

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Labor Management Committee (LMC)**

Thursday, April 22, 2010

12:30-2:30 p.m.

DNR 6th Floor Conference Room

St. Paul, Minnesota

Meeting Summary & Outcomes

Attendees:

- Bob Quady (co-chair), Division of Forestry, MAPE
- Cynthia Wheeler (co-chair), Manager, Central Region
- Linda Moberg, Division of Parks & Trails, MMA (by video)
- Mark Fischer, Division of Fish & Wildlife, AFSCME
- Paul Maurer, Manager, Division of Parks & Trails
- Denise Legato, Manager, Human Resources
- Wayne Damerow, Manager, Central Region Forestry
- Pat Burt, Manager, Human Resources
- My Lee, Business Representative, MMA
- Tim Bremicker, Manager, Central Region Fish and Wildlife
- Bonita Eliason, Manager, Division of Ecological Resources
- Joe Fleisher, Lands and Minerals, MGEC (by video)

Absent:

- Joe McMahon, Business Representative, MAPE
- Dana Wheeler, Executive Director, MGEC
- Craig Mitchell, Manager, Division of Parks & Trails
- Bob Buckingham, Business Representative, AFSCME

Guests:

Larry Kramka, DNR Assistant Commissioner
Bob Meier, DNR Assistant Commissioner
Denise Anderson, OMB Administrator
Terry Lahti, Safety Administrator, Management Resources

Notes

Mission Statement-Norms of Behavior

The mission statement and norms of behavior were read.

Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda

Outcome: The agenda was approved as submitted.

Review and Approve March 25, 2010 LMC Meeting Summary

Outcome: The March 25, 2010 meeting summary was approved with the addition of noting the conference call at the end of the meeting between Joe Fleisher, Dave Schiller (Management Resources, Fleet, Safety, and Materials Manager), Cindy Wheeler, and Bob Quady.

The discussion focused on Joe's safety concerns regarding the 4-stroke snowmobiles, their lack of a pull start, and heavier weight. Dave has emailed Steve Feesl, Lands and Minerals (LAM) recommending a discussion this fall about LAM's snowmobile deployments and uses, and to consider possible changes that would improve safety.

Commissioner's Office/Legislative/Budget Updates

Larry commented that last year the DNR established a "ready reserve" system that allows non-forestry, trained DNR staff to be placed on an availability list to respond to wildfires. It is working well, and has been especially helpful this season with the level of wildfire intensity that Minnesota is experiencing. We still have a significant fire potential yet this spring, even with rain.

Fiscal/Budget - Anderson

Denise reviewed the capital investment bill (\$93 million DNR projects). Most budget related decisions have not been finalized through the legislative process.

Legislative - Meier

Bob Meier commented there is not much to report, other than we are actively following our policy bills and the supplemental budget process through the legislature. DNR continues to have strong support from both the house and senate. Most of the work will be completed during the last week of session. He will plan to provide a full report at the May meeting.

Safety Update – Lahti

Terry reported a recent DNR vehicle rollover accident where the driver was able to walk away. DNR will conduct an accident review and examine issues with employees driving too tired. He noted that good efforts are being made by managers to conduct equipment safety inspections. The DNR has contracted with Dupont Safety Resources to lead executive management safety training for senior managers this summer.

Impacts on Health Care Reform on State Employee Group Insurance Plan – Legato

Denise provided brief highlights on areas the President's health care reform bill will impact state employees, although employees should not expect to see changes until 2012. She recommended staff review your individual union website, noting they have lengthy analyses available for your information.

Statewide Efforts Regarding Wellness - Legato

Denise stated that MMB has hired a statewide coordinator. At this time, DNR is piggybacking on other agencies' wellness opportunities where possible.

Eco/Waters Integration Update – Eliason

Bon reported the divisions recently submitted a legislative report titled Healthy Watersheds. It is available for viewing at http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/reports/legislative/2010_healthy_watersheds.pdf.

Currently, work continues on refining the draft organization structure, which was developed through extensive committee work. Regular project updates are available on the DNR intranet site at: http://intranet.dnr.state.mn.us/eco_waters/index.html.

Parks and Trails Integration Update

Parks and Trails integration updates can be found on the DNR intranet site at: http://intranet.dnr.state.mn.us/parks_trails/index.html.

Work Plan Development

Cindy requested LMC members to review the draft work plan list brainstormed at our February meeting and bring any additions to the May meeting.

Tentative Agenda Items for the April 22, 2010 Meeting

Commissioner's Office, Legislative, and Budget Updates

Safety Update

Working Plan Development – next steps