

**FRIENDS OF THE CASEY JONES STATE TRAIL ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 26, 2015**

The Friends of the Casey Jones State Trail Association convened regular session on Wednesday, August 26, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. at the Pizza Ranch in Slayton. Members present: Katie Chapman, Mick Myers, Deb Nelson, Phil Nasby, Jerry Remund, Serrina Martinez, Dan Wildermuth and Ron Qualley. Others present: Glen Livermont and Cody Gorackowski, Superintendent and Chief Ranger respectively from the Pipestone National Monument.

President Mick Myers called the meeting to order.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Agenda stands as presented.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Deb informed the Board that the minutes were not ready for approval.

**TREASURER'S & MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Amy was not able to attend the meeting but sent her reports for distribution and discussion. There is \$20,452.79 in the checking account of which \$1,000 is earmarked for benches. Amy can discuss her report and questions she has at the next meeting.

**BUSINESS**

**DNR Update**

- Work on the three mile segment towards Woodstock is progressing nicely. The company is doing a great job and has already received their first payment. They also got the job to reshape the East Fork bridge.
- Travis Connelly, an Eagle Scout candidate with the Pipestone Boy Scouts, had contacted him to see if he could place 1/2 mile markers along the first 5 miles of paved trail. Phil stated DNR will be purchasing the posts for this project.
- It is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of state trails so there will be information on the internet.

**Parks and Trails Council**

Deb informed the Board that she had done an online PowerPoint presentation to the Parks and Trails Council on August 12<sup>th</sup>. The session lasted about 20 minutes and she felt Parks and Trails Council were onboard with our bonding bill request in the amount of \$1,250,000. She sent the presentation to members of the Board and to Representative Schomacker and Senator Weber with a copy of our bonding bill request for 2016.

Andrew Oftedahl is looking for individuals to help with a trail count on the Casey Jones Trail. Ron, Serrina, Mick and Katie volunteered.

### Trailhead Sign

Sirrina shared with the Board that she has been working with Janet Busch with SHIP and she is happy to announce that SHIP will be donating \$2,000 towards our kiosk sign in Pipestone. She will need an invoice to present to SHIP.

Motion was made by Katie, seconded by Dan and unanimously carried to order the Kiosk Sign.

### Lake Wilson Land Acquisition

Deb informed the Board that the land acquisition in Lake Wilson is complete. The date of the closing was set for August 14<sup>th</sup> but was changed to August 21<sup>st</sup>. She thanked Ron Qualley for his generous donation of \$1,524.50 which represents half of the purchase price of the lots including all fees.

Deb then mentioned that the Friends had received an anonymous \$500 donation.

### Prairie Pedal Tour Comments

The Prairie Pedal Tour was a great success and everyone had positive comments about each community and what they did to welcome riders. It was a great opportunity to meet and get "face time" with DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr and Erika Rivers, Director of MN DNR – Division of Parks and Trails.

### Update on Card/Map

It was the consensus of the Board to have more of our informational cards prepared to hand out and to have at the kiosk signs if possible.

### 2016 Proposed Bonding Bill

Deb shared with the Board the bonding bill request for 2016. She gave copies to Commissioner Landwehr and Erika Rivers. We are requesting \$1,250,000 which includes money for an engineering study and future land acquisition. She said she upped the dollar amounts as we have asked for the same amount for the past two years and costs have increased.

### Triple A Living Magazine Bike Trails Ad and Snowmobile Highlight

Mick asked if the Friends would like to advertise in the Triple A Living Magazine Bike Trails. It was the consensus of the Board to not advertise and we don't feel we have enough paved trail yet.

Deb shared that she had received a call about highlighting the Casey Jones Trail being used as the snowmobile trail.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

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Deb Nelson  
Secretary