
H O G M E E T I N G

M I N U T E S

DATE: 27th March 2021

PLACE: ZOOM

ATTENDEES

Gottfried Aldrian	Verband Österreichischer Museums- und Touristikbahnen
Andres Jonhanson	JärnvägsHistoriska RiksFörbundet
Steve Wood	Fedecrail (Co Chairman)
Ian Leigh	Fedecrail (Secretary)
Roar Stenersen	Museumsbanerådet
Anders Dørge	DVF - Danske Veterantogs Fællesrepræsentation
Neil McDonald	Scottish Railway Preservation Society
Roland Bol	Museibanornas Riksorganisation
Anders Svensson	JärnvägsHistoriska RiksFörbundet
Peter Deuss	Zuid-Limburgse Stoomtrein Maatschappij
Johan Vinberg	Upsala-Lenna Jernväg
Edoardo Franchi	Federazione Italiana Ferrovie Turistiche e Museali
Eduard Amoros Wahl	Associació Preservació Patrimoni Ferroviari Industrial
Jaap Nieweg	Fedecrail (President)
Stuart Bamforth	Signalling consultant
Jürgen Sima	Verband Deutscher Museums- und Touristikbahnen e. V.
Frédéric Riehl	Chemin de Fer-musée Blonay-Chamby

Apologies

Two apologies had been received, Jonas Svartlok (Fedecrail) Co chairman and Bruno Fleury (Fedecrail) vice chairman

2021-01. Introductions

As there were a number of new people at the meeting, each person introduced themselves. Roar Stenersen informed the group that he would be retiring soon and he had helped to appoint his successor.

2021-02. HOG chairman and Secretary, a statement from the chairman of the Board

The group noted the written statement from Jaap Nieweg regarding the management of HOG. This was taken as read.

2021-03. Success with ECM – the application guide

The group noted the success with this. Denmark was excluded heritage operators. But several countries had declined to accept the exclusion such as France and Italy. Some countries are maybe such as Sweden and Norway.

All the members of HOG are to email Ian Leigh with the situation in their country.

Action - ALL

2021-04. Current COVID situation in member countries

All countries are in lockdown to some extent, with some easing expected during the summer.

Norway everything is still shut down. Roar also reported be careful when loaning vehicles for filming. The latest Tom Cruse film featured 5 coaches from the Norwegian Railway museum. They are now all in Oslo for repainting as the paint came off when they removed the vinyls applied by the production company.

Netherlands – railways are closed at the moment. Some heritage diesels are running on the main lines.

Sweden – main lines are closed. There has been repayment of track access fees. Local railways are expecting to start running as they usually do from mid-May.

Denmark – following the restrictions on public transport. Expected to start opening up again in April.

Scotland – expecting operation from the end of May. (Health is a devolved matter in the UK, hence the different requirements in Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland)

Austria – the western part of the country is open with special trains on the main lines. The eastern part is still closed.

Germany – the same as Eastern Austria.

England – Operation is expected on heritage railways from the end of April.

Switzerland – open from 1st March for public transport, but there are restrictions in the serving of food in restaurants.

2021-05. Help and support from Fedecrail to members, what can we do to help?

Jaap Nieweg explained he would be meeting with Europa Nostra, within the next 3 or 4 weeks to see what funding they had available to support heritage across Europe.

2021-06. Standardisation, Shift 2 Rail, Fedecrail policy

Ian Leigh outlined the conundrum between supporting the standardisation policy, and its potential to end heritage operations. A policy which will help the railways across Europe to become more competitive by lowering costs with standardised equipment, helping the railway sector survive. Against the potential of this “squeezing out” heritage operators as nonstandard users of the railway. The group agreed that Fedecrail should continue to support standardisation but point out that space should be left for heritage operators.

2021-07. Member surveys, what information do you have, and can you share this information with Fedecrail?

Ian Leigh outlined the sort of information Fedecrail is looking for. Facts and figures on the number of heritage operators, the number of locomotives, coaches, and KM operated, both on their own infrastructure and on the main line. He asked that relevant information be emailed to him.

Action - All

Jaap Nieweg, suggested that this might be something Fedecrail could engage professional support for.

2021-08. Our approach to the EU, and support from members with this

We do need to lobby the European Parliament, as part of the green deal. Plus working with other historic vehicles, such as road and aircraft as a combined approach with their supporters' organisations.

2021-09. The Swedish issue with fireman training any other members facing this issue?

No other members reported an issue with this. The Swedish regulations started with hot oil boiler directive and requires professional generic training of firemen on boilers. Post meeting note – this directive 92/42/EEC concerns energy efficiency of boilers fired by liquid or gaseous fuels with an output between 6 and 400 kwh. So, the directive doesn't cover large, one off, solid fuel boilers.

2021-10. ERTMS – European Parliament report

Jaap Nieweg outlined some recent correspondence with the Dutch railway museum regarding fitment of its rolling stock with ETCS. It was agreed that IL would draft a paper to set out the issues and options for all to consider.

Action - IL

2021-11. HOG report (attached) any questions?

No questions were asked.

2021-12. AOB

Jaap Nieweg reported that due to the use of web conferencing the costs the associations had been greatly reduced. So Fedecrail would be reducing the membership fees by 50% this year.

Frédéric Riehl asked about HOG representation at ERA and the GRB. This is a correction to the reply Ian Leigh gave. We have agreed internally that if we wish to attend the meetings with the GRB and ERA then they will be led by an EU citizen, and any non-EU citizen can support. For the day-to-day emails with the GRB and ERA, should a response be required they can be made by the co-chairman or the secretary of HOG regardless of if they are EU citizens or not. Similarly, if an urgent issue came up that required Fedecrail representation at the GRB core group a non-EU citizen could attend if they were the most appropriate person to do so.

Andres Jonhanson reported that the report of the accident at Lärje in Gothenburg involving Morrgan Claesson had been investigated as a railway accident rather than a working site accident.

Anders Svensson reported in the Swedish governments budget due to new legislation in 2020 there was a new commission with 100000 Euros for grants.

2021-13. Next Meeting

The chairman suggested the next meeting should be in 2 months time.

The secretary will set up the next meeting for Saturday 22nd May.