

Highway 25 Coalition

Agenda

Thursday February 23, 2017

7:30 AM

North Mississippi Room, Monticello City Hall

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Consideration of approval of meeting minutes from meeting held January 26, 2017**
- 3. Update on Highway 25 Corridor Study Request for Proposals. (*Andrew Witter and Virgil Hawkins report*)**
 - **Review of proposals**
 - **Discuss selection process**
 - A. Interview team or full group?**
 - B. Interview dates**
- 4. Update on Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Program. (Dan Weber)**
- 5. Transportation and related Economic Development or Land Use Updates**
 - **Becker**
 - A. Natural Gas Power Plant Legislation**
 - **Becker Township**
 - **Big Lake**
 - **Big Lake Township (Fiscal Agent)**
 - **Monticello**
 - A. Fallon Avenue Overpass Funding Secured - \$2.1 M – Thank you Highway 25 Coalition for your letter of support.**
 - **Sherburne County**
 - **Wright County**
- 6. I94 Coalition – Corridors for Commerce update (Mike Potter)**
- 7. Legislative updates – State and Federal – open forum**
- 8. Status of membership approval of recent modification to JPA enabling addition of Becker Township and City of Becker**
- 9. Other**
- 10. Adjourn**

Highway 25 Coalition
Meeting Minutes – January 26, 2017
7:30 AM
Becker City Hall

Members Present - **Big Lake Township** - Bob Hofer, Larry Alford, and Steve Pflieger; **Sherburne County** – Tim Dolan, Steve Taylor, Andrew Witter; **Wright County** – Mike Potter and Virgil Hawkins; **City of Becker** – Tracy Bertram, Rick Hendrickson, and Greg Pruszinske; **Becker Township** – Brian Kolbinger; **City of Big Lake** – Hanna Klimmek, Clay Wilfahrt, and Raeanne Danielowski; and **City of Monticello** – Brian Stumpf, Jeff O’Neill, and Jennifer Schreiber

Others Present – **MnDOT** – Claudia Dumont; **BNSF** – Justin Pearson; **Tom Emmer’s Office** – Stacy Morse

1. Call to order.

2. Election of Officers – Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.

Motion was made by Mike Potter, seconded by Raeanne Danielowski, to appoint Brian Stumpf as Chair for 2017. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made by Brian Stumpf, seconded by Larry Alford, to appoint Raeanne Danielowski as Vice-Chair. Motion carried unanimously. Motion was made by Raeanne Danielowski, seconded by Rick Hendrickson, to appoint Jennifer Schreiber as Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Consideration of approval of meeting minutes from meeting held December 15, 2016.

Motion made by Tracy Bertram and seconded by Mike Potter to approve the minutes from the meeting held December 15, 2016. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on BNSF grant award (\$25,000) submitted to Highway 25 Coalition Fiscal Agent (Big Lake Township).

Notes were provided by Dan Weber. BNSF sent Sherburne County a check for \$25,000 to be used for the Corridor Study report. The money was sent to Big Lake Township, the fiscal agent. BNSF has requested to be updated as the project progresses.

5. Discuss 2017 Individual financial contribution by members in light of the grant award.

- **2017 work plan/budget called for \$150,000 to fund study**
- **Counties contribute \$75,000, Cities/townships contribute \$75,000**

Discussion ensued in regard to changing membership fees due to the additional members. The group discussed keeping the dollar contribution at a total of \$150,000. There was some discussion to perhaps increase the total contribution and the extra funds could be used for other items such as branding, marketing, or other. Motion was made by Raeanne Danielowski, seconded by Mike Potter, to maintain the current total contribution at \$150,000. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Update on Highway 25 Corridor Study Request for Proposals

Andrew Witter updated the group on the status of the RFPs. He stated that the RFP was released and individually sent to five firms – WSB, SRF, SEH, HDR, and Bolton & Menk. The RFPs are due by January 31, 2017.

7. Update on Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Program.

Notes were provided by Dan Weber. Each of the four regional counties has either hold or are in the process of holding their first public meeting to discuss the CEDS plan. Sherburne County held meeting on January 9 and Wright County is holding a meeting January 26. Over 30 people were in attendance at the Sherburne County meeting. The meetings are being held to gather project ideas that will be included in the Certified Economic Development Strategy. The River Crossing project will be included in the final report submitted to the Federal EDA.

8. Transportation and related Economic Development or Land Use Updates

- **Sherburne County** – none.
- **Big Lake** – Starting to update their Comp Plan. Palmer Wireless Big Lake Industrial Park received a Border to Border Broadband Development Grant for the industrial park on the east edge of town. The project will serve 17 underserved businesses. There is a 27-acre solar farm on the former bio-solids site.
- **Big Lake Township** – none.
- **Becker** – Becker requested that members of the group help support legislation relating to the Xcel power plant in Becker. Greg Pruszinski can provide a sample letter/resolution for any area entity that would like to show support.
- **Becker Township** – none.
- **Wright County** – Wright County began a study of the NE Wright County area. They will be looking to cities for input/financial support. Wright County is in the process of a Master Space Study – looking at a new Government Center. Wright County is considering a local option sales tax to fund \$6-7 million of needed road projects.
- **Monticello** – Monticello commented that the post office is being relocated to their annex building. Brian Stumpf stated that the Fallon Avenue overpass project was approved and the City acquired right-of-way for the project which is scheduled for 2018.

9. Legislative Updates – State and Federal

- Stacy Morse, Tom Emmer's Office, mentioned that there may be a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant available. It was announced that there is \$500 million available for transportation projects around the country. Andrew Witter questioned the conditions of the grant. Ms. Morse responded that she will find out the conditions of the grant.

10. Other.

- Brian Stumpf noted that the Monticello Orderly Annexation Area Board voted to not allow solar in the orderly annexation area.

11. Adjourn.

Mike Potter, seconded by Raeanne Danielowski, moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED 2-23-17

JS