

NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES APRIL 7, 2011



THE NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION IS AN ORGANIZATION MADE UP OF RAILROADS SERVING THE GREAT STATE OF NEW JERSEY. THE PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION IS TO ADDRESS CONCERNS AND PROBLEMS WHICH FACE SHORT LINE RAILROADS AND TO FIND MEANS OF MITIGATING PROBLEMS AND FINDING SOLUTIONS THROUGH COLLECTIVE EFFORT AND COOPERATION.

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As is customary, the New Jersey Short Line Railroad Association held an abbreviated meeting during TransAction 2011 at the Tropicana Resort Hotel, Casino, and Conference Center in Atlantic City. We want to thank TransAction Conference Chairman **Frank Reilly** for giving us one of the hotel's premier meeting rooms for our gathering.

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Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 6, 2011
Location: Conrail offices, 1000 Howard Blvd, Mount Laurel, NJ

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 30-May 3, 2011	ASLRRA Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX
July 10-12, 2011	NS Short Line Workshop, Roanoke, VA
July 14, 2011	Railroad Day on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC
October 1-4, 2011	ASLRRA Eastern Region Meeting, Cleveland, OH

MEETING ATTENDEES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COMPANY/ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>TELEPHONE NUMBER</u>
Kel MacKavanagh	MacKavanagh RR Consulting	609-704-1270
Matt Klemchalk	Railroad Construction Co.	973-684-0362
Wes Weis	Morristown & Erie Ry.	973-267-4300
Gary T. White	FRA	732-570-5352
Steven Friedland	Morristown & Erie Ry.	973-267-4300
Larry DeYoung	L.A. DeYoung, Inc.	610-293-9098
Paul Mulligan	Seashore Lines	732-770-7186
Tony Macrie	Seashore Lines	609-602-1264
John Ledden	Seashore Lines	609-970-8520
Tony Giobbie	CSX Transportation	856-778-5119
Jim Howarth	NYS&W	607-547-2555
Bob Bailey	Port Jersey Railroad/NYNJR	201-232-0389
John McLaughlin	R.L. Banks & Associates, Inc.	856-938-4246
Rich Green	FRA	973-209-4316
William Goetz	CSX	215-209-1350
Donald Lotz	SMS/Consultant	215-736-0173
Dave Luvara	Railroad Construction of SJ	856-423-2220
Walter Hughes	Railroad Construction Company	973-684-0362
Peter Palmer	Somerset Co./NJTPA	908-231-7030

MEETING MINUTES

NJSLRRA President Bob Bailey began the meeting at 8:11 a.m. with a safety briefing.

Bob Bailey announced that Assemblyman John Wisniewski, the chair of the NJ Assembly Transportation, Public Works, and Independent Authorities Committee, was unable to attend the meeting or any of the TransAction events because of legislative business. He has been a fixture at TransAction for years..

Assemblyman Wisniewski's scheduler, Laura Shields, had asked for the date of our next meeting; the assemblyman hopes to attend this.

Bob Bailey said that NJ Operation Lifesaver has asked for a donation of \$250.00 from the NJSLRRA; this was approved.

Kel MacKavanagh apologized for the miscommunication which resulted in the absence of Curtis Sloan of the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks from the April 6th TransAction session, **Truck Sizes and Weights: Should They Be Increased? A Frank Discussion.** Gail Toth, executive director of the New Jersey Motor Truck Association, and John Runyan, executive director of the Coalition for Transportation Productivity, were the other two panelists; Ted Matthews, director of freight planning for the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, was the panel moderator.

Kel had reached Curtis by phone after the session. Curtis said that Kel had sent him an email saying that the session was going to be on Wednesday, April 7 (instead of April 6) Curtis said that he had put on his calendar for April 7, although Wednesday was April 6..

1. Review of CSXT Annual Short Line Workshop

The CSXT Short Line Workshop, which was held in St Augustine, FL on March 6-8, drew unanimous praise. The meeting was well-attended. Jim Howarth, who has been to almost all of the CSXT meetings since their inception, said that there were good topics, good presentations, and good communications on both sides.

Steve Friedland stated that there were no show stoppers at the sandhouse session; he added that the trade show was one of the best ever. .

2. Discussion of the proposed FRA Short Line Training Seminar

Although we had initially planned to have this seminar in late May, the members and the FRA decided to reschedule it for mid-September. The location will be in a place convenient for most of the attendees.. Conrail, NJ TRANSIT, short lines in eastern PA, DE, and MD, and railroad contractors will also be invited.

The training seminar will cover:

- operating practices
- track

- hazmat
- signals
- crossings
- motive power and equipment
- FRA regulations

The seminar should last for two days. The first day usually consists of classroom presentations; the second day is normally devoted to field training. A locomotive and hazmat cars are customarily available.

A questionnaire will be sent out to the railroaders to determine their interests and the number of people whom they plan to send to the seminar. A similar seminar in Albany, NY in 2010 had over 100 attendees.

3. Update on the NJDOT Rail Program grant status.

The Rail Program is still in the proposed NJDOT budget for \$10M.

4. Brief report on current federal and state legislation.

Kel MacKavanagh reported that Sen. Rockefeller has introduced S. 672, the Short Line Rehabilitation and Investment Act of 2011, along with S. 158, the Surface Transportation Board Reauthorization Act of 2011. Rep. Laura Richardson has introduced H.R. 1122, the Freight FOCUS Act of 2011.

S. 49, the Railroad Antitrust Enforcement Act of 2011, the bill sponsored by Senator Herb Kohl of WI and seven others, has been placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders, Calendar No. 19.

In the New Jersey Legislature, there has been no further action on A. 1584, the bill which would criminalize certain actions on railroad property, or on S. 860, the bill which would increase railroad franchise and property taxes.

5. 2011 ASLRRA Annual Convention.

The ASLRRA Annual Convention, which will be held in San Antonio, TX on April 30-May 3, has over 1,200 people registered, including over 400 railroaders. NS CEO Wick Moorman and FRA Administrator Joe Szabo will be among the speakers. The 180 exhibit booths have been sold out; 163 companies will have exhibits.

6, Member reports.

a. CSX

Bill Goetz of CSX advised the group that CSX and NS had met with the he NJ DAG staff about S. 49, the Railroad Antitrust Enforcement Act. This bill would remove antitrust immunity on joint line and end to end rates. Bill said that they were very well

received at the Attorney General's office. The Attorney General's office was asked to oppose passage of this bill.

Tony Giobbie said that CSXT will offer hazmat training at Selkirk, NY on May 19, 2011.

b. FRA

Rich Green reported that Joe Riley has been promoted and will be working at the FRA headquarters in Washington, DC. Joe's new title is Railroad Safety Specialist (OP) – Operating Crew Certification. We wish Joe well in his new position.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. at the Conrail offices at 1000 Howard Blvd. in Mount Laurel, NJ.** Retired NJDOT Commissioner Jack Lettiere will be presented with the 2011 Benjamin J. Friedland Award at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 a.m.

Kel MacKavanagh
Secretary, NJSLRRA
609-704-1270

