

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Poplar River Management Board**

Date: April 18, 2006, Time 12:00 p.m.

Venue: Caribou Highlands Lodge

Chaired by: Charles Skinner

Present:

Wayne Seidel Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District

Tom Rider, Lutsen Mountains

Marland Hansen, Lutsen Township

Don Sivertson, Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District

Charles Skinner, Lutsen Mountains

Scott Harrison, Lutsen Resort

Mike Davies, Superior National

Curt Sparks, North American Wetland Engineering

Andy Woodrick, Caribou Highlands Lodge

Melissa Dressely, Caribou Highlands Lodge

1. The meeting commenced with unanimous approval of the minutes from the meeting held March 2, 2006.
2. **AUAR update.** Two comments were received during the public comment period. The next steps are to respond to those comments, correct any technical errors, and prepare the mitigation plan. Then, commenters and agencies get 10 days to review the mitigation plan. If there are no objections, the plan goes through. Board approval is scheduled for May 22, 2006. It was also discussed that amendments can be made after the AUAR approval if someone wants to change their development plan.
3. **Caribou River Monitoring:** Cook Co. SWCD, in cooperation with NRRI, hired an independent contractor to conduct water sampling. There is a service agreement with NRRI to analyze the samples, for which Jerri Nemi of NRRI has offered a 10,000 in-kind match for the Great Lakes Grant. The Caribou River sampling will be timed with the sampling the MPCA will conduct. MPCA agreed that data from the Caribou sampling may be valuable as a basis of comparison to the Poplar River TMDL.
4. **Status of grant applications:** The Coastal Grant was received and selected. The grant is for \$14,768 with a \$4,932 match, for a total of \$19,700. Final approval from NOAA will be announced in July, 2006. This grant is for determining management practices for the Mega Slump, for which PRMB will look at five or six possible solutions.

The Great Lakes Grant recipients will be announced in July. PRMB applied for the maximum watershed grant to fund construction to fix the Mega Slump. This two-phase project will consist of two years for design and permit acquisition, and two years for construction. These phases are on-time with TMDL completion.

6. **Press Releases and News Stories:** The Duluth News Tribune printed an article on the last press release that was issued highlighting the formation of the PRMB and the group's plans to fight erosion on the Poplar River. The media list was amended with some new contacts
7. **Website:** A format for the website was introduced and approved. Northern Visual Services will send a proposal for designing the website, which will include tools for PRMB to provide our own updates.
8. **Other matters:** The storm water ordinance is still in progress.
9. The next meeting of the PRMB was scheduled for June 1, at noon, at Caribou Highlands Lodge. The meeting was later rescheduled to 9am.