

# **Forestry Affairs**

## **Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce**

### **January 29, 2010**

**Present:** Tom Schmoll, Craig Engwall, Paul Peterson, Mark Johnson, Steve Arbour, Kim Hanson, Tom Saxhaug

**Advisory Members Present:** Dale Sutherland, Joe Alexander

**Guest:**

**Chamber staff:** Renee Thompson, Bud Stone

Terry Weber called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the December 18, 2009 meeting minutes.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Steve Arbour made a motion to approve the December 18, 2009 meeting minutes. Paul Peterson seconded the motion. Motion carries.

**ACTION:** No further action necessary.

#### **THIS WEEK IN FORESTRY AUTHORS**

Terry informed the committee that authors are needed to write future "This Week in Forestry Articles".

After committee discussion regarding time sensitive issues, it was decided to have Mark Johnson take the April spot and write about the Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council. Terry will then take the May spot.

Greg Morris was nominated to write the June article. Art was nominated to write about the conservation easements for the July article.

**ACTION:** No further action necessary.

#### **NORTH FOUR PROJECT**

Paul Peterson discussed the North Four Project. The project was turned in for approval and was sent back for additional volume.

**ACTION:** No further action necessary.

#### **LESSARD OUTDOOR HERITAGE**

Mark Johnson discussed a change to the Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council language that could potentially pose to be a funding problem.

Senator Saxhaug informed the committee that he authored a bill to change the language to reflect what the original language intended. Bud asked Senator Saxhaug for a copy of the bill.

## **MEMBER UPDATES**

Joe informed the committee that they received their final budget numbers. They are funded for 65,000CCF in terms of their budget; however, they are shooting for 70,000.

**ACTION:** No further action necessary.

Senator Saxhaug discussed School Trust Fund lands.

**ACTION:** No further action necessary.

Kim spoke about a BioBailer demonstration that is tentatively set for March 15, 2010. The demonstration will be held on MDHA grounds. The BioBailer is able to clear cut brush up to 6 inches in diameter. More information about the BioBailer can be found at [www.stempowerusa.com](http://www.stempowerusa.com).

Kim also informed the committee that two of the grant applications they applied for were approved.

**ACTION:** Kim will keep the committee informed on the details of the BioBailer as they get finalized.

Terry informed the committee that as of Monday, he would be employed fulltime at the Forest History Center.

**ACTION:** No further action necessary.

## **AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Mark Lindquist and Anna Dirkswager are scheduled to present on the State's Bio-mass Strategies at the February 29, 2010 meeting.

**ACTION:** No further action necessary.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 29, 2010 at the Depot Commons meeting room.

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Kim seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Renee Thompson, Administrative Assistant & Finance Coordinator.