

**TRANSPORTATION MEETING**  
**Conference Room – Chamber of Commerce**  
**Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 2010**

PRESENT: Shaun Germolus, James Madden, Tom Peluso, Scott Thompson, Dan Kingsley, Bud Sage, Jim Hietzman, Ron Nelson

CHAMBER STAFF: Bud Stone & Kerry Larsen

APPROVAL OF September 2009 MINUTES: Bud Stone asked for a motion to approve the September 2009 minutes. Jim Hietzman made a motion to approve the September 2009 minutes; Scott Thompson seconded; Motion carried

ACTION: No further action is needed.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2009 MINUTES: Bud Stone asked for a motion to approve the November 2009 minutes; Meghan Brown emailed Kerry to make an amendment in the minutes that should read sixty one and a half miles of trails within Grand Rapids, not six and a half; Jim Hietzman made a motion with this amendment; James Madden seconded; Motion carried.

2010 GOALS & MISSION: The committee went through the Mission statement and goals. The committee decided to keep the mission statement the same for 2010. The committee members changed the goals as follows:

- Encourage legislators to review transportation funding to ensure funds are adequate to complete transportation related maintenance and capitol improvement projects. (CHANGED)
- Explore expanding the existing Highway 2- Commodity Corridor, (between Grand Rapids, MN and Duluth, MN), west to Bemidji, MN. (CHANGED)
- Support the Cities, Counties, Townships Comprehensive Plan relative to transportation. (SAME)
- Participate in the planning stages of the reconstruction of Highway 169, east of Grand Rapids MN. (CHANGED)
- Participate in updating the Comprehensive Surface Transportation Plan for the Grand Rapids Area. (SAME)
- Continue to support the connection of a reliever route, possibly a four lane, for South Hwy 169 that includes Seventh Ave. South. (SAME)
- Monitor and minimize the negative impacts from the reconstruction of Highway 169 South in Grand Rapids, MN. (CHANGED)
- Support the completion of the "70 Mile Trail" and connecting links. (CHANGED)

- Support retaining and growing Commercial Airline Services to match regional needs. (ADDED)

ACTION: Scott Thompson made a motion to approve the Mission and Goals for 2010 with these changes; Tom Peluso seconded; Motion carried.

Bud and Kerry will work on these after the meeting and get the goals changed. Kerry will then email them out to the committee for reviewing.

#### UPDATES & DISCUSSION

The committee members discussed:

- Shaun updated the committee on rural air service and how it is a big concern. Shaun mentioned they are working on increasing air service and a meeting will take place to possibly partner with Delta. Shaun also did update the committee on a name change that will take place. This name change will be Range Regional Airport instead of Chisholm – Hibbing Airport. Shaun said this going to be a great change and is hoping that people see that they are representing the region as a whole and not just Chisholm – Hibbing. Shaun really thinks it's important to continue to support and retain airline service to meet the regions needs.
- Dan Kinsley updated the committee on Scenic 7 highway. The rail corridor to ESSAR STEEL is being layed and is under construction. A complete rebuild is in process.
- Bud will talk to Bemidji Chamber about the goal reading to Explore expanding the existing Highway 2- Commodity Corridor, (between Grand Rapids, MN and Duluth, MN), west to Bemidji, MN. Bud will give a report after his conversation at the next meeting.
- Bonding bill money
- The committee would like Bud to call Tom Pagel for the March meeting and have him talk about the round-about in Grand Rapids.
- Rail transportation
- Bud mentioned to the Committee we still need a 2010 Committee chair. Bud asked for volunteers. Bud will send an email out to the committee asking for a committee member to volunteer for 2010 chair.

ACTION: Bud will call Tom Pagel to see if he can come to the March 16<sup>th</sup> 2010 meeting. Bud will send an email out asking for a 2010 Transportation committee chair.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is March 16<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 12:00 noon @Chamber Conference Room

Meeting Adjourned