

McLeod County Trails Committee



Date: 06/28/2017 @6:30 pm

McLeod County Fairgrounds Country Diner

Committee Members: (X=present)

X	Keith Froeming	X	Mary Behrens	X	Jon Christensen
X	Steve Cook	X	John Gillard	X	Tony Hausladen
X	Dean Nissen	X	Tim Olson	X	Kyle Strobel
X	Tim Haag		Kevin Klucas		

Others in attendance:

Kent Exner, Doug Krueger, Paul Wright, Al Koglin, Cindy Ludewig, Jim Bobier, Rosanna Toenjes, Bob Raiche, Susan Goebel

1: Call Meeting to Order

Al Koglin opened the meeting at 6:30pm

2: Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Upon fixing minor corrections to the prior minutes, Mr Cook motioned to approve the minutes, Ms Behrens, seconded, all voted to approve to publish to Parks website.

3: Discussion of Chair and Co-Chair for the trail commission

We will take volunteers and nominations to hold the position of Trail Commission Chair & Co-Chair at the next meeting and the committee members will vote at this same meeting; following this, the new chair will take over.

4: Discuss leases between Rail Authority and Lester Prairie and the DNR

Al distributed copies of the current leases to the committee members; He asked them to review; If anyone has questions, please email Al at Al.Koglin@co.mcleod.mn.us and he will try and answer them.

Mr Bobier asked, who has to pay to cross the trail? Al will get #'s for the next meeting.

Tony asked of any of the Dakota trail was doubled leased? Business owner & County?

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This will have to be checked into, un-certain at this point.

5: Discuss and vote on grant #2 project for the Dakota Trail (applications are due July 31st, 2017)

Commissioner Wright, suggested this committee come up with a recommendation/plan to get the trail ready for use for now.

The group came up with three options to take a look at, but no solid plan to take to the commissioner board for approval to move forward with Grant II.

Grant II

AI will work with SRF Company to write the grant once the board approves the project. Grant needs to be submitted by 07/28/2017 at 4pm

AI will need to get County Commissioner approval on July 18th. Info needs to be submitted by July 12th.

Question was asked if we were setting precedence if we put up a fence along the Luthens property? Doug commented, he felt we were not.

Some of the committee members felt we may need to look at re-routing the trail if at all possible if need be. More ground work would need to be done here, to see if this is even a feasible option.

AI will talk to Mr Mahon and find out if land swap is at all possible; personal land and corridors.

Commissioner Wright suggested that AI and another volunteer committee member meet with Daryl Luthens family and see what they would like for their property.

Below are the options to consider for Grant II

Option #1:

Replace 2 bridges	\$350,000.00
Culvert work along the trail	\$150,000.00
Removal & Dispose of ties and rails	\$ 25,000.00
Landscape screening	\$ 30,000.00

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**Does not include Engineering, inflation, administration, no contingency, etc
** The cost of Engineering would be used as in-kind total for the grant

Option #2:

As requested, please see CR 1 to CR 2, very preliminary cost estimation parameters below:

Proposed Phase 2 segment length of 6.5 miles

Master Plan non-Lester Prairie & non-Hutchinson

corridor (14 miles & excluding bridges) \$ 2.31 M

Proration of $6.5/14 \times \$2.3M =$ \$1.07 M

Estimate bridge replacement (west of CSAH 15) \$100,000.00

Additional discussed drainage/culvert costs \$ 50,000.00

Total Estimate Phase 2 Segment Cost = \$ 1.220,000 M

**Does not include Engineering, inflation, administration, no contingency, etc

** The County should be somewhat of a lead on developing and conveying this approach.

Option #3:

Replace 2 bridges \$350,000.00

Culvert work along the trail \$150,000.00

Removal & Dispose of ties and rails \$ 25,000.00

Brush removal, widen corridor \$ 10,000.00/mile

**Does not include Engineering, inflation, administration, no contingency, etc

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** The cost of Engineering would be used as in-kind total for the grant

Kent discussed how to prepare the surface and felt that we should be putting down at least a 6" of top surface to make useful. He will need to crunch the number more to come up with good numbers for the plan.

Question was asked, and will need to be answered before we move forward; If we decide not to pave at this point, do we let that be known? And if so, will this impact the chances of getting this grant? Al, will ask and see what he get back and let us know.

Doug asked, what are risks if not tarred?

Steve requested, Al to call Greater MN and get some the answer to the following:

- a. We may not pave the trail, if we don't, what impact does this have on us getting the legacy funding.

6: Special Interest Groups

The group discussed how these groups should be handled if they show up to a meeting; the group decided that if what they had to say would take 10 minutes or less, that we would give time at the beginning of the meeting to hear them out. If what they had to say would be over the 10 minutes, we ask that they contact the Chair of the Trails Commission and get on the agenda.

Meeting agenda's will be added to the Parks website, so the public is aware of discussion planned.

First to speak was Susan Goebel. She lives close to the Luce Line trail, her concern is that we as a county doesn't offer any types of trails for horses. She feels the horses are being pushed to other counties to ride. She is asking this committee to take this under consideration as they work on trails within the County. She also brought a petition signed by about 60 people, requesting support for Horse Trails in the County. She is concerned her tax \$\$ are going to fund trails that she is unable to use.

Second, to speak was Rosanna Toenjes. She feels that the trails are dimensioning in McLeod County and this needs to be addressed by this group. She would like to have more options for horses to ride.

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Thirdly, Rob Raiche, a snowmobile parts guy, wants to make sure that the Dakota Trail will be open to his snowmobilers for use as well.

Lastly, Jim Bobier, a property owner in McLeod County, wanted to better understand the financial status of the Dakota Trail Association.

Work is being looked into to help the DNR with the maintenance of the Luce Line.

On 06/28/17 – Paul, Al & Kristy Rice from the DNR rode the Luce Line; Paul will talk to the City Of Hutchinson about partnering on maintaining the parallel horse trail (track machine, mower, personnel). Paul said the DNR has limited staff and other responsibilities making proper maintenance of the trail a challenge. Kyle said the Sno Pros might be able to help with the tree trimming using their equipment.

7: Open Discussion

- 2) It was requested from the group that the meeting date, time and location along with an agenda be placed on the Parks website.
- 3) The meeting minutes will be posted to the Parks website when approved.
- 4) Al commented, state guidelines for paved trail is 10 ft wide with 2 ft on each side as shoulders
- 5) Tony concerned that the overall project states that the Dakota trail will be paved when complete.
 - a. Tony asked to discuss his question: Should multi-use trails be paved?
 - i. Tony believe that a class 5 or limestone trail would be good enough for people to enjoy
 - ii. Steve stated, Multi-use trails designed over the past 25 years have always been paved. More people want paved trails, allows the most people and the greatest variety of uses to enjoy the trails.
- 6) Mary talked about the trail in Lester Prairie, she believe we want to bring in people from the cities.

Next Meeting:

Monday, July 10th at 6:30pm; Meeting Room, Commercial Bldg – McLeod County Fairgrounds

Agenda for next Meeting:

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Will be posted on the Parks website

Meeting Adjourned:

- Al Koglin adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm