

O Scale Central Board of Directors  
Board Approved Minutes  
April 16, 2024

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Vaughn at 8:34 pm EDT using Zoom.

Roll Call

Officers present: D. Vaughn, S. Shippy, K. Nesper, and J. Norman

Directors present: J. Barker, W. Horlacher, A. Oslapas, E. Peterson, and D. Schultz

Advisors present: P. Hanson, S. Kurzawski, R. Randall, and E. Skuchas

Members present: None

Agenda. The agenda was adopted by acclamation.

Minutes. The March 2024 Minutes were accepted.

Officer Reports

President. Vaughn reported that the Chicago March Meet was an over-whelming success. OSC generated new contacts and gained exposure. He thanked the board participants who attended the show and helped with the OSC events. Turning to the New Tracks-PCR/NMRA Virtual Convention, he praised the effort by Advisor Ryan Shawyer to write, edit, and produce the 10-minute video that will be shown to convention participants. The video will be used in the future to promote O scale and OSC. Vaughn summarized two recent train shows in Harrisburg and Strasburg PA. The Harrisburg show was lightly attended, but there was good attendance at Strasburg. He announced that OSC has an agreement with the hosts of the St. Louis RPM meet to provide a sectional layout, displays, and a clinic. Vaughn wants to use this experience to develop a repeatable pattern for OSC participation at multi-scale events.

Vice-president. Shippy's report focused on developing a process for documenting O scale layouts on the OSC website.

Treasurer. The Treasurer's Report was sent to all board meeting participants. The bank balance is currently over \$11,000. Norman noted that funds are available for stepping up the marketing campaign.

Committee Reports

Membership. Director and committee chair Barker submitted a written report. There are 169 paid members and 36 outstanding renewals.

Marketing. Director and committee chair Horlacher submitted a written report. He emphasized working with the Web Site team to improve the usefulness of the home page.

Social Media. Although absent, Advisor Shawyer submitted a written report. Shawyer was instrumental in developing the new OSC promotional video.

Website. Advisor Kurzawski submitted a written report. Given the importance of the website to the future of the organization, he is very active.

Publications. Although absent, Advisor Kjelland circulated a memo outlining the contents of the April edition of *The Coupler*.

OSC On-line. Vaughn provided a summary of the April 21<sup>st</sup> event.

Train Show Outreach. Advisor Carlton was absent and did not submit a written report.

Club Outreach. Shippy reported that he plans to hold another Zoom session with various club leaders in mid-May.

NMRA SIG. Peterson's report was sent to all board meeting participants. He noted that he will be making two presentations at the NMRA Midwest Region conference. Planning will soon begin for the OSC presence at the NMRA National Convention in Long Beach CA in early August.

Traction. Advisor Skuchas' written report summarized his efforts to integrate O Traction into the OSC web site.

Old Business

Chicago March Meet Report. See President's report.

New Tracks/PSR (NMRA) Virtual Convention. See President's Report.

St. Louis Railroad Prototype Modelers (RPM) Show. See President's Report.

OS2R Clinic Program. Vaughn reiterated the plan to create a library of clinics suitable for conventions, train shows, and club meetings. Advisor Carlton has the lead. Advisor Kurzawski raised questions about the most suitable media for storing static documents (e.g., PDFs or PPTs) versus videos. Vaughn invited Kurzawski to join the steering committee.

## New Business

NMRA National Convention, Long Beach CA. As planning begins, Vaughn noted the need for OSC resources residing in southern California.

New Indy Show. Paul Hansen provided an update on the preparations for the train show to be held September 20-21 in Indianapolis IN. He is presently working on building awareness through ads and website. Since it is a small hotel, he is looking for events that can be staged in the area.

Good and Welfare

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 14, 8:30 pm (EDT) via Zoom

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 9:46 pm.

# 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.

## O Scale Central Topic: Membership

### Activities since last board meeting:

**Membership:** 205 memberships as of April 16, 2024. (This number includes people who have not yet renewed).

2023 Renewals Since Last Report: 11

2023 Remaining Renewals: 36

New Members Since Last Report: 11

### Planned activities and expected time required:

1. **Renewal Notices:** Thirty-six people whose membership expired December 31, 2023 have not yet renewed.

2. **Membership Application Process:** Our members are having problems accessing the OSC members section of the website and receiving OSC emails. I am working with Eric and Dan to solve this problem. I am having problems sending "Welcome to OSC" notices to new members using the PHP software. I need Dan's help with this.

We have one person in Woo Commerce that has a "Pending Payment" of \$120 since March 24. I need to find out from Dan what this means.

Three people who joined/renewed at the March meet either did not fill out the membership form or their handwriting was not legible. I have not been able to process their memberships. I have notified David and Eric about these applications.

3. **Draft a Membership Instruction Manual:** This is a 2024 project

**Is there any action by the board for your Topic? Yes.**

**If so, what is proposed for discussion and/or approval? When should I remove people who have not yet renewed from OSC's membership?**

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

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**Meeting date:** 4/16/2024

**O Scale Central topic/activity:** **Marketing**

**Activities since last report:**

Designed two one third page ads for White River publications, one for the 2024 On30 Annual and the other ad specifically for their O Scale Trains 2024 Annual. The publisher has billed us for the On30 Annual and a complimentary copy was mailed to our Treasurer Joe Norman. We will receive an invoice for the OST Annual upon publication.

I also noted that in the last OST publication, I happened to notice that our listing on the Club Directory page was outdated and was addressed by David Vaughn.

**Planned activities and expected time required:**

Revise wordage used on the opening page of the OSC Central web page to better draw in potential new members to OSC whether an individual wants to broaden their exposure to all things 1:48 or if they are totally newcomers to the world of 1:48 scale seeking more knowledge by way of our members through fellowship and mentorship.

Scott Kurzawski had a meeting with me on April 14<sup>th</sup> where we expressed and exchanged some ideas to improve the introductory statement to complement the web page and set the hook, so to speak to encourage individuals to join.

Duration should be by our next month for review and comments with an update to web page in the June time frame.

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

There is no action required at this time

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

N/A

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**Meeting date:** 4/16/24

### **O Scale Central topic/activity: Social Media**

**Activities since last report:** Created and edited an OSC promotional video for the PCR NMRA virtual conference which will also be used for promote of OSC on YouTube, Facebook, and at shows.

Continue regular posting on the OSC Facebook page. We've gained 57 new followers on FB in the past 4 weeks and now have just shy of 1,400. Our YouTube subscriber count is at 133.

**Planned activities and expected time required:** Continuing regular posting on OSC social sites.

**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/activity: Web Site**

**Meeting date:** 04/14/2024 11 – 11:30 AM EST Preparing for 4/16/2024 Board Meeting

#### Attendees:

Walter Horlacher  
Scott Kurzawski

Review OSC Home Page text.

#### **Activities since last report:**

- Updated the OSC Events web page with the following additions:
  - New 2-Rail O Scale Indy Show in September
  - Updated April O Scale Central Online meeting invite content but still need full itinerary
- Posted March '24 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes to Members-Only Welcome page.
- Had meeting with Walter Horlacher regarding Home Page draft document, test web page link and BOD feedback to finalize the Home page text from the OSC marketing perspective. Walter will update with his revisions and submit his feedback.
- No update from Dan Dawdy on the new member directory feature for the OSC web site (Eric Peterson may have an update from Dan).

#### **Planned activities and expected time required:**

Continue to test out Board of Directors and Advisor contact info (ongoing)

Continue discussion adding password-protected member directory access with Dan Dawdy, Eric Peterson, Joe Barker, and Scott K. to finalize on a design that satisfies the desired goal. (Ongoing)

Participate in marketing organization decisions regarding the OSC web site. (Ongoing)

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

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

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**Meeting date:** 4/16/2024

**O Scale Central topic/activity:** Modular / Club Outreach

**Activities since last report:** Received Response back regarding first meeting

**Planned activities and expected time required:** Host an additional Zoom meeting - Mid May

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

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



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**Meeting date:** 4 16 2024

**O Scale Central topic/activity:** NMRA SIG

### **Activities since last report:**

I have been involved with Kadee product reviews for NMRA standards compliance. We are going ahead with the November 23, 2024 Danville Train Show including space for O and S scale tables.

Discussed Paul Hanson's Indy meet in September and requested it be on the NMRA Calendar.

Participated with 5 others evaluating models at the March Meet. The team is already scheduled for 2025.

### **Planned activities and expected time required:**

May 2-4, 2024 Presenting two clinics as part of the NMRA Midwest Region convention in South Bend. <https://www.mwr-nmra.org/aroundthebend.html>

Realistic Track and Track Geometry Using Templates Eric models in O Scale 2 Rail applying his experience working in engineering for CSX and predecessors. This clinic will review prototype track characteristics and demonstrate the use of templates for laying out track centerlines quickly for turnouts, curves and spirals. If you want to understand spirals and superelevation this is your chance to add more realism to your next track project. Turnout types, geometry, and space saving will also be included. If you have questions about track work for all scales this is your clinic.

Sand with Premixed Dry Powdered Glue for Scenery and Ballast Polymeric Sand including water activated glue is a simpler and easier way to cover scenery surfaces. There are a variety of similar products with different colors and grain sizes with potential use as ballast in N, HO and O scale track. Sand with water activated powdered glue premixed is marketed for gap filling between patio and walk paver bricks and stone. I spread it on the layout landforms and spray water to activate the glue. One soaking with water activates the glue and it usually dries in 24 hours.

I may not be able to attend the NMRA National Convention in Long Beach, CA. August 4-11, 2024.

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

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**Meeting date:** 4/16/2024

**O Scale Central topic/activity:** Traction

### **Activities since last report:**

Finalized article for O Scale Magazine Annual 2024 Vol 1 No 1 about completing the construction of a powered trolley car from a 3D printed body. Copy attached.  
Continued with the review of the web site for inclusion of preliminary traction/trolley/subway additions.

### **Planned activities and expected time required:**

Solicit comments and develop final traction/trolley/subway additions.  
Solicit comments and develop final manufacturers list.  
Duration should be 2-3 months to achieve refined result.

### **Is there any action by the board for your topic?**

Review of additions. Review of web site changes.

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

How the changes should be implemented.