

Minutes of the meeting of the Poplar River Management Board
Date: Monday January 9th, 2006 Time: 12:00 pm
Venue: Caribou Highlands Lodge
Chaired By: Charles Skinner

Present:

Melissa Dressely, Caribou Highlands

Bruce Martinson, County Commissioner

Jerry Neime, Natural Resources Research Institute

Don Sivertson, Cook County Soil and Water District

Charles Skinner, Lutsen Mountains

John Wytannis, US Forest Service

Curt Sparks, North American Wetland Engineering

Andy Woodrick, Caribou Highlands

The meeting commenced with the handing out of an agenda of items to be discussed. Also handed out were draft copies of the Bylaws, which must be approved in order for the board to pursue a grant from the Lake Superior Coastal Program because a grant will not be given to the board unless they are classified as a non-profit first.

The first agenda item was approval of minutes from the prior meeting of the Board. By unanimous vote, the minutes of the meeting of the Poplar River Management Board meeting held on November 21st, 2005 were approved.

A presentation was given by Jerry Neime of the Natural Resources Research Institute which provided a broad overview of the Institute and of its mission and origin. One of the institute's principal benefactors currently is Ron Weber, who invented a popular fishing lure, and his mission is to improve water quality and fish habitat in this region through research and watershed management practices. The institute strives to encourage environmentally responsible tourism in an economically sustainable manner. The principle participants in the institute are the University of Minnesota Duluth and the Center for Water and the Environment. Two websites that describe the institutes mission and research are:

- * www.duluthstreams.org
- * www.wow.nrri.umn.edu

John Wytannis offered information about an existing Conifer Regeneration that is being undertaken by the United States Forest Service.

The proposed bylaws were reviewed by the members of the board. No action was taken. It was decided that action would be taken at the next meeting of the board following clarification on applicable nomination procedures.

There was a discussion lead by Charles Skinner regarding the review process for the Alternative Urban Area Review. Curt Sparks submitted a “scoping” document that is specific to the Poplar River. The AUAR review is on the agenda for the County’s meeting on January 10th, 2006.

There was a brief discussion lead by Curt Sparks regarding his submission of the application to the Lake Superior Coastal Program. The total funds applied for was approximately \$13,900.

The next meeting of the Poplar River Management Board was scheduled for Monday February 6th at noon at Caribou Highlands Lodge in their conference room. The Poplar River AUAR will be the main topic.