

Lake Vermillion Trail Joint Powers Board
Wednesday, June 14, 2023
Via Zoom or teleconference

Joint Powers Board (JPB) members present:

Tim Johnson, Cook, Chair, via Zoom
Glenn Bergerson, Beatty, via Zoom
Roxanne Tea, Vermilion Lake via Zoom
Steve Lotz, Vermilion Lake alternate, Treasurer, via Zoom
Carol Booth, Owens via Zoom
Nancy Salminen, Tower via Zoom
John Bassing, Greenwood via Zoom
Ross Swanson, Kugler, via Zoom
Carol Burr, Bois Forte, via Zoom

Guests: Lee Peterson, area resident

Chair Tim Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. The agenda was accepted.

Approval of minutes – Motion by Carol Booth, Owens, second by Nancy Salminen, Tower, to approve the April 12, 2023 meeting minutes as previously distributed, eight ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Reports of Officers & Committees:

Treasurer's report – Steve Lotz reported a balance as of May 31, 2023 of \$3,108.49 after payment for the one year renewal of the PO Box in the amount of \$78.00 and receipt of 2023 dues from five members. The Treasurer noted he was waiting for confirmation of Bois Forte's Vermilion population before sending out the Greenwood and Bois Forte dues invoices. Carol Burr offered to get Band enrollment numbers.

Business

East segment – waiting on a Mesabi Trail route decision.

West segment – discussions with area landowners continue.

Grant writing – the IRRR grant writing grant funds are to be spent by the end of the year. Carol Booth contacted Whitney Ridlon who indicated she would not be able to address the issue until after July 1.

Mesabi Trail coordination – Carol Booth noted that Nancy Salminen and Steve Lotz met with Sarah Ciochetto of the Mesabi Trail last winter to discuss options. Carol asked that several JPB members meet again with Sarah for further discussion. Discussion - Tim Johnson noted that the Cook Chamber of Commerce functioned much better with a paid Director. Nancy Salminen asked about services and costs. Carol Burr thought it a good idea, suggested contact via email as it would be documented and easily shared. Steve noted that Nancy Salminen's report of the earlier meeting was included with the March minutes. Carol Booth asked for volunteers to compile questions and points to clarify in the

possible coordination with the Mesabi Trail. Nancy Salminen, Roxanne Tea, and Carol Burr offered to do so.

Tim Johnson has had some continuing communication with area legislators.

Some of the files, the banners and table covering, and other items have been moved to space at Tim Johnson's State Farm Office in Cook where it will be available during regular office hours.

Friends update – The Friends were represented at Earthfest, continue working on membership handling, and searching for grants.

John Bassing asked if the LVT had secured any easements to date. Carol Booth replied that they had not and to have done so would be premature as once final wetland and archeological reports were available the reports would be reviewed at the State level. That review will likely result in minor route changes. Steve noted that easements would be a last step as they require a legal description of the trail corridor.

Carol Booth noted that all member entities had representatives at this meeting.

Next meeting is set for August 9, 2023 at 5:00 pm via Zoom.

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Steve Lotz, Friends of the Lake Vermilion Trail Secretary