**Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board**

**Northome Senior Center**

**January 6, 2017**

**Minutes**

**9:30 a.m. Call to Order**: the meeting was called to order by Chairman Rich Sev.

**Members Present:** Rich Sve, Jack Swanson, Wade Pavleck, Anne Marcotte, Don Jensen, Wayne Skoe.

**Others Present**: Carol Pavleck, John Chell, secretary.

**Additions to the Agenda**: Commissioner Swanson proposed a discussion of health insurance.

**Approval of Agenda**: M-Jensen, S-Swanson, approved.

**Approval of Minutes** for December 6, 2016. M-Pavleck, S-Marcotte, approved.

**Election of Officers for 2017:**

 Chair: Marcotte nominated Rich Sve and Swanson seconded the motion. No other names were placed in nomination. Upon a unanimous vote, Sve was elected Chair for 2017.

 Vice-Chair: Swanson nominated and Pavleck seconded Commissioner Marcotte. Upon a unanimous vote, Marcotte was elected Vice-Chair for 2017.

 Treasurer: Swanson nominated and Jensen seconded Commissioner Peterson for Treasurer. Upon a unanimous vote, Peterson was elected Treasurer for 2017.

Financial Report:

 General Fund Balance: $137,778.51

 YTD Revenue (2016) $ 17,000.00

 Year End Expenditures (2016) $ 10,679.92

 Accounts Payable

 Assoc of MN Counties $ 1,212.52

 J.Chell Prof Services $ 579.89

 Approval of Treasurer’s Report: M-Jensen, S-Skoe, Approved.

**New Members**: Chairman Sve announced the new members representing their counties:

 Aitkin: Bill Pratt

 Cook: Myron Burshein

 Roseau: Jack Swanson

 St. Louis: Mike Jugovich and Keith Nelson

 Commissioner Sve also noted that Itasca County sent a membership check to our fiscal agent but that their county representative to NCLUCB had not yet be designated.

**Draft letter to Representative Fabian** (copy attached): Secretary Chell discussed a draft letter to Rep. Dan Fabian supporting his interest in seeking methods by which to increase rural participation in and representation on the boards, task forces, public interest meetings and hearings affecting the natural resource and environmental policies of the state. Chairman Sve suggested that the letter should acknowledge the strong support and participation that MDNR and BWSR have provided to NCLUCB and other groups at the local level.

**AMC Legislative Conference and dinner for NCLUCB and ACA members.**  Marcotte outlined the plan for hosting a dinner meeting on Feb. 15 with legislators and county commissioners during the AMC conference. Costs of the meal would be split between NCLUCB and ACA. Motion by Swanson, second by Marcotte to invite legislators and commissioners, share costs with ACA and hold the dinner on Feb.15. Motion approved.

**Coordination with the Consolidated Conservation Joint Powers Board**. NCLUCB members discussed methods by which NCLUCB and the Con-Con Jt. Powers Board could become more closely aligned on issues of common interest. Commissioner Pavleck moved and Skoe seconded a motion to appoint two members from each group to explore possibilities for closer coordination, up to and including the potential for a future merger of the organizations. Passed.

**Commissioners’ Roundtable**

Commissioner Marcotte will participate as a panel member on the Governor’s Water Summit in Marshall, Mn on Jan. 28.

Commissioner Sve indicated his participation in ongoing discussions regarding the 404 assumption issue. One of the most difficult issues associated with assumption is the “adjacency” problem. In cases where a potentially delegated water course, lake or wetland has some linkage to a federally regulated water resource, the federal authority would not delegate authority to the state. The lack of a clear cut distinction over which water resources would be delegated and those that would remain under federal jurisdiction makes the assumption of 404 regulations considerably less attractive to the state.

Commissioner Swanson outlined the challenges facing Roseau and other northwestern counties in the wake of the withdrawal of Blue Cross/Blue Shield health insurance coverage options.

Adjournment: 12:10