

Cumbres Toltec Scenic Railroad Commission Meeting

C&TSRR Commission Minutes

July 27, 2019 9:00a.m.

Antonito Town Hall & Municipal Building, Antonito CO

Public Input – *Public comments/questions will be allowed during each topic upon being recognized by the Chairman. Comments and questions may be no longer than 3 minutes and must adhere to any other requirements established by the Chairman. All public speakers must indicate their desires by registering in advance of the meeting on the available sign-up sheet which will become part of the record of the meeting.*

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Love at 9:02 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Billy Elbrock
3. Introductions – John Bush
4. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Lock moved to approve, Commissioner Elbrock seconded the motion, motion carried.
5. Approve the Minutes from May 4, 2019 Commission meeting – Commissioner Lock Moved to approve Commissioner Graybill seconded, motion carried.
6. President’s Report- John Bush- 60 days into the season we have hauled 15,911 passengers. Year to date we are 4% behind 2018 numbers. We are 14.47% ahead of the same time in 2017. Special trains are performing well this year. A new TV commercial has been finished and will begin airing next week in New Mexico and Colorado Springs. C&TS won the USA Today contest for the “Best Train Ride.” Plans for the 50th Anniversary are going well. We plan to run a Rotary event at the end of February.
 - a. Maintenance and Repair Report- John Bush- In the near future, I am working on a plan to build three new dedicated fire patrol vehicles that will further improve our capabilities. John Matthews is still looking to hire extra people to increase the size of the MOW crew to catch up on the tie installation and ballasting program. He expects to finish the capital upgrade program by the end of FY 2023.
 - a. Tracks across Borders Byway- John Bush- Working through the final glitches of Oncell so it will work when your phone is not awake. We added to the team Carla Martinez and Karlee Phippen. Thanks to Roger for the photos. We are setting up a way to get donations.
 - b. Train Ops- Stathi Pappas- At this time we have had a good season no cancelled trains minimal delays everything has been working. We have had 9 double headers to date including one today. We are having a bit of transition, August this will change, we have brought in a couple college students. We have additional training.
 - c. Historic Car/168- Stathi Pappas- Historic Car Fleet update – Stathi Pappas- Coach 256 and RPO 65 are the cars that are undergoing rehabilitation in Antonito.
7. Chief Financial Officer-
 - a. Financial Report – Ed Beaudette- Looking back at fiscal 2019 was a good year. June was down this year. Overall revenue was up 10%. Everything is falling into place. We moved more inventory into retail. Operating revenue was good. Net result is that we are going to meet our plan.
8. Commissioner Reports-
 - a. Chairman Report- Dan Love-/Capital Projects- Part of the self-sustainability is completion of a difficult process, of what we bought. Track needs to be in a condition where it will survive. John Matthews has done an extremely good job. The Railroad is in very good condition. Capital program is the foundation in which all of this is possible.

Vice Chairman Report- William Lock/finance- Ed covered everything so well. Very impressed with the two partnerships of the two States, with the support of Capital projects. The States have been together. Next year for the 50th Anniversary we have invited Governors from both States.

c. Secretary Report – Mark Graybill/marketing liaison- We truly have a great partner in Launch. Marketing is in full swing. The Marketing plan is right where it is supposed to be. Launch is very flexible. Started advertising for the 50th Anniversary. Launch sends out Troy Research. The Scores are gigantic. We are moving more and more towards digital.

d. Treasurer Report – Billy Elbrock/local affairs- Kim continues to meet with people and businesses and visits with them regularly. Kim met with Susan Herrera. Susan assured Kim she is supporting the Railroad. Kim would like to acknowledge Wade George who is an Antonito Town Council member. Our biggest ally is JD Bullington. Confident Michelle Lujan Grisham is a big supporter of the Railroad.

9. Friends of C&TSRR Report – Tim Tennant- 470 –Don Atkinson commented on 470- Floor is in, interior walls are in. Seats are made, still need to make the dividers. The goal is to have the car in Antonito next March. Sessions E and F are already done. Special trains moon light and wine tasting train on the 12th of July was a huge success. Banquet and meeting on October 25th.

a. General info

10. New Business*

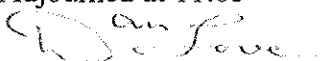
a. Passenger Car Lease/Sale- Billy Elbrock-Motion the C& TSRR Commission hereby approves the sale of Coach NO. 503 “as is, where is” to the best bidder over the minimum sale price of \$ 40,000.00 and Management is hereby directed to use reasonable means to publicize the availability of this surplus piece of equipment and a deadline to submit any responsive offers. Discussion John Bush: Minimum price set is more than the added cost to build a car that we are not building on the existing frame. The plan is to advertise their availability and look for bids. And sell the highest bidder. Commissioner Love added we are publicly announcing this action. And the period in which others can purchase this car can begin a two week window. Commissioner Graybill sits out of this decision.

Commissioner Love asked the opinion of the audience. Rich Casford commented we don’t want to short change ourselves of cars.

Commissioner Lock moves to vote, commissioner Elbrock seconded the vote, vote carries unanimously. Commissioner Lock follow up on the other component. The leasing component will continue with some possibility of some seasonal leasing of cars that are not needed during our winter time. That was approved at the last meeting. That is still a continuing liability that we probably will be leasing one or two cars. And will be back here by the regular season.

b. Re-naming Clock Tower Park- Billy Elbrock- In Recognition of the dedicated efforts of Eddie Vigil, to acquire the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad for the economic support & historic preservation of the Community of Chama, I move that the Clock Park Located in downtown Chama, be named the Eddie Vigil Park, in a ceremony to be determined at a later date. Billy Elbrock Moves to approve, Commissioner Graybill seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

11. Adjourned at 11:05



Dan Love, Chairman

In recognition of the dedicated efforts of Eddie Vigil, to acquire the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad for the economic support & historic preservation of the Community of Chama, I move that the Clock Park Located in downtown Chama, be named the Eddie Vigil park, in a ceremony to be determined at a later date.

Motion 7/27/19

The C & TS RR Commission hereby approves the sale of Coach No. 503 “as is, where is” to the best bidder over the minimum sale price of \$ 40,000.00 and Management is hereby directed to use reasonable means to publicize the availability of this surplus piece of equipment and a deadline to submit any responsive offers.