

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS  
APRIL 27, 2025  
FOX VALLEY DIVISION (FVD), MWR, NMRA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Fox Valley Division, NMRA, was held at the Glenview Public Library (GPL), 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, IL 60025 and the meeting was also hosted via Zoom Video Conference. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Superintendent Mike Hirvela who presided over the meeting. The Chief Clerk, Rich Hoker, recorded the minutes.

Others Board members attending were: Asst. Superintendent Denis Zamirowski, Paymaster Bob Landwehr, Programs and Clinics Trainmaster Gary Saxton, Contest and Achievement Program Trainmaster Jim Landwehr, Webmaster Trainmaster Jim Osborn, Public Affairs Trainmaster Keith Dart, and Membership Trainmaster Erich Abens.

Members: The Annual Meeting date and time had been announced and posted in advance on the FVD website and communicated to the membership at prior FVD regular meetings and in Division publications. There were approximately 28 attendees in the meeting, which included members at the GPL and others connected via Zoom. The Zoom conference for both audio and video were operating properly. The Superintendent noted that a quorum was present and declared the meeting as valid to conduct FVD business.

**BOARD REPORT AND DISCUSSION**

**SUPERINTENDENT**

Mike Hirvela welcomed everyone, provided an overview of the topics for the Annual Meeting and a brief summary of the FVD activities and status during the year. The Superintendent noted that over the course of the year the meetings were presented with good success, there were quality clinics and good discussions at the meetings. There was also a full and complete website that is used to communicate with all FVD members.

**PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

The transcribed minutes of the prior Annual Meeting dated April 21, 2024 were provided to participants at the GPL and were posted on the FVD website. A Motion to approve the minutes was made by a member and seconded by another member. On a voice vote, the Motion to approve the prior year minutes was past.

**PAYMASTER REPORT**

The Paymaster provided the general Financial Report of the FVD noting there was approximately \$18,000 in the bank and that the vast majority of the expenses of the FVD relate to the costs to put on the monthly membership meeting. A Motion to approve the Financial Report was made by a member and seconded by another member. On a voice vote, the Motion to approve the Financial Report was past.

**TRAINMASTER REPORTS**

Each of the Trainmasters were asked by the Superintendent to make general comments to the membership regarding their activities during the past year. This included activities the Trainmaster led or activities the Trainmaster participated in on behalf of the FVD. Included in the comments was that several Trainmasters noted that additional volunteers are needed and would be welcome if anyone would be interested in helping. The Superintendent noted that several positions remain unfilled. The Program and Clinics Trainmaster noted that clinicians are being sought for the 2025 – 2026 season.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mike noted that the Board spends a good deal of time organizing good quality meeting clinics, publications and communications tools (website) for the membership. Mike noted the Board is continuing to look for a Publications Trainmaster and content that can be used for general membership publication.

Election of the Asst. Superintendent and Paymaster are conducted in odd numbered years for a 2-year term. Notice of the election of these two positions had been posted in prior FVD meeting materials and discussed at prior FVD

meetings. Denis Zamirowski, the incumbent Asst. Superintendent, notified the Board that he agreed to rerun for the position of Asst. Superintendent and submitted his name for re-election. Bob Landwehr, the incumbent Paymaster notified the Board that he agreed to rerun for the position of Paymaster and submitted his name for re-election. The Superintendent noted that no other candidates had presented themselves for election. In the Annual Meeting, the Superintendent asked if there were any other candidates who wished to submit their names for the positions of Asst. Superintendent or Paymaster. No additional candidates presented themselves. The Superintendent then closed the period for nominations and presented the two candidates for re-election. There was a motion from a member to hold a voice vote for the two offices which was seconded by an additional member and passed based on a voice vote of all the members at the meeting and on the Zoom conference call. Next the voice vote was held of the members at the meeting and on the Zoom conference call for approval of the two candidates for reelection. All members expressed approval for the two candidates. There were no dissenting votes noted. Therefore, the motions passed and Denis Zamirowski was elected to the position of Asst. Superintended and Bob Landwehr was elected to the position of Paymaster for a period of 2 years.

There was a general discussion of the 2025 Summer Outing that will be held on August 2, 2025 at the Illinois Railway Museum (IRM). There was also a general discussion of the Summer Layout Tour event. More information was going to be presented at future FVD meetings and on the website regarding both events.

Jim Osborn noted that layout pictures are a great addition to FVD mailings and to the website. Jim noted that if any member would like to have their layout photographed, to contact him to set up a photo session.

The attendees were asked if any other discussion topics existed. None were noted.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, a Motion to adjourn was made by a member and seconded by a second member. On a voice vote, the motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM.