

**MN Rural Counties Board of Directors**

Monday, January 7, 2019  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Wright Co. Courthouse  
Buffalo, MN

Attendees: Paul Gerde, MRC Chairman; Russ Walker, MRC Vice-Chair; Sharon Bring, MRC Secretary/Treasurer; Don Niemi, Aitkin Co; Jerry Rapp and Keith Englund; Troy Johnson and Doyle Sperr, Grant Co; Leon Olson, Kittson Co; Wayne Skoe, Koochiching Co; Doug Krueger, McLeod Co; Roger Tellinghuisen, Mille Lacs Co; Don Jensen and Neil Peterson, Pennington Co; Jerry Jacobson, Polk Co; Chuck Simpson, Red Lake Co; Bob Kopitzke, Stevens Co; Dave Salberg, Traverse Co; Bill Stearns, Wadena Co; Dennis Larson, Wilkin Co; Charlie Borrell, Wright Co; Bobbie Harder, Sibley Co; Dan Larson, MRC Executive Director.

Agenda: 1) Approve Agenda; 2) Approve Minutes (Dec. 2, 2018); 3) MRC Financial Report; 4) Name MRC Delegates and Alternates for 2019; 5) Discuss / Approve MRC Legislative Priorities for 2019; 6) Other MRC Business; 7) Adjourn

1) Approve Agenda: Bob Kopitzke made a motion to adopt the proposed agenda. Second by Charlie Borrell. Motion adopted.

2) Approve Minutes (Dec. 2, 2018): Dave Salberg made a motion to adopt the Oct. 15, 2018. Second by Doug Krueger.

3) MRC Finances and Reimbursements: Sharon Bring gave the financials and reported reimbursements to Dan Larson of \$1,512.05 for the following MRC outlays: Mileage \$702.95; Lodging \$131.34; Buffet \$422.21; Printing FedEx \$113.55; Printing MRC \$142.00. Jerry Jacobson made a motion to adopt the financials report and reimbursements. Second by Bob Kopitzke. Motion Adopted.

4) Name MRC Delegates and Alternates for 2019. The following counties named delegates and alternates.

|             |                     |                   |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Aitkin      | Don Niemi           | Bill Pratt        |
| Becker      |                     |                   |
| Clay        |                     |                   |
| Cottonwood  |                     |                   |
| Douglas     | Jerry Rapp          | Keith Englund     |
| Grant       | Troy Johnson        | Doyle Sperr       |
| Kittson     | Leon Olson          | All Other Members |
| Koochiching | Wayne Skoe          | All Other Members |
| LOW         |                     |                   |
| Mahnomen    |                     |                   |
| Marshall    | Sharon Bring        | Gary Kiesow       |
| McLeod      | Doug Krueger        | Ron Shimanski     |
| Meeker      |                     |                   |
| Mille Lacs  | Roger Tellinghuisen | Dave Oslin        |
| Norman      |                     |                   |
| Pennington  | Don Jensen          | Neil Peterson     |
| Polk        | Jerry Jacobson      | All Other Members |
| Pope        | Paul Gerde          | Larry Lindor      |
| Red Lake    |                     |                   |
| Redwood     |                     |                   |
| Roseau      | Russ Walker         | Glenda Phillipe   |
| Sibley      |                     |                   |
| Stevens     | Bob Kopitzke        | Neil Weiss        |
| Todd        |                     |                   |
| Traverse    | Dave Salberg        | Todd Johnson      |

|           |                 |                   |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Wadena    | Bill Stearns    | All Other Members |
| Watsonwan |                 |                   |
| Wilkin    | Dennis Larson   |                   |
| Wright    | Charlie Borrell | Christine Husom   |

5) Discuss / Approve MRC Legislative Priorities for 2019:

MRC supports the following priorities for 2019:

Transportation funding

A broadband funding

County relief from Enbridge DOR and Dark Store rate challenges

Allowing counties to maintain ditches under county authority, and compensate landowners for the loss of use of buffer strip acres.

Extension of the 2% provider tax

Small county relief from 2020 requirement for trained chemical assessors

MRC Watch List for 2019:

Address acquisition of productive private lands with public funds, and reducing the time appraised value for PILT must be determined from six years to two.

Support renewable credits for garbage burners that generate steam

Cost share program for beaver control

Increase percentage of mortgage deed tax revenue to counties

6) Other MRC Business: Next meeting is Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>.

7) Adjourn: Bob Kopitzke made a motion to adjourn. Second by Dave Salberg. Motion adopted.

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

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

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