

MINNESOTA RIVER BOARD

Full Board Meeting

Approved Minutes: November 17, 2003

Annual Conference

Arlington Community Center, Arlington, MN

PRESENT – BOARD MEMBERS: Al Bennett and Katy Wortel, Blue Earth; Charles Guggisberg, Brown; Jim Ische and Gary Delaney, Carver; Jim Dahlvang, Chippewa; Harlan Madsen, Kandiyohi; Albert Hoffman, Lac qui Parle; William Stangler and Joe Doherty, Le Sueur; Steve Donnelly, Martin; Ray Bayerl, McLeod; Steve Johnson, Murray; Judy Hanson and Jim Stenson, Nicollet; Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey; Jerry Hennen, Scott; Charles Woehler, Sibley; and John Baerg, Watonwan.

PRESENT – WATERSHEDS: Kylene Olson and Jennifer Churchill, Chippewa River Watershed Project; Michele Stindtman, Blue Earth-Faribault SWCD; Terry Schwalbe, Lower Minnesota River Watershed District; and Scott Sparlin, Friends of the Minnesota Valley (CCMR).

PRESENT – GUESTS: Bob Austin, Citizen; Pat Baskfield, MPCA; Willis Beecher, Yellow Bank Watershed; John Boulton, Lincoln SWCD; Dee Czech, Citizen and High Island Watershed member; David Czech, Mayor of Arlington; Larry Dalen, Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative; Joe Enfield, Carver County Environmental Services; Craig Evans, USACE; Loren Evenson, Sibley SWCD; Les Everett, U of M Extension; Robert Finley, Data Center; Tom Fischer, BWSR; John Frey, Dean of CSET, MSU Mankato; Jack Frost, Met Council; Larry Gunderson, MPCA; C. Michael Hanson, Cottonwood County Environmental Services; William Hohenstein, Nicollet SWCD; Chris Hughes, BWSR; Lauren Klement Greater Blue Earth Watershed; Mark Lindquist, MN DNR; Ralph Malz, Citizen; Scott Matteson, High Island Watershed- CWP ; Harold Melsha, Sibley SWCD; Linda Meschke, BERGI; J.ay Michels, MN Erosion Control; Kim Musser, Water Resources Center; David Nelson, Renville County Extension Service; Jeff Nielsen, BWSR; Lawrence Paluck, City of Vesta; Forrest Peterson, MPCA; John Pullman, SW District –Scott; Dr. Aleh Rodzkin, BERBI; Tina Rosenstein, Nicollet County Environmental Services; Gretchen Sabel, MPCA; Amy Shogren, Three Rivers RC&D; Doug Thomas, BWSR; Bill VanRyswyk, MDA; David Weirens, AMCBrian Williams, MDA;

CALL TO ORDER: At 2:13 p.m. Chair Madsen called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Victoria Reinhardt made a motion to approve the agenda as is and Albert Hoffman seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Charles Guggisberg raised the issue of approving both Full Board and Executive Committee meeting minutes. The Full Board can approve only the Full Board minutes and accept Executive Committee meeting minutes. With that clarification, Charles Guggisberg made a motion to approve the Full Board Minutes and accept the Executive Committee meeting minutes as listed. Jerry Hennen seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- January Meeting Location and Date – Alternating locations for the Full Board meetings was implemented for the year 2003, subject to review and decision by the Full Board for 2004. Wendell Armstrong felt the alternation of meetings worked well and made a motion to continue. Jim Dahlvang seconded the motion. Charles Guggisberg asked if any counties had withdrawn from the Minnesota River Board. Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood and Yellow Medicine have sent in notification of withdrawal for the year 2004. Victoria Reinhardt suggested a special affiliate membership if the reason is financial. The purpose of the Minnesota River Board is everyone working together for the common goal. Scott Sparlin suggested the option of an organization such as Pheasants Forever picking up the dues for their county. Katy Wortel pointed out that in addition to dues there are

the costs of per diems and mileage. She suggested the two best locations to minimize the time and mileage elements. In 2003 the board alternated meeting in Arlington and Granite Falls. It was pointed out that this board would probably want to meet in a member county, eliminating Granite Falls. Wendall Armstrong made a motion to withdraw his motion to meet in Arlington and Granite Falls. Jim Dahlvang made a motion to hold meetings in Montevideo and Arlington, starting January 2004 at Montevideo. Wendall Armstrong seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried. January 19, 2004 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day so the board will meet on January 26, 2004 someplace in Montevideo. Jim Dahlvang and Diane will work on a new location and inform the board in the next board packet.

- **Election of Officers Committee**– Chair Madsen asked for volunteers to serve on this committee, stating that this committee typically meets during the AMC conference in December. Hearing none, Chair Madsen appointed Wendall Armstrong, Jim Dahlvang and Charles Guggisberg. All positions are open for nomination. Current Executive Committee members could serve again with the exception of Chair Madsen. The chairmanship is limited to a two year term per by-laws. Any member commissioner who has the desire and passion to commit to any of the Executive Committee positions is encouraged to contact the nomination committee or Diane. Voting will be held in January.

The U. S. Army Corp of Engineers and Board of Water and Soil will be presenting at the January 2004 meeting. Chair Madsen had a question for the board – “Why is road salt hazardous material in the shed but not on the road?” Today there were many challenging ideas presented and discussed. While some may not be relevant in all areas of the Basin, it is important to be aware of and discussing water quality issues. Chair Madsen challenged this board is considering and supporting policy regarding zoning, drainage and green growth across the Minnesota River Basin. Does this board have the political will to discuss and decide on short term and long term water quality goals? His commitment as an individual and commissioner is developing basin-wide policy that all can live with. What is this board’s priority? The vision he has of this board is to tackle the difficult issues, set an example, and support it with consistency and resolve. Chair Madsen thanked the board for the privilege of serving the board and wished all a safe and blessed holidays and will see everyone on January 26, 2004 in Montevideo.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. by Chair Madsen.

Respectfully Submitted:

Diane K. Ovrebo

Director

Next Full Board Meeting: January 26, 2004
Chippewa County Courthouse, Montevideo, MN
9:30 a.m.

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