



Minutes of the General Meeting Wednesday 6th June 2018 at 7.30 pm Oberon RSL Club

Guest speaker: John Healy from Lachlan Valley Rail gave an interesting and inspiring talk about LVR's rolling stock and progress being made regarding their premises at Cowra and Orange.

1. **Present:** G Bourne, M Salmon, L Kurtz, T Arnison, B Webb, P Culley, J Boxer, A Robinson, J Brotchie, G Williams, D McMurray, A & M Melcham.

2. **Apologies:** N Kurtz.

3. **Minutes from the previous meeting:**

The Minutes from the meeting of the 4th April were accepted as a true and accurate record;

Moved M Salmon; Seconded: D McMurray..... Carried.

Business arising: Catering ideas from V Theyers has been postponed till the carriage can be moved to the station platform. In the interim, Victoria has been promoting the Open Day providing morning tea and lunch which is proving very successful and has increased numbers at the open day.

It was suggested that more signage for the Open Day would be useful around town.

4. **Safety Management**

No safety issues identified.

5. **Committee Reports.**

5.1 President's Report. The President had an email from C Schumacher regarding a meeting with John Holland and Council about the land swap on Lowes Mt Road.

Surveyors from both groups have been meeting and a further meeting with the surveyors, J Sams Property Officer JHR and C Schumacher Oberon Council has been planned to resolve the issue. In addition the soil that has been removed from the site by Oberon Council will need to be replaced by them.

5.2. Meeting with John Holland Rail. OTHR Management met with J Sams and Terry Eaton, Safety Officer from JHR regarding a number of issues under discussion. The outcome of the meeting was

- Move on the survey of the land swap between Oberon Council and JHR.
- Apply for a variation of the existing Heritage Operators Licence to move TMV's on the line to Hazelgrove.
- JHR will undertake a condition survey of the track from the station to Hazelgrove.

5.3. A variation of accreditation application has been submitted to ONRSR to move TMV's on the line to Hazelgrove for track maintenance.

5.4. D McMurray has been working on 2 major grant applications. One is for restoration of the platform through Oberon Council funding via a State Government grant.

The second is via the Premier's and Cabinet Department for the commencement of tourist train activity on the line. As part of this process David has conducted a survey of all the retail businesses in town to gauge their idea of the effect tourist trains would

have on the community. It has been largely favourable with an estimate of possibly 12 employment positions created in town.

5.5. Letters have been written to the larger businesses in town requesting sponsorship and the response has been “when trains are running we will consider sponsorship”.

6. General Business.

6.1. Application has been made to ONRSR for accreditation to shunt with a locomotive. Lachlan Valley Railway would be happy to share resources such as drivers when OTHR has approval to shunt.

6.2. Maintenance of locos. Requests for quotes have been sent to Goulburn and Lithgow and are awaiting response from both. J Healy suggested that when OTHR has a maintenance regimen worked out for the locos the Lithgow Railway Workshops (LRW) may be able to assist with volunteer labour. He suggested OTHR work on identifying what they require for a full maintenance program.

Maintenance of the end platform carriages will require lifting for inspection and LRW may be able to help with this

7. Other Business.

7.1. Miniature Rail Project. P Culley tabled a report on the feasibility of building a miniature rail line in the station precinct. It was suggested that dual gauge 5” and 7 1/4” be considered as a minimum. There is a local Sydney company called Mini Trains who could be contacted for a quote on the provision of track and carriages. A Veolia grant may be the most suitable for this project as this grant has a community focus. Oberon Council has offered in-kind support for this project.

7.2. Open Day Roster. The roster for Open Days needs a member who will supervise the opening and closing of the yard, take responsibility for the gate takings and merchandise sold and generally organise the day.

August –	G Bourne
September	A Robinson
October	G Bourne
November	E Boxer.

Access to the rolling stock shed needs to be made safe for pedestrians prior to the Open Day.

Activities for the October Long weekend will be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

Action: Contact Mini Trains and discuss the necessary information for a quote Elaine.

The meeting: closed 8.50pm. . **Next meeting** 1st August 2018.