

McLeod County Trails Committee



Date: 07/10/2017 @6:30 pm

McLeod County Fairgrounds Meeting Room

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		Tim Olson	X	Kyle Strobel
X	Tim Haag		Kevin Klucas		

Others in attendance:

John Brunkhorst, Kent Exner, Doug Krueger, Ron Shimanski, Al Koglin, Cindy Ludewig, Jim Bobier, Susan Goebel, Marvin Breirkreutz, Robert Anderson and 4 other guests

1: Call Meeting to Order

Al Koglin opened the meeting at 6:30pm

2: Approval of Meeting Minutes

Upon making minor revisions to the minutes, John Gillard motioned to approve minutes from 06/28/17 meeting, seconded by Mary Behrens, motion approved.

3: Elect Chair/Co-Chair Trails Commission

Al K asked for nominations for the Chair position:

- Jon C nominated John Gillard to run for Chair of the Trails Commission, John G accepted to be added.
- Keith nominated Steve Cook to run for Chair of the Trails Commission, Steve did not accept to be added.
- Tim nominated Tony Hausladen for the Chair of the Trails Commission, Tony accepted to be added.

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- Commissioner Krueger made the following statement, prior to the election: He stated, he would like a well run organization, wants this team to be supportive and affective.
- A paper ballot was given to the commission members;
- John Gillard was voted in as the new chair.

John Gillard opened up the nominations for Vice-Chair:

- Keith nominated Steve Cook to run for the Vice-Chair of the Trails Commission, Steve accepted to be added.
- Tim nominated Tony Hausladen to run for the Vice-Chair of the Trails Commission, Tony accepted to be added.
- A paper ballot was given to the commission members;
- Steve Cook was voted in as the new Vice-chair.

4: Discuss Grant II Application

Commissioner Krueger, supports spending County dollars on documenting what needs to happen on the trail and what it will take to fix it.

5: Other Business / Open Questions

Guests:

Eight guests showed up for the meeting;

First to speak was Susan Goebel; Sue presented us with more petitions to support horse trails in McLeod County. Al K will forward these petitions onto the DNR. Sue talked about the lack of grooming the Luce-Line, such as tall grass and standing water, making it un-safe for horses. John Gillard acknowledged that we would take her concerns and pass them onto the DNR.

Next to speak, was Marvin Breirkreutz; He is currently the State President of Back Country Horseman of Minnesota. He shared the club's goals and support for horse trails in the community. More details of his talk are available if anyone is interested in getting this information. Upon completion of his talk, Steve C thanked his group for helping with the trails. We will pass his information on to the DNR & County Commissioners.

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Jim Bobier commented on some of the new mountain biking trails that have been created in the state and the popularity of the activity.

Robert Anderson, talked about the need to promote 4-Wheeler trails in McLeod County.

Luce-Line:

Commissioner Shimanski, stated he believes the DNR has plenty of dollars, they just need to put it to good use. He also suggests that petitions be sent to the DNR & Governing and State Legislatures.

Steve C stated, that this state is not supplying enough funding to the DNR.

Tony stated, back in the day before the Luce-Line was tarred, horses rode it and it was a great trail.

Trail passes:

Horses are required to purchase an annual pass for \$21 (pass does not have to be shown); Snowmobiles are required to purchase their trail pass when they renew their license (pass must be displayed);

Old Business:

Tony made a motion to revise the Dakota Trail plan to add horse usage; "Allow use by horses on the Dakota Trail in McLeod County", seconded by Tim ; Upon discussion, this motion failed by a 6 to 3 vote.

Kyle asked what the results were from Greater Mn; Al stated, that if we change the wording to not pave, we would then be required to send in paperwork to the Greater Mn organization; until this is decided, we will leave as is.

New Business:

Al explained the "Engineering Approach" to the trail. The plan is, to take a year off and Engineer the trail (documented study); Funding for this Engineering would need to be approved and come from the County.

Kent, stated that the feasibility study would give us a "True" Engineering effort, good plan to move forward; give us a good direction to apply for Grant II.

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Steve C, motioned to recommend to the County to put out a Request for Proposal for Engineering; Jon C seconded;

Discussion:

Preliminary costs of the study \$50,000

Kyle stated he feels the \$50K from the county will be well spent due to the initial study.

John B, stated he feels this is the way to go.

Commissioner Krueger, stated, he feels the Engineering Study will help in the long run.

Steve C made a motion to amend his motion; "Encourage the County Board to have a Pre-Engineering study done for the Dakota Trail".

Motion voted on and approved.

Property swap:

AI explained how this works.....

- Trail must be able to return for use of mass transit, if needed
- County, Hennepin County, & Carver county must approve

6: Set Next Meeting date:

It was suggested that we meet next in Sept 2017; agenda will be set by John and AI and sent out one week prior to the meeting.

7: Adjourn Meeting:

Dean motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:00pm, seconded by Tim; motion carried.