

**MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, August 20, 2014
Duluth City Council Chambers
411 W 1st Street, 3rd Floor
Duluth, MN 55802**

EQB Members Present: Dave Frederickson, Sandy Rummel, Julie Goehring, John Saxhaug, Brian Napstad, Tom Landwehr, John Linc Stine, Kate Knuth, Dr. Ehlinger, Erik Tomlinson, Kristin Eide-Tollefson, and Bill Grant sitting in for Mike Rothman. Also present was Lt. Governor Yvonne Prettner-Solon

EQB Members Absent: Katie Clark-Sieben, Spencer Cronk, Charlie Zelle

Staff Present: Will Seuffert, Kate Frantz, Megan Eischen, Caroline Magnuson, and Anna Henderson (EQB staff)

Chair Dave Frederickson called the meeting to order.

I. Adoption of Consent Agenda and Minutes

A motion to adopt the Consent Agenda and approve the July 16, 2014 minutes, the meeting minutes were amended and seconded. One minor change to the minutes: Kate Knuth was added as present at the July meeting.

II. Introductions

III. Chair's Report

Chair Frederickson thanked the Board members for traveling to Duluth, thanked the city of Duluth for hosting the EQB Board meeting, and also thanked the steam plant facility for conducting the tour this morning. It was a very informative tour; learning about the operation and the opportunity to use different process fuels.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Thanked the Mayor's office and the City for hosting the meeting. He mentioned his past work with the Lt. Governor in the Senate on energy issues and said that climate change is a big priority for the EQB this year. Announced that Kate Frantz is leaving the EQB and recognized her for her work. The new re-designed EQB website is now available; please offer comments or suggestions.

Climate change is a big priority for the Board this year and we are trying to engage Minnesotans in this conversation, state wide. We are here today to roll out the climate change report; the purpose is to start a conversation with Minnesotans about how climate change impacts the way we work, live, and play in Minnesota. This is an effort that has been underway for months and built on the hard work of experts in the respective agencies. Thanked the agencies and staff for their contributions to this report. It looks at climate change from a range of perspectives from all the agencies represented on the Board. In addition to this report, the Board is working across agencies to evaluate policies. This project is referred to as Climate Solution and Economic Opportunities (CSEO) which builds off of the 2008 Minnesota Climate Change Advisory Group work and should be completed by the end of this year/early 2015.

The next Silica Sand Rulemaking advisory panel is scheduled for Thursday, August 28th. We will be discussing this rule at our September Board meeting and will invite public comment. The governor's Clean Energy and Economic Development summit occurred on July 17th with

tremendous success and broad participation. Thank you to the agency leaders at Dept. of Commerce and Dept. of Employment and Economic Development and all partners who participated. The final collaborative economics report will also be presented at the September meeting.

V. Clean Energy and the Next Generation Act

Presenter: Lieutenant Governor Yvonne Prettner-Solon

Welcome and introductions.

VI. After the storm: Recovery efforts and rebuilding a resilient Duluth

Presenter: Mayor Don Ness, City of Duluth

Mayor Ness shared his firsthand experience of the Flood of 2012. He briefly touched on the St. Louis Corridor vision.

VII. How climate change is impacting Lake Superior

Presenter: Professor Steve Colman, Large Lake Observatory, University of Minnesota Duluth

Professor Colman shared a power point on the range of climate and other research being done on Lake Superior by the Large Lakes Observatory.

VIII. The St. Louis River Area of Concern

Presenter: Nelson T. French, Lake Superior Unit Supervisor, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

An informational item describing an extensive effort underway to restore the St. Louis River Area of Concern - A Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Priority Project for Minnesota

IX. Climate change in Minnesota: maple, spruce, or savanna?

Presenter: Dr. Lee E. Frelich, Director, University of Minnesota Center for Forest Ecology

Dr. Frelich gave a presentation on climate change in Minnesota especially the impact on Minnesota's forests.

X. Public comment period

- Bill Mittlefehldt, NE CERTS Coordinator, state of Minnesota, gave overall comments on Climate Change in Minnesota/Duluth.

XI. Board discussion and comments

XII. Adjourn

If you would like to hear the audio recording of the August 20, 2014, EQB Board Meeting, go to the following link: ftp://files.pca.state.mn.us/pub/EQB_Board/