

**Lake Vermilion Trail Joint Powers Board and Work Group Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 8, 2020**  
**Cook Hospital Conference Room**  
**Cook, MN**

Joint Powers Board (JPB) members present:

Tim Johnson, City of Cook

Cathi Hiveley, Beatty Twp.

Earl Grano, Beatty Twp. alternate

Carol Booth, Owens Twp. alternate

Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake Twp.

Nancy Salminen, City of Tower alternate

Absent: Bois Forte, Greenwood, & Kugler

Vice-chair Tim Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:27 pm.

Introductions were made.

Approval of minutes – Motion by Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, second by Carol Booth, Owens, to approve the December 3 meeting minutes as previously distributed, no discussion, five ayes, no nays, three absent, motion carried.

Reports of Officers & Committees:

Treasurer's report – Steve Lotz reported a balance as of December 31 of \$9,020.69. Motion by Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, second by Nancy Salminen, Tower, to approve the Treasurer's report, no discussion, five ayes, no nays, three absent, motion carried.

East segment update – no progress reported.

West segment update – Carol Booth has willing partners to help refine the north portion of the west segment once the snow goes down. Discussion of route options for the south end of the west segment continues with additional landowner contacts. Earl Grano reported that Beatty Township is in the process of locating escape routes for some of the dead end or limited access roads in the Township and there may be opportunities to co-locate Trail segments with some of the designated escape routes. The Board asked to be kept apprised of developments.

Fund raising – Josh Gillson was not available and no update was received.

Legacy application – A letter was received from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission (GMRPTC) indicating that our application was not recommended for funding in this grant cycle. The Commission had \$9.9 million to grant and received requests totaling \$28 million. The application could be improved by more fully describing the importance of the project within the regional context of the project. A local match would also add points. Tim Johnson and Steve Lotz will follow up on the letter in the hopes of gaining additional information.

Non-profit update –Application was made to the Minnesota Secretary of State for a Certificate of Incorporation as the non-profit organization “Friends of the Lake Vermilion Trail.” Work on Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws continues. Motion by Cathi Hiveley, Beatty, second by Carol Booth, Owens, thanking Caroline Owens and Steve Lotz for their work in this endeavor, no discussion, five ayes, no nays, three absent, motion carried. Tim Johnson reported that as they have become a formal entity the Friends group would not be covered under the Joint Powers Board’s insurance. The Friends group will need to obtain separate coverage.

Unfinished business:

Letters of support – A number of letters of support have been received including a packet from the Cook Hospital.

Executive director position –the applicants have been thanked for their interest and advised that while we are reviewing our organizational structure we will keep the applications on file but will not be conducting interviews for the foreseeable future.

New business:

Meeting schedule for 2020 – the meeting schedule was reviewed. The second Wednesday of November is Veteran’s Day. An alternate date has not been selected.

Note that election of Officers will occur at the April 8 meeting in Cook.

A wide ranging discussion on goals for 2020 covered easements, Boy Scouts, college students, sponsoring businesses, raffle items, silent auctions, and more.

Stationary and envelopes – Joan Broten was not available and no update was received.

Next meeting - the JPB meeting schedule for 2020 as set at the December 2019 meeting:

MONTH	DAY	LOCATION
January	8	Cook Hospital conf. room
February	12	Tower DNR conf. room
March	11	Greenwood Town Hall
April	8	Cook Hospital conf. room
May	13	Tower DNR conf. room
June	10	Greenwood Town Hall
July	8	Cook Hospital conf. room
August	12	Tower DNR conf. room
September	9	Greenwood Town Hall
October	14	Cook Hospital conf. room
November	TBD	Tower DNR conf. room
December	9	Greenwood Town Hall

All regular JPB meetings will begin at 4 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm. Steven Lotz, work group secretary