

**Joint Counties Natural Resources Board**  
**June 22, 2015**  
**Beltrami County Conference Room**  
**10:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Commissioners:

Gary Kiesow – Marshall	Todd Miller - Roseau
Daniel Stenseng - Clearwater	Wayne Skoe – Koochiching
Brian Napstad – Aitkin	Joe Vene – Beltrami
Scott McCollum - Mahnomen	

**Absent:** Ken Moorman – Lake of the Woods

**DNR:** Greg Nelson

**Guest:** John Ongaro, Fond du Lac Application for Class I Air Quality Redesignation

**Other:** Kallie Briggs; Administrative Coordinator

**Call to Order:** Chairman Commissioner Kiesow called the Joint Counties Natural Resources Board to order at 10:02 AM on Monday, June 22, 2015 in the Beltrami County Conference Room.

**Agenda: Motion by Napstad, second by Skoe to approve the agenda as presented.** Motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes: Motion by Vene, second by Stenseng to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2015 meeting as presented.** Motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Discussions:**

- Administration/Office Expenses: Motion by Stenseng, second by Skoe to approve the May/June administration/office expenses. Motion carried unanimously.
- Miscellaneous Expenses: Motion by Napstad, second by McCollum to approve the miscellaneous expenses. Motion carried. Vene Abstained.
- The Treasurer's report: The June Treasurer' report was submitted by Josh Stromlund and distributed by Administrator Briggs. Motion was made by Skoe, second by McCollum to approve the June Treasurer's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

**DNR Update by Greg Nelson:** 1) Greg shared with the Board the Conservation Agenda brochure (strategic plan for 2015-2025) which has already been given to county commissioners. 2) During the legislative session the Tax Bill did not pass because it was tied to the gas tax. Other funding passed which addressed such items as flooding and small grants. 3) Corn row Norway pine planting has reached its maximum continuous growth revenue. It has been recommended to harvest 60% of it as a guideline however, this would have to have public comment before moving forward. He noted that smaller trees are in more demand with mills. 4) Miller asked if in the future ConCon lands could be managed better as some tracks have never been harvested causing large trees, fire hazards and blown down areas susceptible. 5) Miller asked what the timeline is on ATV trails. Greg said within the next year and said he has recommended trail clubs be pulled in to work on trails and maps. The problems lie within counties as there are a lot of counties who are opening up their county roads to ATV's but there are other counties who will not. This makes it difficult to get from one county to

another. It was noted that there will be a lot of trails in Warroad and Baudette. 6) Commissioner Landwehr will be at Laurie's house on July 8 and this Board and NCLUCB have been invited to attend as a casual means to talk about issues and expectations. 7) The DNR is looking at some mineral leases for purchase. Mapping was done several years ago however more interest in mineral lands has complicated the purchasing ability.

**Guest:** John Ongaro attended the meeting to inform the board about the Fond du Lac application for Class I Air Quality Re-designation under the Clean Air Act. John is a lobbyist for St. Louis County and said they received a letter from the tribes stating their intentions in August. They invited the tribe to a meeting in October successfully agreeing to a thirty day extension on the public comment period. Since then they have not heard from the Tribes. The Band would have to make application with the federal government (EPA) before they can move forward. In order to make application they must respond to all public comments, then the EPA will hold two public hearings and publish an intent to approve the redesignation. The EPA administrator may only disapprove of the redesignation if the procedural requirements have not been met. All tribes who have applied for this type of application have been granted application approval. The language that allows them to apply for the application was in the Clean Air Act back in 1977 but no one noticed or enforced it. John said the most concerning is the AQRV's (Air Quality Related Values). This has the potential to stop all further development in tribal territory and there could be several tribes who look to receive this Class I application. There is a "Coalition" group of corporations working to advocate for industry interest. St. Louis County is looking to possibly be a part of the coalition. The Board questioned if St. Louis County could join thru NUCLUCB and the JCNRB. John will check in to this and get back to the Board. A copy of the outline drafted by the St. Louis County Board October 21, 2014 was handed out by John and is on file.

**Old Business:** Kallie told the Board the Polymet resolution had been sent out and that she is in the process of switching the website over to a new web hosting provider at a cost of \$175 per year. We were paying \$172 per year. She is still waiting for a sample thank you to Klobuchar from John Schell and will send it out as soon as she receives it.

**New Business:** None

**Next Meeting Date:** The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday July 27, 2014. Chair Kiesow will work with Kallie on a speaker or roundtable discussion.

**Adjourn: Motion by Stenseng, second by McCollum** to adjourn the meeting at 12:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by Kallie Briggs-Administrative Coordinator