

# MN Rural Counties Board Minutes

Monday, January 4, 2021

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The meeting was conducted on the GoTo Meeting platform

## Minutes of Meeting:

Attendees: Luke Johnson, MRC Chairman, Pipestone Co.; Jerry Rapp MRC Vice-Chair, Douglas Co; Sharon Bring, Marshall Co. and MRC Sec/Treas.,

Don Niemi, Aitkin Co; Barry Nelson, Becker Co; John Okeson, Becker Co; Frank Gross, Clay Co; Larry Anderson, Cottonwood Co; Keith Englund, Charlie Meyer, Heather Larson and Tim Kalina, Douglas Co; Troy Johnson and Doyle Sperr, Grant Co; Charlene Christenson and Dave De La Hunt, Hubbard Co; Leon Olson, Kittson Co; Wayne Skoe, Koochiching Co; David Geray, Mahnomen Co; Doug Krueger, McLeod Co; Jeff Baldus, Mower Co; Dennis Welgraven, Murray Co; Gene Metz, Nobles Co; Steve Bommersbach, Norman Co; Neil Peterson, Pennington Co; Steve Hallan, Pine Co; Jerry Jacobson, Polk Co; Paul Gerde, Pope Co; Chuck Flage, Red Lake Co; Russ Walker and John Horner, Roseau Co; Bob Kopitzke, Stevens Co; Dave Kircher, Todd Co; Dave Salberg, Traverse Co; Bill Stearns, Wadena Co; Jim Branstad, Watonwan Co; Dennis Larson, Wilkin Co; Dan Larson, MRC Executive Director.

## MRC Board Meeting Agenda:

1) Approve Agenda; 2) Approve Minutes (Dec. 6, 2020); 3) MRC Finances and Reimbursements; 4) Brendan Jordan, VP Transportation and Fuels, Great Plains Inst.; 5) Rich Sander, Polk Co. Engineer; 6) Name 2021 MRC Delegates/Alternates; 7) Session Preview and Issue Discussion; 8) Other Business; 9) Adjourn.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the agenda:

### 1) Approve Agenda:

Bob Kopitzke made a motion to adopt the agenda. Second by Dave Salberg. Motion adopted.

### 2) Approve Minutes (Dec. 6, 2020):

Steve Hallan made a motion to adopt the December 6, 2020 minutes. Second by Dennis Larson. Motion adopted.

### 3) MRC Finances and Reimbursements:

Sharon Bring gave the treasurers report. Dave Salberg made a motion to adopt the report. Second by Paul Gerde. Motion adopted.

### 4) Brendan Jordan, VP Transportation and Fuels, Great Plains Institute.

Brendan Jordan described emerging benefits of alternative energies to rural economies.

### 5) Rich Sander, Polk Co. Engineer.

Rich Sanders provided background on the critical function constitutionally dedicated revenues to the Highway Users Tax Distribution Fund have in the planning and funding of Minnesota roads and bridges.

### 6) Name 2021 MRC Delegates/Alternates:

Postponed to February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting

### 7) Session Preview and Issue Discussion:

Dan Larson provided a preview of the legislative session where legislators will work to balance a \$1.3 billion budget shortfall.

### 8) Other Business:

Next meeting is Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>.

### 9) Adjourn:

Dave Salberg made a motion to adjourn. Second by Doug Krueger. Motion adopted.

Minutes Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Sec / Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_