

A special meeting of the Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board was held on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 6:43 p.m. in their office located at 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan.

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Eric Tobin, Chairman  
Commissioner Hugh Coward, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Scott Brown, Member  
Commissioner Charles Monaweck, Member  
Commissioner Christopher Vreeland, Member

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kevin Henning, Managing Director  
Pixie Coats, Director of Administrative Services/Board Clerk  
Angie Kline, Assistant County Highway Engineer  
Mary Jo Crumpton, Deputy Board Clerk  
General Public

### **PRESENTATION**

Mr. Tom Garnett, President of the Calhoun County Trailways Alliance (CCTA) presented information on the status of the trailway project. He stated that the 2008-2013 Calhoun County Recreation Plan is being presented as an update to the 2002-2007 Calhoun County Recreation Plan and includes information on the Kalamazoo River Waterway and the I-69 Heritage Route. In order for the trailway project to move forward, the plan must be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) prior to the CCTA applying for matching funds from the DNR Trust Fund for the first segment of the trailway. It was noted that the plan can be amended. Commissioner Vreeland asked if the plan is revenue neutral and Mr. Garnett confirmed that the CCTA is not asking for funding from the Parks Trustees Board.

Mr. Henning thanked Mr. Garnett for working with Russ Wicklund to complete this 5-year update to the plan. Mr. Garnett responded that there are a number of people who have worked hard on the trailway project.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Mrs. Coats read the communications as follows:

- a) Received the 2008-2013 Calhoun County Recreation Plan
- b) Received Resolution 2009-02 requesting that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the Recreation Plan

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion made by Commissioner Vreeland and supported by Commissioner Monaweck to approve the 2008-2013 Calhoun County Recreation Plan. Voice vote: Motion carried.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Brown and supported by Commissioner Coward to approve the Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board Resolution 2009-02.**

**Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board  
Resolution 2009-02**

**WHEREAS**, the Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board recognizes that the Recreation Plan has been developed for Calhoun County and represents the jurisdiction of Calhoun County in its scope; and

**WHEREAS**, the Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board feels that the plan is focused on linear park/trailway development on a county wide basis with the development of the Calhoun County Trailway as the major part of the plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Recreational Plan naturally becomes a regional plan, with segments already designated under the North Country National Scenic Trail and the Michigan Airline Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the Calhoun County Trailway would connect existing county park facilities along the Kalamazoo River, with those in Albion, Marshall, Battle Creek and Homer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Calhoun County Trailway would extend west through Kalamazoo County to the Kal-Haven Trail and the Lake Michigan lakeshore at South Haven; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board hereby supports and recommends approval by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners for the Calhoun County 5 Year Recreation Plan.

**Voice vote: Motion carried.**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT**

Mr. Henning provided the following information:

- **County Administrator:** Mr. Henning noted that he would be meeting next week with Ms. Kelly Sproule, new County Administrator, and would be sharing the Parks information with her.

**SUPERVISORS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS TIME**

Mr. Tom Garnett informed the Board that the North Country Trail Association has agreed to do clean up work at Bridge Park and have offered to fix and maintain the kiosk at the Ott Preserve parking lot.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Tobin asked if the 2009 Parks Budget from the County separated out funding for the Ott Preserve. Mr. Henning responded that the 2009 Parks Budget did not allocate funding to a specific park; however, in past years a small portion has been allocated to the Ott Preserve in a separate fund. Discussion took place on trail markings. Mr. Henning stated that we have been working with Boy Scout organizations for work in our parks. Mrs. Coats added that we may have an Eagle Scout project this year to upgrade the signage and develop a map of the Ott Preserve.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regular meeting of the Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board will be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2009, following the 5:30 p.m. regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners.

There being no additional business before the Parks Trustees Board, Chairman Tobin adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Mary Jo Crumpton, Deputy Board Clerk

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Eric J. Tobin, Chairman