

Joint Counties Natural Resources Board
May 23, 2016
Beltrami County Conference Room
10:00 AM

MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioners:
Gary Kiesow – Marshall Joe Vene – Beltrami
Daniel Stenseng - Clearwater Ken Moorman – Lake of the Woods
Brian Napstad – Aitkin

Absent: Todd Miller – Roseau Scott McCollum - Mahnomen
Wayne Skoe – Koochiching

DNR: Greg Nelson – DNR Area Supervisor

Guest: Bill Best, Beltrami County Environmental Resource Specialist
Dick Moore, Beltrami County Land Commissioner

Other: Kallie Briggs; Administrator

Call to Order: Chairman Commissioner Kiesow called the Joint Counties Natural Resources Board to order at 10:02 AM on Monday, May 23, 2016 in the Beltrami County Conference Room.

Agenda: Motion by Vene, second by Stenseng to approve the agenda with additions. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Stenseng, second by Moorman to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business: The following was added to the agenda and discussed:

- Sand Piper Pipeline: Brain reminded the Board how long the Sand Piper Pipeline has been held up through legal and EIS issues. The MN Environmental Quality Board (EQB) has opened a public hearing process to reassign Revenue Generating Units (RGU). Informational packets were available for the public and additional comments were accepted. The scoping document and EIS will take approximately one year and if all goes well Enbridge says they will be in operation in 2019.

Guest: Bill and Dick were in attendance to talk about how Beltrami County is conducting their Noxious Weed Program. Bill said they have had training from the MN Department of Agriculture and look to them for assistance when noxious weeds become a problem. In 2016 Beltrami County budgeted \$35,000 for noxious weed control which is up from 2015. Noxious weeds can be treated by bugs that are specific to each weed. A catalog of bugs pertaining to noxious weeds can be found on the Department of Agriculture's website. It also lists the different weeds which some counties are referring to for control and some for eradication. One weed being treated is the Spotted Napweed. Bill will send Kallie a link to the website and catalog to pass along to Board members. Bill ended by telling the Board there is a new weed to be aware of which is spreading fast. It is the Burnet Saxifrage.

Financial Discussions:

- Administration/Office Expenses: Motion by Napstad, second by Stenseng to approve the May administration/office expenses. Motion carried unanimously.
- Miscellaneous Expenses: Motion by Napstad, second by Moorman to approve the May miscellaneous expenses. Motion carried. Vene Abstained.
- Account Activity Report: The May Account Activity Report submitted by Marshall County and distributed by Coordinator Briggs was approved. Motion was made by Napstad, second by Moorman to approve the May Account Activity Report. Motion carried unanimously.

DNR Update: Greg gave the following update:

- The Legislature and the White Earth Tribe came to a compromise to keep trails and roads open to public for hunting and fishing and cannot be put into Trust Lands.
- The Tax Bill was passed but not a Bonding Bill or Transportation Bill.
- The Elk Plan has not yet been adopted and the DNR hopes it will happen soon.
- The forest Health Specialist position has been filled after being vacant for 1 year. Also the DNR planted 5 million trees this year.

Old Business:

- Brian told the Board the Trapper Bill for beaver control did not pass this year but legislators will begin preparing the Bill for next year.
- Brian told the Board there were some minor changes in the Buffer Legislation but it still needs clarification on tax parcels. The EQB is to review the EAW threshold because in some instances and EAW is not necessary.

Next Meeting Date: The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, June 27. There will be a round table discussion on the District meetings. For the August meeting we will invite Representative Ecklund and Fabian.

Adjourn: Motion by Napstad, second by Vene to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Kallie Briggs-Administrative Coordinator