

MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Minutes of October 15, 2008  
Lansing Community College West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone, Lansing

The meeting of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Board of Trustees commenced at 9:10 AM.

The following Board members were present:

Keith Charters  
Bob Garner  
Dennis Muchmore  
Lana Pollack

Mr. Torre was not in attendance due to another commitment.

Also in attendance were various staff members of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and other interested parties.

I. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF AUGUST 20, 2008.

Chairperson Garner called for the adoption of the minutes from the August 20, 2008 MNRTF Board meeting.

**MOVED BY MR. CHARTERS, SUPPORTED BY MR. MUCHMORE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2008 MNRTF BOARD MEETING. PASSED.**

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA FOR MEETING OF OCTOBER 15, 2008.

Chairperson Garner called for the adoption of the agenda for the October 15, 2008 MNRTF Board meeting.

**MOVED BY MS. POLLACK, SUPPORTED BY MR. MUCHMORE, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE OCTOBER 15, 2008 MNRTF BOARD MEETING. PASSED.**

At this point, Mr. Jim Wood, Manager, Grants Management, DNR, introduced the Grants Management staff to the audience—Ms. Linda Harlow, Administrative Assistant, Grants Management, and Assistant to the MNRTF Board; Ms. Deborah Apostol, Unit Manager, Recreation Grants; Ms. Jule Stafford, Grants Analyst and Grant Coordinator for State projects; Mr. Jason Cherry, Grant Coordinator; Ms. Lisa McTiernan, Grant Coordinator; and Ms. Linda Hegstrom, Grant Coordinator. Mr. Wood also introduced Mr. Rodney Stokes, Chief of Staff.

Chairperson Garner introduced Director Rebecca Humphries and Resource Management Deputy Mindy Koch to the audience.

### III. OLD BUSINESS.

#### Naming Recognition Policy – Deferred from June 18 and August 20, 2008 Meetings

Mr. Wood requested that the Naming Recognition Policy be deferred to the December 3 meeting. At the August meeting, changing the policy was discussed. This would involve eliminating one of the policies and making a change to another. At the August meeting, Mr. Wood advised the Board that he would bring more information at the October meeting, but has been unable to get these policies in order to be acted upon.

Chairperson Garner stated that this issue will be deferred to the December 3, 2008 Board meeting.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS.

#### 2009 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Wood outlined the proposed meeting dates for the 2009 MNRTF Board meetings. Traditionally, the June meeting has been an out-of-Lansing meeting. There has been a request to have the October meeting in the City of Detroit.

Some other considerations have been suggested, one of which is moving the February meeting from February 18 to February 4. This would coincide with the Natural Resources Commission for that month, as well as provide an opportunity to provide the Board with the results of the "Listening Sessions" that have been held to get feedback from underserved communities around the state.

Chairperson Garner asked Mr. Charters if he felt that the MNRTF Board should have at least a shared portion with the Natural Resources Commission. He felt that this would be important to those making land policies.

Mr. Charters said he would like to combine the February meeting with the Natural Resources Commission meeting date.

Chairperson Garner stated that the June meeting in Mackinaw City was highly successful for people in the Upper Peninsula to attend. He stated he would like to have the June 2009 meeting in Mackinaw City, St. Ignace or surrounding area.

Mr. Stokes stated that staff will look at all the proposed MNRTF Board and Natural Resources Commission dates. There has also been an invitation extended to the Board to hold a meeting in the Detroit metro area. Staff will have a revised version of the 2009 meeting dates and locations for approval at the Board's December meeting. Chairperson Garner responded that he does not have any objection for the Board meeting in Detroit. He would, however, like the June meeting to be held either in Mackinaw City or surrounding area.

#### 08-050, John Gurney Park Improvements, City of Hart – INFORMATION

Mr. Wood stated that at the Board's June meeting, questions were raised regarding 08-050, John Gurney Park Improvements, City of Hart, regarding the FERC issues. He advised the Board that the city has provided more information on this issue as part of

supplemental information. It appears that some of the scope items are related to their FERC license and staff is reviewing. This will be sorted out by the time of final staff reviews next week.

08-067, Lake George Nature Park Acquisition, Addison Township – **INFORMATION**

Mr. Wood advised the Board that at the last Board meeting, Mr. Charters has asked for some additional information regarding 08-067, Lake George Nature Park Acquisition, Addison Township, particularly about the landowner, Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy. The Board has been provided with a written synopsis in their Board materials. Mr. Charters stated the written synopsis was a good explanation, but he is not so sure he is sold on this project.

TF98-007, Hartland Township – **CONVERSION**

Mr. Wood stated that this issue was placed on the agenda at the request of Hartland Township. As of yesterday, Mr. Wood was informed that the township did not want this conversion issue to be taken up today. Staff will continue to work with the township on the conversion.

Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division, Mineral Management Section – **UPDATE**

Mr. Wood advised the Board that Ms. Lynne Boyd, Chief of Forest, Mineral and Fire Management (FMFM) Division, DNR, has provided the Board with information today regarding MNRTF expenditures for the division.

Ms. Boyd informed the Board that MNRTF revenues for FY 2008 were estimated to be over \$100 million. FMFM Division was appropriated \$1,814,500 in FY 2009. This has been consistent for the past few years, and adjusted for inflation reflecting annual increases. The division's actual expenditures have averaged about 80% of the appropriation, with the largest single variable being the number, size and complexity of auditing contracts.

Ms. Pollack asked when you lease, what consideration is given to sensitive areas. Is there any law or policy? Ms. Boyd responded that there is a process set via Department policy and procedure. There are four different classifications—nonleasable, leasable but no development, leasable with restrictions and leasable.

Major program expenditures for the last three fiscal years include:

- Minerals Revenue Verification – 43.33% (5.8 Full-Time Employees (FTE). These activities are related to the collection of rents, royalties and bonuses resulting from mineral leasing and development. These include receipt and accounting of mineral revenue, allocation to appropriate fund, verification and maintenance of division orders and unit agreements and audit program.

Chairperson Garner asked how many times discrepancies are found. Ms. Boyd responded it was approximately \$1 million a year. This is from the revenue verification and not the audit function. Chairperson Garner asked if there has been better

compliance now. Ms. Boyd responded yes. The audit program has been very successful. We are finding fewer issues with how the royalties are being paid.

- Oil and Gas Lease Management – 24.82% - 4.4 FTEs. These activities support leasing oil and gas minerals for development and include review and classification of parcels nominated for oil and gas leasing, conducting oil and gas lease auctions, direct oil and gas leasing program, lease maintenance activities, drainage reviews, and reunification of oil and gas rights with surface owner.
- Minerals Administration – 15.75% - 2.0 FTEs. These activities support the maintenance of the state’s mineral land base, as well as overall administrative expenses and include development and maintenance of the LOTS database; acquisition, sale and exchanges of mineral properties; gas storage issues; FOIAs and litigation; and management of the Minerals and Land Management Section of FMFM.
- Metallic Mineral Management – 14.82% - 2.0 FTEs. These activities support the leasing of metallic minerals for development and include review and classification of parcels nominated for metallic leasing, direct leasing program, lease maintenance activities, public hearings for controversial sites, and joint DNR and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) review for nonferrous metallic mining permits.
- Nonmetallic Mineral Management – 1.29% - .2 FTEs. These activities support the leasing of nonmetallic minerals for development and include review and classification of parcels nominated for metallic leasing, direct leasing program and lease maintenance activities.

Ms. Pollack stated that as the General Fund revenues have declined in the DNR, it is her understanding that this reduction does not impact the Minerals Management program. Ms. Boyd responded that approximately 15 years ago Minerals Management was funded with General Funds, but then replaced with MNRTF revenues. Mining restoration is still funded with General Funds. There is very little funding available for this activity. Ms. Pollack asked what protection there is for current or future mining so the restoration obligations are included. Ms. Boyd responded that the current mining laws provide for both restoration and environmental protection.

Mr. Charters added that he has made it his mission that MNRTF funds are only used for MNRTF-related activities.

## V. STATUS REPORTS.

### DNR Real Estate Report

Mr. Wood advised that the DNR Real Estate report was in the Board’s materials. Mr. Ed Meadows, Section Manager, Real Estate Services, Office of Land and Facilities (OLAF), DNR is in attendance if the Board has any questions.

Mr. Meadows outlined two key projects in the report: TF05-140, Flowing Well Conservation Easement; and TF05-142, Bear River Parcel. These were discussed at

the last Board meeting. Both of these projects were applied for as conservation easements, and it has been determined it would be more appropriate to purchase the properties in fee interest. OLAF is in the process of working out the final arrangements.

Mr. Meadows outlined TF05-136, State Trailways Acquisition Initiative. This project consists of a segment of inactive railroad corridor that not only fills a 2.25-mile gap in DNR ownership on the Interlochen to Kaleva Trail, but also blocks in DNR ownership providing access to roughly 620 acres of State forest. This transaction was approved by the Natural Resources Commission at their September 11, 2008 meeting.

Mr. Meadows continued by stating the other parcel transactions in the report indicate acquisitions for the Land Consolidation Initiative projects for TF06-146 (Wildlife Division) and TF06-131 (Parks and Recreation Division).

Chairperson Garner stated that in a discussion with Resource Management Deputy Mindy Koch, he learned that many landowners who had been holding off selling parcels where it would be contiguous with state property are now coming forward to offer their properties. He feels these "in-fill" properties are absolutely key to the Board's mission to provide access.

#### Local Projects Completed Report

Mr. Wood advised the Board that this report was in the Board's materials. There were four local acquisition and two development projects completed since the last Board meeting.

Mr. Wood briefly outlined the completed Millennium Park acquisition project (TF01-078, Kent County). This project has been open for quite some time and was a very large acquisition. There were many interesting facets in the administration of the project. He expressed his thanks to Ms. Apostol and her staff for bringing this project to completion. Chairperson Garner added his thanks.

#### Open Projects Status Report

Mr. Wood advised the Board that this report was in the Board's materials. No further discussion.

#### MNRTF Lump Sum and Line Item Department Projects

Mr. Wood advised the Board that this report was in the Board's materials. Lump Sum accounts are being spent down. Mr. Charters asked about the Kamehameha Schools Development Rights project (TF06-128) and noticed that this was still open. Ms. Koch stated that the project is separated out into conservation easements and 1 through 4 have been completed.

## VI. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

### Ms. Mindy Koch, Resource Management Deputy, DNR – Presentation of 2008 DNR Applications

Ms. Mindy Koch, Resource Management Deputy for DNR, outlined the 2008 DNR applications that have been submitted for possible funding. She introduced the Trust Fund Liaisons from the land managing divisions who were in attendance: Ms. Kerry Wieber, FMFM Division; Mr. Scott Whitcomb, Wildlife Division; Mr. Paul Yauk, Parks and Recreation Division; Mr. Steve Sutton, Fisheries Division; Mr. Jon Mayes, OLAF and Ms. Janet Canode, Office of Communications.

Ms. Koch stated that in 2003 the DNR went through a very comprehensive review of all landholdings to look at priority inholdings that were thought a priority to acquire, as well as to look at land boundaries that were felt may not be managed the best in state ownership. The review process was completed this year. The applications that have been submitted are a result of this review.

Ms. Koch outlined the Tier 1 acquisition applications (not presented in priority order). These include:

08-122, Wolf Creek Corridor and Flooding Complex Acquisition - \$3,300,000 – Acquisition of a 1635-acre inholding, with 3.5 miles of Wolf Creek frontage and 200-acre flooding. In addition, there is 400 acres of deer wintering yard providing for winter browse and thermal cover.

08-123, Manistee River Deeryard and Bog Complex - \$600,000 – Acquisition of a 280-acre inholding, with 1,000 feet of Manistee River frontage and 1,000 feet of Fife Lake Creek tributary. The acquisition also includes a 90-acre bog complex.

Ms. Pollack asked if any of the acquisition projects include houses or buildings, or are they virtually in their natural state. Ms. Koch responded most are in their natural state, but not all. The DNR has purchased land that has been developed.

08-153, Pigeon River Country Acquisition Initiative - \$1,500,000 – Acquisition of private inholdings within the Pigeon River Country State Forest. These are high priority parcels which include 1,300 feet of frontage on Milligan Creek, a Black River tributary and 215 acres of deer wintering yard.

Mr. Charters asked how many parcels were involved in the Pigeon River Country acquisitions. Ms. Koch responded six. Mr. Charters asked if the state would receive the mineral rights with these parcels. The response was the state will acquire the mineral rights that have not been severed. Mr. Charters was concerned about the cost of the property without the mineral rights. Ms. Koch responded that typically when an appraisal is done, if the minerals are intact, it really does not change the value of the appraisal. When it is fee simple you have all the rights. If you do not have the mineral rights, it can bring the value down. Mr. Charters stated that these are excellent parcels. Chairperson Garner agreed, and stated that this was mandated in the original MNRTF bill—to seek out parcels for the Pigeon River Country State Forest. This was the mission.

08-154, Superior Forest Partnership Project-Phase I - \$5,313,300 – Acquisition of a working forest conservation easement on 14,560 acres in northern Marquette County (Phase I). This is a project to be phased over three years. The total acres to be acquired over the three-phased period for the working forest conservation easement would be 25,000. All the land is required under the easement, so it will be maintained as a working forest conservation easement in perpetuity, including the existing trails on the property. This acquisition will allow for public access and provide for hunting, fishing, trapping and outdoor recreation. It also will prevent development and provide resource protection.

Ms. Koch outlined the property via a map. She advised the Board that the property outlined in yellow was for Phase I acquisition.

Discussion ensued on the project.

Ms. Pollack asked if the first installment of the Kennecott Mine was represented on the map. Ms. Koch responded it is not, as it is south of this property and is not part of this acquisition.

Mr. Charters asked if the DNR has tried to negotiate in fee the prime deer habitat and the secondary buffer. Ms. Koch did not wish to divulge any negotiations. She did state, however, that the DNR would like to own it in fee. The issue is if the DNR buys the conservation easement, it is paying less money for the property.

Ms. Pollack asked if an approximate change in value between fee simple and conservation easement could be identified. Ms. Koch responded that as a rule of thumb, a conservation easement is 60% of the value of land.

08-155, Grand River Edges Rail-Trail Acquisition - \$850,000 – Acquisition of .85-mile of inactive railroad corridor in the City of Grand Rapids along the Grand River. This will connect over 200 miles of state rail-trail to the local/county trail network. This is a high priority connector and would receive significant use.

This project request was reduced by 50% from the original amount and the DNR is looking for partners to provide the other half. The DNR will also have MDOT Enhancement funds in this project, as well.

08-117, Betsie River High Banks Acquisition - \$1,100,000 – Acquisition of 262 acres inside boundaries in the Betsie River corridor which are adjacent to state lands. Two parcels include 2,800 feet of Betsie River mainstream frontage. The Betsie River is a State Designated Natural River with unique high banks.

08-135, Gladwin State Game Area Connector Acquisition - \$990,000 – Acquisition of 400 acres of high quality wildlife habitat, which includes a large wetland complex and deer wintering habitat.

08-129, Mitchell Creek Land Acquisition - \$1,000,000 – Acquisition of 28.79 acres south of Traverse City State Park, which includes 1,800 feet of Mitchell Creek. This establishes a land and water corridor between Traverse City State Park and the George and Ada Reffitt Nature Preserve, and will allow for fishing access of Mitchell Creek.

08-127, Mitchell State Park Bear Marsh Acquisition - \$500,000 – Acquisition of 295 acres north of Mitchell State Park, and includes a large marsh parcel to provide bear habitat. The property also provides habitat for waterfowl. It would provide passive interpretive trails to link the Carl T. Johnson Center. The property is known as the Heydenburg land acquisition. Originally, two parcels were requested and one was dropped. The parcel being requested is next to the Carl T. Johnson Center in Cadillac. The property will be open for public hunting, but managed by Parks and Recreation Division.

08-128, Waterloo Recreation Land Initiative - \$2,500,000 – Acquisition of 617 acres at ten locations surrounding the Waterloo Recreation Area. This is an example of the situation in the Pigeon River Country State Forest—there are now landowners willing to sell surrounding properties. Acquisition would protect current recreation lands and provide access, would avoid southeast Michigan development pressures and allow for expansion of existing trail systems.

Ms. Koch outlined the eco-regional land consolidation process that was set up last year. Instead of having individual divisions coming in for lump sum accounts to acquire smaller inholdings that are critical for management and protection of existing state lands, as well as future state lands, applications have been submitted on an eco-regional basis for DNR divisions as a whole.

Ms. Koch stated that the state has been split up into four areas: The eco-regional land consolidation applications are as follows:

08-119, Upper Peninsula Eco-Regional Land Consolidation - \$2,000,000 – Acquisition of inholdings within the state boundaries and they must be inholdings. In addition, there will be a minimum amount of property carved out for deeryard areas within the inholdings. These parcels are smaller than what the DNR would be applying for in a line item application and are all critical inholdings.

08-134, Northern Lower Peninsula Eco-Regional Land Consolidation - \$2,000,000 – Acquisition for reinvesting in priority areas that include winter deeryard, inholdings critical for resource management and access to inland lakes and streams.

08-116, Southwest Lower Peninsula Eco-Regional Land Consolidation - \$1,500,000 – Acquisition for additional huntable lands and critical habitats within state game areas, purchase of critical inholdings within state parks and provide additional public water access.

08-126, Southeast Michigan Eco-Regional Land Consolidation – \$1,500,000 – Acquisition for reinvesting priority areas for state park and recreation areas, state game areas, and provide water access in an 18-county area, with a population of 6.4 million residents.

Ms. Pollack asked if deeryards were in southeast Michigan. Ms. Koch responded that the DNR is looking for deeryards typically in northern Michigan. Ms. Pollack asked how much is the DNR investing in deeryards south of Clare. Mr. Scott Whitcomb responded that the DNR is not requesting any deeryard funding for southeast or southwest Michigan. Other funds that are used for funding are Deer Range Improvement funds.

Mr. Charters asked if the Board increased the funding requested for eco-regional land consolidation, would the DNR have properties identified to spend these funds. Ms. Koch stated yes.

Ms. Koch briefly outlined the Tier 2 acquisition projects:

08-136, Au Train Basin Waterfowl Refuge Project-Phase II - \$1,250,000 – This was a phased project. The first phase was approved last year. The DNR is asking that the Board not grant this project this cycle. The DNR will come back in 2009 with a Phase II application. The landowner is going through some major changes as to decision-making for the acquisition and the DNR wants to see what decisions are made. The dam involved with the property is being considered for removal. That would change the DNR's priority for the acquisition and would change land values significantly.

Chairperson Garner asked if a decision would be reached early next year that would be favorable to the DNR. If so, perhaps we could earmark the property for funding to move quicker with the sale. The Board has a "smoothing fund" where monies could be used. Ms. Koch responded it is a possibility, but it is a decision-making process she cannot predict.

Mr. Muchmore asked about the inholdings. When inholdings are picked up, is there a straight tax translation from the tax that is on the private entity as to what happens when the DNR picks up the land holdings. Does payment in-lieu of taxes come into play on a one-to-one basis? Ms. Koch responded not on a one-to-one basis necessarily. The DNR is not assessed for a structure when determining payment in-lieu of taxes.

Mr. Muchmore asked if the DNR has the process for taking a look at what that does to the local community in terms of their ability to deliver services to the residents. Is an analysis done? It is basically one government taking away from another government. Ms. Koch responded that the biggest cost to the government is managing the inholding. The DNR is out there protecting inholdings. She referenced fighting fires as an example. The more inholdings you have the more expensive a fire is to fight. The locals are working with the DNR to fight fires and their obligation typically is aimed at those local inholdings. By making these inholdings part of state land, it is actually reducing the cost of management, not only from the state perspective but the local as well. The DNR does not have a formalized process that is used to review the impacts with local units, but is aware of the fact that there may be a reduction in the tax base. This is taken into account in decision-making.

Mr. Muchmore asked if there were advantages for trade-offs. Ms. Koch responded that there are trade-offs. Chairperson Garner added that when a local unit of government is given an acquisition grant, they do not make payments in-lieu of taxes.

Mr. Charters stated that when the DNR buys an inholding, it does not impact the management cost; however, with other properties it could require more staff to manage it. Ms. Koch responded she does believe inholdings reduce management cost. As far as other properties to acquire where management would be involved, staffing is taking into consideration.

The remaining two Tier 2 acquisition applications are:

08-156, Levy Company Property Acquisition - \$5,000,000

08-158, Roy Lahring Property Acquisition - \$1,000,000

At this point, Ms. Koch outlined the Tier 1 development applications.

08-118, Building Demolition Initiative 2008 - \$500,000 – Development application will remove unwanted structures acquired through land acquisition. In some instances, in State Parks, structures have been remodeled and rented out and proven to be very successful. Other structures on state lands create liabilities to health and safety and need to be removed. The Board will be provided with a list of priority structures to be removed before the December meeting.

Ms. Pollack asked how often a building has been offered to someone for a dollar to be taken off the property. Ms. Koch did not know, but it is DNR's first option to do this.

08-120, Alpena to Cheboygan State Rail-Trail Surface Improvement - \$500,000 – Development will include surfacing improvements over 70-mile rail-trail. The DNR has a partnership with MDOT who will be providing funding and some engineering.

08-121, Ocqueoc Falls Trailhead and Scenic Overlook Improvement - \$500,000 – Development will include gaining access into Ocqueoc River for people with disabilities, improved access routes between the parking lot, campground and the falls, increase parking and provide accessible picnic facilities.

08-125, Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center Improvements - \$500,000 – Development will include continued improvements of classroom building to meet user needs, update guest registration facilities, enhance education opportunities, and make facilities universally accessible. The conference center was awarded a \$500,000 grant in the 2007 grant cycle.

08-130, State Park Infrastructure Repairs - \$500,000 – Development will include renovations and repairs to obsolete and deteriorated infrastructure in various State Parks statewide. This would include buildings, water systems, wastewater systems, electrical systems, roads, trails and recreational facilities. The Board will be provided a priority list of parks before the December meeting.

08-133, Inland Fishing Piers in State Park and Recreation Areas - \$500,000 – Development will include construction of fishing piers in Bald Mountain, Ionia, Waterloo, Rifle River and Yankee Springs Recreation Areas.

08-131, Wells State Park-Hunting and Fishing Lodge - \$300,000 – Development will include renovation and repair of lodge to make universally accessible and barrier-free. This is a facility that the DNR offers for rent.

Mr. Charters asked if the rent was self-liquidating. Ms. Koch responded that most of these facilities have a payback at three years. Mr. Charters wondered if it was self-liquidating, why the Board is being asked to subsidize these repairs upfront. Ms. Koch responded that the Board may be subsidizing upfront, but any revenue that accrues from the rental goes back into providing additional recreation opportunities or towards keeping the state parks open. By providing the money upfront, the Board would be leveraging for much more revenue to be used for recreation.

08-132, Van Riper State Park-Regional Trail Connection - \$200,000 – Development will include 10-foot wide asphalt regional trail connections to Iron Ore Heritage Route in the Upper Peninsula.

08-115, Tobico Marsh Observation Tower-Bay City State Park - \$252,900 – Development will include construction of a 20-foot high universally accessible observation tower overlooking the Tobico Marsh in Bay City State Park.

Chairperson Garner asked if there was a development plan for Saginaw Bay. Ms. Pollack stated that this area comes with a lot of dioxin. She would like to see advocates for the cleanup. You cannot fish safely or eat what you catch or shoot. This is a compromised ecosystem and can be changed in a generation's time; however Dow Chemical threatens to sue and take jobs away. She is reluctant to invest large sums of money in an area that is not safe.

Mr. Muchmore stated that Bay County has a very comprehensive program that they have been trying to develop for this area. He asked if they would come into play on something like this. Ms. Koch responded that the State of Michigan has been involved with comprehensive planning for the entire area. Bay County has been part of this planning process as well as the recreation planning process. All opportunities that would be provided at the local and state levels are taken into account. Fishing opportunities are a big part of the planning process.

08-124, Bald Mountain Shooting Range Development - \$500,000 – Development will include construction of a new sporting clay course, remodeling the club house, rebuilding the trap and skeet range and construction of a storage building.

Ms. Pollack inquired about 08-154, Superior Forest Partnership Project-Phase I. She wondered how often the trees in the area are going to be marked for lumber. Ms. Koch responded that the property has been managed sustainably for a century. What the Board is viewing via the photographs is good sustainable management. This company has been doing this for the last century. Mr. Steve Hicks is present today representing the property and could provide answers to questions the Board may have regarding management.

Ms. Koch also said property will be managed under a certification program. This means there will be a third-party auditor reviewing the management to ensure that it is sustainable. This property is a working forest.

Ms. Pollack stated that since this property is under a certified management program, does this mean it is protected from new pressures that are going to arise. Ms. Koch responded that under the sustainable certification program, just because there is a new buyer or product line, it does not change the management scenario.

Ms. Pollack asked, referring back to development projects, what the standards were and how they would change, if at all, in terms of energy efficiency. Ms. Koch responded that the DNR is required to do certain energy efficient projects. In Mackinaw City, you will see a windmill, and possibly two, powering the marina. This is a project that the DNR is not required to do, but taking on as it is seen as opportunities to not only showcase, but to bring energy costs down.

Mr. Paul Yauk, Parks and Recreation Division, added that at Grand Haven State Park, the DNR built a new bathroom/shower building that is state-of-the-art with “green” infrastructure. Ms. Pollack stated that this would not only be good to help energy costs, but a great selling point for Michigan’s tourism. Marketing “green” is good marketing.

Mr. Muchmore mentioned Ingham County’s Hawk Island Park. Mr. Michael McDonald, Ingham County and Mr. Murdock Jemerson, City of Lansing had been scheduled to update the Board on the park. Mr. Wood stated that this is not a current application. This is a county park that is adjacent to a City of Lansing park. There is a lot of local unit of government cooperation as well as grant funding--MNRTF, Land and Water Conservation Fund and Recreation Bond Fund. Mr. McDonald and Mr. Jemerson were going to appear today to thank the Board for their support in the past and outline how local units can work together to put a project together in an area that really needed natural resource-based recreation.

Mr. Eric Rutherford, Director, Parks and Recreation, Bridgeport Township – 08-088, Liberty Park Improvements

Mr. Eric Rutherford, Director of Parks and Recreation for Bridgeport Township, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of 08-088, Liberty Park Improvements.

Liberty Park has three schools surrounding the park. What the township is proposing to do is build a multi-use field of soft rubberized synthetic surface. The field layout is rectangular to accommodate multiple recreational events. Batting cages will be added that will double as archery lanes.

There will also be a one-mile, 8-foot wide, multi-use trail which will connect the entire park. There will be turn-arounds throughout the trail system with lighted rest stations. The trail system will connect the entire park and all amenities. An accessible restroom facility will also be constructed. A universally-accessible designed splash pad and entry tower/changing rooms will be constructed. In addition, the township will use a LEED-certified consultant when the complex is designed.

Mr. Rutherford stated the benefits for this recreation project is the fact that there is only one other rubberized surface like this in Michigan. In addition, the project would fulfill a void in programming and provide a universally-accessible park and facility for area residents and communities for recreation. It would improve quality of life and better opportunities for outdoor activities.

The township feels very strongly about the versatility in design. It would provide a multi-purpose facility for sports, education opportunities, walking, spray park and special events. Also, the project would provide educational opportunities to enhance the ability to educate people on the subject of disabilities and provide opportunities for outdoor classrooms for the schools.

This would be a tri-county project involving Midland, Bay City and Saginaw County. There are many multiple partnerships and supporters: Saginaw County Parks and Recreation, Saginaw Township Parks and Recreation, Frankenmuth Parks and Recreation, Thomas Township Parks and Recreation, Michigan Sports Unlimited, and Saginaw Intermediate School District.

The project cost is \$1.4 million and currently \$704,000 has been committed towards the cost.

Chairperson Garner asked how much the township was asking in MNRTF funding. Mr. Rutherford responded \$425,000. Chairperson Garner asked what county the project was located. Mr. Rutherford responded Saginaw County. Chairperson Garner asked if nonresidents would be able to use the recreation complex. Mr. Rutherford responded yes, and for free.

Ms. Pollack asked if the township would be getting "Access to Recreation" funds. Mr. Rutherford stated that this project has been reviewed with Ms. Cindy Burkhour, "Access to Recreation" Initiative Manager, and scored a perfect 30 points.

Mr. Steve Peterson, Planning Director; and Mr. Tom McDonald, Planning Commission Chair, Cascade Charter Township – 08-149, Cascade Natural Park Acquisition

Mr. Tom McDonald, Planning Commission Chair for Cascade Charter Township, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of 08-149, Cascade Natural Park Acquisition. This is for 198 acres of undeveloped land with numerous natural features. The property will be used as a natural park for natural resource preservation and will serve the public for hiking, hunting, cross-country skiing, bird watching and similar outdoor recreation. The township is asking for \$2.2 million from the MNRTF and has \$1.4 million already committed.

Mr. McDonald stated that there are three key attributes involved in this acquisition:

- ❑ Close – to many residents and population centers (15 minutes east of Grand Rapids and surrounded by 130,000 residents), diverse nature, and educational and recreational opportunities.
- ❑ Connected – to Grand River Watershed and Greenway/Wildlife Corridors, universal access, township path system, and goals of MNRTF, and township master plan.
- ❑ Community-Driven – an Open Space Fund, dream of a "natural park" for preservation, by Cascade Township, support from residents, by partnerships and support by Forest Hills Public Schools.

The property contains wetlands, wildlife, mature forests, and many rare species. In addition, there are natural trails for cross-country skiing. In addition, hunting recreation access is becoming increasingly difficult in the west Michigan area due to urban sprawl, per a letter to the township by DNR Biologist Nik Kalejs. The property is called "Fase Properties."

Mr. McDonald pointed out various areas of the acquisition via maps on PowerPoint. The property is connected by the township's path system. The path system was approved 10 years ago with a millage. It goes within 4/10ths-mile of the property where there is a bike lane. Chairperson Garner asked if all the paths are currently being used. Mr. McDonald responded yes.

Mr. McDonald continued by stating that the acquisition is very community-driven. A major survey was done of all residents in the township. Eighty-eight percent of residents responded that the township's number one priority should be "preserving natural areas." The number one issue of concern was "loss of open space/natural areas to development (74%). In addition, 85% felt that the township should establish programs to "preserve natural areas."

The community is very committed to the acquisition and it will be lost to development if not acquired soon. This is the township's first grant application request. There will be no fees to access the property or parking fees.

The appraised value of the property is \$3.6 million to \$4 million, as identified in three certified appraisals.

Chairperson Garner mentioned that this property would be \$20,000 per acre. He feels this is an exorbitant amount for property and would like someone to explain this.

Ms. Pollack wondered if the township should get new appraisals as a lot has changed in the last few months. She is not saying this property is overpriced, but she would like to know from the DNR's Real Estate staff what is happening and should we be encouraging people to spend money again to get a new appraisal if land values are really dropping. Mr. Stokes responded that typically DNR staff asks the community to wait until the Legislature has approved the project before the community is asked to do an appraisal. Staff also looks at when the appraisal was done. Probably because of what has happened as far as the appraisals that were submitted, by the time the money is available we would ask the community to go back and do an appraisal or either update the existing ones that they have.

Ms. Pollack asked if there is a decline in the amount of the appraisal, which results in the property being valued less, is the grant amount prorated. Mr. Stokes responded that the MNRTF would fund a percentage of the project up to a certain dollar amount. That safeguards the MNRTF. If the appraisal comes up higher, the dollar amount would be capped. If the appraisal comes in lower, it would be a percentage. Ms. Pollack asked where the saved money reverts to. Mr. Wood responded that at this time, projects that lapse go to the Stabilization Fund ("Smoothing Fund"), which is MNRTF funds.

Mr. Muchmore asked about hunting on this 198-acre property. He wondered how this would work since the property is surrounded by communities, and will include other uses (hiking, cross-country skiing, etc.). Mr. McDonald responded that there is development around two sides of the property. One side is all floodplain so there is no development as it is part of the Grand River Watershed. The south side does not have development. Chairperson Garner asked how close dwellings were. Mr. McDonald responded that on two sides there are dwellings. Dwellings are about 350 feet from the property line. The problem is sprawl is going on. The township has had meetings with Mr. Kalejs of the DNR's Wildlife Division to discuss the best way to have a hunting program on the property.

Mr. Muchmore stated that the township will have a tremendous amount of pressure from hunters if hunting is not allowed. Mr. McDonald stated that it is hunted today. Chairperson Garner feels that the township could end up allowing archery hunting only. This pressure was put on Oakland County parks.

Mr. Bob Ford, President, and Mr. Matt Lincoln, Landscape Architects and Planners – 08-005, Sharp Park East-West Collector Path, Delta Township; and 08-063, John W. Smith Park Development, City of Tecumseh

Mr. Bob Ford, President of Landscape Architects and Planners, made a presentation in support of 08-005, Sharp Park East-West Collector Path, Delta Township. He stated that Landscape Architects and Planners have worked with the township for a number of years preparing a nonmotorized transportation plan. He illustrated this plan via a map.

Mr. Ford stated that what the trail is trying to accomplish is to link up and connect to the outside perimeter and eventually to the Tri-County Regional Trail System. The Lansing River Trail is proposed to follow the Grand River and eventually go out to Grand Ledge. The Delta Township portion is located in the heart of the urbanized area and is projected to go to the west and ultimately connect up to the Lansing River Trail. A north-south connector is being funded by another grant and in 2009 construction will begin.

Mr. Ford continued by stating that there are two parts to Sharp Park. One is an open recreation area that hosts fireworks, fishing tournaments, amphitheater, ballfields, etc. The other portion that goes to the west is very passive. The path was once a right-of-way for a road. During the public meetings that were held, it was suggested that the township should consider an east-west connector. The public preferred a pathway as opposed to a road. There are mature woods along the right-of-way and all trees, except for a minor few, would be preserved.

Mr. Ford further stated that the second part of Sharp Park (63 acres) provides for additional advantages for the trail connector and serves the majority of the urbanized portion of Delta Township. This allows for fishing, education, wildlife viewing and interpretation. It will also connect the township library, the Lansing Mall as well as surrounding neighborhoods.

Mr. Ford stated that the township is providing a 50% match. It is critical at this time that the trail in Sharp Park be developed to allow connectivity and to serve the growing population of 62,000 in Delta Township.

The trail is 1.5-miles long and will begin to connect the entire basic infrastructure in user destinations within the township.

Ms. Pollack asked if there were any access fees to use the park. Mr. Ford responded no.

At this point, Mr. Lincoln outlined 08-063, John W. Smith Park Development, City of Tecumseh. Smith Park is a 25-acre undeveloped piece of property provided to the city by Mr. Smith with the stipulation that it be developed with passive recreation on one side and active recreation on the other. He outlined these respective areas of the park for the Board via a map.

Mr. Lincoln stated that the park is located along an existing path, which stretches from Adrian to Tecumseh and is part of a larger system that will eventually connect to the Village of Clinton. This stretch is part of the River Raisin Greenway study that the city

has been involved with. The overall plan is that this will eventually connect Ann Arbor to Jackson.

The development of Smith Park is critical in order to provide a destination to support the trail system. The location is along the north-south road which goes from Clinton through Tecumseh. The point of destination will include development of restrooms. The city is asking for \$170,000 for Phase I which will include site preparation, parking lot and entry drive, rain gardens, trail system and sidewalk, wildlife feeding stations and bird houses, interpretive signage, disc golf course, and rock wall.

Mr. Lincoln further stated that the city has worked with Ms. Burkhour regarding universally accessible design. He also stated that the city has made development of Smith Park a priority as identified in their five-year recreation plan.

Mr. Pat Sorise, Parks and Recreation Director, City of Tecumseh, provided additional comments in support of the development project.

Mr. Al Hansen, Director, Parks and Recreation, City of Petoskey – 08-010, Skyline Trail Acquisition

Mr. Al Hansen, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Petoskey, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of 08-010, Skyline Trail Acquisition. This is an acquisition project for 65 acres. The property is located in Bear Creek Township in Emmet County. The parcel lies adjacent to the existing city-owned Skyline Municipal Forest property. The property is owned by Douglas Boor and the Little Traverse Conservancy currently holds a purchase option on the property.

Mr. Hansen pointed out the property via maps provided on PowerPoint.

Mr. Hansen stated that this acquisition has been a long-term objective of the city and it has been included in their recreation plan since 1991. In 1990, the city received a MNRTF grant for the acquisition of the property, but was unable to reach an agreement with the owner. The Little Traverse Conservancy has been involved with negotiations for the application submitted this year.

The acquisition would provide a connector between two city-owned Skyline Municipal Forest properties. This parcel would allow the North Country Trail Association to reroute the North Country Trail across the property segment and enable the city to utilize the parcel as a trail connector for its properties. Most importantly, acquisition would protect the parcel from development and preserve views of the surrounding countryside.

The property has been appraised at \$283,000. The city is asked \$99,000 in MNRTF funding. The City of Petoskey will provide \$70,000 and Little Traverse Conservancy and North Country Trail Association \$114,000 of the local match.

In 2008, Little Traverse Conservancy exercised the purchase option to acquire the Boor property. The city will reimburse the Conservancy for its prearranged share of the purchase (\$169,000) upon receipt of the grant. The Conservancy will then transfer ownership to the city.

The North Country Trail (National scenic Trail) members, Little Traverse Conservancy staff and the city have agreed upon the reroute of the trail across the Boor parcel and the City Skyline Forest properties. An observation platform and trail were constructed September of this year by the Conservancy. Additional trail construction is scheduled for October to complete the trail reroute.

Mr. Muchmore asked if the city or Little Traverse Conservancy has explored optioning the rest of the property. Mr. Hansen responded no, as it is believed Mr. Boor has plans for the rest of the property.

Mr. Dan Navarre, Director, Parks and Recreation, West Bloomfield Township; and Ms. Nancy Krupiarz, Executive Director, Michigan Trails Greenways Alliance – 08-142, Michigan Air-Line Railway Acquisition

Mr. Dan Navarre, Director of Parks and Recreation for West Bloomfield Township, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of 08-142, Michigan Air-Line Railway Acquisition. This acquisition is for approximately 17 acres (2.5 miles) of railway corridor that would connect to the existing West Bloomfield Trail at Arrowhead Road. This acquisition is important to link over 200 miles of 10 existing trails from South Haven to Port Huron. The MNRTF Board has provided funding for the West Bloomfield Trail to Orchard Lake Trail in Macomb County.

The Michigan Air-Line Railroad is a short-line railroad that has ceased in operation. The township has had conversations with Commerce, Walled Lake and Wixom where the railroad runs through. On the west end of the railroad is the Huron Valley Trail, which is an existing trail system. This is a regional planning effort. To the west MDOT is finishing up a restoration and improvement study for the 43-mile I-275 pathway.

The West Bloomfield segment is part of a 2.57-mile section of an 8.08-mile corridor that runs through the City of Wixom. The current trail ends at Arrowhead Road. Mr. Navarre identified various parts of the trail via photographs on PowerPoint. Woodpecker Lake is along the trail. There is no development on the north side of the lake. The rail corridor runs directly adjacent to the lake. There is development of houses on the south side. There is no public access on the lake so there are a lot of scenic wildlife opportunities along the trail.

One of the unique opportunities the trail brings is the proximity to an elementary school. Pleasant Lake Elementary School abuts the property. It is envisioned that students could walk to school along the path. To the west, there are a lot of environmentally-sensitive areas that the railroad runs through, as well as wetland areas protected by the township.

At this point, Ms. Krupiarz continued the presentation. This is a very important corridor that has been focused on for the last several years. She outlined the trails that this corridor along the Michigan Air-Line route would link to:

- ❑ Kal-Haven Trail – 34 miles – South Haven to Kalamazoo.
- ❑ Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway – Kalamazoo to Battle Creek, with a link under US-131. Connects Kalamazoo, Comstock Township, Galesburg and Battle Creek, with north-south spurs to Parchment and Portage.

- ❑ Battle Creek Linear Park – More than 22 miles of paved pathway linking up parks, schools and downtown, with four loops within the system.
- ❑ Falling Water Trail – Paved 10 miles – Connects Summit, Spring Arbor and Concord Townships and City of Jackson and crosses Lime Lake on an old causeway.
- ❑ Lakelands Trail – 30 miles – Jackson to Hamburg Township. This is a state-owned trail, but locally managed. There is now 6.5 miles paved in Hamburg Township with more paving to occur soon.
- ❑ Huron Valley Trail – A state-owned, but locally managed trail by West Oakland Trailway Management Council. Links South Lyon to Wixom with a connector to Island Lake and Kensington, with a link under I-96.
- ❑ West Bloomfield Trail – 4.25 miles of crushed stone. Links to Clinton River Trail. Features interpretive nature exhibits.
- ❑ Clinton River Trail – 15 miles – Connects to Paint Creek to the north and Macomb Orchard Lake to the east. Five communities are united by the “Friends of the Clinton River Trail.”
- ❑ Macomb Orchard Trail – 23 miles, 7 miles paved – Trail will connect to Metropolitan Beach going south and features a bridge over M-53, currently under construction.
- ❑ Bridge to Bay Trail – 54 miles proposed from the Blue Water Bridge to Algonac. Twenty miles are complete. It is the longest trail segment from St. Clair to Marine City.

Ms. Krupiarz further stated that acquisition of this segment of the Michigan Air-Line route would bring the cross-state route to the highest population center of the state, maximize investments already made by the MNRTF, and preserve a wealth of natural resources for all.

Mr. Charters asked about the signage along the trails stating that funding was provided in part by the MNRTF. Ms. Krupiarz responded that what is planned is to have an identity for the whole trail as an across-state trail. There will be signage.

Mr. Muchmore suggested since Ms. Krupiarz has had a lot of experience with the Legislature, that she meet with the 40 new House legislators to outline the trail system in Michigan and that the MNRTF was instrumental in providing partial funding. Ms. Pollack stated that the new legislators should be informed about protection of wetlands, ecosystems, etc.

Ms. Tamara Jorkasky, Landscape Architects and Planners; and Ms. Clare Warshaw, Chair, New Buffalo Township Park Committee – 08-064, Memorial Park Improvements, New Buffalo Township

Ms. Tamara Jorkasky of Landscape Architects and Planners, made a presentation in support of 08-064, Memorial Park Improvements, New Buffalo Township. The township is located on the southwest corner of the state and is termed “The Gateway to Michigan” as it is the first exit on I-94 coming into Michigan. The township has become a tourist destination and has been identified in the Harbor Country News as one of the nation’s top ten travel destinations. The visitors have rated New Buffalo Township as “environmentally friendly, close to home and culturally significant.”

Ms. Jorkasky continued by stating the township currently has three parks: one recently purchased, one on beach property and Memorial Park. Currently, Memorial Park has some playground equipment and a ballfield. This park was acquired with Land and Water Conservation Fund and MNRTF dollars. There are some nature areas, but none universally accessible. The purpose of this project is to provide opportunities for visitors of all abilities to get out into nature and use the trails. Unique features are old beach bridges, a mature beach maple forest, lowlands with wetland areas, as well as open space.

Public input was gathered for the master plan, workshops and surveys. The project was supported by New Buffalo Schools. The Harbor Country working group was recently formed and they will be developing a nonmotorized transportation plan with the hope to link St. Joseph to go through Illinois and Indiana to connect to trails. This would most likely be along the Red Arrow Highway where the park is located.

Funding for the project would be with a matching fund from the Pokagon Fund and a park millage. This millage is for five years and includes park and recreation acquisition, maintenance, management, control, operation and improvements.

The trail would be accessible with overlooks that would allow visitors to feel like they are up in the trees. Bridges would be across the valley. In addition, a universally accessible playground would be developed. There would be interpretive signage along the trail.

Ms. Jorkasky stated that there will be two phases of construction, the first phase starting next week, which is being funded by the Pokagon Fund. This will include shuffleboard court, horseshoe court, signage, etc.

There is a lot of support for this project by schools, government agencies, organizations and residents.

Chairperson Garner asked how much the township was asking for. Mr. Jorkasky responded \$360,000 and will be providing a 60% match of \$540,000, with the funding coming from the Pokagon Fund and the park millage.

Mr. John D. Pridnia – 08-056, Veterans Waterfront Park Improvements, Village of Port Austin

Mr. John Pridnia made some comments regarding signage for grant funding. He feels this is an important issue and the MNRTF-funded projects need to be recognized.

Mr. Pridnia wanted to thank the Board for considering 08-056, Veterans Waterfront Park Improvements for possible funding. After the Board meeting in August, he summoned the architects and engineers who have worked on the application to further strengthen and enhance the scoring for the project. These improvements have been provided to Mr. Jason Cherry in Grants Management.

Mr. Steven Puchovan, Supervisor, Almira Township – 08-015, Ann Lakefront Park Acquisition

Mr. Steven Puchovan, Supervisor of Almira Township, provided an update of 08-015, Ann Lakefront Park Acquisition. This application was submitted for funding last year and due to several political issues, was not successful. This project is for a beach acquisition in the Village of Lake Ann.

Mr. Puchovan advised the Board that Almira Township, which surrounds the Village of Lake Ann, has submitted the application this year for possible funding. Over the past several months, there has been tremendous public support for the acquisition.

To date, the township is within \$29,000 of the \$159,000 local match, with many fund-raising projects on the way. Mr. Puchovan spoke with Mr. Glen Chown of the Grand Traverse Land Conservancy and they have committed to \$50,000. Of this \$20,000 is in the bank and the other \$30,000 he would have by next week.

Mr. Puchovan stated that when he took over as supervisor of Almira Township, he met with Village of Lake Ann officials and has had no public outcry against the acquisition. There are some people who live along the lake that are not in favor, but nothing like it was last year.

Mr. Puchovan further stated that this is an important acquisition project. With 36 lakes in the township, there are no public beaches, and this may be one of the last opportunities to acquire a beach area. The grant is for \$478,000.

Chairperson Garner stated it appears the price has gone up since last year. Mr. Puchovan responded yes. Mr. Charters asked how much it went up. Mr. Puchovan responded about \$40,000. There were a lot of issues with the first application.

Mr. Charters asked what has happened that changed the support for the project. Mr. Puchovan responded that a lot of the concern was where the money was going to come from for ongoing maintenance. Questions residents had last year have been addressed, and the township has not had anyone come forward to complain about the project this year.

Mr. Charters wondered when Mr. Puchovan had spoken to Mr. Chown about the Conservancy donation. Mr. Puchovan responded it was two days ago.

Mr. Victor Randall, Assistant Parks Manager, Ingham County Parks; Professor Leslie Kuhn, Michigan State University; and Mr. Eckhart Dersch, Park Commissioner, Meridian Township – Update on 08-138, Lake Lansing Park North Expansion

Mr. Victor Randall, Assistant Parks Manager for Ingham County Parks, provided an update on 08-138, Lake Lansing Park North Expansion. When the Parks Board was formed back in the 1970s, this was identified as one of the priority acquisition areas. The park is currently 450 acres and was acquired over three phases. The 120 acres in the current grant application has been pursued by Ingham County and Meridian Township for several years. Just this year the county received an agreement from the owner to sell the property.

The park has 120,000 visitors. There is a trail system that would run through the proposed 120 acres.

Professor Leslie Kuhn provided comments in support of the acquisition. There are great wildlife and bird habitat on the property. The two miles of trails on the property have been enjoyed by people from all over Ingham County for more than 20 years. Last year, the community became concerned that the property was being sought for development for a subdivision of 150 homes. There has been \$150,000 raised by the community towards the local match. This is from contributions of more than 800 donors. Various fund-raisers have been held.

Professor Kuhn also stated that stewardship is needed to keep the property in a natural state. There has been encroachment of invasive species all over the area. A partnership has been developed between Ingham County Parks, Meridian Township and a stewardship network to protect the invasive species and inventory the native plants on the property.

Mr. Muchmore wondered about dog owners who like to use the trails. He has heard some concerns about decreasing opportunities for them, in particular, winter sports people trying to close out that area to dogs. Mr. Randall responded that the county has had conversations with Meridian Township's park staff to look at providing some other dog running facilities within the community. Mr. Muchmore asked if it was the county's consideration to close this area off to the dog owners. Mr. Randall responded it is not the county's decision at this time, but they are still looking at the issue.

Mr. Eckart Dersch made comments in support of the acquisition. Meridian Township supports this property as it fits exactly into the overall mix of parks in the community. He is also a member of the Land Preservation Advisory Board. The Advisory Board scored this property the highest of any property they have evaluated in their \$10 million program. There is the threat of development so time is of the essence to acquire it for the park.

## VII. OTHER MATTERS AS ARE PROPERLY BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD.

Mr. Charters asked about the Financial Report and noticed the Board had not received one. Mr. Wood responded that there has not been much change in information since the Board's August meeting. Mr. Charters wondered when we would have this information. Mr. Wood responded that staff is in the middle of year-end closing. As soon as this is

completed, we will know what the revenue and investment income is and it will be provided to the Board.

Mr. Wood reminded the Board that they will need to elect a new chairperson at their December meeting. Chairperson Garner has served two consecutive terms and is not eligible to continue as chair. This action will be on the Board's agenda.

Mr. Wood also advised the Board of the evening meeting (December 2) before the regular meeting in December. He wanted to confirm with the Board that the direction to provide to applicants is that they are welcome to come and will have three minutes to speak. The intention of the evening meeting is to provide new information related to the scoring of their application, but not to conduct a new presentation for their project.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The evening meeting of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, 2008, 7:00 PM, Lansing Community College West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone, Lansing, Michigan. The regular meeting of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board is scheduled for 9:00 AM, Wednesday, December 3, 2008 (same location as evening meeting).

IX. ADJOURNMENT.

**MOVED BY MR. CHARTERS, SUPPORTED BY MS. POLLACK, TO  
ADJOURN THE MEETING. PASSED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Garner, Chairperson  
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund  
Board of Trustees

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Wood, Manager  
Grants Management

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE