The mitigation agreement for demolition of the grain elevator at Pier 1, Portland called for the creation of an interpretive exhibit. Designed in-house, the Port of Portland installed this display in their main office lobby, which receives visitors on a regular basis. The Fairbanks scale, pictured below, was originally installed at the elevator. Port personnel restored the scale as part of the project.
This scale, invented by Thaddeus Fairbanks and manufactured by Fairbanks, Morse and Co., was part of a shallow hopper scale used for weighing grain at the Terminal A elevator from 1919 until 1979. Grain coming from the grower arrived at the elevator, was hauled by buckets on a chain to the top of the structure, weighed and swept into storage silos. When a ship arrived, grain was released from the silos, raised again to the top of the elevator, released into the hopper, weighed, and then loaded onto a ship by conveyor belt.