

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**Minnesota Star Lakes and Rivers**  
**Meeting of Board of Directors**  
**Thursday, April 27, 2010**  
**10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
**DNR Office Sauk Rapids**  
**940 Industrial Dr. S. Suite 103**  
**Sauk Rapids, MN 56379**

**1. Call to Order and Review of Agenda**

- Quorum declared, meeting called to order by President Gustafson at 10:10 a.m.
- Members present: Dale Gustafson, Dana Vanderbosch, John Sturner, Kay Cook, Dan Lais, Lester Heitke, Katy Wortel, Sylvia (Doonie) Soeth, Bill Stearns, Fred Tuominen, Bill Kallberg. Dan Lais excused himself until after lunch to attend to other business.
- Agenda reviewed and approved as published.

**2. Reports**

- Secretary Kallberg called for any additions or corrections to minutes from July 9, 2009 and December 17, 2009. None were indicated, M-Sturner, S-Tuominen, passed 10-0, Minutes approved.
- Treasurer Cook passed out copies of General Accounting of Funds and Check Register through Apr 27, 2009. It was suggested that the General Accounting should include the initial funds received from Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) and that Membership Fees for MNWaters be listed. M-Sturner, S-Heitke passed 10-0, to approve Report with amendments.
- Executive Actions
  - i. President Gustafson reported that he has finally acquired control of the Star Lakes website and has made modifications and updates with help from website consultant Tom Stire, who will also act as administrator. A recent inquiry suggested that the website is not up to date, including lacks minutes of past meetings. Secretary Kallberg will resend those to Gustafson ASAP.
  - ii. Update on Members and vote on new member. Since resignation of two members, we need to replace accordingly. Gustafson contacted original candidates not previously elected and found two who were still interested. Members were asked to vote for one to replace the elected member Snowden. After further discussion M-Cook, S-Wortel, passed 11-0 to approve Donald Sells of Park Rapids, representing Fish Hook Lake Association was elected to the vacant seat. Other discussion included that Senator will pursue appointment by Senate to replace Dave Kavanaugh, who represented City Government. Additionally, there is still concern about Jim Jones, appointed by Indian Affairs Council. He has missed several meetings and Gustafson has been unable to make any contact, leaving his status in limbo.
  - iii. Work plan for 2010:
    - 1. Applications for Star status: Brief discussion about how to solicit new applications, i.e.: through web site, through MNWaters news letter, etc. More detail was discussed later under Publicity Report.
    - 2. Inclusion in funding for 2011 & 2012. Dale reported details later under Legislative Report, but did say that a bill is in process to provide funding for FY 2010 and FY 2011. At this point we need to seriously consider if and how we can properly expend these funds.

**3. Committee Updates:**

- Legislative: Dale reported on his long day at the legislature in order to give testimony to committee hearing appropriation bill SF 3275 that would provide \$100,000 each year for FY 2010 and 2011 from clean water fund to BWSR for grants to Star Lake Board “for the purpose of establishing a pilot program to engage citizen volunteers to match private sector resources to complete projects with long-term water quality restoration or protection benefits on designated star lakes and rivers. The Star Lake Board may establish and implement a grant program using money appropriated in this section only as authorized in a work program approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources.”

This appears to be somewhat different from our original appropriation, as it would be in the form of grants through BWSR to designated star lakes and rivers. This may ultimately need further clarification, but the bill has been reconciled by Senate and House and is in line for final readings and voting

- ❖ John Sturner will be working with some contacts in the Senate to approach the Governor if additional persuasions are needed.

- **Publicity:**

- i. Soeth reported on some contacts at MNWaters for placing informational items in their newsletter “Confluence” and state highway for signage information. We can use “Confluence” as an info channel and highway contact suggested a design for permissible signs on state highways. Copies were passed out. Further discussion on publicity included putting same info on website, including call for applications. The issue of whether to add info about monetary awards (tell or not, how much, etc). We agreed that we should talk about awards, but not indicate the potential amount. The brochure is in process of revision. We briefly talked about the content and wording, to assure compliance with the original statute and whether we should use hard copy /electronic. Agreement was to go with electronic only and print hard copies only as needed. M-Heitke, S-Soeth, passed 10-0 to go ahead as discussed.
- ii. Tuominen reported that he has looked into domain names for a site that would be used to send out our own e-newsletter. Some asked for explanation for this second website, rather than work through our established “starlakes.org”. Tuominen gave reasons and after more discussion, it was agreed to use “starlakes.info” and include links between the two. In addition, we agreed that Tuominen should reserve that domain and subscribe to a template service for the e-newsletter. Everyone should send their list of likely email addresses for inclusion in a data base to be used for this purpose.

- Finance: Cook’s report was given earlier under Treasurer’s Report.

- Star Criteria: Copies of latest Scoring Rubric were passed out. Kallberg reviewed the process of committee conference calls in February to bring Rubric to a “final” form for use at least for the current year. Vanderbosch explained how the Rubric would be used for rating applications, how points would be given, etc. Wortel and others asked if there was a formal application form for associations to use. The two left columns of the Rubric are the outline of what needs to be included, but some thought there should be more to it. This can be worked on, perhaps using one or more prior applications as models. review of process, Dana latest, version of criteria

- Agency Coordination – Kay K.

- Possible new direction with new funding – Dale G.

#### **4. Lunch break/Committee format/Reconvene as Board**

#### **5. Discussion on election of officers:**

- Gustafson/Kallberg – suggestion to wait until next meeting when new member(s) seated. In the meantime, clarification of the rotation of elected members will be sent out by Kallberg and would work best to have terms run to end of the calendar year and then Spring-time Officer elections would give time for reflecting on the next election. For now, present slate of Officers has agreed to continue if re-elected.
- In closing, Gustafson emphasized that we still have a long way to go - we need to focus on getting new associations to apply and to develop a plan for how our anticipated funds will be spent.

#### **6. Meeting schedule for 2010**

- Next meeting will be in June –Gustafson will poll for preferred dates.

#### **7. Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.