

MINUTES
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
April 9, 2010

Committee Members Present: Derek Stanley, Jake Goering, Dave Scott, Margie Ritter, Mike Ives, Bill Eckblad

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
- Transportation – DOT has released their list of projects. The list is available on their website.
- Budget and taxes
- Environmental permitting – has risen to the top. Tony will be meeting with Legislators
- Employment conduct bill
- Enhanced drivers license
- Education – “Race to the Top” and Student Performance bills.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Renee informed the committee that Susan Harper was unable to attend today’s meeting, but requested that the following amendment be made to the minutes under “Representative Loren Solberg Conference Call”: “Representative Soberg informed the committee that both Grand Rapids and Cohasset will be recipients of IRR grants.”

Mike made a motion to approve the March 26, 2010 meeting minutes as amended with Susan’s requested addition. Derek seconded the motion. Motion carries.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

CONGRESS OF MINNESOTA RESORTS LEGISLATION

The committee discussed pending watercraft licensing legislation.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

MEMBER UPDATES

Jake informed the committee that Grand Village passed inspection on their first construction phase.

Margie informed the committee that it looks like LaPrairie will be losing \$30,000 due to legislative cuts.

Bud encouraged the committee to submit comments of support for ESSAR Steel. Comment deadline is Monday, April 12, 2010.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

REPRESENTATIVE LOREN SOLBERG CONFERENCE CALL

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

ACTION: No further action necessary.

Submitted by Renee Thompson, Administrative Assistant and Finance Coordinator.

The next scheduled meeting is on April 23, 2010 at 7:30 a.m. There will be a MN State Chamber Conference call.

Margie made a motion to adjourn. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.