**PROJECT TITLE: Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground**

**Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description**

**Project Manager Qualifications**

The overall manager for this project will be the City of Babbitt under the direction of the Mayor/City Council and City Staff. Additional project management and over-site will come from the consulting engineer. Cathy Bissonette (City Clerk-Treasurer), Joe Scherer (Parks and Rec Director) and the city park committee have been overseeing the development of this project since its initial inception and have many years of experience in overseeing large city construction projects.

**Organization Description**

Babbitt is a small community of 1500 residents located at the eastern end of the Mesabi Iron Range near Birch Lake in Northeastern Minnesota. Babbitt lies approximately 100 miles north from the City of Duluth. The vast majority of the land surrounding the City of Babbitt is comprised of forested land, unique geological formations, and abundant water resources which provide much of the scenic beauty of the area.

Only two portages from the BWCA, its location offers a unique combination of access to outdoor activities and cultural and business opportunities. Outdoor amenities in Babbitt include beaches, little league fields, softball fields, parks, golf course, fishing piers, youth center and an ice arena. The area also offers excellent opportunities for viewing or photographing wildlife such as wolves, moose, deer, bear and a wide variety of birds.

The economy of Babbitt has been built around the traditional resource-based industries of taconite, timber, tourism and transportation. As the case with all economies heavily dependent on resources, Babbitt has experienced cycles of boom and bust.

The City of Babbitt is governed by a Mayor and four council members. Their staff includes a clerk-treasurer, deputy clerk-treasurer, fire chief, library director, parks and recreation director, planning and zoning officer, police chief, public utilities superintendent, street supervisor, ambulance superintendent, assessor, attorney and auditor.