

AGENDA
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
March 7, 2018
3:00 P.M.

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

C. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Approve Agenda
2. Approve Meeting Minutes
3. Payments Report

D. Draft Letter to SMMPA

E. Adjourn

*Public Utilities Commission
Minutes
February 2, 2018*

Meeting was called to order by Chair Karl Hansen at 3:04 p.m.

Members present: Karl Hansen, George Wilkes, and Tim Kennedy

Staff Present: Mike Roth, Haden Hinchman, and Tom Nelson

Others Present: Dave Geschwind, CEO SMMPA and Mark Fritsch, President SMMPA

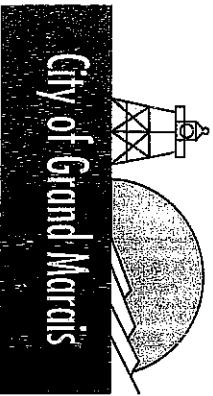
Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Wilkes to approve the Consent Agenda. Approved unanimously.

Discussion was held with SMMPA representatives on Climate Change Policies. SMMPA representatives present background and policies already in place concerning Climate Change. Nordic Nature Group presented an update of their activities and agenda. The Commission detailed their concerns about SMMPA's current policies. SMMPA representatives responded with their current and future plans as of their most recent board meeting.

The Commission considered the City's power plant. The control systems are in need of an overhaul. The Commission has a responsibility to SMMPA to provide control of the power plant as needed. Roth describes two options for overhaul of control systems. One being expensive with added interface functionality while the other is cheaper without the added functionality. Roth recommended that we don't need or have the systems to utilize the added functionality and that the cheaper option will work for the rest of the remaining life of the power plant.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Wilkes to approve the quote from Allied Generation and Lighthouse Power Systems of 99,950 for the Digital Master Control Update. Approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m



GRAND MARAIS PUBLIC UTILITIES
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Audit 2018 February

Fund 601 WATER
 Expenditure

E 601-47027-611 Bond Interest Total 837.67

Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
US BANK		02-01-18 AP	122	077042	2/1/2018	0	\$837.67	\$0.00	\$837.67	
					2 February		\$837.67	\$0.00	\$1,675.34	
					Balance		\$837.67			
Total							\$837.67	\$0.00	\$837.67	

E 601-47027-620 Fiscal Agent s Fees Total 203.72

Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
US BANK		02-01-18 AP	122	077042	2/1/2018	0	\$203.72	\$0.00	\$217.70	
					2 February		\$203.72	\$0.00	\$421.42	
					Balance		\$203.72			
Total							\$203.72	\$0.00	\$203.72	

E 601-49420-210 Operating Supplies (GENERAL) Total 818.21

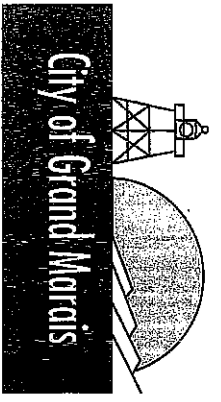
Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
HACH COMPANY		02-01-18 AP	10800289	077013	2/1/2018	0	\$659.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	
SERVOCAL INSTRUMENT		2-15-18 AP	8186	077084	2/15/2018	0	\$159.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
					2 February		\$818.21	\$0.00	\$818.21	
					Balance		\$818.21			
Total							\$818.21	\$0.00	\$818.21	

E 601-49420-218 Operating Supplies- Chemicals Total 1106.33

Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
HAWKINS, INC.		2-15-18 AP	4222523 RI	077067	2/15/2018	0	\$1,106.33	\$0.00	\$2,748.98	
					2 February		\$1,106.33	\$0.00	\$3,855.31	
					Balance		\$1,106.33			
Total							\$1,106.33	\$0.00	\$1,106.33	

E 601-49420-300 Professional Svcs (GENERAL) Total 54

Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
PAGE ANALYTICAL SERVI		2-15-18 AP	181290509	077080	2/15/2018	0	\$30.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	
PAGE ANALYTICAL SERVI		2-15-18 AP	181290510	077080	2/15/2018	0	\$23.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total							\$54.00	\$0.00	\$54.00	



GRAND MARAIS PUBLIC UTILITIES

Revenue/Expenditure Audit Detail Landscape

Audit 2018 February

E 601-49420-300 Professional Svcs (GENERAL)		Total		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
			54						
	2 February			\$54.00		\$0.00		\$108.00	
	Balance			\$54.00					

E 601-49430-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GENERAL)		Total		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
			215.88						
	2 February			\$54.00		\$0.00		\$54.00	
	Balance			\$215.88					

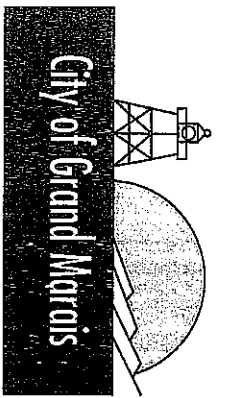
E 601-49431-303 Engineering Fees		Total		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
			39						
	2 February			\$39.00		\$0.00		\$39.00	
	Balance			\$39.00					

E 601-49440-212 Motor Fuels		Total		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
			69.28						
	2 February			\$69.28		\$0.00		\$69.28	
	Balance			\$69.28					

E 601-49440-230 State Fees		Total		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
			100						
	2 February			\$100.00		\$0.00		\$100.00	
	Balance			\$100.00					

E 601-49440-310 Service Agreements		Total		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
			27.53						
	2 February			\$27.53		\$0.00		\$27.53	
	Balance			\$27.53					

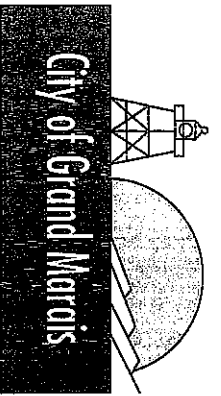
E 601-49440-310 Service Agreements		Total		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
			27.53						
	2 February			\$27.53		\$0.00		\$27.53	
	Balance			\$27.53					



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E 601-49440-310 Service Agreements				Total	27.63	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO			
2018-02 Febru Pay TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOL		02-01-18 AP	14231592	077040	2/1/2018	71972	0	\$27.63	\$0.00
						2 February	Balance	\$27.63	\$0.00
Control Act 601-25300 Unassigned Fund B								\$27.63	\$0.00
E 601-49440-322 Postage				Total	360	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO			
2018-02 Febru Pay US POSTMASTER		2-15-18 AP	PERMIT FEE #1	077088	2/15/2018	72028	0	\$360.00	\$0.00
						2 February	Balance	\$360.00	\$0.00
Control Act 601-25300 Unassigned Fund B								\$360.00	\$0.00
Fund 601 SEWER Expenditure				Total	156	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO			
2018-02 Febru Pay LHB ENGINEERS & ARCHI		02-01-18 AP	160861.00-6	077018	2/1/2018	72003	0	\$156.00	\$0.00
						2 February	Balance	\$156.00	\$0.00
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B								\$156.00	\$0.00
E 602-49451-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GENERAL)				Total	113.86	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO			
2018-02 Febru Pay COOK COUNTY HOME CE		2-15-18 AP	1160	077062	2/15/2018	72029	0	\$113.86	\$0.00
						2 February	Balance	\$113.86	\$0.00
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B								\$113.86	\$0.00
E 602-49451-430 Miscellaneous (GENERAL)				Total	16	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Vendor/Customer	Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO			
2018-02 Febru Pay JACKSON S MOTOR VEHI		02-01-18 AP	T466	077015	2/1/2018	71951	0	\$16.00	\$0.00



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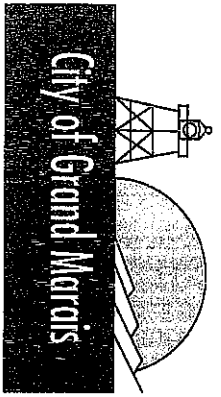
E 602-49451-430 Miscellaneous (GENERAL)		16		Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Total							
	2 February			\$16.00	\$0.00		\$16.00
	Balance			\$16.00			
Total				\$16.00	\$0.00		\$16.00
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B							
	In Balance						
Total E 602-49451-430 Miscellaneous (GENERAL)				\$16.00	\$0.00		\$16.00

E 602-49480-210 Operating Supplies (GENERAL)		160.46		Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Total							
	2 February			\$160.46	\$0.00		\$160.46
	Balance			\$160.46			
Total				\$160.46	\$0.00		\$160.46
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B							
	In Balance						
Total E 602-49480-210 Operating Supplies (GENERAL)				\$160.46	\$0.00		\$160.46

E 602-49480-217 Heating Fuel		478.73		Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Total							
	2 February			\$478.73	\$0.00		\$478.73
	Balance			\$478.73			
Total				\$478.73	\$0.00		\$478.73
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B							
	In Balance						
Total E 602-49480-217 Heating Fuel				\$478.73	\$0.00		\$478.73

E 602-49480-300 Professional Srvs (GENERAL)		692.83		Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Total							
	2 February			\$692.83	\$0.00		\$692.83
	Balance			\$692.83			
Total				\$692.83	\$0.00		\$692.83
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B							
	In Balance						
Total E 602-49480-300 Professional Srvs (GENERAL)				\$692.83	\$0.00		\$692.83

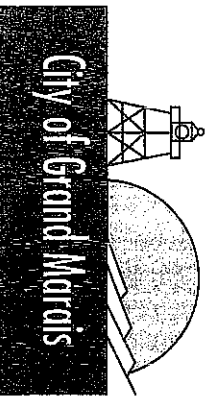
E 602-49480-404 Repairs/Maint Machinery/Equip		450.33		Debit	Credit	Begin	End
Total							
	2 February			\$450.33	\$0.00		\$450.33
	Balance			\$450.33			
Total				\$450.33	\$0.00		\$450.33
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B							
	In Balance						
Total E 602-49480-404 Repairs/Maint Machinery/Equip (GENERAL)				\$450.33	\$0.00		\$450.33



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E 602-49480-404 Repairs/Maint Machinery/Equip		Total		450.33		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B		In Balance		E 602-49480-404 Repairs/Maint Machinery/Equip		\$450.33		\$0.00		\$0.00	\$450.33
E 602-49481-304 Attorney(Civil)											
Vendor/Customer		Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO				
2018-02 Febru Pay	FLAHERTY & HOOD, P.A.	02-01-18 AP	10876	077009	2/1/2018	72001	0	\$2,682.50	\$0.00		
2018-02 Febru Pay	FLAHERTY & HOOD, P.A.	2-15-18 AP	10988	077064	2/15/2018	72075	0	\$1,781.25	\$0.00		
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B		In Balance		E 602-49481-304 Attorney(Civil)		\$4,463.75		\$4,463.75		\$0.00	\$4,463.75
E 602-49490-212 Motor Fuels		Total		9.76		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
Vendor/Customer		Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO				
2018-02 Febru Pay	WEX BANK	02-01-18 AP	52859010	077044	2/1/2018	71952	0	\$9.76	\$0.00	\$9.44	\$19.20
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B		In Balance		E 602-49490-212 Motor Fuels		\$9.76		\$0.00		\$0.00	\$9.76
E 602-49490-310 Service Agreements		Total		27.64		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
Vendor/Customer		Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO				
2018-02 Febru Pay	TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOL	02-01-18 AP	14231592	077040	2/1/2018	71972	0	\$27.64	\$0.00	\$19.31	\$46.95
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B		In Balance		E 602-49490-310 Service Agreements		\$27.64		\$0.00		\$0.00	\$27.64
E 602-49490-321 Telephone		Total		132.14		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
Vendor/Customer		Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO				
2018-02 Febru Pay	ARROWHEAD COOPERAT	2-15-18 AP	2121	004175E	2/20/2018	72031	0	\$132.14	\$0.00	\$130.96	\$253.10
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B		In Balance		E 602-49490-321 Telephone		\$132.14		\$0.00		\$0.00	\$132.14
E 602-49490-322 Postage		Total		360		Debit		Credit		Begin	End
Vendor/Customer		Proj	Batch Name	Invoice	Check	Refer	PO				
2018-02 Febru Pay	US POSTMASTER	2-15-18 AP	PERMIT FEE #1	077088	2/15/2018	72028	0	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$131.85	\$0.00



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	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
E 602-49490-322 Postage	360				
Control Act 602-25300 Unassigned Fund B					
In Balance		\$360.00	\$0.00		\$360.00
Total E 602-49490-322 Postage		\$360.00	\$0.00		\$360.00
Fund 602		\$7,061.50	\$0.00		\$7,061.50
2 February		\$360.00	\$0.00		\$491.86
Balance		\$360.00			

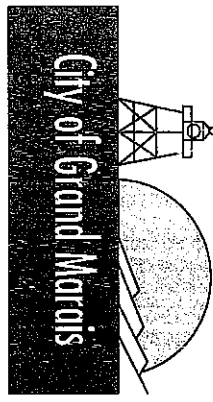
	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
E 604-47030-620 Fiscal Agent s Fees	-2500				
Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B					
In Balance		\$0.00	\$2,500.00		(\$2,500.00)
Total E 604-47030-620 Fiscal Agent s Fees		\$0.00	\$2,500.00		(\$2,500.00)
Fund 602		\$7,061.50	\$0.00		\$7,061.50
2 February		\$0.00	\$2,500.00		\$800.00
Balance		(\$2,500.00)			

	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
E 604-49551-317 Contracted Services	10400				
Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B					
In Balance		\$0.00	\$10,400.00		\$10,400.00
Total E 604-49551-317 Contracted Services		\$0.00	\$10,400.00		\$10,400.00
Vendor/Customer					
Batch Name					
Invoice					
Refer					
PO					
ALLIED GENERATORS		\$10,400.00	\$0.00	\$38.13	\$0.00
2/01-18 AP		16071	076989	2/1/2018	71987
2 February		\$10,400.00	\$0.00		\$10,438.13
Balance		\$10,400.00			

	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
E 604-49570-212 Motor Fuels	358.86				
Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B					
In Balance		\$10,400.00	\$0.00		\$10,400.00
Total E 604-49570-212 Motor Fuels		\$10,400.00	\$0.00		\$10,400.00
Vendor/Customer					
Batch Name					
Invoice					
Refer					
PO					
WEX BANK		\$324.71	\$0.00	\$317.84	\$0.00
02-01-18 AP		52862975	077044	2/1/2018	71952
2 February		\$358.86	\$0.00		\$676.70
Balance		\$358.86			

	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
E 604-49570-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GENERAL)	206.34				
Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B					
In Balance		\$358.86	\$0.00		\$358.86
Total E 604-49570-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GENERAL)		\$358.86	\$0.00		\$358.86
Vendor/Customer					
Batch Name					
Invoice					
Refer					
PO					
BUCK S HARDWARE HAN		\$81.82	\$0.00	\$317.13	\$0.00
2-15-18 AP		2088	077055	2/15/2018	72061
2018-02 Febru Pay		\$124.52	\$0.00		\$0.00
Balance		\$206.34			

	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
E 604-49570-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GENERAL)	206.34				
Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B					
In Balance		\$358.86	\$0.00		\$358.86
Total E 604-49570-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GENERAL)		\$358.86	\$0.00		\$358.86
Vendor/Customer					
Batch Name					
Invoice					
Refer					
PO					
BUCK S HARDWARE HAN		\$81.82	\$0.00	\$317.13	\$0.00
2-15-18 AP		2088	077055	2/15/2018	72061
2018-02 Febru Pay		\$124.52	\$0.00		\$0.00
Balance		\$206.34			



GRAND MARAIS PUBLIC UTILITIES

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E 604-49570-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GENERAL)	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
	206.34				
2 February		\$206.34	\$0.00		\$523.47
Balance		\$206.34			
Total		\$206.34	\$0.00		\$206.34

Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B	In Balance	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
		2793.13				
Total		E 604-49570-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GENERAL)	\$206.34	\$0.00		\$206.34

E 604-49570-317 Contracted Services	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
	55.27				
2018-02 Febru Pay		\$929.63	\$15,085.54		
2018-02 Febru Pay		\$933.87	\$0.00		
2018-02 Febru Pay		\$929.63	\$0.00		
2 February		\$2,793.13	\$0.00		\$17,878.67
Balance		\$2,793.13			
Total		\$2,793.13	\$0.00		\$2,793.13

Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B	In Balance	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
		55.27				
Total		E 604-49570-317 Contracted Services	\$2,793.13	\$0.00		\$2,793.13

E 604-49590-310 Service Agreements	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
	117.76				
2018-02 Febru Pay		\$55.27	\$0.00		
2 February		\$55.27	\$0.00		\$93.91
Balance		\$55.27			
Total		\$55.27	\$0.00		\$55.27

Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B	In Balance	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
		117.76				
Total		E 604-49590-310 Service Agreements	\$55.27	\$0.00		\$55.27

E 604-49590-321 Telephone	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
	1280				
2018-02 Febru Pay		\$117.76	\$0.00		
2 February		\$117.76	\$0.00		\$375.60
Balance		\$117.76			
Total		\$117.76	\$0.00		\$117.76

Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B	In Balance	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
		1280				
Total		E 604-49590-321 Telephone	\$117.76	\$0.00		\$117.76

E 604-49590-322 Postage	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
	263.74				
2018-02 Febru Pay		\$1,280.00	\$0.00		
2 February		\$1,280.00	\$0.00		\$1,543.74
Balance		\$1,280.00			
Total		\$1,280.00	\$0.00		\$1,280.00

Control Act 604-25300 Unassigned Fund B	In Balance	Total	Debit	Credit	Begin	End
		263.74				
Total		E 604-49590-322 Postage	\$1,280.00	\$0.00		\$1,280.00

Total	Expenditure	Total
	\$15,211.36	\$2,500.00

Dear SMMPA Board and Member Representatives,

We thank you for hearing our concerns about climate change and SMMPA's position in relation to climate change. In particular we are appreciative of the time spent discussing this issue at last year's board retreat, and the recent visit to Grand Marais by Dave Geschwind and Mark Fritsch.

What we are hearing from the SMMPA Board is that 1) SMMPA is declining to acknowledge climate change because it's a politicized issue, and 2) SMMPA's current carbon emissions reduction efforts are sufficient to meet our (SMMPA's) standard of "environmental responsibility."

On the first point: The issue of climate change has indeed been politically charged. However, that doesn't relieve us of the responsibility to drill down through that politicization and assess the risks posed by climate change on the basis of facts and evidence. Doing so leads us to the now highly certain scientific consensus on climate change: that human-caused climate change is happening and poses potentially catastrophic risks to global civilization (as well as to our own member communities). That consensus is being presented to us in no uncertain terms by virtually all of our most trusted and credible national and international institutions of science.

Moreover, the increasing certainty of the scientific consensus supporting the reality of human-caused climate change refutes the basis for framing climate change as a political issue. Indeed, the politicization of climate change has been based on the now demonstrably false premise that climate change is at best an exaggeration, and at worst a hoax, intended to further a liberal agenda. Ten years ago that premise was arguably defensible. In the face of what we know today, it is not.

We believe that SMMPA's refusal to acknowledge climate change is profoundly detrimental to SMMPA communities because: it significantly under represents the risk of future human, environmental, and economic harm; it falsely and dangerously decreases the necessary urgency of implementing climate change solutions; and it results in a complacency that is accepting of inadequate climate change mitigation efforts. These are serious consequences that could adversely effect our communities for many decades.

In addition, the odd dissonance of refusing to acknowledge climate change while at the same time espousing the "benefit" of carbon emissions reduction is a fairly

stunning exercise in intellectual dishonesty. Why, if not because of climate change, are we so proud of our carbon emissions reduction efforts?

On the whole, the electrical generation industry is behaving like an addict who would rather not talk about their addiction. Or, like the auto industry in the 1960's failing to acknowledge obvious safety issues; or like the tobacco industry resisting, for a time, the wave of scientific evidence linking smoking to cancer. Add to that the appearance (at least) that our non-position on climate change is motivated by self-interest since we are paying the bills by selling coal-fired power. This is not where we want to be.

Our communities depend on us to provide leadership in the area of safe, reliable, affordable, and environmentally and socially responsible electrical power. We even tell them we are doing so on our website and in our ad campaigns. Real leadership sometimes requires stepping out front and challenging misconceptions and even political distortions. In the case of climate change that means a clear-eyed, evidence-based acceptance of what is actually happening, and a willingness to bring along our customers through education and advocacy.

On the the issue of whether SMMPA's current carbon emissions reduction efforts are sufficient to meet our goal of environmental and social responsibility, here we see the corrosive results of not linking the solution (CO2 emissions reduction) to the problem (climate change). What SMMPA has done by way of CO2 emissions reduction, though laudable, does not constitute a comprehensive plan to address climate change and, not surprisingly, is not sufficiently ambitious, nor far-sighted, to be seen as a responsible response to climate change.

Evidence shows that collectively we are clearly not doing enough. Witness that the three hottest years on record (by a startling margin) are 2015, 2016, and 2017; witness also that the highest average annual atmospheric CO2 concentration ever recorded was just last year. And these are not political opinions; they are facts. Climate change is in fact worsening, quickly, along with our culpability and liability.

So, what would be an appropriate pace for CO2 emissions reduction? The simple but evident answer is that we should be cutting carbon emissions as fast as we can, and that should be stated as our goal. What is possible? What would

it cost? And how do we pay for it? These are precisely the conversations we should be having, but regrettably we are not.

As our Mayor pointed out during the meeting with Dave and Mark, we are already incurring costs from climate change. The City of Grand Marais has just finished a storm water management study in which the definition of a 100 year flood had to be adjusted for climate change induced increases in the severity of storm events. This will cause a cascade of increased storm water management costs for our City for decades to come. And that example is one of the least costly and least harmful of the myriad projected human and economic costs of climate change.

We need to begin thinking about CO2 emissions reduction as an investment, weighing today's costs of decarbonization against the benefit of reducing the risk of future human, environmental, and economic consequences. Of course, it's difficult to do that if we don't even acknowledge the problem that we are supposedly being responsible about.

We also wanted to respond to the idea that SMMPA would consider providing a low-carbon option for Grand Marais's power supply. We appreciate the suggestion and may ask for more clarity on how that would look down the road when our City Climate Action Plan is completed later this year. However, that suggestion tellingly misses the mark because our goal here is to solve "global" climate change, and Grand Marais is probably not going to accomplish that all by our onesies. Because we all swim in the same pool, or more literally, because we all share the same atmosphere, our clear preference would be to work towards climate change solutions in concert with our 17 member partners. Together, we can make a difference.

We look forward to continued dialog on this important topic, and thank you for your considered attention. We are grateful for the opportunity to work with our sister cities towards greater sustainability including a viable and effective solution to climate change.

Grand Marais Public Utilities Commission