	Aitkin	Carlton	Cook	Itasca	Lake of the Woods
	Becker	Cass	Crow Wing	Koochiching	Pine
	Beltrami	Clearwater	Hubbard	Lake	St. Louis

Minnesota Association of County Land Commissioners

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aitkin	Rich Courtemanche	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hubbard	Mark Lohmeier
<input type="checkbox"/> Becker	Dan McLaughlin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Itasca	Kory Cease
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beltrami	Dick Moore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Koochiching	Nathan Heibel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carlton	Greg Bernu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lake	Nate Eide
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cass	Kirk Titus	<input type="checkbox"/> Lk. of the Woods	Josh Stromlund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clearwater	Bruce Cox	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pine	Greg Beck
<input type="checkbox"/> Cook	Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Louis	Mark Weber
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crow Wing	Ryan Simonson		

Meeting Minutes

Date: Meeting held remotely via Zoom, September 30, 2020 at 10:00 am

Approval of Agenda: There was a motion and second (Weber/Eide) to approve the agenda. All in favor.


Approval of Meeting Minutes: There was a motion and second (Courtemanche/Cease) to approve the August 19, 2020 minutes as submitted. All in favor.

Treasurer and Website Manager: Treasurer Rich Courtemanche reported the account balance is \$11,107.59. There was no change from last month.

MACLC Representative to the Minnesota Forest Resources Council: Greg Bernu deferred to Eric Schenck, Executive Director MFRC to give the update later in the meeting. Kory Cease reported that his appointment to the MFRC was approved by the Governor's office.

MFRP Representative to the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership: Kirk Titus reported the partnership met virtually on September 10. A recording of the meeting can be found on the MFRP Web site: mnforestpartnership.com. MACLC Chair Nathan Heibel did an excellent job presenting on the State of the County COVID-19 Forest. The next meeting date is set for Thursday, December 17.

Noxious Weed Advisory Committee: Dick Moore reported the noxious weed grants of \$5,000 per year are available. The deadline is October 15, 2020. Currently there are approximately 48 weeds on all the lists with seven new species up for vote to add to the lists. There was a motion and second (Cease/Bernu) to nominate Dick Moore as MACLC representative on the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee.

	Aitkin	Carlton	Cook	Itasca	Lake of the Woods
	Becker	Cass	Crow Wing	Koochiching	Pine
	Beltrami	Clearwater	Hubbard	Lake	St. Louis

Other Items

Lonnie Lilly DNR Update: Staff continue to put up timber sales and work remotely.

Aitkin: Land sale 10-2-20

Beltrami: Land sale 10-16-20

St Louis: timber sales turned back du to COVID was 18 contracts. Down payments were refunded with CARES Act funds.

Itasca: CARES Act funding is available to loggers who qualify.

Kim Berns-Melhus: Minnesota State Director of The Conservation Fund, Overview of The Conservation Fund’s recent land acquisition announcement. Since 1985 The Conservation Fund has protected over 8 million acres of land in all 50 states. The deal with Potlatch covers 72,000 acres. At one time Potlatch owned 350,000 acres in MN. The plan is to manage these lands as working forests. Property taxes will continue to get paid. There is a harvest agreement with the Bemidji sawmill. TCF has hired Compass Land Consultants as land managers. TCF is SFI certified. There will be an opportunity for the Counties to acquire some of this land to help consolidate the land base and increase public access.

Eric Schenck: Executive Director of Minnesota Forest Resource Council-Meet & Greet with Group and update on MFRC activities. Schenck comes to Minnesota from the Illinois Conservation Foundation. There are currently three open staff positions at MFRC: forest scientist, landscape coordinator and policy analyst. Not sure when they will be fill because the COVID hiring freeze is in effect. The Council has added a Communications Committee with Kathleen Preece as Chair.

The group reinforced the fact that the health of the forest industry is the biggest issue currently facing MN forests. The group also supported the development of a system within the guideline monitoring program where the monitoring data from County timber sales is returned to the Counties where it could be used as feedback for the foresters.

Megan O’Neil: Forest Health Specialist-MN DNR-MN Forest Health Update

The forest health website has been updated. The annual reports and newsletters provide news and information on the latest issues. Much of the discussion focused on the overview and process of the Aerial Forest Health Surveys. While not completed in 2020 due to COVID, there is a ton of historical data available to help forest managers including survey data is shapefile format.

Next Meeting: To be determined by the Chair.

Adjourn: There was a motion and second (Moore/Eide) to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.