

Joint Counties Natural Resources Board
July 25, 2016
Beltrami County Conference Room
10:00 AM

MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioners:

Gary Kiesow – Marshall	Todd Miller - Roseau
Wayne Skoe – Koochiching	Brian Napstad – Aitkin
Scott McCollum – Mahnomen	Todd Sumner – Beltrami

Absent: Joe Vene – Beltrami Ken Moorman – Lake of the Woods
Daniel Stenseng - Clearwater

DNR: Greg Nelson – DNR Area Supervisor

Guest: Craig Engwall – MN Deer Hunters Association

Other: Kallie Briggs; Administrator

Call to Order: Chairman Commissioner Kiesow called the Joint Counties Natural Resources Board to order at 10:07 AM on Monday, July 26, 2016 in the Beltrami County Conference Room.

Agenda: Motion by Napstad, second by Skoe to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Napstad, second by McCollum to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2016 meeting with one minor change. Motion carried unanimously.

Guest: Craig Engwall, MN Deer Hunter Association, has been the Director for the past year and a half. He oversees 60 Chapters in which 80% of them are in greater Minnesota. A couple of programs they focus on are Hides for Habitat which has raised over 5 million dollars and the Fork Horn camps for kids eleven through seventeen. During the camp kids are taught survival along with bow and gun education. The Deer Hunters association are assisting with food plots, conservation easements, are part of the forest industry and want to be part of the active forest management. On the federal level, they are working with Senator Noland on getting the wolf delisted from the endangered species list, which he supports. On the state level they are working with legislators on the deer management plan which includes deer health as part of the plan. The MDHA is also looking to use Lessard Sam's to acquire a grant that will allow them to work with counties and private land owners who have an interest in selling their land. A pilot project (WIP: Walk in Program) where the MDHA improves the private land and then hunters may walk in on land and hunt. In closing Craig said the deer numbers are up with approximately 500,000 gun licenses for deer being sold each year.

Financial Discussions:

- Administration/Office Expenses: Motion by McCollum, second by Sumner to approve the July administration/office expenses. Motion carried unanimously.
- Miscellaneous Expenses: There were no miscellaneous expenses.
- Account Activity Report: The July Account Activity Report submitted by Marshall County and distributed by Coordinator Briggs was approved. Motion was made by Napstad, second by Skoe to approve the July Account Activity Report. Motion carried unanimously.

DNR Update: Greg reported:

- Jacobs Brower state park in Itasca County was severely damaged by the recent wind storm. Only one person was injured but some cabins were ruined by falling trees.
- There will be another Elk meeting the end of August.
- Greg will be retiring August 2. He does not know who will be appointed to his position and this board. The Board thanked Greg for his support and for attending and participating in all our meetings.

Old Business: None

New Business: The following was discussed:

- Executive Summary will be reviewed over the next month and discussed at the next meeting.
- The Board would like Kallie to contact Todd to see if he or someone from his county could talk about using drones for identifying ditches at the next meeting.
- The Board wondered if Todd could also give an update regarding the \$300,000 annual appropriation to counties for ditch assessments.

Next Meeting Date: The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, August 22, 2016.

Adjourn: Motion by Napstad, second by Skoe to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 PM.

Minutes submitted by Kallie Briggs-Administrative Coordinator