



GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 24, 2015

County Commissioners Participate in Strategic Planning Session

Traverse City – Grand Traverse County Commissioners on Sunday, August 23, participated in a nine-hour strategic planning meeting at a county facility in Twin Lakes Park.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- help unify the board with a common vision, mission, and values
- review the current strategic plan and identify critical issues, opportunities, and strategic priorities
- create an opportunity to positively and effectively work together

Barbara Jordan Ellis, owner of and senior consultant for the Center for Coaching and Leadership Development in Traverse City, donated her time to facilitate the planning session. County Board of Commission Chair Christine Maxbauer referred to Jordan Ellis' contribution as a "gift" to the county. "We are grateful to have such a skilled and civic-minded facilitator who wanted to contribute her time and expertise to the greater good of the county and our community," she said.

During the session, commissioners set preliminary strategic goals, identified current obstacles faced by the county, and brainstormed opportunities for change and improvement. "We are excited about our future," said Commissioner Alisa Kroupa, who added, "our interactions were sincere, positive, and forward-thinking; we made great progress."

Commissioners will complete the strategic planning process during a second meeting to be set for the near future.

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