

McLeod County Trails Committee



Date: October 3rd @6:30 pm

McLeod County Fairgrounds Meeting Room

Committee Members: (X=present)

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

Others in attendance:

John Brunkhorst, Kent Exner, Doug Krueger, Ron Shimanski, Rich Pohlmeier, Al Koglin, Cindy Ludewig, Jim Bobier, Vince Thomas & Mrs Thomas, Ken Quast

1: Call Meeting to Order

John G called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

2: Approval of Meeting Minutes

Upon a few minor changes to the minutes; Al K will also forward petition mentioned to all the commissioners again, so they all have a copy.

Keith made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Mary

All were in favor, passed.

3: Public Questions/comments:

Jim B: Mentioned that the SRF trail survey was lacking the maintenance plan; Jim found a trail maintenance plan from 2012 that was authored by the SRF consultant; Jim felt it would be a good idea for the trails committee and the commissioners to get a copy of this to read and reference for future maintenance costs. John B was able to find this online, he will give to Cindy to distribute to these groups via email following this meeting.

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Ken Q – introduced himself to the group, he is an active Cub Scout leader and would be interested in helping out on the trails in McLeod County. Maybe interested in adopt a trail, if made available; similar to the “adopt a highway” programs.

Mr & Mrs Vince Thomas – Horse owners; wanted the group to know that they feel the Luce Line trail is dangerous to ride with their horses. They would like to be able to ride the Luce Line Trail. They don’t like pavement on trails, bad for the horse’s feet. They do use the Luce Line west of Hutchinson that is gravel. They believe that everyone can share the trail and the tension of different groups using them can be decreased with education and respect.

4-A: Discussion: Discuss Preliminary Report for Dakota Trail

Al commented that SRF did a nice job with gathering details and information for the report. Al would like the trails committee approval to bring this to the county board.

Steve motioned to approve; seconded motion by Keith

Additional Discussion:

Tony asked what the intent of the SRF report?

Al commented, report covers potential expenditures for the trail

Steve commented:, reports intent was to find out the condition and find out cost estimates

Tony questioned the recommendations in the report

Steve commented, SRF suggest asphalt; grants are typically easier to get grant money

Tony was against submitting the SRF report to the Board of Commissioners, due to having the recommendations within the report.

Doug commented, he was worried about safety of trail when crossing Hwy 22

John & Kent commented, MN Dot and the County would need to decide what would be needed for signage for safety at this crossing.

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Hand vote to approve SRF and bring to County Board; split decision 3 for (Mary, Steve, Keith) and 3 against (Tony, Kyle, Tim);

John G voted for, motion passed;

4-B: Discussion: Update 2Mile Project through Lester Prairie

John B – contractor is scratching on the east and west ends; bridge has been removed; estimated to be completed by the end of October 2018, original due date was 10/19/2018; if for some reason they cannot pave this fall, the trail will still open and they will pave in the spring.

Doug K commented about vehicles parking on the trail in Lester Prairie; Is there a so called agreement to lease this land? AI will check with City of Lester Prairie and Sheldon Nies.

AI commented he is working with Marty Walsh parks director from Carver about the no motorized vehicles on the trails; moving slowly

4-C: Discussion: Letter to the DNR

Letter was drafted and distributed to the Trails committee;

Tony has written a revision, based on information from meeting with the local horse people in his area;

Steve C has also written a revision;

John G asked Steve and Tony to get together and come up with a revision by the next meeting.

Tim motioned to table letter to the next meeting; Seconded by Kyle; motion approved to table letter to next meeting.

4-D: Discussion: Discuss having a meeting with the horse people

Since the horse people are having issues with the Luce Line maintenance, it was suggested the trails committee support the horse people at this meeting; to have the horse people meet with Kristy and the DNR group make most sense at this time; strength in numbers.

AI asked; Who are the horse people in McLeod County?

Little Crow Riders (group that has events at the fairgrounds)

Horse petition, invite based off this list

4-H horse group may also be interested in attending

Ron S asked if anyone knew if the Luce Line was being maintained in any other county? and if so, why not in McLeod? No one was aware if this was happening or not.

Open Discussion:

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Tony questioned who would be responsible for the maintenance plan on the Dakota Trail; as of now, Lester Prairie will be responsible for the daily maintenance and the County will be responsible for cracks/ etc.

John G asked about Private Sector \$\$; who's responsible for looking into this?

Doug K discussed state wide passes for cyclist to obtain additional tax \$\$ for maintenance.

Tony - Future thoughts: Winsted would like a trail head for the area; most intersections are dangerous for users of the trail to park at and have been posted as "No Parking".

Next Meeting:

Will need to take place the week of November 12th; Doodle will be sent out for November 12, 14 or 15th at 6:30pm

Adjourn Meeting:

Tim motioned to adjourn meeting

Seconded by Ketih

John G adjourned meeting at 8:15pm