

AGENDA
BROWN BRIDGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, December 10, 2015
5:15 pm

Governmental Center
2nd Floor - County Training Room
400 Boardman Avenue
Traverse City, MI 49684

If you are planning to attend the meeting and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting, please notify *Steve Largent, Grand Traverse Conservation District*, immediately.

The City of Traverse City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Makayla M. Vitous, Assistant City Manager, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan, 49684, 922-4440, TDD 922-4412, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice Regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided there under, are available from the ADA Coordinator.

Steve Largent
Grand Traverse Conservation District
1450 Cass Rd.
Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 941-0960 Ext. 16

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- 5:15 – 5:25** **I** **Call Meeting to Order (Scrudato)**
 1 **Introductions**
 a. **BBAC Candidates**
 2 **Approval of Agenda**
 3 **Approval of 09/24/15 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 5:25 – 5:30** **II** **Review Open Action Items (see Page 2 of this Agenda) – (Scrudato)**
- 5:30 – 6:00** **III** **Project Updates (GTCD Staff)**
 1. **East End Bridge**
 2. **West End Bridge**
 3. **MDNR Habitat Improvement Grant & EQIP**
 a. **Aspen Cuts**
 b. **Tree & Shrub Work Bees**
 c. **Trees for the Boardman**
 4. **Habitat Wood**
 5. **Streambank Erosion Concerns**
 a. **Settlement Fund**
 b. **USFWS Grant Proposal**
- 6:00 – 6:10** **IV** **Brown Bridge Gas & Oil Wells (GTCD Staff)**
- 6:10 – 6:30** **V** **Brown Bridge Parkland vs Non-Parkland (GTCD Staff)**
- 6:30 – 6:50** **VI** **History of the Parkland Program**
- 6:50 – 6:55** **VII** **Public Comment (Scrudato)**
- 6:55 – 7:00** **VIII** **Meeting Review (Scrudato)**
- 7:00** **IX** **Adjournment (Scrudato)**



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DRAFT AGENDA - BROWN BRIDGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Action Items:

Action Item 12-2: GTCD staff to install cement ramp to vault toilet building and make sure the building is otherwise accessible by wheelchair for those with disabilities.

Background: In the Fall of 2014, the MDNR & the Traverse Area Paddle Club placed a vault toilet at the lower canoe landing at Brown Bridge at minimal cost to the City. The toilet was used and very much appreciated by paddlers, fisherman, and other visitors. GTCD staff is planning to pour a cement ramp to make the toilet wheelchair accessible,

Status: Open - Will be done as weather allows.

Action Item 3-3: Largent to pull together information regarding the history of Park vs Not a Park for Brown Bridge to present at the next meeting.

Background: The Brown Bridge Quiet Area was deemed not to be City parkland by the City Attorney many years ago. Declaring Brown Bridge as “parkland” would require a 3/5 vote of the voters before it could be sold by the City. Many activities, such as oil and gas exploration, timber harvesting, and hunting to name a few would not be allowed if the property were declared “parkland”.

Status: Open – Since the September meeting agenda was full, Largent requested that this item be covered at the December meeting or at a Special Meeting.

Action Item 3-4: Largent to give a presentation at the next meeting regarding GTCD and the Parkland Program.

Background: The Grand Traverse Conservation District created the Cooperative Parkland Program in 1992 through a start-up grant from Rotary. The City and Grand Traverse County both own land along the Boardman River that require management by natural resource professionals. The Parkland Program has grown ever since.

Status: Open - Since the September meeting agenda was full, Largent requested that this item be covered at the December meeting or at a Special Meeting.

Action Item 6-1: Largent will follow-up with Dituri to determine if settlement funds set aside for helping the breach impacted section of the River could be used above the former impoundment.

Background: As part of the settlement of lawsuits against the contractor & engineering firms after the October 2012 breach of the dewatering structure at Brown Bridge, \$180,000 was placed in a fund to be used for restoring the river. Rotary of Traverse City are holding the funds. A portion of the funds were used to pay Wil Harmen of Stream Mechanics to determine what should be done. Dave Downer suggested that a portion of this money be used to stabilize the banks above the former impoundment. Harmen agrees but isn't sure if the money can be used in this area.

Status: Open - Still waiting for a response from the attorneys involved in the case.

Action Item 6-3: Largent to distribute a copy of Will Harmen's report to the BBAC.

Background: See above.

Status: Open - A request was made to the attorneys asking if the report can be made available to the public.

Action Item 6-4: GTCD staff to review the information sent by the MDEQ and report back to the BBAC at the September meeting.

Background: At the direction of the BBAC Chairman, a request was made to the MDEQ's Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals regarding records showing what, if any, wells at Brown Bridge have been “fracked”. GTCD staff received a response that included a link to a large spreadsheet showing all the wells in the area.

Status: Open – Since the September meeting agenda was full, Largent requested that this item be covered at the December meeting or at a Special Meeting.