

Range Association of Municipalities & Schools

Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 25, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.

Northeast Service Cooperative Building

President Pat Medure called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**Roll Call of Board:**

Present: **Pat Medure (ISD 318-Grand Rapids); Barb Kalmi (ISD 319-Nashwauk/Keewatin); Glenn Anderson (City of Babbitt); Dale Adams (City of Grand Rapids); Bob Berrini (Morse Township); Ryan Davies (Harris Township); Jim Fisher (McDavitt Township); Gary Friedlieb (City of Virginia); Matt Grose (ISD 318 Grand Rapids); Shane Hoff (City of Silver Bay); Paul Kess (City of Ely); Chris Koivisto (ISD 2412 St Louis County Schools); Julie Lucas (French Township); Ron Pittman (Cherry Township); Cal Saari (City of Nashwauk); Warren Stolp (Nashwauk Township); John Tuorila (City of Calumet); Dr Rae Villebrun (ISD 319 Nashwauk/Keewatin Supt Assn); Jim Weikum (City of Biwabik)**

Absent: City of Aurora; ISD 2711 Mesabi East; Great Scott Township; Clinton Township; City of Hoyt Lakes

Also Present: **Paul Peltier, Executive Director; Kristen Kranz, RAMS Admin Assistant; Paul Brinkman (NESC); Jeff Anderson; Mike Mandich; Chris Johnson; Sandy Karnowski; Dirk Davis; Pete Hyduke; Rod Gruba; Sheila Gruba; Rep Igo; Sen Farnsworth**

**(Persons highlighted were present in person; others were via Zoom.)**

**Call to Order:**

President Medure called the meeting to order at 6pm.

**Review and Approve Agenda:**

A motion to amend the agenda to remove item 8A (Letter: Mesabi Metallics) and add item 9F (helium permitting) was made by Kalmi and supported by Adams. Motion carried.

**Approve Meeting Minutes:**

A motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from March 28, 2024, was made by Fisher and supported by Saari. Motion carried.

### **Finance Committee Report:**

Kalmi reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on April 25, 2024.

1. Expenditures for March 28 – April 24, 2024, totaling \$15,391.59.
2. Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual is at 39%.
3. Balance Sheet as of April 24, 2024, is \$ 447,305.86.

A motion to accept the financial reports was made by Fisher and supported by Stolp. Motion carried.

### **Appearance:**

The Board was joined by Paul Brinkman from the Northeast Service Cooperative. NESC is one of 9 service co-ops in MN, and it serves schools, cities, counties, government agencies, and more. NESC's triad is education, technology, and health. They have also added behavioral mental health and career and technical education. NESC offers a menu of choices, tailored to fit your specific needs. Visit [nescmn.net](http://nescmn.net) for more information.

### **Director's Report:**

Executive Director Peltier gave an update on his activities in April. Peltier highlighted the Future of Hibbing meeting that he helped organize, testifying at the Capitol, and the Ranger Party.

### **New Business:**

1. A motion to support Twin Metals' Amicus was made by Berrini and supported by Anderson. Motion carried.
2. Discussion was held on the Permitting Reform Panel. The next meeting will be on May 30, 2024, in Chisholm, MN
3. Discussion was held on the Mineral Article. Senator Farnsworth and Representative Igo were present and gave an update. Jeff Anderson also gave an update on bonding, EMS, taxes, education, helium, and LCCMR.
4. A motion to set the date and location of the 2024 Annual Dinner (December 19 @ ITMEC) was made by Kess and supported by Lucas. Motion carried.
5. A motion to approve a letter of support for the Energy and Permitting Reform Amendment was made by Anderson and supported by Friedlieb. Motion carried.
6. A motion to support temporary rulemaking of Helium and Hydrogen production was made by Kess and supported by Anderson. Motion carried.

### **Board Member Updates:**

Tourila discussed the possible closure of the Hill Annex Mine State Park.

### **Other:**

**Member Floor Privileges:**

**Next Meeting:**

The next RAMS Board Meeting will be held on May 23, 2024, at 6:30pm, at the Nashwauk City Hall. There will be a tour of Mesabi Metallics before the meeting.

**Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15