

August 9, 2013

The Honorable Paul Thissen  
State Representative/Speaker of the House  
Chair, Legislative Commissioner on Planning and Fiscal Policy  
463 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Speaker Thissen,

Per your letter of August 2, 2013, requesting information related to 2013 Legislature enacted changes to the Minnesota Sunset Act, I respectfully submit the following regarding advisory groups identified for IRRRB:

**Iron Range Higher Education Committee – Statute 298.2214**

1) The mission of the group.

*The mission of the Iron Range Higher Education Committee (IRHEC) is to advise the Commissioner of the IRRRB on providing higher education programs in the IRRRB's service area (defined in statute as the Taconite Assistance Area). Under Minnesota Statutes Section 298.28, subd. 9d, the IRRRB receives annual funding to be used for higher education programs conducted at educational institutions in the Taconite Assistance Area.*

2) Membership list and whether any compensation is provided to those members.

*As per Minnesota Statutes Section 298.2214, subd. 2:*

- *One member appointment by the Governor*
  - *Teresa Strong, Superintendent, ISD 2142*
- *One member appointed by the president of the University of Minnesota*
  - *Lendley Black, Chancellor University of Minnesota Duluth*
- *Four members of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board appointed by the chair*
  - *Representative Carly Melin*
  - *Representative Jason Metsa*
  - *Senator Tom Saxhaug*
  - *Senator David Tomassoni*
- *The commissioner of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation*
  - *Tony Sertich*
- *The president of the Northeast Higher Education District or its successor*
  - *Sue Collins*



**Iron Range Resources &  
Rehabilitation Board**  
P.O. Box 441  
Eveleth, MN 55734-0441  
(218) 735-3000

*Reimbursement to committee members is provided as per 298.22, subd. 2.*

- 3) The budget of the group.  
*This committee has no budget.*
- 4) The most recent three meeting dates, including any future meeting dates.  
*July 17, 2013; December 17, 2012; June 7, 2012*  
*Meetings are called as needed. The next meeting date has not yet been scheduled.*
- 5) A list of any reports or recommendations issued to the state agency, Legislature or Governor.
  - *IRHEC has made funding recommendations on the following dates:*
    - *July 17, 2013*
    - *June 7, 2012*
    - *May 18, 2011*
    - *October 7, 2010*
    - *August 5, 2010*
    - *May 21, 2010*
    - *March 17, 2010*
    - *October 5, 2009*
    - *July 27, 2009*
    - *December 12, 2008*
- 6) A link to the advisory group's website.  
*N/A*

**Northeast Minnesota Economic Development Fund Technical Advisory Committee – Statute 298.2213, subd. 5 and ~~Northeast Minnesota~~ Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund Technical Advisory Committee – Statute 298.297** (The IRRRB combines both technical advisory committees into one group to more efficiently meet the intent of the statutes.)

- 1) The mission of the group.  
*The mission of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is to review projects that the IRRRB is proposing should be funded and make recommendations about whether the projects should be funded prior to presentment of such projects to the Board for approval of expenditures for such projects. Funding for projects from both the Northeast Economic Development Fund and the Douglas J Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund may not be approved until the TAC has had an opportunity to review the projects.*
- 2) Membership list and whether any compensation is provided to those members.  
*As per Minnesota Statutes 298.297:*
  - *One or more members appointed by the commissioner of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation:*
    - *David Furin, Furin & Shea Welding & Fabricating Inc.*
    - *Stephen Peterson, Sr., Entrepreneur Fund*



- Keith Harvey, At Home Living Facilities
- Bill Spang, Northern State Bank
- Laura Rusich, Virginia-Eveleth EDA
- Lynda Bolf, U.S. Bank
- Cory Jackson, Rennix Corporation

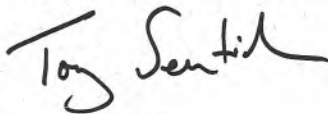
*Reimbursement to committee members is provided as per Minnesota Statute 15.059 subdivision 3.*

- 3) The budget of the group.  
*This committee has no budget.*
- 4) The most recent three meeting dates, including any future meeting dates.  
*August 1, 2013; June 6, 2013; December 6, 2012*  
*Meetings are called as needed. The next meeting date has not yet been scheduled.*
- 5) A list of any reports or recommendations issued to the state agency, Legislature or Governor.  
*The committee makes recommendations to the commissioner on every business loan proposal, which are too numerous to list in this letter. Business loan information can be found on our website at [www.irrrrb.org](http://www.irrrrb.org).*
- 6) A link to the advisory group's website.  
*N/A*

Please note that all committees referenced above are exempt from the sunset provision.

If you would like further clarification, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Sertich  
Commissioner