

## Meeting Minutes Winchester Chapter, NRHS

Meeting Date:	<b>May 11, 2024</b>
Meeting Location:	In the Fellowship Hall of the Calvary Covenant Brethren Church, Winchester, VA
Minutes Submitted by:	Kevin Horn, Chapter Secretary
Attendance	23 members and 6 guests

The monthly Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Van Welton

### President's Report:

Van Welton recognized visitors and new members of the Chapter.

### Treasurer's Report:

A slide showed the current bank accounts as \$6,936.24 in the checking account and two CD funds consisting of \$5,642.64 and \$6,000 prior to interest earned. (The last previous detailed Treasurer's Report was emailed to members on April 11, 2024.) A motion to accept the information as an abbreviated Treasurer's Report was made and passed with no objections.

### Secretary's Report:

Kevin Horn had previously emailed on May 8 the minutes from the April 13, 2024 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as presented that was seconded and approved.

### National Representative's Report

Jim Cashell reported that the national organization will have the 2024 annual convention in Harrisburg, PA the last week of August. The convention details are expected to be forthcoming shortly.

### New Business

Carl Stephanus presented a motion reviewed and approved by the Administrative Committee and emailed to members on May 8 to recognize long-serving member, Douglas Russell, as "Member Emeritus". The motion was seconded and approved and a framed certificate will be signed and given to him.

To save time and effort, members are encouraged to present new business to the Administrative Committee (Van, Jeff, Kevin, Carl and James) for their discussion prior to regular AC Monday meetings, before each monthly Saturday chapter meeting.

### *Service Opportunities*

The Junior Railroaders Club event for "Caboose Day" will be held Saturday, June 8, from 10:00 am to noon at Clearbrook Park. Support leaders are needed and encouraged to participate.

President Van Welton briefly discussed a chapter vacancy for "Membership Agent" who would assist with the maintenance of the membership rolls, coordinate collection of annual dues, keep meeting name tags, etc.

President Van Welton reminded the chapter that member Travis Workman is the manager of our swap table of books, magazines, etc. (where you can take some and or leave some for others).

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### *Social Media News (Facebook and Chapter Web Page)*

Members wishing to post on the chapter social media are encouraged to contact Kevin Horn (Facebook) and Jeff Summerlin (Web page).

### *Railfan Supply Shop*

Members were reminded that a selection of chapter items is posted for sale on the chapter web site.

### Monthly "Railroadiana Spotlight"

Jeff Jordan presented on railroad pocket watches delving into the details of "railroad grade" pocket watches including such distinctives as open face, numerals, every minute shown, watch face screws off with a lever for changing the winding knob to time changes. Good watches would be current up to 30 seconds per week. The opening in the back of the watches would contain 17 jewels. The newly manufactured watches would be tested for time keeping accuracy in five different positions as well as temperature tolerance, requiring up to one year of testing prior to distribution.

Jeff reminded the membership that there was a sign-up sheet for presentations (he is out next month).

### Meeting Adjournment, a Look Ahead to June and This Month's Program

Next month's Chapter meeting will have a presentation by Tracy Lamb, "Virginia Operation Lifesaver". Tracy Lamb is a resident of Midlothian, Virginia and is employed by the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC).

Tonight's meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM, followed by this month's program: "40 Years ago (1984) on Conrail's Winchester Secondary" presented by chapter member Mason Cooper. The presentation focused on train operations through photographs of various train local switching movements.

It described the movement of local trains between the start of the Winchester Secondary Track former branch line of Pennsylvania Railroad, then Penn Central and then Con Rail (now owned by Winchester Western) at Hagerstown, MD (mile marker 74.8 miles from Harrisburg) to Williamsport, MD (80.6) then Gard, WV (89.8), Berkeley (89.9), Martinsburg (93.0), Tablers (98.2), Inwood (102.4), Clear Brook (109.2) and Winchester (115.9). Mason evidenced a long history of personal contacts with the local train crews affording a priceless collection of a variety of rail switching action photographs that would be likely impossible to capture in today's "no trespassing" environment.