

Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board

Minnesota Discovery Center, Chisholm

April 2, 2015

Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Sve.

NCLUCB members present: Rich Sve, Wayne Skoe, Ed Arneson, Anne Marcotte, Steve Raukar, Garry Gamble, Neil Peterson, Tom Rukavina, Don Jensen.

Others participants: Bob Lessard, MDNR; Lori Dowling-Hanson, MDNR; LaTisha Gietzen, Polymet; John Chell, secretary.

Administrative Actions:

Additions to the agenda: Legacy Fund, Long Eared Bat, Non-ferrous rules. M-Gamble, S-Raukar

Action on the Minutes of March 4, 2015: M-Gamble, S-Marcotte

Financial Report: M-Raukar S-Skoe

General Fund Balance:		\$ 119,044.63
Accounts Payable:	Web Services	\$ 23.43
	J. Chell	\$ 906.24

Legislative Dinner reimbursement: reimburse Chairman Sve for NCLUCB member dinner expenses of \$ 400.00

Presentation: LaTisha Gietzen, Polymet Mine Progress Report

Note: Polymet powerpt presentation emailed to all members and attached to minutes on NCLUCB website.

Legislation Update:

Wetland Conservation Act revisions are in the Omnibus Bill: S.F. 1515

S.F. 1225 mandates a study of state administration of 404 permitting.

H.F. 1706 and 1707 are state land purchase legislation including a set aside for Trust lands and local gov't reimbursements. Lori Dowling-Hanson noted that no funding for land exchanges had been included. Commissioner Miller cited a potential state purchase of Potlatch land in Wadena County. Buffer legislation: Commissioner Jensen wanted clarification on the application and enforcement of buffer strips on drainage systems and ditches. Commissioner Peterson noted that the mandated buffers would require about 12 acres per mile of drainage channel. Commissioner Skoe questioned the buffer mandate on logging practices.

Other Issues:

Long Eared Bat: interim rule 4(d) provides some flexibility except where there is a known roosting area. Where roosting areas are documented, there will be a quarter mile exclusion zone.

Legacy Funding: Commissioner Gamble noted that at a March 23 meeting on state land purchases employing Legacy Funds, there is a prohibition against eminent domain proceedings using park funds, but not for the Lessard/Sams Fund.

Blandin Paper Company Tax Court Hearing: March 16<sup>th</sup> hearing in Grand Rapids. The Tax Court now has 90 days in which to hand down a decision. Expect to have the final ruling by mid- June.

Nuisance Beaver Update: Dept. of Natural Resources will extend the trapping season until mid-May.

Next NCLUCB meeting on May 7 at Northome.

Adjourn: 12:p.m.