

O Scale Central Board of Directors
Board Approved Minutes
November 14, 2023

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Vaughn at 8:33 pm EST using Zoom.

Roll Call

Officers present: D. Vaughn, E. Peterson, K. Nesper, and J. Norman

Directors present: N. Bulgarino, J. Barker, W. Horlacher, A. Oslapas, D. Schultz, and C. Wubbel

Advisors present: D. Carlton, P. Hanson, B. Kjelland, S. Kurzawski, R. Randall, R. Shawyer, and S. Shippy

Members present: None

Agenda. The agenda was adopted by acclamation.

Minutes. The October 2023 Minutes were accepted.

Officer Reports

President. Vaughn opened the meeting by welcoming three new advisors: Don Carlton (Train Show Coordinator), Scott Kurzawski (Website), and Ryan Shawyer (Social Media). He reminded the board that the first OSC segment on New Tracks would be Wednesday, November 15th and the next O scale Online would be on Sunday, November 19th. He observed that OSC ads are appearing in hobby magazines. Vaughn noted that the Cleveland O scale show was better attended than expected and announced that Skyler Shippy would be taking over leadership from Sam Shumaker.

Vice-president. Peterson directed attention to his written report.

Treasurer. A report was sent to all board meeting participants. The bank balance as of October 31, 2023, is \$8,083.68.

Committee Reports

Marketing. Treasurer and committee chair Norman recommended that with the new initiatives occurring in social media, the website, and train shows, plus the print advertising, it was time to consider restructuring the marketing effort.

Membership. Director and committee chair Barker submitted a written report. The current membership is 179.

Publications. Advisor Kjelland reported that The Coupler #8 was sent to members. He has sufficient material for two more issues.

Website. Advisor Kurzawski submitted a written report. The transition is proceeding smoothly. Kurzawski would like to add more photos of modern era equipment to interest younger modelers.

NMRA SIG. Peterson's report was sent to all board meeting participants.

OSC On-line. In Advisor Viggiano's absence, Vaughn provided an overview of the Sunday session. The highlights will be a photo etching clinic and an introduction to onboard power (aka dead rail).

Modular Groups and Clubs Initiative. Advisor Shippy submitted a written report outlining a new approach to engaging groups and clubs.

New Tracks OS2R Segment. Director Schultz reiterated that the first episode will air on November 15th.

Social Media. Advisor Shawyer submitted a written report focusing on efforts to build up OSC presence on Facebook and You Tube.

Train Show Outreach. Advisor Carlton provided an initial written report. He is developing a logistics checklist for OSC support of train shows.

Old Business

2023 O Scale Hall of Fame. Vaughn noted that there are two candidates: John Dunn and John Wubbel.

2023 Nominations and Elections. Vaughn stated that the ballots were distributed as presented last month. There were no additional nominees.

Motion to Participate at Amherst/Springfield MA Train Show. Secretary Nesper's asked the board to ratify the decision made by email to participate in the multi-scale train show. The motion passed without objection. (See addendum.)

2023 Annual Members Meeting. Vaughn summarized the meeting. No items were proposed that require board action.

Progress Reports on Deferred Topics

Future Convention Planning and Format--Deferred
OSC Outreach Going Forward—Deferred

Membership Directory--Deferred
OSC Strategic Direction—Deferred

New Business

Motion to Participate at O Scale West Train Show. Vaughn received an invitation from ??? Thomas to co-sponsor the 2024 O Scale West train show. A 25% co-sponsorship was proposed, possibly amounting to \$4,000. While there was no interest by the board in co-sponsorship, there was some discussion of other ways that OSC could help similar to actions taken at the 2023 O Scale National Convention.

Resolution of Lifetime Achievement. Vaughn proposed that Sam Shumaker and George Wallace be issued OSC Lifetime Achievement awards. Shumaker has put on the Cleveland O Scale Train Show for 25 years, but retired after the past show. Wallace has been a stalwart force for maintaining O Scale Kings and O Scale Central. The board approved the motion. Vaughn will create the award statements.

Three-Rail Scale Outreach. Barker and Vaughn noted the many areas of shared interest between OS2R and OS3R. Shawyer reported that he is active on social media with both groups and that OSC social media would be an avenue for increasing awareness and cooperation.

3D Model Railroad Library and Repository. Deferred due to Viggiano's absence.

Good and Welfare. Board participants were invited to stay online after the meeting for a time of deeper introductions and sharing.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 12, 8:30 pm (ET)

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:02 pm.

Addendum

Motion to Participate at Amherst/Springfield MA Train Show (Email Vote)

On October 17, 2023, President David Vaughn requested Board approval for OSC’s participation in the Amherst/Springfield Train Show to be held on January 27-28, 2024 and payment of \$267 (or this year’s equivalent) for the booth. He advises that this is an all-scale show with an attendance of 20,000 in which OSK/OSC has participated for a number of years. It is a great opportunity for some “all-scale” exposure. We have an opportunity to use Amherst as a pilot for participation in these mega shows. Please vote to approve participation and payment.

Name	Motion				
D. Vaughn	Yea				
E. Peterson	Yea				
K. Nesper	Yea				
J. Norman	Yea				
N. Bulgarino					
J. Barker	Yea				
W. Horlacher	Yea				
A. Oslapas	Yea				
D. Schultz					
C. Wubbel	Yea				

The motion was approved by the board.

O Scale Central Board of Directors Status Report

The purpose of this report is to provide timely status information to all OSC leaders on topics that do not require immediate action by the board of directors.

Meeting date: 11/14/2023

O Scale Central topic/activity: Vice President Report

Activities since last report:

Website Zoom with Dan Dawdy and Scott Kurzawski about operations. Scott is now the Website contact for OSC. He and I confer on changes and updates. All website changes, corrections and additions should be sent to Scott and he will make the changes with support from Dan Dawdy.

Kadee O Scale 2 Rail trucks. I had good conversations with Alan Vezzani and Tory Hill and they are considering producing P48 wheel and axles for their new trucks. We have a good relationship and can discuss additional product.

I hosted a table at the Carmel-Clay Public Library during the train show Saturday 11/4 showing O Scale 2 Rail. Over 1500 people attended the 10-3 event.

Prepared articles for The Coupler

Planned activities and expected time required:

Work with our new advisers for the website, YouTube and Facebook

Continue to work with Dan Dawdy and Joe Barker to upgrade our membership processing and add a member only directory.

Assist with organizing our Marketing activities.

Structure, Organization, Objectives, Market Research

Support NMRA Standards, RP, and conformance testing.

Is there any action by the board for your topic? No.

If so, what is proposed for discussion and/or approval?

O Scale Central Board of Directors

Status Report

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O Scale Central Topic: Membership

Activities since last board meeting:

Membership: 179 paid memberships as of 14 November 2023. I found one duplicate membership on the list that I deleted. This means that we are plus 4 from last month although we added 5 new members.

John Smith of The Colony, TX was the founder of OSK. He has an unpaid life membership. Does anyone know if he is still alive? Should he be dropped from the paid membership list?

2022 Renewals Since Last Report: 0

New Members Since Last Report: 5

Planned activities and expected time required:

1. **Renewal Notices:** I need send renewal notices in November to the 104 members whose membership expires at the end of December. This is a time-consuming project to send the notices and process the renewals.
2. **Membership Application Process:** The membership application and payment process is too complex. I have worked with Eric and Dan on solving this.
3. **Draft a Membership Instruction Manual:** This is a 2023 project. I probably won't get this done in 2023. This project will be carried forward to 2024. I hope that we will have a new streamlined procedure by this time next year.

Is there any action by the board for your Topic? No.

If so, what is proposed for discussion and/or approval? None.

O Scale Central Board of Directors Status Report

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Meeting date: 11/7/2023 7 – 8 PM

Attendees:

- Daniel Dawdy
- Eric Peterson
- Scott Kurzawski

O Scale Central topic/activity:

- Introduce Scott Kurzawski on how to make new updates and edits to O Scale Central website.

Activities since last report:

- This is my first report. I believe Eric will have updates from his web site work in his report.

Planned activities and expected time required:

- Repair existing broken web page links – already in process
 - Time required = 1 month
- Upload and add link in in Members-Only section to latest issue of “The Coupler Issue #8”.
 - Task completed (11/9/2023)
- Work on OSC page with links to existing OSC You Tube Videos.
 - Time required = 1 month

Is there any action by the board for your topic?

- No board action needed.

If so, what is proposed for discussion and/or approval?

O Scale Central Board of Directors Status Report

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Meeting date: 11/14/2023

O Scale Central topic/activity: NMRA Special Interest Groups (SIG)

Activities since last report:

NMRA continues to support our organization as a Special Interest Group.

- NMRA Magazine is featuring SIG's and we need an article.
- NMRA Central Indiana Division Train Show 11/18 includes space for O & S

NMRA is willing and staffed to help us with Marketing.

- Christina Zambri (Ganzer), Marketing Consultant, marketing@nmra.org
- Lucy Dormont, Social Media Manager, engage@nmra.org

NMRA Standard, RPs and Notes

- Modular information including O Scale.
- I am assisting in NMRA Conformance reviews of O Scale 2 Rail products

Planned activities and expected time required:

Continue to identify NMRA activities that can support O Scale Central SIG

Coordinate NMRA Marketing support for OSC.

Continue involvement with NMRA Standards, RPs and Conformance

Is there any action by the board for your topic? No

If so, what is proposed for discussion and/or approval?

O Scale Central Board of Directors Status Report

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Meeting date: 11/14/2023

O Scale Central topic/activity: Club Outreach

Activities since last report: Scope Change

Planned activities and expected time required: Instead of inviting all contacts to a periodical zoom call, determine a core group from each region to discuss club topics with. In the meantime, I will resend my initial message with the groups I did not hear back from.

Is there any action by the board for your topic? No

O Scale Central Board of Directors Status Report

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Meeting date: 11/14/23

O Scale Central topic/activity: Social Media Coordinator Report

Activities since last report: Accepted the position as Social Media Coordinator. Creating buzz to promote 2-rail O scale to both newcomers and the greater hobby via Facebook and YouTube. I have downloaded the Terry Terrance videos and began to upload them to the OSC YouTube page.

Planned activities and expected time required: Regular posts (2-3 a week) on the OSC Facebook page to generate buzz and interaction with the site. Uploading the Terry Terrance videos and the monthly OSC Online program to the OSC YouTube page. I will also be shooting video of some more OS2R home layouts in the upcoming months which will be edited and uploaded to YouTube.

Is there any action by the board for your topic? No.

**O Scale Central Board of Directors
Status Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide timely status information to all OSC leaders on topics that do not require immediate action by the board of directors.

Meeting date: 11/14/2023

O Scale Central topic/activity: *Show/convention OSC attendee checklist*

Activities since last report: *None*

Planned activities and expected time required: *TBD*

Is there any action by the board for your topic? *Review/discussion*

If so, what is proposed for discussion and/or approval? *Outline of checklist sent to Sec. Nick Bulgarino*