

MINUTES
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
May 1, 2009

Committee Members Present: Shane McKellep, Mike Ives, Diane Weber, Frank Allen, Derek Stanley, Steve Arbour, Dale Adams, Peter McDermott, Leigh Lonson, Shannon Benolken

Advisory members present: Catherine McLynn, Marla Beaty

Present via Conference Call: Deb McGovern

Chamber Staff: Renee Thompson, Administrative Assistant and Finance Coordinator; Bud Stone, President.

Shane McKellep called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Ives made a motion to approve the April 24, 2009 meeting minutes. Dale Adams seconded the motion. Motion carries.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

STATE CHAMBER CONFERENCE CALL

The committee heard updates on the legislative progress on greenhouse gasses, higher education, K-12, health and human services, workforce development

The four omnibus tier 1 bills need to be on the done list by 10:00 p.m. on May 2, 2009. They are agriculture, environment, economic development and transportation.

ACTION: There will be another State Chamber conference call on May 8, 2009.

CONFERENCE CALL WITH SENATOR SAXHAUG AND REPRESENTATIVE SOLBERG AND TONY KWILAS

Senator Saxhaug, Representative Solberg and Tony Kwilas called in for a legislative conference call.

The House Legacy bill will be reviewed on May 4, 2009. The House is proposing cutting 400 million dollars in Health and Human Services. The Big Fork Airport will possibly be getting some funding.

ACTION: There will be another conference call with Senator Saxhaug, Representative Solberg and Tony on May 8, 2009.

CANISTEO MINE PIT DISCUSSION

Commissioner McLynn informed the committee that the Western Mine Planning Board would like to pursue drawing the water level down and pumping it into Trout Lake vs. going with the DNR's recommendation.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

MEMBER UPDATES

Dale Adams informed the committee that the City is purchasing Crystal Lake Town homes. The town homes are two and three bedroom units and will be used as affordable housing for the area.

Dale also informed the committee that the City continues to support the Public Utilities Wastewater treatment facility project.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, May 8, 2009.

Steve Arbour made a motion to adjourn. Dale Adams seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned.