	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 checked="" 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	Bob Thompson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Louis	Jason Meyer
<input type="checkbox"/> Crow Wing	Ryan Simonson		

Meeting Minutes

Date: Meeting held remotely via Zoom, March 17, 2021 at 9:00 am

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


Approval of Meeting Minutes: There was a motion and second (Moore/Bernu) to approve the December 16, 2020 minutes as submitted. All in favor.

Treasurer and Website Manager: Treasurer Courtemanche reported the account balance is \$13,538.64. There were charges of \$1,250 to Regents of the University of Minnesota for Sustainable Forests Education Coop and \$3,100 for Mn Forest Resource Partnership.

MACLC Representative to the Minnesota Forest Resources Council: Kory Cease reported the survey completed last spring lacked logger input. The MFRC will seek to obtain additional survey responses at the Logger Conferences. The Council is updating the website with an increase focused on communication.

MACLC Representative to the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership: Kirk Titus reported the partnership will meet virtually on March 18. The theme of the meeting is carbon with presentations from Michigan DNR, Dovetail Partners, Office of School Trust Lands, The Nature Conservancy and Blandin Paper.

Approve Nomination Committee for June Annual Meeting: Bernu and Moore were unanimously approved for the Nomination Committee. The positions up for election include Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Chair Heibel respectfully declined to accept another term. Per the by-laws, the current Vice Chair Eide will move into the Chair position. There was a motion and a second to nominate Titus as Secretary and Courtemanche as Treasurer. All in favor

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2021 Legislative Priorities Discussion: Jeff Strand of Hennepin County gave an update on several bills.

SF 908 where the County Board may set aside up to 100 percent of the receipts remaining to be used for remediating contamination on tax forfeited properties or for correcting blighted conditions at tax forfeited properties. Not a perfect bill, but a good first attempt.

SF1796 a pilot project where \$5 million per year for two years appropriated from the general fund for grants to counties to remediate tax forfeited properties contaminated by a release or threatened release of hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant.

Other bills include approval to place conservation easements on tax forfeit land as well as a rule changed for dispersed camping. Rather than make a change in the rule making process, a better option appears to add language into MS 282.

Aaron Vande Linde School Trust Lands Director: Vande Linde reported the Asset Management Plan, the 25 year framework for management of school trust lands is expected to be finalized in 2022.

The Strategic Plan is a work in process. Input from several focus groups including MACLC members was completed in early 2021. Focus areas for this plan include operating environment, fiduciary integrity, innovation and strategic direction and education and communication.

Legislative initiatives include Boundary Waters transaction cost funding as no state money was set aside to complete the transaction. Approximately \$1.4 million needed for FY 22-25 to complete the project. Other legislative initiatives include:

SF1860-an authorization for the County Auditor to lease tax forfeited land for conservation easements that provide ecosystem services.


SF 1553 Allows County management of forests on school trust lands. Came from Eichorn and Eklund. Little traction for this one.

SF 1163 Utke Pellet production incentive

To provide new opportunities for revenues, the trust will continue to investigate emerging markets in woody biomass (fuels for schools), carbon, wetland banking and habitat banking.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources-Division of Forestry–Forrest Boe, Craig Schmid & Jon Drimel

Forest Boe reported on priorities and updates for 2021. DNR Forestry is in a hiring freeze with 30 vacancies. Firefighter and nursery workers have been hired. In the Governor’s budget there was no reduction in the DNR budget. The \$500K for county forest roads is still in (HF1076). The Division is continuing with LIDAR including a request for \$500 K for two years. A climate

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initiative is underway where the DNR was asked to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The answer is to plant more trees with a goal of 12 million trees by 2025. Trees will be grown in state nurseries.

Craig Schmidt gave an update on climate and carbon issues and initiatives. Staff will continue to work remotely until June. Watch out for listing of Rusty Patch Bumblebee on the Threatened & Endangered Species List.

John Drimel reviewed the timber program sell rates including offered, sold and scaled. Year to date scaled wood is down 8%.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources-Resource Assessment Dennis Kepler Jennifer Corcoran and Scott Hillard Kepler and staff provided a LIDAR forest inventory project update. Moving forward in 2021, it is expected that USGS will cover 40% of the LIDAR acquisition. One plot covers 1500 acres at an estimated cost of \$450 per plot. Resource assessment can now add the LIDAR attributes to the County FIM layer. The DNR is no longer doing the CSA inventory plots.

Next Meeting: June 9, 2021

Adjourn: There was a motion and second (Eide/Beck). All in favor.