

Minutes of the meeting of the Poplar River Management Board

Date: Thursday October 6th, 2005

Time: 12:00 pm

Venue: Lutsen Mountains

Chaired By: Charles Skinner

Present:

Cliff Bentley, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources/Waters

Mike Davies, Superior National Golf Course

Scott Harrison, Lutsen Resort

Bruce Martinson, County Commisioner

George Nelson

Tom Rider, Lutsen Mountains

Don Sivertson, Cook County Soil and Water District

Wayne Seidel, Cook County Soil and Water District

Charles Skinner, Lutsen Mountains

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, a copy of which is attached.

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 September 6th, 2005 were approved with a few minor changes

A draft copy of a proposed Purpose Statement (previously adopted) and Goals for the Poplar River Management Board was circulated for review and discussion. Following discussion and several revisions, the attached Purpose Statement and Goals for the Poplar River Management Board was approved by unanimous vote.

A summary of a meeting with the MPCA attended by both Curt Sparks and Charles Skinner on the same morning was presented by Curt Sparks. Curt shared the following steps which must be undertaken before testing the river with the goal of de-listing it.

- I. The MPCA must first confirm the process that it will use to prioritize the impaired waters before pursuing a TMDL test on the Poplar River
- II. The MPCA must assign a project manager to our project
- III. Sources of the impairment of the Poplar River must be identified
- IV. Additional Monitoring of the impaired waters must be put into place
- V. A process for executing a Turbidity TMDL test must be developed

The MPCA plans to begin the testing in 2005 but does not plan to complete the process until 2011. There was discussion about how to speed the process up and about how to assure that the Poplar River become a priority for their testing. The MPCA had indicated that the formation of the PRMB and its interest in expediting the TMDL process is an important factor for the MPCA in considering the relative priority of the Poplar River.

George Nelson offered some historical information regarding land use practices a century ago in the Poplar River Watershed

There was consensus that until the Board and its advisors was further along with their investigation of the various issues that it would be premature to contact media regarding the Board's work.

The next meeting of the Poplar River Management Board was scheduled for Thursday November 3rd, 2005 at Caribou Highlands Resort (in their conference room). Lunch will be provided at the meeting.