

# **Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

## **Minutes of the HO Committee Meeting of July 12, 2026**

### **1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at Noon by Chuck Larnerd.

### **2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance**

Members who attended were Peter Donofrio, Dan Egy, Jake Forbes, Tom Garren, Mike Hinmann, Ken Howard, Chuck Larnerd, Paul Lebieczinski, Collin Martinko, Don McPherson, Phil Michaud, Len Nieman, Greg Rehe, and John Spach.

### **3. Intro**

- a. Goal is to get the Best layout we can produce.
- b. Replace the “good enough, it will do” attitude with the “best I can do.”
- c. Quality work takes time!!!!  
The Module 9 yard has taken 1.5 person months.
- d. Help is welcome, appreciated, and expected.
- e. To work independently, you will have to demonstrate skill.  
We will start having work sessions to share knowledge and accomplish work.
- f. Communication... the wall with layout diagram... look at it.  
Make comments and discuss.  
When we get Groups.IO working we will use it.  
The wall will always be available. Minutes of these meetings will be posted on the wall.

### **4. Old Business**

- a. Track Guidelines
  - i. Read the document. Comment on it. Stick to it.
  - ii. Where to post? Updates?
  - iii. COME to the meeting and discuss and vote.
- b. Project submission Form and Checklist
  - i. ALL changes to the layout require a submission AND approval.
  - ii. It will also be prioritized. Priorities are subject to change.
- c. Layout projects
  - i. Mod 9 yard track work complete. Ballasting will take place after some use.
  - ii. Center yard project
    - 1. Turnout from Main 4 to the yard is complete.
    - 2. Note: doesn't currently go anywhere. Tracks do not align at 2" on center.
    - 3. Join West on Main 4 once the next project is finished.

4. The center track will be moved to complete the plan.
- iii. Industrial area to South of reversing loop – will be started along with updates to Main 2 on Monday.  
Bring Main 2 up on roadbed at South end.  
No ETA on completion.
- iv. Reversing loop and associated Wye
  1. The hitch in the north west wye has been fixed.
  2. The Southeast wye will be updated along with the industrial area and main two turnouts.
  3. Paul Lebedenski is installing a new switch panel for the reversing loop. Learn how to use it.
- v. Looking for suggestions for middle yard on Main 4. Think of ways to improve the yard.
- d. The HO Committee meeting time has been moved to the 2<sup>ND</sup> Sunday at 12:00.  
The new time was approved by the attendees.

## 5. New Business

- a. Switch routing power – revisited  
In the future, no power will be routed through the turnouts.  
Under the mountain there will be one switch to turn off power on all staging tracks located there.  
The yard on Module 9 is currently power routed through the turnouts, but this will be changed.
- b. Height of plexiglass
  - i. A discussion was held on the height of the plexiglass on the layout.  
A key point is how to protect the layout and still be able to use the layout.  
Should the height be uniform or variable?  
Collin Martinko suggested that the Plexiglas be no more than two or three inches high.  
Members must be encouraged to be more careful with the layout, including scenery.  
Edge scenery, should we do it?  
Scenery is part of the layout.  
Think about these items and be prepared to discuss at a future meeting.
  - v. Changes MUST be submitted and approved

## 6. Misc.

- a. Member shelves. Don't forget to ID your trains if you use the shelves
- b. Staging trains
  - i. Do not use the layout for holding boxes, etc. while staging trains.
  - ii. Use the fixed shelves.

- iii. Should we invest in some roll under shelves?
  - iv. If you see someone staging with containers in the layout, speak up.
  - v. This will be discussed further next month.
- c. Stay with your train if there are others running trains
- d. Don't just put defective equipment back on the shelf. Indicate the problem on a card.
- e. Work Shop... while not an HO issue, let's make the HO group a good example of using the Shop.
  - vi. Put your tools away
  - vii. Clean up after yourself
  - viii. Let someone know if you use up something
  - ix. Spare parts are not for your personal use.
  - x. It was suggested to create a list of items needed to restock the Shop.
  - xi. Also, put up a sign stating that parts are for use on Club equipment.

#### 7. Logging Camp

After some discussion it was decided to ask Len Nieman to lead the logging camp project. A plan will be provided at the next meeting.

Tom Garren suggested that we name the yard on Module 4 Lenwood yard in honor of the work put in there by Len Nieman. This will be discussed at the next meeting.