

VNP Clean Water Joint Powers Board Meeting

Wednesday May 20, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Virtual GoTo Meeting

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public comments
3. Approve minutes of the April 15, 2020 JPB meeting
4. Comprehensive Plan Update
5. S.E.H./Advisory Board Representative Updates
 - A. Ash River
 - B. Kabetogama
 - B. Crane Lake
 - C. Koochiching
 - D. VNP
 - E. DNR
 - F. MPCA
6. Project Funding
7. Pay Invoices
8. Other Business
9. Next meeting date
10. Adjourn meeting

VNP CLEAN WATER JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING
April 15, 2020
GoTo Meeting

Attendees:

Wade Pavleck, Brian McBride, Keith Nelson, Paul McDonald, Mark St. Lawrence, Keith Wiley, Rob Scott, John Stegmier, Matt Gouin, Jeff Anderson, Jason Chopp, Mike Larson

The monthly meeting of the VNP Clean Water Powers Board was held via GoTo virtual meeting on April 15, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairman Pavleck. Board members also present were Commissioner McBride, Commissioner Nelson, and Commissioner McDonald. There were no public comments and all attendees introduced themselves.

A motion was made by Commissioner Nelson and supported by Commissioner McDonald to approve the February 19, 2020 meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

Comprehensive Plan

Mark St. Lawrence notified the group that all funding was in place for the Sanitary Sewer Comprehensive Plan. The County will be sending the engineering agreement to SEH in the near future for signature. SEH will begin work on the plan once the agreement is executed.

Ash River.

The Faculty Plan was submitted to the MPCA in March. Mark notified the group that there is \$475,000 in funding allocated for 2020. The board will be meeting soon to pass a resolution for the \$118,750 in local match money that is required. The match money will be advanced to the Ash River Board by St. Louis County.

Kabetogama.

John informed the group that there will be a special election on May 12 for the final service area proposed for the new project. If passed, it would make 5 sub districts.

Crane Lake.

Rob Scott informed the group that the district anticipates constructing new 6 ISTS during the 2020 construction season. The public hearing process is moving forward for the Kicker Blvd annexation. The district is also working on a 0% loan with the MPCA as match money.

Koochiching.

Spring construction has started on the Island View Project. The project is 95% complete with mostly restoration work remaining. There are also ongoing warranty issues with some grinder stations and flow meters. Construction completion is anticipated in June.

DNR. Nothing to report.

MPCA. Nothing to report.

VNP.

Nothing to report. It was noted that the VNP Visitors Center is closed and tour boats have been canceled on Rainy Lake.

Funding

Jeff Anderson provided a general update on legislative progress and the pending interview with the clean water council for future funding requests. Commissioner McDonald and Jason Chopp will participate in the presentation.

There was a motion by supported by Commissioner Nelson and supported by Commissioner McDonald to pay the February and March Costin Group invoices and the 4 SEH invoices. All voted in favor.

The next JPB is for May 20, 2020 at 10:00 AM via GoTo meeting. Jason will send out the meeting login information along with the meeting packet in advance of May 20.

A motion was made by Commissioner McBride and supported by Commissioner Jugovich to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

Submitted by: Jason Chopp, SEH



MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Jason J. Chopp, PE

DATE: May 20, 2020

RE: VNPCWJPB Update
Koochiching and St. Louis Counties, Minnesota
STLES 151379

Board Meetings

The last meeting was a virtual meeting held on April 15, 2020

Action Requested: Minutes for Approval

Ash River

SEH has entered into contract with Duluth Archaeological Center to perform a Phase 1 archaeological review of the Ash River project area as required by MN SHPO as part of the Facility Plan process. The work will be completed this summer. SEH has confirmed with MPCA that this work will be covered under the current Legacy Funds grant.

Stakeholder meetings have been put on hold due to COVID, however, SEH is still working with the District Board to get some property issues hashed out and get direction on who should be served. If we cannot have in-person meetings soon, we will schedule electronic meetings to discuss some of these items.

Email received (attached) from MPCA notifying us that FY20 and FY 21 funding has been frozen by MMB.

Action Requested: None

Kabetogama

Phase II

No Current Updates

John updated the board in September that the board has completed the petition verification. The planned Phase 2 appears to be areas C, F, G, H, and possibly J. Areas J1, A, and D could be considered as a future phase. Based on the current schedule the board would be seeking 2021 funding.

Action Requested: None

Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District

The CLWSD anticipates the installation of 8 to 10 ISTS for 2020. The district is also proceeding with the annexation of Kicker Blvd in 2020.

Action Requested: None

Island View Sanitary Sewer Expansion

Construction activities have resumed on 4/13/2020 by Contract A. Construction activities are anticipated to start soon for Contracts B and C. Contract C is nearly complete with the exception of several punch list items. Clean-up and restorations efforts will continue for Contracts B and C in the spring of 2020. Contract retainage (5%) is being held until the contracts are fully complete.

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.

Jason Chopp 218.305.4733 jchopp@sehinc.com	Colin Marcusen 320.229.4359 cmarcusen@sehinc.com	Mike Larson 218.305.4722 mlarson@sehinc.com	Gary Cerkenik 218.741.0139 gcerk@me.com
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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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FW: Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Legacy funding Mark St Lawrence to: 'Wade Pavleck', Paul McDonald, Keith Nelson, Brian McBride, Mike Jugovich, 'Gary Cerkenik', 'Anderson, Jeff', Colin Marcusen, 'Jason Chopp', 'Debra Sanders', 'Steve Wieber', 'John Stegmeir', Rob Scott, 'Matt Gouin', Keith Wiley 04/28/2020 03:14 PM
 From: Mark St Lawrence <stlawrencem@StLouisCountyMN.gov>
 To: 'Wade Pavleck' <wade.carol@frontier.com>, Paul McDonald <McDonaldP@StLouisCountyMN.gov>, Keith Nelson <NelsonK@StLouisCountyMN.gov>, Brian McBride <Brian.McBride@co.koochiching.mn.us>, Mike Jugovich <JugovichM@StLouisCountyMN.gov>, 'Gary Cerkenik' <gcerk@me.com>, "'Anderson, Jeff'" <jeff@jeffanderson.org>, Colin Marcusen <cmarcusen@sehinc.com>, "'Jason Chopp'" <jchopp@sehinc.com>, 'Debra Sanders' <mn.frontier.resort@gmail.com>, 'Steve Wieber' <ashriversteve@gmail.com>, 'John Stegmeir' <johnstegmeir@yahoo.com>, Rob Scott <relax@scottspacfulvalley.com>, "'Matt Gouin'" <Matt.Gouin@co.koochiching.mn.us>, Keith Wiley <WileyK@StLouisCountyMN.gov>
 History:
 This message has been forwarded.

All,

Received a call this afternoon from the MPCA, followed by the email below. FY20 \$475,000 allocated to the Ash River Sanitary District and next year's entire \$775,000 FY21 funding is currently froze by the Minnesota Management and Budget. Please refer to details below.

Mark St. Lawrence
 Director

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department
 Virginia Government Services Center
 201 South 3rd Avenue West
 Virginia, MN 55792

(218) 749-0647

From: Vanderbosch, Dana (MPCA) [<mailto:dana.vanderbosch@state.mn.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 1:56 PM
To: Mark St Lawrence <stlawrencem@StLouisCountyMN.gov>
Cc: Sahli, David (MPCA) <david.sahli@state.mn.us>; Halbach, Myrna (MPCA) <myrna.halbach@state.mn.us>; Thorson, Randy (MPCA) <randy.thorson@state.mn.us>; Luckstein, Aaron (MPCA) <aaron.luckstein@state.mn.us>
Subject: Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Legacy funding

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Hello Mark,

It was nice to speak with you today, and share some history about the Range! I am sorry that the reason for my

call was such unfortunate news, though.

As we discussed, the February 2020 Budget and Economic Forecast projected a positive balance in the Clean Water Fund (CWF); however, in light of the economic slowdown related to the COVID-19 pandemic, Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) assumes that actual sales tax receipts will decline substantially from what was anticipated in the February forecast. Because of this anticipated decline in receipts, MMB is asking agencies to take proactive steps to prevent a deficit from occurring in the CWF. All state agencies received a message from MMB requiring an immediate halt to executing new grants or contracts with CWF (or sometimes called Legacy funds). MMB is currently evaluating remaining funds within the CWF, and considering how to move forward.

The \$775,000 that was appropriated for sanitary sewer projects described in the Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Project Comprehensive Plan for fiscal year 2020 (FY20) is comprised of Clean Water or Legacy funding. Some of this funding - \$300,000 – is included in a grant that was previously executed, and this grant funding is not affected by the directive from MMB. That \$300,000 grant project can move forward as planned. Funds can be spent on activities described in the grant. The remaining \$475,000 of this FY20 appropriation, though, is essentially frozen – we cannot move forward with executing a grant with these funds at this time. It is possible that the FY21 appropriation of \$775,000 may be impacted, as well.

It is not clear how long MMB's evaluation of the CWF will take or when state agencies will be given approval to move forward with spending Clean Water Funds. I'll be in touch as we get information from MMB. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

~Dana

Dana Vanderbosch, Director
Municipal Division
Office 651-757-2601 | Cell 651-485-1290



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VNPCWJPB Funding Tracker

KOOCHICHING COUNTY				
Project	Project Cost	No. of EDUs	Project Status	Land Concerns/Comments
Island View Sanitary Sewer Extension	\$19,500,000	365	Under Construction, Awarded to Wagner and USA	County Responsible, multiple easements
	Funding Option	Funding Amount	Funding Status	Other Notes
	Koochiching County	\$30,000	Received	
	Koochiching County	\$400,000	Received	Used to complete design work
	State Bonding Bill, 2010	\$100,000	Received	
	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
Puck's Point San Swr & WWTF	\$4,500,000	80	Design Complete, Project has been bid twice. Bids are too high	
	Funding Option	Funding Amount	Funding Status	Other Notes
	IRRRB, 2009	\$50,000	Secured	
	State Bonding Bill, 2010	\$0	Secured	
	IRRRB, 2010	\$129,349	Secured	
	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	\$850k approve but not used. Interim financing used
	Mn Legacy Funds 2018/2019	\$50,000	Secured	
	MN Rural Water Loan	\$0	Secured	
	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
	\$5,500,000			
	Funding Option	Funding Amount	Funding Status	Other Notes
	State Bonding Bill, 2010	\$10,000	Secured	
	Mn Legacy Funds 2018/2019	\$450,000	Secured	
	St. Louis County	\$90,000	Secured	
	Clean Water Legacy	\$950,000	Pending	

CRANE LAKE WATER & SANITARY DISTRICT- CLWSD				
Project	Project Cost	No. of EDUs	Project Status	Land Concerns
CSAH 24	\$3,000,000			Construction Complete 6/11
	Funding Option	Funding Amount	Funding Status	Other Notes
	Taconite Property Tax Relief, 2010	\$99,887	Received	
	State Bonding Bill, 2010	\$150,000	Received	
Handberg Marine				
	Funding Option	Funding Amount	Funding Status	Other Notes
	MN Legacy Funds 2015	\$60,000	Secured	
	Bonding Bill, 2014	\$750,000	Secured	
	Taconite Homestead Funds, 2013	\$687,000	Secured	
ESA & Bear Island				
	Funding Option	Funding Amount	Funding Status	Other Notes
	MPCA National Park Grant Program, 2014	\$1,500,000	Secured	ESA & Bear Island
	Mn Legacy Funds 2018/2019	\$300,000	Secured	
Managed ISTS	Clean Water Legacy	\$600,000	Pending	

\$26,942,308 Outside Funding Source Funds