

MINUTES
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
March 26, 2010

Committee Members Present: Irene Koski, Derek Stanley, Jake Goering, Lisa Randall, Diane Weber, Susan Harper

Advisory members present:

Chamber Staff: Bud Stone, Renee Thompson

Jake called the meeting to order.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

MINNESOTA STATE CHAMBER CONFERENCE CALL:

The committee participated in a legislative conference call with the MN Chamber. Issues addressed were as follows:

- Environmental: Non-ferrous mine bill received a hearing
- Nuclear issues
- Work comp and unemployment
- Employment issues: Sick Leave and Lunch Break Bills, Work Comp Bill
- Transportation:
- Healthcare: Oral chemo, GMAC bill
- Budget and taxes
- Environmental permitting – bits and pieces of the MN State Chamber's proposal are in the bill.
- Angel investment credit
- Employment conduct bill

ACTION: No further action necessary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Derek made a motion to approve the March 12, 2010 meeting minutes. Irene seconded the motion. Motion carries.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

REPRESENTATIVE LOREN SOLBERG CONFERENCE CALL

Representative Loren Solberg phoned in to update the committee on issues.

Representative Solberg stated that both Grand Rapids and Cohasset will be recipients of Iron Range Resources grants in 2010.

Representative Solberg informed the committee that the issue regarding redirecting monies from the Doug Johnson fund is not going to move forward. Loren also discussed the higher education bill, the workforce bill, the historical bill, proposed mutual fund investment fee bill and the JOBZ II bill.

They are down to a few major issues, but those issues are big.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

MEMBER UPDATES

Irene – spoke about the legislative conference she attended the past two days.

Susan – talked about testifying at the Senate regarding a pollution control bill.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

Submitted by Renee Thompson

The next scheduled meeting is on April 9, 2010 at 7:30 a.m. There will be a MN State Chamber Conference call.

Meeting adjourned.