

**NORTH DAKOTA NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**ND Game and Fish Department**  
**406 Dakota Avenue**  
**Riverdale, North Dakota**  
**July 14-15, 2010**

The North Dakota Natural Resources Trust (Trust) Board of Directors summer meeting started at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, July 14, at the ND Game and Fish Department, Riverdale, North Dakota. Attending the meeting were Directors Gary Melby, Scott Peterson, Jack Olin, and Tom France. Directors Genevieve Thompson, Duane Liffbrig, and ex-officio member Terry Steinwand were absent. Roger Rostvet, deputy director of the ND Game and Fish Department, attended the meeting in Terry's absence. Trust employees Keith Trego, Terry Allbee, Karen Kreil, and Linda Roeder were present. Also present were Bob Thomas, SEI, Inc.; Merri Mooridian, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District; and Johann Walker, Ducks Unlimited.

**Wednesday, July 14, 2010**

Trust employees and Board members met at the Trust office in Bismarck and traveled to the game and fish office in Riverdale. Scott Peterson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and we took roll call. Scott called for a motion **“to approve the agenda.”** Gary Melby moved and Jack Olin seconded. The chairman called for a voice vote and the motion carried 4-0. Jack Olin moved and Tom France seconded **“to accept the minutes of the April meeting.”** The chairman called for a voice vote and the motion carried 4-0.

**Recommendations/Special Reports**

Keith Trego gave a brief introductory talk on wind in North Dakota and introduced Johann Walker of Ducks Unlimited. Johann gave a presentation on research that was done on wind impact to waterfowl. Discussion followed.

Keith talked about the Basin wind project. The Trust acquired land adjacent to the Long Lake NWR with Basin's wind project conservation fund monies. Ownership of this land was transferred directly from the private landowner to the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Two other properties being looked at for possible acquisition are in Wells County and Burleigh County.

Karen Kreil reported on the biomass crop study. This study is continued through a grant from the Industrial Commission. Microbeam Technologies of Grand Forks sent a draft report on the chemical analysis of these crops to use for cellulosic ethanol. The study is on target. Great River Energy is moving forward with the cellulosic ethanol plant in association with their combined heat/power plant. They hope to start construction in 2012 with commercial operation starting in late 2014 or early 2015. They are starting with crop residues with the thought they will eventually be using perennial energy crops. The EmPower Commission presented a 28-page report to lawmakers.

## New Business

Dan Devlin has taken a different position within SEI and will no longer be working with the Trust's investments. Bob Thomas, SEI, reviewed the Trust investment report. The report is on file at the Trust office in Bismarck.

Jesse Beckers and Matt Olson, Pheasants Forever, discussed their farm bill biologist positions and the work they are doing to assist farmers with the numerous programs available. Questions and answers followed. Jesse had presented a proposal to Keith asking for funding to continue the positions. Keith's suggestion to the Board was \$30,000 for three years (\$10,000/yr.) to support the biologist positions.

Keith Trego updated the Board on the big oxbow project. All required approvals are done for both phases. Section 6 Endangered Species grant is approved, but appraisal needs to be updated. Offers and purchase agreements need to be made to the two sellers in Phase 2. All grants have been approved. Additional fundraising will be needed. One landowner in Phase 2 decided to auction his land and a civic partner of ours from Bismarck bought it.

Terry Allbee discussed the 2010 WRP monitoring. The Trust started monitoring WRP contracts for NRCS in July 2009. In 2010, NRCS wanted to revisit a subset of the 2009 WRP contracts, so the Trust will revisit/monitor 39 contracts.

Terry then reviewed the Great Plains Fish Habitat Partnership (GPFHP). An agreement was signed with the Fish and Wildlife Service and a second agreement with the GPFHP. The Trust is now the financial arm of the partnership.

The Trust investment policy needs to be updated to include changes that have taken place in the last two years. Staff will meet with the Finance Committee to review and discuss the policy and bring their recommendations to the full Board at the next meeting.

Terry also discussed the first half financial report with the Board.

## Old Business

Scott Peterson gave the executive director evaluation report. This report is on file with the committee chair and is available to Board members. Gary Melby moved **"to accept the executive director's evaluation report."** Tom France seconded. A voice vote was taken and motion passed.

The Pheasants Forever biologist positions and funding was discussed. Jack Olin moved and Tom France seconded **"to fund biologist positions at \$30,000 for three years (\$10,000 per year for three years)."** A voice vote was taken and motion carried.

Scott Peterson went over the strategic plan history and discussed updates that are needed. Tom France suggested consideration be given to increasing the number of Board members for the Trust. The strategic plan will be on the agenda at the winter meeting. Discussion followed.

Another idea was to add a goal for the statewide energy impacts. Tom suggested the Trust initiate a small grant program. The Trust grant cycle was discussed. Keith expressed his idea of making the grants fit closer to the strategic plan and point them toward a high priority issue.

**For Good of the Order**

Discussion focused on when to hold the winter meeting. Dates were set for January 6 and 7, 2011.

Tom France moved **“to adjourn the meeting.”** Gary Melby seconded. A voice vote was taken and motion carried 4-0.

The meeting adjourned and was followed with a tour of the Garrison National Fish Hatchery and dinner at Riverdale Knights.

Submitted by /s/ Keith Trego  
Keith Trego, Executive Director

Dated 1/27/11

Approved by /s/ Scott A. Peterson  
Scott Peterson, President

Dated 24 Jan. 11