

# **VNP Clean Water Joint Powers Board Meeting**

Wednesday February 27, 2019

10:00 a.m.

St Louis County Land Office (Cook)

## **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public comments
3. Approve minutes of the December 19, 2018 JPB meeting
4. S.E.H./Advisory Board Representative Updates
  - A. Kabetogama
  - B. Ash River
  - C. Crane Lake
  - D. Koochiching
  - E. VNP
  - F. DNR
  - G. MPCA
5. Project Funding
6. Pay Invoices
7. Other Business
8. Next meeting date
9. Adjourn meeting

**VNP CLEAN WATER JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING**  
**December 19, 2018**

The monthly meeting of the VNP Clean Water Powers Board was held at the Voyagers National Park Office in International Falls on December 19, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 10:31 by Chairman Pavleck. Board members also present were Commissioner Jugovich and Commissioner Nelson, and Commissioner McBride.

Commissioner Pavleck welcomed everyone to the meeting and all in attendance introduced themselves. There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Commissioner RJugovich and supported by Commissioner McBride to approve the October 17, 2018 minutes. All voted in favor.

Kabetogama. The Pucks Point sewer project is under the warranty period. The contractor has recently performed some warranty work on a grinder station that settled. John provided an update that the current sewer steering committee has meet 3 times since October. The current direction is for a formation of a subordinate district. The area of focus would be Area F and possibly Area G and H as identified in the comprehensive plan. Bob DeGross asked to be included on information as it develops moving forward so he can communicate with the appropriate staff at Voyagers National Park.

Ash River. S.E.H. has started on the facility planning phase for the Ash River sewer project and has started on the exhibits to send to property owners to solicit input on existing septic systems and plans for future development. This process takes a long time but SEH will continue to stride towards meeting the March 2019 facility plan submittal deadline. The deadline for 2019 may be difficult since the project start date was delayed.

Crane Lake. The Handberg Road expansion project is complete, and currently in the closeout paperwork stage. The district has spent the remainder of their Legacy 1 funds and is preparing for the 2019 construction season. They will continue to work with the County staff on their Phase 3 ISTS Management program and administration work on the Kicker Blvd annexation.

Koochiching. Contracts A, B and C are all wrapping up for the winter season. All four Lift Stations are operational. Contract C is nearly complete, with only some minor items and restoration scheduled for spring 2019. All total, nearly \$14 million in construction has been completed to date.

VNP. Bill was happy with the progress and communication \ with the construction of Contract C. Bob indicated that that he is retiring and informed the group that Josh will be taking over his duties for the JBP at the VNP.

DNR. Nothing to Report.

MPCA. Nothing to report.

There was a motion by Commissioner Nelson to pay the Costin and S.E.H. invoices. It was supported by Commissioner Jugovich. All voted in favor

Other Business. Gary notified the group of a recent news segment released by WCCO in regards to the CLWSD. The news segment painted a negative picture of the districts use of funding and presented miss information on what district grant funding was used for. Gary requested permission to prepare a letter containing facts regarding the districts use of grant funds to be sent to the Clean Water Council. A motion was made by McBride and supported by Nelson for Gary to prepare a letter that would be signed by Chairman Pavleck and Commissioner Nelson.

The next JPB meeting will be held at Voyagers National Park in Cook on February 27 at 10:00 am.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jugovich and supported by Commissioner McBride to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

Submitted by: Jason J. Chopp, SEH (filling in for Rob Scott)



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Voyageur's National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board (VNPCWJPB)

FROM: Jason J. Chopp, PE

DATE: February 27, 2019

RE: VNPCWJPB Update  
Koochiching and St. Louis Counties, Minnesota  
STLES 147086

### **Board Meetings**

The last meeting was held in International Falls on December 19, 2018

Action Requested: None

### **Kabetogama**

No Updates

The project is under warranty period. USA made repairs to one grinder station that had settled. Seasonal portions of the conveyance and treatment system have been winterized. Still holding \$8,000 retainage on the Treatment Contract (Septic Check) for install of an AC unit in the control building. The AC unit was scheduled to be installed in the fall but the wrong voltage unit was ordered. The AC unit is now scheduled to be installed in the spring.

Action Requested: None

### **Ash River**

Please see attached memorandum dated February 25, 2019 regarding facility planning progress.

Action Requested: None

### **Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District**

The Handberg Phase 2 work is complete and final payment has been released to the contractor.

The CLWSD will continue in 2019 on working with SLC staff on their phase III of the Management Program (mandatory participation in the CLWSD program) and start the administrative work for the Kicker Blvd annexation.

Action Requested: None

### Island View Sanitary Sewer Expansion

All three contracts (A, B, and C) have stopped construction for the winter month. All of the Lift stations are online. Contract C is substantially complete.

Project Progress Through November 2018		
Contract	Completion Amount	Percent of Overall Contract
A - Wagner	\$7,550,000	77%
B - USA	\$5,900,000	75%
C - Septic Check	\$680,000	95%

*Action Requested:* None

### Advisory Board Representative Updates

- Voyageurs National Park
- MN Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

If you have any questions regarding these items, please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

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Cc: VNPCWJPB Advisory Committee, Koochiching and St. Louis County Environmental Services staff, Project Area residents (upon request)

Att: SEH Invoice, The Costin Group Invoice  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board

FROM: Colin Marcusen, P.E. (Lic. MN, ND, SD, IA)

DATE: February 25, 2019

RE: Ash River Facility Plan  
SEH No. STLES 146794 14.00

The purpose of this memo is to update the Board on the status of the Facility Plan preparation for the Ash River area. At this time, the Facility Plan is not complete enough to meet the March 1, 2019 deadline for submittal to MPCA for review. SEH recommends delaying submittal until the end of 2019 or early 2020 in order to allow for further communications with residents and property owners in the area.

SEH was given authorization to proceed with the project in November 2018. We immediately began by conducting a drone survey, compiling survey data, and creating exhibits of each piece of property to send to property owners. These exhibits were sent to property owners, along with a letter and questionnaire in early January 2019. The purpose of these mailings were to attempt to gain more information about existing systems so that we may begin to plan pipe routing and estimation of design flows. Unfortunately, only 48 out of 173 questionnaires have been received as of Monday, February 25, 2019. Communication with each property owner is important prior to completing preliminary pipe layout and treatment system design options.

Additionally, we also wanted to inform you about changes in the Clean Water Revolving Fund Facility Plan requirements. Several items were added to the list of requirements in 2018. I have attached a copy of the CWRP Facilities Plan Submittal Checklist for your information.

Some of the items on the checklist require that the Facility Plan and cost information be reviewed by the governing body. The Facility Plan submittal, in order to be complete, would have to occur after the establishment of the Sanitary Sewer District, and the District would need to review those items listed in the Checklist. If the Sanitary Sewer District is not yet formed by the time the Facility Plan is submitted, St. Louis County may act as the governing body. We may also amend the facility plan at a later date to add information after the establishment of the Sanitary District.

Utilizing the 2019 summer months for in-person meetings with property owners, completion of soil borings, and establishment of the Sanitary Sewer District, will allow for a Facility Plan report that is complete and in the best interest of the property owners. Our next step will be to schedule these tasks, starting in the spring of 2019.

clm/mrb

Enclosure: Facility Plan Checklist

c: Mark St. Lawrence, St. Louis County Environmental Services

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Engineers | Architects | Planners | Scientists

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SEH is 100% employee-owned | [sehinc.com](http://sehinc.com) | 320.229.4300 | 800.572.0617 | 888.908.8166 fax

**Instructions:** The Facilities Plan may be submitted via email at [ppl.submittals.pca@state.mn.us](mailto:ppl.submittals.pca@state.mn.us) (and one hard copy submitted to the assigned Minnesota Pollution Control Agency [MPCA] Review Engineer).

### Facility information

Project name: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed dates for construction: \_\_\_\_\_

City's authorized representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Technical agent or consulting engineer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of firm/organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check yes or no for the following questions

Is the Facilities Plan signed by an engineer registered in the State of Minnesota?  Yes  No

Has the municipality in which the facility will be located held at least one public hearing to discuss the proposed project?

Yes  No If yes, what was the date the hearing was held: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check the boxes below if you have included the following items

If all of the following items are not included with the Facilities Plan, the Facilities Plan is incomplete and may be returned or filed until a complete submittal is received. Facilities Plan review will not begin until a complete submittal is received. Please see Minn. R. 7077.0272 for more information about the content of facilities plan.

- A completed CWRF cost and effectiveness certification checklist **provided by the MPCA.**
- A completed CWRF B3 2030 exemption form **provided by the MPCA.**
- A completed CWRF cost and effectiveness certification form **provided by the MPCA.**
- A summary of the public hearing documenting that the following items were discussed:
  - The various treatment alternatives considered
  - The location of the project site
  - The reasons for choosing the selected treatment method
  - The estimated sewer service charges
- A summary of the comments received at the public hearing and the action taken to address those comments.
- A complete list of addresses used for public notice purposes on a form **provided by the MPCA.**
- A copy of the resolution of the municipality's governing body adopting the facilities plan.
- A list of ordinances or intermunicipal agreements required for the implementation and administration of the project.
- A signed treatment agreement with each significant industrial user.
- For surface water dischargers only, a copy of the Preliminary Effluent Limits review letter **provided by the MPCA** (Wastewater treatment alternatives should also consider antidegradation analysis if necessary).
- A completed Environmental Information Worksheet **provided by the MPCA.**
- For individual sewage treatment systems that serve more than one structure, an assurance from the municipality stating that all property owners who will be served by the proposed system agree to be part of the system, to participate in the construction project, and to finance future operation, maintenance, and replacement of the system.
- Copies of all notifications, certifications, and comments received.

### VNPCWJPB Funding Tracker

KOOCHICHING COUNTY				
Project	Project Cost	No. of EDUs	Project Status	Land Concerns/Comments
<b>Island View Sanitary Sewer Extension</b>	<b>\$19,500,000</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>Under Construction, Awarded to Wagner and USA</b>	<b>County Responsible, multiple easements</b>
	<b>Funding Option</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>	<b>Funding Status</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
	Koochiching County	\$30,000	Received	
	Koochiching County	\$400,000	Received	Used to complete design work
	State Bonding Bill, 2010	\$100,000	Received	
	WRDA-II	\$21,000,000	No action by Congress	
	USDA RD		Max 40% grant, not enough to get to \$120/month rate	
	Grant request in 2013 bonding bill	\$7,500,000	Bonding bill defeated 75-59 in May 2013	
	Capital Bonding Program, 2012	\$7,500,000-	Not funded	Program worth \$47.5 Million
	State Bonding Bill, 2014	\$7,817,800	Secured	
	MN Legacy Funds 2015	\$1,000,000	Secured	\$2m awarded, \$940,000 Kab, \$60k Crane
	2016 US Army Corp (\$4.5m, \$100k to Corp)	\$4,400,000	Secured	
	State Bonding Bill, 2017	\$2,000,000	Secured	
	Mn Legacy Funds 2018/2019	\$1,200,000	Secured	\$2m awarded, \$50k Kab, \$450k to Ash, \$300k to Crane
	anticipated assessment	\$3,600,000		

KABETOGAMA TOWNSHIP				
Project	Project Cost	No. of EDUs	Project Status	Land Concerns
<b>Puck's Point San Swr &amp; WWTF</b>	<b>\$4,500,000</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>Design Complete, Project has been bid twice. Bids are too high</b>	
	<b>Funding Option</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>	<b>Funding Status</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
	Army Corps of Engineers 569 program, 2009	\$450,000	Not accepted due to lack of funds	Reapply in 2010
	IRRRB, 2009	\$50,000	Received	
	State Bonding Bill, 2010	\$0	Received	
	IRRRB, 2010	\$129,349	Received	
	PFA, 2013	\$0	Secured	
	DEED - Small Communities Program, 2013	\$274,619	Secured	Loan @ 1% over 20 years
	DEED - Small Communities Program, 2013	\$1,098,476	Secured	Grant
	MN Legacy Funds 2015	\$940,000	Secured	
	Mn Legacy Funds 2018/2019	\$50,000	Secured	
	MN Rural Water Loan	\$0	Secured	\$850k approve but not used. Interim financing used
	MPFA PSI Grant	\$1,864,929	Secured	
	DNR Capital Contribution	\$70,248	Secured	
	Other Levied Township Sources	\$42,944	Secured	

ASH RIVER - CURRENTLY UNORGANIZED				
Project	Project Cost	No. of EDUs	Project Status	Land Concerns
	<b>\$5,500,000</b>			
	<b>Funding Option</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>	<b>Funding Status</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
	State Bonding Bill, 2010	\$10,000	Secured	
	Mn Legacy Funds 2018/2019	\$450,000	Secured	
	St. Louis County	\$90,000	Secured	

CRANE LAKE WATER & SANITARY DISTRICT - CLWSD				
Project	Project Cost	No. of EDUs	Project Status	Land Concerns
<b>CSAH 24</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>			<b>Construction Complete 6/11</b>
	<b>Funding Option</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>	<b>Funding Status</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
	Taconite Property Tax Relief, 2010	\$99,887	Received	
	State Bonding Bill, 2010	\$150,000	Received	
<b>Handberg Marine</b>				
	<b>Funding Option</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>	<b>Funding Status</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
	USDA Search Grant, 2012	\$30,000-	Not funded	No search dollars were appropriated to MN for the program
	MN Legacy Funds 2015	\$60,000	Secured	
	Bonding Bill, 2014	\$750,000	Secured	
	Taconite Homestead Funds, 2013	\$687,000	Secured	
<b>ESA &amp; Bear Island</b>				
	<b>Funding Option</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>	<b>Funding Status</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
	MPCA National Park Grant Program, 2014	\$1,500,000	Secured	ESA & Bear Island
	Mn Legacy Funds 2018/2019	\$300,000	Secured	

\$

25,092,308 Outside Funding Source Funds