



US Hwy 169 Corridor Coalition

Working together to enhance safety, reduce congestion and maximize economic development along the US Highway 169 inter-regional corridor.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2010

Present: Jim Hovland, Jon Ulrich, Tom McLaughlin, Tom Hulting, Lisa Freese, Lezlie Vermillion, Doug Weiszhaar, Brandy Popenhagen, and Lisa Schickedanz

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Vice Chair, Mr. Jon Ulrich

- 1) Welcome– Jon Ulrich, Vice Chair, Scott County Commissioner
- 2) Adoption of Minutes – A motion was made by Mr. McLaughlin to approve the April 8, 2010 minutes; the motion was seconded by Mr. Hulting and approved.
- 3) Financial Report – The financial report through April 30, 2010 was distributed and reviewed. Mr. Hulting made a motion to approve the April 30, 2010 financial report. The motion was seconded by Mr. McLaughlin and approved.
- 4) Technical Committee Report – The Technical Committee did not have a meeting in April. The committee is currently working on preparations for the August 12th Barge tour. The committee will also begin working on the Project Prioritization in May.
- 5) Corridor Advocate Update – Doug Weiszhaar, Corridor Advocate, went over his ideas for updates to presentation materials. Materials are needed that will target businesses and chambers along the corridor. Handouts were distributed for I-94 corridor and Trunk Highway 23 corridor to display materials they have prepared for other corridors. The handouts include many pictures of the corridors. The materials need to sell why they need to be involved in the Corridor Coalition. Mr. Weiszhaar noticed after reviewing the membership that many of the Cities north of I-494 are not active in the coalition. The materials will need to highlight what benefits them as being a part of the coalition.

Mr. Weiszhaar asked the committee where they want him to target his efforts. Vice Chair, Jon Ulrich suggested three areas to target:

- Update the presentation materials.
- Have the Technical Committee prioritize the projects along the corridor.
- Get the current members to go out on calls with the Corridor Advocate.

Mr. Hulting suggested regionalizing the handouts for the coalition. There was discussion on building a library of information to use for the handouts and then the materials can be generated for various needs.

Start with a few businesses to target for membership then work on the chambers. The committee came up with the following list of businesses to target:

- Ames
- Canterbury Downs
- Cambria
- Cargill
- The University
- The Mankato mall owner
- Mathiowetz Construction
- Taylor Corporation

In the future membership targets could be other businesses, the Townships, and EDA's along the corridor.

Ms. Freese asked how important is project prioritization in other corridors that Mr. Weiszhaar is dealing with? It is very important and everyone needs to be on the same page and support the order of the prioritization. When there are funding opportunities it is important to have things ready to get the funding.

The Corridor Coalition should find out about the details for the ground breaking ceremony for 494/169 project. The coalition should have an event after the ceremony.

- 6) Other – There was discussion on light rail and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) bus along the corridor. The Bloomington Ferry Bridge was designed for light rail. It is quicker and less costly to implement BRT. The Met Council's 2030 Plan identifies an express bus serving the Mankato area.

The next meeting in June will be the Legislative Update meeting and will be held in Belle Plaine. Meeting notices have been sent out. A note will

be sent out to get questions to ask the legislators. The Executive Committee will do a presentation and then the candidate forum will be held.

It was brought up for discussion if the Executive Committee needs to meet monthly. The Executive Committee meetings may be able to be held quarterly or on an as needed basis.

- 7) Next Meeting – June 10, 2010 at 5:45 p.m.
- 8) The Executive Board meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Lisa Schickedanz, Scott County Associate Planner