

**Lake Vermilion Trail Joint Powers Board and Work Group Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Greenwood Town Hall
Tower, MN**

Joint Powers Board (JPB) members present:

Tim Johnson, City of Cook

Cathi Hiveley, Beatty Twp.

Larry Tahija, Greenwood Twp.

Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake Twp.

Mary Shedd, City of Tower alternate

Absent: Bois Forte, Kugler, and Owens

Work group present: Carol Booth, Caroline Owens, Josh Gilson

Vice-chair Tim Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

Mary Shedd introduced herself representing Tower as a temporary alternate representative appointment, noting that Tower's representative, Jeri Joki-Martin, was not available. A round of introductions was made. Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake, reported the Vermilion Lake Town Board had designated him as their representative and designated Phil Anderson as their alternate.

Approval of minutes – Motion by Larry Tahija, Greenwood, second by Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, to approve the July 2 meeting minutes as previously distributed, no discussion, five ayes, no nays, three absent, motion carried.

Reports of Officers & Committees:

Treasurer's report – Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake, reported a balance as of September 3 of \$7,574.44.

Motion by Larry Tahija, Greenwood, second by Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, to accept the Treasurer's report, no discussion, five ayes, no nays, three absent, motion carried.

Bills – Community Coaching, Inc. for planning and preparation of the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission (GMRPTC) grant application in the amount of 2,780.00.

Motion by Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, second by Larry Tahija, Greenwood to pay the invoiced amount, no further discussion, five ayes, no nays, three absent, motion carried.

East segment update – Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake, reported that after the August work group meeting he and Carol Booth walked a portion of the proposed east segment route with Ashley Pethan of the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota (P&TC). No further work on the route will take place until the leaves are down.

West segment update – Carol Booth has lined up several people to help with flagging of a route in October once the leaves are down. She has also been discussing route options with the Landing Supper Club at the northern end of the west segment.

Donation packet – Josh Gilson reported that the donation packet was ready to go and the fund raising committee was working on a list of potential donors to contact.

Raffle – Carol Booth reported that ticket sales had been good at the Wooden Boat Show at the Landing over the Labor Day weekend and reminded the group of the drawing for prizes at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts in Cook on September 6. Tim Johnson indicated that the local Press should be invited to attend. Carol indicated she was not yet ready to commit to a second annual raffle next year.

Legacy application – Nancy Larson submitted the application on July 31. On August 13 she, Carol Booth, and Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake, met with Joe Czapiewski, staff for the GMRPTC to discuss the application at the Tower DNR building, followed by a brief driving tour. Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, asked about approximate costs to obtain easements, indicating that Beatty would consider assisting with some costs. Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake, reported that it would vary depending on the size and ownership of the parcel and whether owners were willing to donate an easement. Estimated costs used for the east segment application for six privately held parcels totaled 6,300.00 for acquisition and 22,000.00 for legal, recording, survey, and appraisal costs, or about 4,700.00 total per parcel.

IRRRB contacts – Josh Gilson was able to adjust his schedule and attend the August 22 “On the Move with Metsa” listening opportunity in Eveleth with IRRRB Deputy Commissioner Jason Metsa. He will follow up by scheduling meetings with Metsa and IRRRB staff Jim Plummer. Josh will notify the JPB once meetings are scheduled.

On-line fund raising match – Carol Booth is in contact with an anonymous party willing to donate funds for specific projects and she would like to set up an on-line donor match campaign to fund easement acquisitions. She will be working on details for this.

Unfinished business:

Letters of support – follow up is needed where letters were offered but not yet received.

Insurance – would it cover employees and contractors? Tim Johnson, Cook, indicated that the short answer was yes, there would be coverage.

Signed Joint Powers Agreements – Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake, reported that he had a complete set of agreements but had not yet determined originals and copies.

Facebook – there is a need to keep Facebook current, active, and to like and invite others to like also.

Holly Larson files – Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake, has flash drives but has not examined them yet.

New business:

Executive director position – a coordinator position was again discussed, this time in more detail, specifically what was desired, what would be offered, and what sort of applicant would be anticipated. Motion by Mary Shedd, Tower, second by Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, in order to move this forward as well

as to determine interest, to authorize Carol Booth to advertise a director position in local and regional press, by single insertions, as well as distribute to radio stations, job services, and schools where potential candidates may become aware of the opportunity, with the advertisement being brief, referring applicants to our website for a description and more information with Tim Johnson, Cook, offering and Tom Lantry, Owens, to be asked to offer contact phone numbers for those requesting additional information, no further discussion, five ayes, no nays, three absent, motion carried.

November meeting date – a question had been raised as the November meeting is on the first Tuesday but as this is not an election year it is not an issue and the meeting will remain on November 5 at the DNR Conference Room in Tower.

Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota workshop – the P&TC will be holding a workshop on September 13 at the Jay Cooke State Park. Carol Booth and Caroline Owens are planning to attend.
EAW process - Carol Booth has contacted a retired hydrologist in the area who may be able to assist with wetland delineation and other EAW matters.

Mary Shedd, Tower, reported that there will be a meeting at an as yet undetermined date to discuss a Grand Rapids-to-Ely gap in the North County Trail.

Tim Johnson, Cook, reported that there will be a meeting in Cook at the Cook Community Center on September 4 from 6 to 8 pm regarding the David Dill Trail.

Motion by Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, second by Mary Shedd, Tower, to adjourn, five ayes, no nays, three absent, motion carried at 12:00.

Next meeting - the JPB meeting schedule for 2019 as set at the November 2018 meeting:

MONTH	DAY	LOCATION
January	8	Cook Forestry
February	5	Tower DNR
March	5	Greenwood Township
April	2	Cook Forestry
May	7	Tower DNR
June	4	Greenwood Township
July	2	Cook Forestry
August	6	Tower DNR
September	3	Greenwood Township
October	1	Cook Forestry
November	5	Tower DNR
December	3	Greenwood Township

All regular JPB meetings will begin at 10 am and the fundraising committee will meet prior to the regular meetings beginning at 9 am.

Steven Lotz, work group secretary