

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

**Minnesota Star Lakes and Rivers  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Thursday, July 9, 2009  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Legacy Golf Club  
11496 E Gull Lake Dr.  
Brainerd, MN**

### **1. Call to order**

- Meeting called to order at 10:15 a.m. by President Gustafson.
- Members present: Fred Tuominen, Bill Stearns, Dana Vanderbosch, Kay Cook, Katy Wortel, Dann Siems, Dale Gustafson, Bill Kallberg, Sylvia (Doonie) Soeth, (Quorum present), Dan Lais, John Sturner, Lester Heitke.
- Agenda reviewed and approved as published.

### **2. Reports**

- Secretary Kallberg called for any additions or corrections – none indicated, minutes approved 10-0.
- Treasures report (by Gustafson) – Hand out showed simple summary of receipts and expenditures showing balance as of June 30, 2008 is \$85, 767.04. Motion by Cook, second by Soeth to accept report as printed. Passed 10-0.

### **3. Discussion of Star Board operation for next 9 months (Gustafson)**

- Operating with existing money for FSY 2010: need to minimize expenses, develop wide public support, designate 10 or more lake associations to Star Lake status, make sure their legislators know and how they were chosen. Vanderbosch suggested that we also need to make known how we differ from other “clean water” organizations and why we need public funding, what other sources are available such as grants or fund-raisers (maybe pull tabs). We need to continue to work with others such as Initiative Foundation, Fresh Water Society, Minnesota Waters, etc. so we don't duplicate efforts, but complement one another. It would be a good idea to meet with Governor's office to clarify need for future appropriations, keep out of the politics on this issue. Our goal is to reward others who formed and built associations and developed management plans. We promote the implementation of those plans by recognizing and rewarding those who do.
- Board expenses, travel criteria, etc.: Can we do with quarterly meetings to hold down expenses, such as limiting lodging and meal reimbursement, the earlier policy was reviewed and reaffirmed:
  - ❖ reimbursement as follows effective 4/10/2009:
    - Lodging at actual cost if one-way travel exceeds 120 miles
    - Meals at actual cost (no alcoholic beverages) if one-way travel exceeds 30 miles
    - Mileage at IRS rateMotion by Tuominen to have something in writing to amend this policy, second by Sturner. Passed 10-0
- Projection of expenses for Star Designation: Siems explained how we could continue based on expected/projected Star Lake Awards and moved that we budget our

current funds to cover the 18 month period remaining in the biennium, second by Wortel. Passed 10-0. Having been advised of resignations of two Board members (Kavanaugh by personal contact before meeting, Snowden by email to Gustafson). Discussion followed about how we would replace these members, one was appointed, the other elected. Gustafson also mentioned that Jim Jones had missed several meetings and he had been unable to contact him by phone or email. It was agreed to contact appointer for Kavanaugh for input and to revisit the original list of unsuccessful applicants for elected positions. Kallberg will contact Judy Alnes at MAP for that list and vote count. Cook agreed to accept nomination for Treasurer, motion by Wortel to so nominate, seconded by Vanderbosch. Passed 9-0-(with 1 Abstention). Siems reminded group that he is no longer employed at Beltrami SWCD but will continue in the role of Administrative Assistant and as website administrator on his own time for now. A question was raised whether Board needs to approve all expenditures, is after the fact appropriate. This seems cumbersome and we do require two signers on all checks. All agreed that a copy of all "claims" should be available with the financial reports.

#### **4. Report and Recommendation from Criteria Committee**

- Kallberg reviewed the process of the Criteria Committee to evaluate Star Lakes applications from three associations:
  - Grace Lake
  - Pelican Lake of St. Anna
  - Sugar Lake

The committee (Gustafson, Kallberg, Siems, Lais, and Vanderbosch) had reviewed each application and scored them individually using the Scoring Rubric developed and approved earlier this year. By teleconference these results were discussed at length and agreement reached to recommend that a score of 60 (out of 100 possible) would earn designation and that all three applicants had surpassed this score. Discussion then followed about how we would recognize the designees, such as signs, letters, newspaper press release, notices to legislators and Governor, etc. The criteria committee will develop the letter of announcement; Public Relations would assist with forms and sign design. The Criteria Committee initially suggested a reward of \$40/point scored. This led to discussion of keeping a tight budget.

#### **5. Lunch and discussion on Star Lake Selections**

#### **6. Vote on Star Lake designations**

- After much discussion by the Board on the validity of the process Kallberg moved to approve all three applications, second by Sturner. Passed 10-0.
- After further discussion Kallberg moved to award \$25/point plus a "Star Lake" sign, second by Cook. Passed 9-1.

#### **7. Committee reports**

- Public Relations: Committee Chair Soeth reported on the attendance at the Lakes and Rivers Conference). Those who participated found it to be worthwhile and a good start on showing our presence in the clean water community. Tuominen passed out samples of some suggestions for brochures and asked for changes/additions. It was suggested that we explain how the Board members were

selected and that we include a description of the process for designation as a Star Lake (or River).

- Agency Coordination Committee Chair Cook handed out draft of Committee Mission, Vision, Goals and not-yet determined Work Plan and asked for comments to be sent to her. She said it's important that we find the right part of the puzzle for us.
- Legislation Committee Siems briefly reminded us of the results of the funding request and that new efforts will be needed next time around.
- Criteria Committee "Game Plan" is to revisit the evaluation process and will start with a teleconference set for July 27<sup>th</sup>.

**8. Meeting schedule for October, and January 2010.**

- Should we meet in August – 27<sup>th</sup> seems to be best chance for most. Need to decide location, such as Little Falls, Sauk Rapids, Cragun's' etc.
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**9. Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned at 2:15.