

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)**

**Labor Management Committee (LMC)**

Thursday, June 25, 2009

12:30-2:30 p.m.

DNR 3rd Floor/Video Conference Room

St. Paul, Minnesota

**Meeting Summary & Outcomes**

**Attendees:**

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

**Absent:**

- Joe McMahan, Business Representative, MAPE
- Dana Wheeler, Executive Director, MGEC
- Tim Bremicker, Manager, Central Region Wildlife

**Guests:**

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

**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 May 28, 2009 LMC Draft Meeting Summary**

*Outcome:* The May 28, 2009 meeting summary, with minor edits, was approved.

**Commissioner's Office Update – Kramka**

Larry reported that currently reviewing/approving division spending plans for FY 10-11. He stated that the hiring moratorium will continue and MMB will provide further restrictions starting June 8. The LCCMR positions will be hired, but are being reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The commissioner's spent three days in the Northwest region last week touring and reviewing issues; time will be scheduled in the other regions as well.

**Budget Update - Anderson**

Denise provided an update on the April budget forecast. The net General Fund revenues were two percent lower than forecasted. The economy has been weaker than forecasters thought. Since September, the GDP is believed to have declined at an average annual rate of more than six percent. More than 3.7 million jobs have been eliminated.

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With respect to legislative actions, the DNR's budgets will increase in FY10-11. The increases are in non-operating areas such as land acquisition, pass through grants and projects related to the new legacy funding. Operating budgets are increasing by about \$40 million.

Denise said the Governor has asked state agencies to submit unallotment proposals of 2.25% of General Fund operating dollars for FY10-11; noting that unallotments are not permanent budget reductions. Also, DNR will be implementing an \$800,000 General Fund reduction within the department. Final decisions are pending on unallotment funds and General Fund reductions.

### **DNR Legislative Outcomes – Meier**

Bob stated that DNR was very successful with respect to getting its legislative initiatives passed. In particular, he noted that all ELS data gathered for licenses will now be classified private. Also, the legislature amended the definitions for enhance, restore and protection that will be used for obtaining funds from all four of the newly established dedicated funds. Bob expressed his thanks for all the great support during the session. He also reminded folks to keep him in the loop when they are contacted by a legislator. A full report on actions from the past session is available on the DNR legislative website.

### **Safety Update - Lahti**

Terry reported that the DNR incidence rate is down for the year. Minnesota is currently supporting a significant planning effort for a H1N1 influenza outbreak. For further information on the plan and personal information related to this, he referenced the website available on the DNR intranet.

### **Employee Driver's License Policy Status – Burt**

Pat reported that the new policy is in place and only new employees will undergo a driver's license check; it will not apply to current employees.

Bob Buckingham noted there is a statewide grievance on this policy.

### **Update on Layoff Processing**

Bob Buckingham asked that a reminder be sent to DNR managers that there are union notice procedures on layoffs whether they are seasonal or otherwise. It was noted that DNR will not be experiencing significant workforce reductions. There is no early retirement incentive in statute.

### **Membership Review and Renewal Process**

There were no changes made to current officers or membership. Committee members were supportive of Cindy and Bob continuing to serve as co-chairs.

### **Tentative Agenda Items for the September 24, 2009 Meeting**

Commissioner's Office, Legislative, Budget, and Safety Updates  
Work Plan/Action Plan Progress Report – Overtime