

NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES APRIL 12, 2012



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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The New Jersey Short Line Railroad Association held its meeting at the Tropicana in Atlantic City during the annual TransAction Conference. We thank Frank Reilly, the Conference Chairman, for his assistance in arranging this. Since it was during TransAction, the meeting had an abbreviated agenda..

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Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 13, 2012
Location: Conrail offices at 1000 Howard Blvd. in Mount Laurel, NJ

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 12, 2012	NJSLRRA Meeting, Atlantic City, NJ
April 21-24, 2012	ASLRRA Annual Convention, Indianapolis, IN
July 18-20, 2012	Norfolk Southern Short Line Meeting, Roanoke, VA
October 14-16, 2012	ASLRRA Eastern Region Meeting, Scranton, PA

MEETING ATTENDEES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COMPANY/ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>TELEPHONE NUMBER</u>
Kelvin MacKavanagh	MacKavanagh RR Consulting	609-704-1270
Bob Bailey	NYNJ Rail	201-232-0389
Steven Friedland	Morristown & Erie Ry.	973-267-4300
Jim Jordie	Stella Jones	717-314-8344
Chris Mazzei	Morristown & Erie Ry.	973-267-4300
Jim Savage	J. Savage Law	908-361-7097
Joe Zarriello	KS Engineers	856-206-0892
Dan O'Connell	UTU	609-396-1994
Miki Krakauer	NJDOT	609-530-4574
Chris Spiceland	Norfolk Southern	540-524-6775
Jeff Sutch	SMS	609-467-4800
Joe Connelly	Consultant	
Michael Fesen	Norfolk Southern	717-319-6870
Dale Errico	RCC	201-697-1761
Tony Giobbie	CSX Transportation	856-778-5119
Dave Dieck	NJ TRANSIT	973-491-7920
John Ledden	Seashore Lines	609-970-8520
Peter Palmer	Somerset Co./NJTPA	908-231-7030
John McLaughlin	R.L. Banks & Associates	856-938-4246
Paul Mulligan	Seashore Lines	732-770-7186
W.G.M. Goetz	CSXT	215-209-1350
GeorgeAnne Tutunjian	Orgo-Thermit	732-657-5781
Ron Mathewson	Zurich Insurance	212-553-5710
Tony Macrie	Seashore Lines	609-602-1264
Michael Allen	Seashore Lines	616-218-3212
Bob DeSando	NJDOT	609-530-5032
Wes Weis	Morristown & Erie Ry.	973-267-4300
Dave Luvara	RCCSJ	856-423-2220
Ted Matthews	NJTPA	973-639-8404
John Fiorilla	Capehart & Scatchard	856-914-2054

MEETING MINUTES

NJSLRRA President Bob Bailey opened the meeting at 8:06 a.m. with a moment of silence for Fred Winkler. Fred was the general agent for the Winchester & Western, the 2004 recipient of the Benjamin J. Friedland Award, and the former secretary of the Association. Fred passed away in his sleep on March 24; he was 83 years old and had been in the transportation field for 67 years.

1. Tributes to Fred Winkler.

Bob Bailey began the tributes by saying that Fred liked to push the front guy; he enjoyed transit and was very helpful in promoting trespassing laws.

Jeff Sutch said that Fred was a good friend who will be sorely missed.

Tony Giobbie remarked how Fred enjoyed the Conrail short line meetings and even wanted to discuss business while he (Fred) was in Underwood Hospital in Woodbury, NJ.

Kel MacKavanagh read the following tributes which had been received in response to the email announcing Fred's passing:

Alan Maples, Everett Railroad:

"I just got a call from Todd Hunter with the sad news. Fred was a delightful man, always gracious whenever we met. I sold him a heavyweight Pullman car years ago. He will be missed."

Phil Bell, formerly with GoRail:

"Thanks for passing this on. I'm glad to have known Fred, and he truly was an icon who will certainly be missed."

Bob Dedow, FRA:

"What a shame – he was a great guy."

Dick Hasselman (Sr.VP-Operations of Conrail from 1976 to 1989):

"I am terribly sorry to hear of Fred's death. He was a very nice guy, and totally dedicated to his short line! I'm sure all "Jerseyites" will miss him!"

GeorgeAnne Tutunjian, Orgo-Thermit:

"Oh my. Fred was such a nice person."

Rob Robinson, NS:

"Very sad."

Danny O'Connell, UTU:

“Terrible news. I recall fondly conversations with Fred about railroads and railroad history. While passing in your sleep is not a bad way to go, I would have liked more conversations with him. We all lose some institutional memory when we lose people like Fred. May he rest in peace.”

Arthur Feygelson, CPRS:

“Sad news. Fred was a gentleman.”

Karen Rosella, Conrail:

“Fred was always a gentleman and hearing his voice from time to time will be missed.”

David Monte Verde, GVT Rail System:

“The passing of a generation, probably the last General Agent on an American RR!”

Carl Belke, Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad:

“Truly sad news. He was a champion man and railroader. We will miss him greatly as a friend and as a huge industry asset.”

Tom Collard, Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad (retired):

“I am really sorry that I can't make it to New Jersey for the funeral. My wife is having back surgery and I need to be at home....He was a classic!”

Gabe Hall, U S RAIL Corp.:

“Fred was a true railroader. He always made me proud to know him. Fred will be missed for his dedication and loyalty to his railroad. He will also be missed for his folksy kind of way of doing things, and his kind words.”

Leslie McCarthy, Villanova University:

“Thank you for sharing this sad news. I feel so honored to have met Fred the times that I did over the past 2 years. He was an amazing engineer and it's so sad to lose him.

I teach on Friday and will not be able to make the funeral service. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and with all of the railroad family.”

John Kraemer, NS:

“May God Bless Fred. A GREAT GUY!”

2. Report on Railroad Day on Capitol Hill on March 8, 2012.

The day went very well. There was focus on renewal of the 45G tax credit which expired on December 31, 2011. Although most of the meetings were with congressional staff members, we did meet directly with Rep. Albio Sires. There was also a video conference with Rep. Rush Holt; he was in his district office.

Steve Friedland said that Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell would like other people to organize themselves the way we do for visits to the NJ congressional offices. We divide up the schedule and determine which of us will cover particular appointments.

Jim Jordie of Stella Jones commented that New Jersey is very well organized.

Joe Connelly, a former staff member of Rep. Oberstar's committee, recommended that we meet with the transportation committee staff members who know funding.

3. Status of railroad-related federal and state legislation.

Kel MacKavanagh remarked that there are 193 bills in the 112th Congress which contain the word "railroad."

Bill Goetz (CSX) said that the final transportation bill is just an extension. They would collapse the number of programs.

Mike Fesen (NS) stated that TIGER applications are the best funding route at present.

The only directly rail-related bill currently in the NJ Legislature is still S.966. This is Senator Loretta Weinberg's bill which would increase railroad franchise and property taxes to support improvements to railroad capital facilities.

Bill Goetz also reported that there is a labor law bill in the NJ Assembly which would make drayage drivers into port facilities employees instead of contractors.

4. Update on the ASLRRA Annual Convention in Indianapolis, IN on April 21-24, 2012.

Convention chair Steve Friedland said that over 1,400 persons have already registered for the convention; this already makes it the second largest in the ASLRRA's history. The ASLRRA app is already up and running; it has speaker bios and presentations.

It will be a very complex meeting with over 40 educational sessions.

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels, CSX CEO Mike Ward, and FRA Administrator Joe Szabo will be among the speakers. Tony Hatch will run a session on Tuesday with the holding company CEOs.

CSX supports the car hire educational module; a full dress rehearsal of this was done at Railinc two weeks ago.

John Fiorilla said that there will be five breakout legal sessions.

There are 202 exhibit booths for 172 different companies.

The Tuesday night event, usually known as the Loco Lizard Lounge, will be called the Centennial Lounge in honor of next year's centennial convention in Atlanta.

5. Member reports.

a. Norfolk Southern.

Mike Fesen advised the group that NS had brought the Go21 essay winner, Alex Jones, a welder from Croxton Yard, to Railroad Day on Capitol Hill.

Mike also said that super PAC solicitations are flying around.

Chris Spiceland reported that Norfolk Southern's traffic with its short line connections was up 3 percent in the first quarter of 2012. This tracks well with its own traffic; this was up 2-3 percent.

Domestic coal was way down; metals are strong commodities on account of automotive business being up 21 percent in the first quarter.

Chris said the NS short line meeting will be on July 18-20 in Roanoke. It will begin on the morning of the 18th with golf. NS is adding a new breakout session block on July 20th, along with the short line caucus meeting.

b. CSXT.

Tony Giobbie told the attendees that automotive and intermodal traffic are up; coal is down, especially in the South. Business in the Northeast is up 2-3 percent; rock salt is down on account of the mild winter.

The annual CSXT Short Line Workshop in March hosted 140 short lines; 110 short lines sat down with CSXT teams.

There is record hiring CSXT hiring 5,000 new employees last year. The short lines may be dealing with somebody new; they need to be up on technology.

Bill Goetz said that CSXT got approval from NJDOT for a major project at Port Reading Jct., dirt will turn this year.

c. NJ TRANSIT.

Dave Dieck stated that it has been a pretty good year operationally; NJT is building business partnerships with the other railroads.

d. Seashore Lines.

Mike Allen said that thieves are now taking up active rail with plasma torches.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on June 13, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at the Conrail offices in Mount Laurel, NJ.

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

Kel MacKavanagh
Secretary, NJSLRRA
609-704-1270

