

## **Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting Prairie Trails Club Inc.**

10-56 Brewing Company, 2120 US 35  
Knox, Indiana

**February 9, 2019**

### **Call to Order and Quorum**

Bruce Fingerhut, President, called to order a special meeting of the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Prairie Trails Club Inc. (“PTC”) on February 9, 2019 at 1:05 p.m., CST. Voting Board members in attendance were Diane Blais, Bruce, Carolla Heilstedt and Steve Lucas. With these four members, Bruce observed a quorum. Also present was Kathy Lucas, PTC Treasurer.

### **Approval of Minutes of June 11, 2018 Meeting**

Steve moved to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2018 meeting. Diane seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

### **Approval of \$5,000 in PTC Funds toward 20% Local Match in Grant Application for Next Level Trails Project**

Board members discussed substantial efforts to develop a grant application for Governor Holcomb’s Next Level Trails Program. Appreciation was expressed for the great support from PTC membership, our generous donors, local government, and Starke County friends and neighbors.

The special efforts of Larry Wickert were noted. Bruce reported that he and Larry met earlier in the day and entered an “Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding” with the Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum Inc (HVRM). In the Addendum the PTC and HVRM agreed to a permanent arrangement for use of the former Erie Lackawanna corridor between US 35 and Starke County Road 700 East for a trail extension as well as a possible future railway.

In furtherance of the 20% local match required for the Next Level Trails Program, an email was circulated among Board members to consider a resolution supporting expenditure from the PTC’s general funds not to exceed \$5,000. In response two board members emailed on February 8 they were unable to attend the meeting but supported the resolution and a maximum \$5,000 expenditure. Sharon Smead wrote, “Although I will not be able to attend the special meeting, I am in

complete support of dedicating PTC funds as part of the required local 20% match required for the grant application supporting the trail extension.” Peggy Stalbrink also wrote she voted “yes” to the resolution. The four Board members present at the meeting then spoke favorably to the resolution.

Kathy outlined the current status of PTC finances. She said most financial resources were dedicated to particular purposes, most notably signage and benches. While a portion of dedicated funds might later be determined appropriate for usage on a trail extension, they could not now be applied in a commitment to a general fund expenditure. As an aside, she noted the PTC needed a concerted effort to complete outstanding signage projects this year. But Kathy reported that approximately \$8,000 were currently held in the general fund that are available for PTC commitment to assist with the 20% local match. Re-designation of \$5,000 from the general fund to dedication as part of the match would leave \$3,000 in the general fund.

Carolla moved to approve the dedication of \$5,000 of PTC general funds as part of the 20% local match required in a grant request for the Next Level Trails Program. Diane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m., CST.