

MRC Board of Directors

Monday, May 9, 2022

10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

This meeting took place via the Zoom platform

Call to Order:

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Dan Larson took the role and reported a quorum was present:

Attendees: Luke Johnson, MRC Chairman, Pipestone Co; Jerry Rapp, MRC Vice-Chair, Douglas Co; Sharon Bring, MRC Secretary / Treasurer, Marshall Co; Wade Athey, Big Stone; Frank Gross, and Jenny Mongeau, Clay Co; Kevin Stevens, Cottonwood Co; Tim Kalina and Keith Englund, Douglas Co; Troy Johnson, Grant Co; Char Christenson and Ted Van Kempen, Hubbard Co; Wayne Skoe, Koochiching Co; Dean Nielson, Lincoln Co; Doug Krueger, McLeod Co; Steve Schmitt and Andrew Letson, Meeker Co; Jeff Baldus, Mower Co; Neil Peterson, Pennington Co; Paul Gerde, Pope Co; Chuck Flage, Red Lake Co; Russ Walker, Roseau Co; Neil Wiese Stevens Co; Dave Kircher, Todd Co; Dave Salberg, Traverse Co; Bill Stearns, Wadena Co; Jim Branstad, Watonwan Co; Dennis Larson, Wilkin Co; Mike Kaczmarek, Wright Co; Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen, Rep. Dean Urdahl, Brian Martinson, AMC, Sherry Munyon, Emergency Mgrs. Assn. MN, Dan Larson, MRC Executive Director.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., and asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Neil Peterson made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Keith Englund. Motion adopted.

1) Agenda

1) Approve Agenda; 2) Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen, Rep. Dean Urdahl, Brian Martinson and Sherry Munyon; 3) Approve Minutes (April 4, 2022); 4) Treasurers Report; 5) MRC Priority Issue Discussion; 6) Other Business; 7) Adjourn.

2) Speakers:

Sen. Ingebrigtsen commended the board for its leadership in expanding the coalition supporting permanent funding for the Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Program, and said he was optimistic it would happen. He reiterated he would lead the effort in the legislature. He said he's not optimistic the conference committee on environment and natural resources finance can come to agreement. Rep. Dean Urdahl said permanent funding for the LGRWRP made sense and said it was on his priority list, as were the road and bridge projects. He said the main pressure point in the House on the LGRWRP is that the issue is viewed primarily as a Greater MN concern. Brian Martinson expressed concerns over House provisions on feedlot and manure reporting and a drainage registry information portal. Sherry Munyon raised concerns over the House proposal on local emergency management grants.

3) Approve Minutes:

Chairman Johnson called for a motion to approve the April 4, 2022 minutes. Chuck Flage made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Paul Gerde. Motion adopted.

4) Treasurer's Report:

Sharon Bring gave the financial report. Dennis Larson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Second by Frank Gross. Motion adopted.

5) MRC Priority Issue Discussion:

Dan Larson led a discussion of MRC priority issues which included updates on transportation funding, local road wetland replacement funding, broadband funding, local emergency readiness grants, county-based purchasing, county program aid, rural nursing home staffing and revenue concerns. He said he'd prepare MRC letters on transportation funding to leadership, environment and natural resources finance, and the local road wetland replacement program.

6) Other Business

Next meeting is Monday, May 23, 2022

7) Adjourn

Dennis Branstad made a motion to adjourn. Second by Neil Peterson. Motion adopted.

Minutes Approved _____

Sec / Treasurer _____

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