



**'10 & '11
NORTHERN MN
REGIONAL
SCIENCE FAIR
MHB AWARD
RECIPIENTS:**

.... 2010

1st Place -
Kylie Stinar and
Janelle Dunn

2nd Place -
Tiffany Tischer

3rd Place -
Andrew Larson

.... 2011

1st Place -
Andrew Larson

2nd Place -
Walker Cage

3rd Place -
Kylie Stinar
and
Janelle Dunn



2010 Mississippi Headwaters Board (left to right): Dean Newland (Clearwater), Sec/Treas. Dick Downham (Cass), Brian Napstad (Aitkin), Tom Wenzel (Morrison), Chair Jack Frost (Beltrami), Vice Chair Lori Dowling (Itasca), Lyle Robinson (Hubbard), Paul Thiede (Crow Wing) and Office Asst. Pam Kichler



2011 Mississippi Headwaters Board (left to right): Davin Tinquist (Itasca), Neal Gaalswyk (Cass), Chair Paul Thiede (Crow Wing), Jack Frost (Beltrami), Brian Napstad (Aitkin), Sec/Treas. Tom Wenzel (Morrison), Vice Chair Lyle Robinson (Hubbard), Dean Newland (Crow Wing) and Office Asst. Pam Kichler

Assessment of 2009-'11 Biennium

Activities

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Simply stated, our mandate is: regulate land use and building activities in a defined corridor along the Mississippi River. These regulations limit density of development, protect water quality and favor natural aesthetics in the river corridor.

As in the previous 7 years, the MHB suffered another cut to their state funding through this biennium. In the 2009 - '11 biennium, the MHB continued to engage in researching BMP to sustain their existence and held two Strategic Planning Sessions (10/09 & 4/10) to better understand how to further achieve its mission of protecting water and shoreland within the Headwaters region.

Through those meetings several items were identified as key to the board's viability and continued protection of the great river. It outlined key elements demanding attention to sustain board activity as well as relevancy throughout the corridor stakeholders. Some of the following were a direct result of those preemptive meetings:

- ◊ Review of the Management Plan as required by Statute
- ◊ Letter of Support offered to the Headwaters Science Center for a River Watch (RW) grant
- ◊ Met with MPCA to discuss collaboration on River Watch activities w/in and through the corridor / watershed
- ◊ Toured Itasca Community College water testing labs to discuss rejuvenation of the MHB RW program
- ◊ Met with Itasca Water Legacy Partnership to learn of river protection programs for potential collaboration
- ◊ Established an ID-redevelopment plan for the MHB
- ◊ Preliminary development of a 'Project Review Committee' involving area stakeholders (i.e. SWCD, ESD and The Nature Conservancy etc.)
- ◊ Continued award support of the annual Northern MN Regional Science Fair
- ◊ Roll-out of new board logo and publication of the new 'Mississippi Headwaters Guide Book'

STATEMENT OF REVENUES

REVENUES	'09-'10	'10-'11
State of Minnesota Grant Appropriations -	\$ 60,000	\$ 53,000
Other Appropriations (County) -	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
Other Grants / Income -	\$ 1,119	\$ 5,000
Sales	\$ 116	\$ 530
TOTAL	\$ 73,235	\$ 70,530

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

OPERATION EXPENSES	'09-'10	'10-'11
Salaries (inc benefits)	\$ 39,038	\$ 39,470
Per Diem	\$ 4,300	\$ 5,700
Professional Services	\$ 3,350	\$ 2,464
Mileage	\$ 4,665	\$ 6,177
Office Operations	\$ 8,324	\$ 6,552
Programs / Projects	\$ 3,102	\$ 54,935
TOTAL	\$ 62,779	\$ 115,298

**SUMMARY OF COUNTY ACTIONS
(all 8 Counties)**

	'09-'10	'10-'11
• Permits	33	8
• Variance	17	3
• Conditional Use	-----	-----
• Denials/non-approvals	1	-----
• Plats	-----	-----
• Amendments	2	-----
• Annexations	-----	-----
• Complaints	6	2
• Appeals	-----	-----
• Admin. Approvals	-----	1
• Public Meetings	8	4
• Educational Workshops	4	-----
• Forest Management Plans	-----	-----
TOTAL	71	18

**SUMMARY OF '09-'11 IN-KIND EXPENSES
(within corridor)**

	General & Zoning	Land	Highway
• Aitkin		\$ 57,209	\$
• Beltrami		\$ 125	
• Cass	\$ 10,218		\$ 98,121
• Clearwater	\$ 9,559		
• Crow Wing		462	\$ 183,085
• Hubbard	\$ 150		\$ 52,446
• Itasca	\$ 3,688	\$ 2,792	
• Morrison	\$ 4,578	\$ 8,099	\$ 19,502
TOTAL	\$ 28,193	\$ 68,687	\$ 353,154



**PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR
THE 2012, 2013 BIENNIUM**

The next biennium will prove to be very busy for the MHB. The final months that remain of '11 will be spent continuing our involvement with review and certification of zoning actions in the river corridor, and doing some much needed house cleaning to set us up for some ambitious opportunities and challenges in the coming years.

For several of the past biennium, the board has suffered from devastating funding cuts which have forced us to reduce staffing that ultimately tamed our ability to continue with past successful programs and development of new ones. This board has come to determine that we are working within a completely different environment than the past. We understand that in order to continue to provide river protection and the necessary stewardship that has been mandated of us, we need to become more fiscally creative and learn superior networking skills in order to survive.

The following are some of the MHB goals for the 2012, 2013 Biennium:

- ▶ Redraft our mission statement to clearly map our future.
- ▶ Define the MHAC role and jump start their involvement
- ▶ Further develop the PRC (Project review Committee) direction
- ▶ Better leverage our current dollars and promote the 'Power of 8' to attract grant opportunities
- ▶ Create communication vehicles (brochures/newsletter/citizen forums etc) to succinctly tell our story and invigorate public involvement in conservation stewardship practices
- ▶ Improve involvement in river communities and reignite area River Watch programs