

Joint Counties Natural Resources Board
May 21, 2018
Beltrami County Conference Room
10:00 AM

MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioners:
Gary Kiesow – Marshall Russell Walker - Roseau
Daniel Stenseng - Clearwater Wayne Skoe – Koochiching
Bill Pratt – Aitkin Ken Moorman – Lake of the Woods
Roger Falk – Roseau Scott McCollum - Mahnomen

Absent: Tim Summer – Beltrami

DNR: None

BSWR: Matt Fisher – BSWR Board Conservationist

Guest: John Drimel, DNR Lead Forestry Planner

Other: Kallie Briggs; Coordinator

Call to Order: Chairman Commissioner Pratt called the Joint Counties Natural Resources Board to order at 10:01 AM on Monday, May 21, 2018 in the Beltrami County Conference Room.

Agenda: Motion by Stenseng, second by Walker to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Walker, second by Falk to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Discussions:

- Administration/Office Expenses: Motion by Stenseng, second by McCollum to approve the April/May administration/office expenses. Motion carried unanimously.
- Miscellaneous Expenses: Motion by Kiesow, second by McCollum to approve the miscellaneous expenses for rolls and coffee supplies in the amount of \$15.96. Motion carried.
- Account Activity Report: The May Account Activity Report submitted by Marshall County and distributed by Coordinator Briggs was approved. Motion was made by Falk, second by Skoe to approve the May Account Activity Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Guest: Jon Drimel, DNR Lead Forestry Planner was here to give an overview of the Sustainable Timber Harvest Analysis. His began his presentation by telling the Board that the Governor in 2017 had directed the DNR to look at a 1 million cord harvest and if this is not attainable to include an alternate harvest level. The team researching this was made up of 3 divisions from the DNR including Eco, WL and Forestry and also included a DNR forest biometrician/modeler, DNR Project Manager and Planner and a stakeholder advisory group.

There were 6 values considered in the sustainable harvest level; Timber Productivity, Wildlife habitat, Biodiversity, Water Quality, Forest Quality and Natural Resource Economies. The outcome was for a 10 year sustainable timber harvest level of 870,000 cords offered for sale annually. In addition to this

would be 300,000 cords of Ash and Tamarack for the next 5 years. The DNR determined that the 870,000 cords was an appropriate balance as it has been 800,000 for the last fifteen years. Jon showed a slide that showed statistics of comparison by tree species. Areas of increase, average cords sold, cords offered, and timber values. There were 9 types of trees including mixed hardwoods, white cedar, aspen, balm, etc.

The net steps will be to transition to implementation, restart the DNR section forestry resource planning process, conduct a 5 year assessment and repeat in 10 years. Jon's power point presentation can be found on the JCNRB's website.

Old Business: None

New Business: The following was discussed:

- Enbridge: The courts have ruled with Enbridge in tax evaluation. It is not known yet how much Counties will have to pay back but this could set an example that other companies may try to follow. A letter from the Department of Revenue: Property Tax says they disagree with the court's decision and are exploring their options for an appeal.

BSWR Update: Matt was hoping for a legislative update before the meeting but that did not happen. He gave the following update:

- There are counties who have an interest in moving forward with the 1 watershed 1 plan.
- A draft to change the liner footage on waterways was sent out and received a lot of negative attention and comments. The draft has since been pulled and is no longer in effect.
- Counties and people are not excited about buffers but agree to go do it.

Next Meeting Date: The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, June 25, 2018. Wayne will work with Kallie to get a speaker from Potlatch.

Adjourn: Motion by Stenseng, second by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 AM.

Minutes submitted by Kallie Briggs-Administrative Coordinator