

Susan Thornton, Director

**MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, September 29, 2010**

**DRAFT**

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**8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**  
**Room 200 State Office Building**  
**St. Paul, MN 55155**

**1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Site Visits – Mississippi River - St. Paul/Minneapolis**

Members Present: Al Berner, Jeff Broberg, Rep. Lyndon Carlson, Tom Cook, Sen. Dennis Frederickson, Nancy Gibson, John Herman, Norman Moody, Sen. Pat Pariseau, Rep. Ron Shimanski, Sen. Jim Vickerman, Rep. Jean Wagenius

Staff Present: S. Thornton, S. Shreffler, M. McDonough, M. Banker, D. Griffith

Members Excused: Sen. Ellen Anderson, Sen. Satveer Chaudhary, Rep. Larry Howes, Rep. Tom Rukavina, Elizabeth Wilkens

**Chair: Sen. Jim Vickerman**

**1. Approve agenda for LCCMR meeting for September 29, 2010**

Commissioner Vickerman called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Moody moved to approve the agenda for September 29, 2010 – motion prevailed.

**2. Members approve minutes for July 13, 2010 and July 14, 2010**

MOTION: Commissioner Moody moved to approve the minutes for July 13, 2010 and July 14, 2010 – motion prevailed.

**3. Members report potential conflicts of interest regarding today's business**

**MS 116P.09 Subd 6 Conflict of interest.** *A commission member, technical advisory committee member, a peer review panelist, or an employee of the commission may not participate in or vote on a decision of the commission, technical advisory committee, or peer review panel relating to an organization in which the member, panelist, or employee has either a direct or indirect personal financial interest. While serving on the commission, technical advisory committee, or peer review panel, or being an employee of the commission, a person shall avoid any potential conflict of interest.*

No conflicts of interest for today's meeting were reported.

## LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

### 4. **Gulf Oil Spill and Minnesota Migrating Birds (Presenters: Francie Cuthbert, U of MN; Marilyn Danks, DNR; Carrol Henderson, DNR; Lee Pfanmueller, Audubon Minnesota; Patrick Redig, U of MN; and Bob Russell, USFWS)**

Susan Thornton reviewed the background history of the Gulf Oil Spill and Minnesota Migrating Birds issue and reviewed the discussion held on August 25, 2010. Ms. Thornton thanked Lee Pfanmueller for leading the panel for today's discussion.

Lee Pfanmueller (Audubon Minnesota) started the presentations by discussing the following: purpose of the meeting; brief overview of panel that convened on Wednesday, August 25; overview of process for the morning and introduction of panel members.

Francie Cuthbert (U of MN) discussed the pre-spill background and context.

Bob Russell (USFWS) discussed the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Marilyn Danks (DNR) discussed the natural resource damage assessment.

Carrol Henderson (DNR) discussed which Minnesota species are most vulnerable.

Patrick Redig (U of MN) talked about assaying for traces of BP oil in Minnesota birds.

Commissioner Carlson asked LCCMR staff to check with the Attorney General's Office to see what activities they are working on in relationship to the Gulf Oil Spill issue and migrating birds.

Commissioner Frederickson asked LCCMR staff to continue discussions with the panel members and other experts and provide an update at the LCCMR meeting on November 18, 2010 on possible reporting to the standing committees by LCCMR on the issue and options for Trust Fund funding proposals. Members concurred with Commissioner Frederickson's request.

### 5. **Ecosystem Services (Presenter: Steve Polasky, U of MN)**

Dr. Steve Polasky provided a presentation on "Valuing Nature to Improve Environmental Decision-making". Members discussed the science, correlation between upstream land issues and downstream issues, regulations and other topics with Dr. Polasky.

### 6. **Discussion of status of "Troubled Waters: A Mississippi River Story" – work product for M.L. 2008, Chp. 367, Sec. 2, Subd. 6a, "Waters of Minnesota Documentary on Watersheds", University of Minnesota, Bell Museum**

Members discussed the film before and after viewing it.

Dean Al Levine (U of MN, Department of Agriculture) requested to address the LCCMR to discuss the film "Troubled Waters: A Mississippi River Story". Mr. Levine said there was an unfortunate set of events that occurred at the U of MN and apologized for the way the distribution of the film was handled.

Commissioner Gibson asked Dean Levine about whether the film will be shown on TPT. Dean Levine said he is not capable of answering that question and that there were broadcast rights and other issues with TPT to be discussed.

Commissioner Broberg asked if the U of MN has assurances this will not happen again. Dean Levine said the faculty is very concerned about censorship and academic freedom and free flow of information.

### 7. **Viewing of "Troubled Waters: A Mississippi River Story" (introduction by Director/Producer/Writer Larkin McPhee) and discussion of film**

Larkin McPhee (producer of the film) introduced the film "Troubled Waters: A Mississippi River Story" and responded to questions about the film process and content.

**LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES**

**8. Mississippi River Gorge (Presenters: Mike Davis, DNR and John Anfinson, National Park Service)**

Mike Davis (DNR) and John Anfinson (National Park Service) discussed the Mississippi River Gorge and History.

**9. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. and departed for the Site Visits on the Mississippi River.

**10. Leave State Office Building for Site Visit – Mississippi River – St. Paul/Minneapolis**

**11. Return to State Office Building at 5:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

  

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