



NOTES: April 30, 2010 – 7:30 a.m.
Government Relations Committee

I. Welcome and review of Notes

Attendance: Art Jeannot, Andrew Buchholz, Kerry Kaysserian, Mike Buell, Don Coe, John Gray, Bob Gluszewski, Sharon Wise, Steve Perdue, Tom Menzel, Joe Zayaz, Kathleen Guy, Ross Childs, Representative Kevin Elsenheimer.

II. Follow Up Discussion on West Michigan Policy Presentation: The group that attended felt that the event was well attended and had a good focus to follow. They felt that Tim Nelsons question on the importance of education should be a big part of this years policy forum. The Committee would like the chamber to prepare participants for the forum with as much information ahead of time and maybe even conduct a quick meeting discussion prior to the event in the fall. They also would like to see communications drive information down to the members.

III. Northern Michigan Legislative Conference 2011: Joe Zayaz and Art Jeannot volunteered to be part of this regionwide committee. The committee will focus on setting up a legislative conference in the spring of 2011 that will involve all northern Michigan legislators and members from the regional alliance to focus on legislative needs and alliance agenda for our region.

IV. Elections: An elections sub-committee was formed to work on candidate questionnaires and forums as part of the Government Relations Committee's 2010 goal to educate members on the upcoming elections and the positions of candidates. The sub-committee will include the following members, Joe Zayaz, Andrew Buchholz, Tom Menzel, Kathleen Guy and Don Coe.

V. Federal Reports:

Sharon Wise update the committee on Congressman Camps follow up information on Health Care. She also discussed the current list of candidates for the 1st Congressional Race. A brief discussion was held on the Tea Party Rallies and involvement in this years election cycle.

V. State Reports:

Representative Elsenheimer updated the committee on current legislation on early retirement for school employees. Both the Senate and House versions are now before a conference committee. He also update us on the budget situation and the deficit the state continues to face.

VI. Local Reports: Traverse City continues to work on its budget.

VII. New Business: CASEnergy Coalition.

The committee was asked to review the request for the Traverse City Chamber to join the CASEnergy coalition and affirm that the request complied with the Chamber's Energy Policy. A Discussion led by Bob Gluszewski a member of the Chamber Energy Policy Taskforce. A motion of support was made by Don Coe and Supported by Joe Zayaz. A question was asked on the policies intent to cover all forms of baseload power options. Bob pointed out where each of those statements are in the document. The Government Relations Committee unanimously re-affirmed

that the Chamber should join the CASEnergy Coalition and that this endorsement followed the Chamber's Energy Policy.

VII. Next Meeting

- May 28th, 2010, 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber office:
The MEDC will present a statewide legislative agenda for economic development.

The meeting was adjourned.