

**MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 19, 2014
MPCA Room Board Room, 520 Lafayette Road N, St. Paul**

EQB Members Present: Dave Frederickson, Kate Knuth, Mike Rothman, John Saxhaug, Erik Tomlinson, Charlie Zelle, Matt Massman, Kristen Eide-Tollefson, Tom Landwehr, Katie Clark-Sieben, Julie Goehring, Brian Napstad, Michelle Beeman, Sandy Rummel (Met Council)

EQB Members Absent: Dr. Ed Ehlinger, John Stine

Staff Present: Will Seuffert (EQB), Megan Eischen (EQB), Caroline Magnuson (EQB), Heather Arends (EQB), Anna Henderson (EQB), Beth Tegdesch (MPCA for EQB)

Chair Dave Frederickson called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m.

I. Adoption of Consent Agenda and Minutes

A motion to adopt the Consent Agenda and approve the August and September meeting minutes was made and seconded.

II. Introductions

III. Chair's Report

IV. Executive Director's Report

We are excited to share EQB's two signature inter-agency initiatives. Today you will hear a preliminary report on the Minnesota Clean Energy Economy Profile and Climate Solutions and Economic Opportunities. Both of these projects have involved a high level of inter-agency coordination over the past year helping us better understand the broad economic benefits incurred by our Clean Energy Policies and help us better understand options for mitigating climate change and the potential for future growth in our economy. Thanked the staff for the heavy lifting and the commissioners for their leadership on these projects. We are very excited that we had the opportunity to work with outside consultants who bring a level of expertise on analyzing these policies and accessing their impacts and just as excited to the participating agencies that have made the investment to staff resources to participate in this effort, building the data inventory and institutional capacity to carry much of this work forward. We hope we can build off of this to sustain this going forward. Thanks to Bill Grant and David Thornton for their hard work in helping steer this project and Anna Henderson for managing the project. Reminder that we initiate the stakeholder process for CSEO will be held tomorrow morning at the Science Museum. The next meeting presenting inter-agency updates to the EQB Energy and Environment Report Card that was published in 2012.

V. Minnesota Clean Energy Economy Profile

Presenters: Bill Grant, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Commerce
Weston Merrick, Economic Analyst, DEED

The presenters shared an overview of *Minnesota Clean Energy Profile: How Industry Sectors are Advancing Economic Growth*, which is a recently completed report that analyzes Minnesota's policies, employment, wages and innovation in five clean energy sectors. The objectives were to create a clean energy strategy for MN that can do a number of things; to allow us to compete in the global market for clean energy which has been growing tremendously over the last few years

now estimated at over a trillion dollars worldwide; grow small businesses in Minnesota and create high paying jobs; reduce dependence on imported energy; mitigate price volatility; achieve environmental emissions goals.

Discussion followed.

VI. Climate Solutions and Economic Opportunities

Presenters: Thomas Peterson, President and CEO, Center for Climate Strategies
David Thornton, Assistant Commissioner, Pollution Control Agency

Presentation shared on the progress and next steps on the Climate Solutions and Economic Opportunities (CSEO).

Discussion followed.

The following people gave testimony:

- Muna Khalif, Sierra Club/American Relief Agency for the Horn of Africa (ARAHA)
- Tess Ergen, Sierra Club/ARAHA
- Tim Rudnicki, Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association

VII. Silica Sand Technical Advisory Team (SSTAT) and Ordinance Library Update

Presenter: Heather Arends, State Program Administrator Director, EQB and DNR

1. 11 questions related to the City of Wabasha's draft mining and extraction ordinances were shared and responses overviewed.
2. A draft mock-up of the Silica Sand Ordinance Library was presented. The library will be implemented as soon as a web designer is available.

Discussion and comments followed.

VIII. Adjourn

If you would like to hear the audio recording of this meeting, go to the following link:

ftp://files.pca.state.mn.us/pub/EQB_Board/