

TRANSPORTATION MEETING
Conference Room – Chamber of Commerce
March 18th 2008

PRESENT: Melissa Roberts, Bud Sage, Tom Pagel, Lorne Wikstrom, Scott Thompson, Rick Utech, Kevin Rohling, James Madden, Ron Nelson, Jim Heitzman, Shawn Gillen

CHAMBER STAFF: Bud Stone & Kerry Larsen

APPROVAL OF MARCH 2008 MINUTES: Rick Utech made a motion to approve the March 2008 minutes; Melissa Roberts seconded; motion carried.

ACTION: No further action is needed.

TOM PAGEL DISCUSSION OF TRAILS:

Tom Pagel discussed with the committee ATV trails and the possibility of the Chamber of Commerce being the key players behind the proposed project. Tom had concerns such as who is benefiting from it? Why is the Chamber being the key player at the table? Is there another group or organization that should be the key player instead? Time and the involvement level was the main concern Tom expressed to the committee. After a lengthy conversation the committee decided to talk with certain groups that may want to play a role in this project such as ATV dealers and ATV clubs. The committee decided to contact Visit Grand Rapids. The Transportation committee would like to see the information on the ATV economic & research study Cheri performed. The committee agreed the Range Riders ATV Club needs to be contacted as well. A joint meeting between the groups will need to be scheduled to be able to move forward. The meeting will be held to discuss how the different organizations feel, research already done, meetings held in the past and if the groups would like to move forward together. The Chamber Membership will need to be surveyed in the future by email or mail to see how the membership feels about the ATV trail project.

ACTION: Bud will contact Visit Grand Rapids and the Range Riders ATV Club to schedule a joint meeting between the two groups and the Transportation Committee.

2008 DISTRICT 1 CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM:

Kevin Rohling gave an update on the 2008 Construction program. Kevin gave out a handout that included carryover

projects and new projects with start dates & approx. completed dates, engineer/ supervisor, traffic restrictions and remaining dollar amount. Values of the projects were given with the 2008 program values totaled together. A map was also included.

ACTION: No further action is needed.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- Highway 38 project moved up to 2009
- Highway 53
- Ranger Station in Marcell construction/Open house
- Middle School traffic
- Ridgewood Road

NEXT MEETING: The next Transportation meeting will be May 20th 2008 at the Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 12:00 noon.

Meeting Adjourned