

NEW JERSEY SHORT LINE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 25, 2015



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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We thank everyone who came to the meeting which was just prior to the ‘retirement’ luncheon for Bob Bailey. It was our largest meeting ever. Fortunately, although Bob has retired from the Port Jersey Division of New York New Jersey Rail, he is not retiring as president of the New Jersey Short Line Railroad Association.

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Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.
Location: The Tropicana Resort Hotel, Casino, and Conference Center,
Atlantic City, NJ

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 28-31, 2015	ASLRRA Annual Convention, Orlando, FL
April 21-23, 2015	TransAction 2015, Atlantic City, NJ
June 4, 2015	Railroad Day on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC
June 9-11, 2015	Norfolk Southern Short Line Meeting, Roanoke, VA
October 18-20, 2015	ASLRRA Eastern Region Meeting, Erie, PA

MEETING ATTENDEES

NAME	COMPANY/ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Kelvin MacKavanagh	MacKavanagh RR Consulting	609-704-1270
Bob Bailey	Munro Associates	201-232-0389
Arthur C. Ivins, Jr.	Hatch & Kirk	215-499-3275
Michael Fesen	Norfolk Southern	717-319-6870
Ron Batory	Conrail	856-231-2003
Jim Blaze	Independent	856-230-8248
Joe Garofolo	Conrail	856-231-2013
Jim Jordie	Stella Jones	800-272-8437
Jennifer Cox	Norfolk Southern	347-580-0287
Bob Ryan	Independent RR Consultant	073-220-8963
Harold Neil	HDS	609-638-3731
Joseph Bober	HDS	973-477-3487
James Badgley	Eastman Linnett Assoc.	609-314-3678
Carl Belke	WNYP RR/ASLRRRA	908-625-7776
John K. Fiorilla	Capehart & Scatchard	856-914-2054
GeorgeAnne Tutunjian	Orgo-Thermit	732-657-5781
Andrew Ludasi	NJDOT	609-530-4597
Steve Sullivan	R.L. Banks & Associates	703-997-4294
Joseph Iadanza	NJ TRANSIT Rail Operations	201-955-5973
Jeff Sutch	SMS Rail	856-467-4800
Miki Krakauer	Retired	609-977-3055
Michael Allen	NJ Operation Lifesaver	609-929-6421
Kaz Tabrizi	Advanced Infrastructure Design, Inc.	732-648-9003
Tony Giobbie	CSX (Retired)	609-932-4528
Peter Palmer	NJTPA/Somerset County	908-963-4969
John B. Fenton	NYSW Railway	607-592-2816
Dave Dawson	NJTPA	973-639-8432
Donald B. Hutton	NYNJR	201-433-0360
Than Le	NJDOT	609-530-6379
Michael R. Weinman	PTSI Transportation	201-933-5530
Gordon R. Fuller	PTSI Transportation	908-313-4566
Joe Zarriello	KS Engineers, PC	609-613-8646
Steve Friedland	M&E	973-267-4300
Tom Noon	FRA	732-397-3095
Bob Dedow	FRA	617-901-5851
Joe Daloisio II	Railroad Construction Co., Inc.	973-684-0362
Joe Daloisio III	Railroad Construction Co., Inc.	973-684-0362
Tony McIsaac	Railroad Construction Co., Inc.	973-684-0362
John McLaughlin	R.L. Banks & Associates	856-938-4246
Ted Matthews	Retired	570-384-2298
Anne Strauss-Wieder	NJTPA	973-639-8404
Ronald S. Weening	AS-W Inc.	908-686-9082
Arthur J. Erdman	Retired	973-773-2066
Jerome A. Madden	Retired	215-922-5200
Alan W. Maples	Everett Railroad	814-695-9628
Paul Mulligan	Seashore Lines	732-770-1186
Tony Macrie	Seashore Lines	609-602-1264
Scott Muir	NS	202-297-6067
Denise Bailey	Norfolk Southern	215-756-1497
Ken Spahn	Dewberry	973-780-9326

MEETING MINUTES

NJSLRRA President Bob Bailey called the meeting to order the meeting at 10:12 a.m. There was a safety briefing which called attention to tripping hazards, especially since we were in a new meeting location. This was followed by a round of introductions; it was good to see a number of people whom we had not seen at a meeting in sometime.

1. NJSRRA bylaws changed.

The Active Member railroads voted by email earlier in February to amend the bylaws to permit a representative of an Active Member railroad who is serving as president or vice president of the Association and retires during his or her term to continue to serve as president or vice president of the Association and also to be eligible for re-election to another term as president or vice president as long as these terms are consecutive.

An Active Member is a Class II or Class III railroad located or operating in the State of New Jersey. The offices of president and vice president may only be held by the CEO of an Active Member railroad or his or her representative.

2. Final TransAction 2015 sessions.

TransAction 2015 will be held at the Tropicana in Atlantic City on April 21-23. Kel MacKavanagh reported that he is coordinating the following sessions for TransAction 2015:

- The PennDOT benefits from the increase in the Pennsylvania gas tax.
- Red light cameras: should they return?
- Reconstruction of the Delair and Paulsboro railroad bridges.
- The hard and soft costs of railroad crossing accidents: an insurance underwriting perspective.
- What is TRANSCAER?
- Railroad trespassing: public cost, liability and prevention.
- Transportation safety: the past, the present, and the future.
- The importance of truck drivers and chasses to the Port of New York & New Jersey.

Panelists, moderators, and presenters are already lined up for most of these sessions. Full information about TransAction, including registration, lodging, etc., is on the website, www.njtransaction.com. All of the 71 sessions are under ‘Workshops.’

3. FRA updates.

Tom Noon said that the people in the field have not yet received any information about the new regulations on tank cars which are being developed.

4. Update on federal and state railroad-related legislation.

Kel MacKavanagh reported that there are currently 34 bills in the House of the new 114th Congress which have ‘railroad’ somewhere in their language. Most of the bills have been referred to the various House Committees, including H.R. 721, the Short Line Railroad Rehabilitation and Investment Act of 2015.

Carl Belke, the vice president of ASLRRA’s eastern region, said that they are looking for a co-sponsor of H.R. 721 in the Senate. They hope to get the bill renewed for two years.

There was a fly-in to Washington, DC recently for short lines from New York and Pennsylvania to meet with members of Congress from their states.

The one bill which is moving quickly is H.R. 749, the Passenger Rail Reform and Investment Act of 2015; this bill, sponsored by Rep. Bill Shuster of PA, was ordered to be reported by voice vote on February 12. (Note: this bill was passed by the House of Representatives on March 5, 2015).

Regarding committee assignments, Rep. Albio Sires (D-8th in NJ) and Rep. Jerry Nadler (D-10th in NY) are on Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials. Rep. Frank LoBiondo (R-2nd in NJ) is the chair of the Aviation Subcommittee.

Senator Cory Booker is the ranking member of the Senate Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security.

In the NJ Legislature, A. 842 would permit cities of the first class to operate weigh stations and to inspect vehicles and railroad cars transporting hazardous materials within their jurisdiction.

John Fiorilla mentioned NJ Senate Bill No. 2143. This bill establishes a statutory scheme for adverse possession by repealing conflicting statutes and establishing a 20-year adverse possession period. The bill is also intended to clarify certain case law concerning publicly owned property and to protect the rights of owners of certain property that was tida-flowed more than 40 years ago.

Mike Fesen of NS brought up stormwater runoff. This is a hot issue in other states.

5. ASLRRRA Convention in Orlando, FL on March 28-31, 2015.

Steve Friedland, who is involved in planning the Convention, provided details about the Convention and the numerous breakout sessions. The initial hotel block at the Hilton Orlando sold out quickly. There is an overflow hotel block at the Doubletree by Hilton Orlando. This is about five minutes away by vehicle. Shuttle service will be provided between the two hotels.

Complete information about the Convention is available on the website, www.aslrra.org. Under 'Meetings and Seminars', click on '2015 Connections Convention'.

6. 2015 Benjamin J. Friedland Award.

Two Benjamin J. Friedland Awards were presented this year at the meeting. The recipients are Arthur Erdman and Miki Krakauer. Artie Erdman was the first secretary-treasurer of the Association when he was with NJ TRANSIT; Miki Krakauer has been involved with railroads and railroad planning for NJDOT for a number of years; she is retiring from NJDOT on February 28, 2015.

A photo of the Friedland Award presentation is attached.

7. 2015 NJSLRRA dues.

Steve Friedland, the NJSLRRA treasurer, stated that dues payments have been coming in. Dues invoices were sent out in December 2014 just before Christmas.

8. Status of NJDOT rail grants.

The rail grants for FY 2014 have not yet been released. There has been no notice yet about the application deadline date for the FY 2015 grants.

9. Member reports.

a. ASLRRRA:

Carl Belke told the group that Linda Darr, the new president is committed to moving the Association forward. The Short Line Safety Institute is beginning its work; crude oil unit trains will be the first priority.

Linda Darr has been invited to attend a future NJSLRRA meeting.

b. CSX Transportation:

The annual CSX Short Line Workshop will be at Amelia Island, FL on March 1-3.

10. New business.

The 'retirement' luncheon for Bob Bailey immediately followed the meeting. Photos of the presentations to Bob are attached.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Association will be on **Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. in the Board Room on the 4th floor at the Tropicana Resort Hotel, Casino, and**

Conference Center in Atlantic City, NJ. Since this meeting will take place before the TransAction sessions begin that day, it will be an abbreviated meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Kel MacKavanagh
Secretary, NJSLRRA
609-704-1270 (office)
609-472-8748 (cell)

