

## MINUTES OF ITS TRAIL COMMITTEE BOARD MEETING - JUNE 2, 2009

Directors Present: Russ Masinelli, Nelson Grman, , Larry Leone, Jarid Ott, Poonam Jain, Bill Vogt  
John Fritsche.

Directors excused: Bryan Siegfried - excused.

Directors Absent: Paul Skeans

Also Present: Sandra Lane, Rande Johnson, Shari Albrecht, Dr. & Mrs. Moroso.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM

### Meeting Minutes

The 03-03-09 meeting minutes were reviewed. After review, Poonam Jain moved to accept the minutes, seconded by John Fritsche and passed on a voice vote.

### Treasurer's Report

Sandra Lane delivered the current financial state of the ITS Trail Committee but had to leave before it was presented.

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Bank Balance 02/28/09 | \$ 21,281.09 |
| Recepits              | \$ 2,696.15  |
| Disbursements         | \$ 86.00     |
| Bank Balance 06/01/09 | \$ 23,891.24 |

Motion by Nelson Grman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Poonam Jain to accept, motion carried by voice vote.

### IDNR Grant

The renewal IDNR Grant application was submitted electronically on March 2, 2009.

### Executive Director's Report

- a. IDNR Grant Application – The application has been withdrawn. Following is the recommendation I received from IDNR. **Dear Jarid: Thank you for taking the time to keep me updated on the status of your organization's proposed acquisition. In light of the Norfolk Southern Railroad's current posture concerning their land holdings, it might be in Macoupin County's and your organization's best interest, to formally withdraw your pending grant application. The reason for this recommendation is that in the event the project was approved for grant funding, Macoupin County would have to complete the land acquisition in a timely manner, or generally within one year's time. In the event Macoupin County and your organization could not complete the acquisition and then choose to withdraw the project, Macoupin County would be debarred from submitting a grant application for all grant programs for two years. Please let me know in writing if the county wishes to withdraw this application by no later than May 15, 2009. Sincerely, *Steve Gonzalez* Stephen Gonzalez, Senior Grant Administrator, Division of Grant Administration, Illinois Department of Natural Resources**
- b. Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant survey-Grant has been approved and we received this note on 1/6/09 from Macoupin County Board Chairman Andy Manar: *Good news, the County is in receipt of the \$50,000 grant put in the State budget last year by Senator Demuzio. We will keep in our Grant Fund until it is ready to be expended. I have reached out to Senator Demuzio and suggested that a formal announcement be made. I think it would be very appropriate to schedule a check presentation in Staunton to the ITS Trail Committee and the County Board. Let me know what your thoughts are. ANDY* No action has been taken regarding an announcement or check presentation.

- c. Membership Update – Will be sending out membership renewal letters in mid-June.
- d. We have received a letter from Mr. C.W. Moorman, CEO of the Norfolk Southern Corporation, advising us that the railroad will not reconsider their position regarding the release of the abandoned railroad property between Staunton and Benld.
- e. Promotional Items Inventory:
  - i. ITS Window Decal – 4
  - ii. ITS Vests – 1-S/M, 1-L/XL
  - iii. ITS Tee Shirts – 3-XXL
  - iv. ITS Polo Shirts – 4-L

## **Events**

1. The Illinois Traction Society had their annual event on April 25, 2009. Jarid mentioned that it was very well attended.
2. We will only be riding in two parades this year. Black Diamond Days on June 7<sup>th</sup> and Staunton on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **Old Business**

1. Nelson attended the Route 66 Trail Executive Council meeting in Pontiac, Ill.
2. We will again be meeting at Duda Gardens for the “2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Tour” on June 13<sup>th</sup> for anyone wanting to ride to Yellow Dog in Worden or length desired on the trail.
3. A news article will be published to promote this “2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday” event.
4. John Fritsche spoke on other trails that the ITS Trail Committee could promote in Macoupin and surrounding counties. Those trails would be as follows:
  - a. Staunton to Bunker Hill - Share the Road Trail.
  - b. Dorchester to Gillespie - Share the Road Trail.
  - c. Big Four Trail from Gillespie to Litchfield
  - d. Old Route 66 Trail from Litchfield to Staunton

John made a motion to endorse these specific trails as part of our overall trail development objective, Jarid seconded. All approved.

## **New Business**

1. Our only two parades we will participate in this year are Black Diamond Days in Gillespie- June 7<sup>th</sup> and Staunton – June 28<sup>th</sup>
2. Coal Country Chamber will be having their ride despite the Benld School being condemned. The date will be 27, 2009

## **Adjournment**

Motion by John, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Poonam to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.  
The next meeting will be September 1, 2009

*Submitted by Bill Vogt-Secretary*