

This month's meeting, Friday, January 19, 2001, was held at New Jersey Department of Transportation Headquarters, in Trenton, New Jersey. The Association wishes to thank **TED MATTHEWS**, of NJDOT for providing the meeting room for us.

The Association also wishes to thank NJSLRRA President and Port Jersey Railroad Vice President **BOB BAILEY** for the sumptuous lunch.

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Attachments

NEXT MEETING: 10:00 A.M., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2001

**LOCATION: NJDOT HEADQUARTERS
1035 PARKWAY AVENUE
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY**

Members NJSLRRA:

We hit the ground running in the new year. Here is a list of the upcoming meetings and conferences that concern the Short Line Railroads:

- January 30** Philadelphia Traffic Club Meeting at the Airport Marriott
- March 1** New York Traffic Club at the Grand Hyatt in New York City
- April 10, 11 & 12** TransAction Conference at the Tropicana in Atlantic City, New Jersey
- May 21 & 22** Northeast Region Short Line Railroad Meeting in Providence, Rhode Island

A.J.E.

NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

MONTHLY MEETING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2001

Attending:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Telephone No.</u>	<u>Fax No.</u>
Jim Turcich	Phila. Belt Line RR	215-592-7775	
Bill Herkner	NJT Rail Operations	973-491-7874	
Mark Mastro	CSX	215-209-4359	
Paul Schneider	NJDOT Utility & RR Eng.	609-530-5681	
Jack F. O'Connor	Surface Transportation Board	609-871-7507	
Kel MacKavanagh	CSX Transportation	609-704-1270	609-704-1273
Bob Bailey	Port Jersey Railroad	201-434-8373	201-434-8242
Jeff Sutch	SMS/Penn Jersey Railway	856-467-4800	857-467-2121
Gordon Fuller	Morristown & Erie	973-267-4300	
Fred Winkler	Winchester & Western RR	856-451-6400	856-451-7016
J. R. Wilson	NY & Greenwood Lake Railway	973-743-5300	973-743-4580
Bill Wright	Union County	908-272-5968	
Frank Reilly	Morris County	973-829-8101	
Fran Hennessy	Norfolk Southern	215-591-3653	
Jerry Madden	Manageering Assoc./ J.M. Cain Co.	856-866-0500 NJ 215-545-3900 Phila.	215-985-5704
A. J. Erdman	NJ TRANSIT	201-714-2788	201-714-2829

NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 19, 2001

This month's meeting was called to order by **BOB BAILEY**, at 11:00 A.M. Bob made a request of the members that an updated list of ***Emergency Telephone Numbers*** be provided to **WILL CARTER** of PSE&G. This information is vital for the New Jersey One Call service if a gas leak or some other emergency condition requires notification of a railroad property owner. Will has recently been advised of problems in contacting some railroads in the area. The attendee sign-in sheet, passed around at the meeting, has a column to record the emergency telephone numbers. Members who are not at this meeting will be contacted by the Secretary, Art Erdman, to verify their emergency contact number.

KEL MAC KAVANAGH suggested that, in addition to the emergency numbers, the State Railroad Map being developed will also help responders in ascertaining locations and railroad owners. **PAUL SCHNEIDER** noted that the NJDOT is progressing in the development of the State Railroad Map project. Bob reminded the members of past meetings with the New Jersey One Call and their informative program that illustrated the importance of this service.

Bob reported that Conrail Vice President **DONALD NELSON** will be retiring after February 28, 2001. **BILL WRIGHT** has heard, from some sources, that the current Conrail's three divisions would be split up between the parent railroads. **JEFF SUTCH** reported that Conrail has hired a Consultant to study its operations to determine if there was any area where savings could be realized. One suggestion was to assign various classification yards to the parent railroads. It was also noted that, due to tax issues, any split up of Conrail Shared Assets would not occur immediately. **JIM TURCICH**, of the Philadelphia Belt Line Railroad, advised that all of his lines are leased to Conrail and there has been no indication of a Conrail split. **BOB BAILEY** stated that the assets of most value with Conrail is not the property but the real value is with its customers.

BOB BAILEY then introduced **REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT D. FRANKS**, of the Seventh Congressional District. Bob thanked the members of the **NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION** for their support in the past Senate race. Bob noted that he did receive 48% of the vote. He has been offered a teaching position at Harvard University, which he will be leaving shortly for six weeks to accomplish. Bob assured the members that he will remain committed to the issues facing the New Jersey Community.

JEFF SUTCH asked Bob if he had any insight on the position of the new President **GEORGE W. BUSH** on the issues involving the CSX/NS takeover of Conrail. Jeff outlined some of the serious service problems being experienced with Norfolk Southern. Bob replied that the new administration has to have time to get a handle on things and it is really too soon to speculate on their position. **FRED WINKLER** noted that the present issues facing Short Line Railroads are similar to the issues faced by these railroads back in the 1930's.

BOB BAILEY asked **BOB FRANKS** if he could persuade the new Secretary of Transportation, **NORMAN MANETTA**, to attend and be keynote speaker at the **TransAction Conference** being held April 10, 11 and 12, 2001, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Bob said he will speak to Secretary Manetta and request this service.

FRANK REILLY added that the TransAction Conference will expect to present 50 seminars including a number of Short Line Railroad Seminars during the conference. The New Jersey DOT Commissioner of Transportation, **HON. JAMES WEINSTEIN**, and many others will speak at the conference.

The Members all expressed their gratitude to **BOB FRANKS** for his support of Transportation in New Jersey.

BOB BAILEY advised that the STB Chairperson **LINDA MORGAN** is still at STB as of this meeting. She has no word on who the new Chairperson of the Surface Transportation Board will be in the new Administration. Bob noted that Linda has always been accessible to the Short Line Railroads and has been sympathetic to their issues.

Bob reported that he will be meeting with the STB in two weeks and if anyone has any items for discussion let him know. Bob advised that there is expected to be some disturbing announcements coming from Norfolk Southern during the week of January 22nd. Additionally, NS may not be paying a dividend this time.

Bob also speculated that when **DON NELSON** retires from Conrail, **RON BATORY**, Vice President-Operations, will take Don's position.

Bob related an incident which recently occurred on the East Jersey Railroad. An EJRR Conductor was providing flag protection at a highway crossing in the IMTT facility in Bayonne. An automobile ignored the Conductor and drove across the track. The Conductor was able to get the license plate number and the driver was identified. IMTT took action and banned the driver from IMTT property.

Bob advised that, in the Port Jersey Railroad area, the various businesses meet to discuss safety issues concerning the many forms of rail, highway and marine activity.

ART ERDMAN handed out copies of the new FRA 49 CFR Parts 229, 231 and 232 Brake System Safety Standards for Freight and Other Non-Passenger Trains and Equipment; End of Train Devices. Art asked that this document be reviewed by the members and note the details of the study in the front of the discussion part. There are many lessons which can be learned as to why procedures are established as they relate to proper brake tests and inspections.

PAUL SCHNEIDER reported that the new Horn Regulations will not be released until possibly June or July of 2001. New Jersey expects to review the absence of horn sounding during a whistle ban study. Certain NJ Transit lines are expected to be designated as "Quiet Zones" in the initial study. **FRED WINKLER** stated that the liability issue has also to be included in this study. An open discussion followed on the issue of highway grade crossing safety.

JACK O'CONNOR felt that many of the current operational problems, being experienced by railroads, are a result of people in high positions on the railroads having little or no operating experience. Not being experienced operating railroaders, they do not grasp the significance of events or the consequences of their decisions.

Jack reviewed a report he recently completed on a complaint by Boise-Cascade, in Delanco, New Jersey, on the Bordentown Secondary. (The Bordentown Secondary is owned by NJ Transit and freight is operated by Conrail. The line is being rebuilt to operate a Light Rail system between Trenton and Camden with freight service being operated at night after the Light Rail cars stop operating.) A car load from Medford, Oregon sat for 10 days one mile from the Boise-Cascade siding. Jack asked why no one on the railroad realized that this load of material was not being placed at the consignee's siding. Boise-Cascade reported a number of delayed cars such as this in various places. Jack felt that the railroads should pay more attention to the shipments they are entrusted to handle.

MARK MASTRO advised that CSX keeps track of any car sitting in one place for 30 or more hours. However, cars located on the Shared Assets are not monitored as such.

BOB BAILEY spoke on the subject of Safety in 2001. Make certain you speak with your crews and always remind them to be careful. Railroads have an unforgiving environment. Your first mistake could be your last!

It was reported that at the last Norfolk Southern Board Meeting, a rumor is that **HUNTER HARRISON**, of Canadian National (former Illinois Central) will replace **DAVID GOODE**. There was also no report of the topics discussed at that meeting.

Lunch was then served. The NJSLRRA thanks **BOB BAILEY** for providing our lunch.

The meeting resumed.

MARK MASTRO expressed his concern and takes exception to the use of the term “Class I Issues”. Many times Class I problems are discussed in a general nature when the real issue is that of a Norfolk Southern problem. **JEFF SUTCH** seconded Mark’s concerns. Jeff Used an example of working with CSX on locating a Home Depot siding on SMS. Norfolk Southern resisted locating the siding on SMS.

NEXT MEETING: 10:00 A.M., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2001
AT
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