



County Infrastructure Committee

Monday, January 19, 2009 – 8:30 a.m.
225 W. Main Street, Room 212
Gaylord, MI 49735

MINUTES

Chairman Backenstose called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Roll call – Present: Ken Glasser, Erma Backenstose, Doug Johnson, Bruce Brown, John Burt
Excused:

Others present: Dale Fulcher, Paul Beachnau, Mike Tarbutton

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Motion by Commissioner Glasser to “approve the minutes of December 15, 2008.” Motion Carried.

III. Unfinished Business

A. County Building Open Space

The Committee discussed whether the Open Space Plan for the Courthouse should have an interactive fountain or a traditional fountain. The consensus of the Committee was to have an interactive fountain due to easier maintenance and to draw people downtown. The Committee also discussed the idea of a small ice skating rink, if there was sufficient room in the plan.

B. Alpine Center Signage

Burt informed the Committee that he is working with Chad Edwards at Edwards Sign Studio to design new signs for the Alpine Center. Committee members expressed the need to have readable fonts, telephone numbers to obtain direction information, and the County’s website address. The Committee also discussed the need to have handout maps of the Alpine Center available at each County Office and at City Hall.

C. Clerk/ROD Office Move

Burt requested that this be held until he has a better idea of the cost associated with the jail ventilation improvement project.

D. County Building Alpine Woodwork Repair

Sunrise Construction will be working on the clock tower repair over the next few weeks. The original plan called for brining in a crane to lift the clock tower when its supports are removed. It would be held up by wires to the building. Burt said that he was uncomfortable having the clock tower suspended by wires for several weeks. After discussions with Brad Butcher’s office, who shared the same concerns, it was decided to use a crane to move the clock tower to the side and then use a crane again to replace the clock tower when the supports are repaired. This will cost an additional \$1,600 for the extra day with the crane.

IV. New Business

A. Gaylord-Mackinaw Trail Head

Burt informed the Committee that he, Paul Beachnau, Mike Tarbutton, Joe Duff, Bill Heska (Fair Board), and Emily Meyerson from the DNR (via telephone) met to discuss proposed facilities for the Gaylord-Mackinaw Trail. The DNR would be willing to pay to construct bathroom facilities and pave a parking lot at an approximate cost of \$350,000. The facilities would be located on the northwestern part of the Fair Grounds property, and be used for access to the trail. Ownership of the land could potentially be transferred to the County Parks Department or there could be a long-term lease. The Parks Department would maintain the facilities, with the cost being split among several entities. There are some funds from snowmobile grants to help pay for snowplowing and utilities in the winter. Funding for this project would come from the same DNR grant that would potentially fund the Courthouse Open Space project. This would mean that funding would not be likely for a few years for the Courthouse project. Motion by Commissioner Glasser to "enter into negotiations to pursue the grant for the trailhead facilities". Motion Carried.

B. Jail Ventilation

Burt is expecting a proposal from Justin Kowatch (Wade-Trim) to design ventilation/air conditioning upgrades in the jail and to estimate the associated costs.

C. Alpine Center Paint/Carpeting

Burt informed the Committee that once the carpet and paint colors are picked, he will send out an RFP to paint the Multi-Purpose Room and install carpeting from the vending machines through the Multi-Purpose Room.

D. Economic Stimulus Package

Burt will compare his list of capital projects to the tentative economic stimulus package proposal and will update the list as necessary to be ready to turn into the Michigan Association of Counties.

E. Board of Commissioners Meeting Location

Glasser discussed the need to move the Board of Commissioners meetings to Room 100 in the Courthouse downtown to improve accessibility for the public. Glasser motioned to "recommend to the full Board of Commissioners to move the Board meetings downtown as soon as renovations to Room 100 are completed". Motion Carried.

F. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be on Monday, February 16, 2009 at 8:30 am in Room 212.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Backenstose at 9:40 AM.