added to the report, as well as a history footnote. Included number of comps.
 - i. Capital Project Report – John will set up meeting with George and commissioners by Monday, June 23rd. John will also get a capital project accounting summary and billing status.
6. Commissioner Reports
 - a. Chairman Report - Billy Elbrock
 - i. Got permission to start Tuesday, June 17 on the wye project.
 - b. Vice Chairman Report – Dan Love
 - i. Byway project – a scenic byway between Dulce and Durango following the track grade.
 - c. Secretary Report – Randy Randall
 - i. Clarified the need for the wye.
 - ii. Governor’s letters prepared by John Bush.
 - d. Treasurer Report – Pete Foster
 - i. Commissioner Foster thanked Commissioner Randall for his work.
7. Friends of C&TSRR Report – Bob Ross
 - i. In early May, volunteers worked on the pile driver OB and all reports state that it worked.

- ii. 6 work sessions each year, and have completed the first 2 weeks. One of the sessions was to refurbish the floor on one of the rider gondolas, and included restoration of a flat bottom gondola car. They are restoring 3 passenger cars, the RPO car and a tourist sleeper car.
- iii. Osier-siding for the section house is now prepared and will be finished in the July work sessions.
- iv. They worked on the stock pins on the wye.
- v. Friends were approached to set up display in Antonito (introduced John Ferrel, intern from Texas State University).
- vi. The Jr. Engineer program is to take a young person and work with them and the parents to get the child a certificate and a badge.
- vii. Roger Hogan asked that signage be installed at each depot to direct people to the exhibits.

b. Sandra Gray presented her views on the railroad retail operations.


8. Unfinished Business

- a. Approval of the FY 14-15 Capital Expenditures Budget – John Bush –
 - i. 4 different categories (Maintenance of Business, Business Development, Historic Improvements and Efficiency Improvements). Commissioner Randall motioned to approve the 14/15 plan to the extent that projects will be funded, and to exclude unfunded projects. Commissioner Foster 2nd, motion passed 4/0.
- b. Approval of FY 14-15 CTO Budget – John Bush
 - i. Projections show we will have ridership of 40,429, projected income of \$4,247,447.00, projected expenses of \$3,966,030.00. The commission would like incremental details supplied, and get those out as quick as possible. Commissioner Randall would also like monthly history supplied with the monthly statements starting the new fiscal year. Commissioner Love moved to approve, Commissioner Randall seconded. Motion passed 4/0.
- c. Approval of Commission budget – John Bush
 - i. Commissioner Randall motioned to approve the budget showing an operating loss of \$76,000, as the Commission needs a budget to operate under, but we will amend and present a new balanced budget at the next meeting. Commissioner Foster seconded the motion. They could post a proposed reconciliation until the next meeting. Motion passed 4/0.
- d. John Bush –
 - i. Friends that a small percent of the charter \$ be set aside for the cars maintenance, suggesting \$25 per car per charter. Commissioner Randall asked if the commission would be consulted before any dollars were spent? John stated that yes. Commissioner Randall moved to approve the motion, Commissioner Foster seconded, motion pass 3/1. Commissioner Love opposed.

9. Unfinished business – Commissioner Elbrock

- a. Adopt resolution for open meeting policy as presented. Commissioner Randall would like this to be posted on the web site separately. Commissioner Randall motioned, Commissioner Foster seconded, motion passed 4/0.
- b. Approve Economic Development report - Commissioner Love
 - i. BBC has completed report, which will be posted on the commission web site. Commissioner Love motioned to adopt the current study, Commissioner Randall seconded. Discussion followed. Motion passed 4/0.
- c. Dick Cowles – Dick has been asked to start revisiting Federal resources of grant to see if there are possibilities available and have the commission reimburse him for any out-of-pocket expenses that he might incur. All commissioners were in favor.

10. Adjournment - Commissioner Love motioned for adjournment at 2:40 p.m., Commissioner Randall seconded the motion. Motion carried 4/0.


Secretary Randy Randall

10/16/14