

# VNP Clean Water Joint Powers Board Meeting

Wednesday April 21, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Public Works Office Cook

## AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public comments
3. Approve minutes of the March 17, 2021
4. Comprehensive Plan and 10 Year Funding Budget
5. S.E.H./Advisory Board Representative Updates
  - A. Ash River
  - B. Kabetogama
  - C. Crane Lake
  - D. Koochiching
  - E. VNP
  - F. DNR
  - G. MPCA
6. Project Funding
7. Pay Invoices
8. Other Business
9. Next meeting date
10. Adjourn meeting

**VNP CLEAN WATER JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING**  
**17 March, 2021**

The monthly meeting of the VNP Clean Water Powers Board was held on March 17, 2021 at the ST Louis County Public Works Office in Cook. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Chairman Pavleck. Board members also present were Commissioners McDonald and Nelson. 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 24, 2020 minutes. All voted in favor.

The Comprehensive Plan continues to be worked by S.E.H. update is ongoing. Updates have been received from Kabetogama. Discussion will continue at the April JPB meeting with a target date of July to complete.

Ash River. The project is still in a waiting period as site access permissions remain from some property owners in order to proceed with the Archaeological services.

Kabetogama. The district plans to continue with the Facilities Planning process this summer once funding is available. S.E.H. will help coordinate soil testing on the potential wastewater treatment plant site for this summer.

Crane Lake. The Kicker Blvd annexation is still ongoing. There was a discussion on the process for the annexation including water studies, CLWSD survey sent to the residents, and the overall project. Commissioner Nelson stated that proactive steps are needed to ensure that we never reach pollution levels. A motion by Commissioner Nelson and supported by Commissioner McDonald for Crane Lake to continue to explore the possibilities for the annexation. All voted in favor.

Island View. The project is operational. However, there are some close out issues with Contract A and B.

DNR. S.E.H. is looking into the land exchange to see if it is still on track for completion in the Spring.

MPCA. Nothing to report.

VNP. Working with Kabetogama on the connection to the VNP facilities.

Mark St Lawrence provided an update on project funding and the Clean Water Council. The current amount in work is \$1.4 million and the goal is to get the number back to the original requested amount of \$1.55 million. The February Costin invoice for \$2500.00 and S.E.H. invoices for Comp Plan \$1944.92 and Ash River \$2041. A motion to pay the invoices was made by Commissioner McDonald and supported by Commissioner Nelson. All voted in favor.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonald and supported by Commissioner Nelson to agree to the March 8, 2021 letter from the Walker Accounting firm for outlined services. All voted in favor.

The next planned meeting is scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1000 at the Public Works office Cook. A motion was made by Commissioner McDonald and supported by Commissioner Nelson to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 11:30.

Submitted by: Rob Scott, secretary



## MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Jason J. Chopp, PE

DATE: April 21, 2021

RE: VNPCWJPB Update  
Koochiching and St. Louis Counties, Minnesota  
STLES 156438

### **Board Meetings**

The last meeting was held in Cook on March 17, 2020

*Action Requested:* Minutes for Approval

### **Comprehensive Plan Update**

Draft Update segments were provided to the 4 districts in February. Revisions are currently underway based on initial comments received from the districts in March and early April.

### **Ash River**

The district has received enough access permissions to begin archaeological services later this spring.

*Action Requested:* None

### **Kabetogama**

#### Phase II

No updates

The district would like to move forward with the Facility Planning process this summer once funding is available. SEH will help coordinate soil testing on the potential wastewater treatment plant site for this summer.

*Action Requested:* None

April 21, 2021

Page 2

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

Design and permitting continues for the WWTP Project with a late summer construction start depending on permitting timelines.

Action Requested: None

### **Island View Sanitary Sewer Expansion.**

Contract C is complete. Contract A is in the processes of closing out. There are still outstanding issues with Contract B.

Action Requested: None

### **Advisory Board Representative Updates**

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

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

Jason Chopp	Colin Marcusen	Mike Larson	Gary Cerkvenik
218.305.4733	320.229.4359	218.305.4722	218.741.0139
<a href="mailto:jchopp@sehinc.com">jchopp@sehinc.com</a>	<a href="mailto:cmarcusen@sehinc.com">cmarcusen@sehinc.com</a>	<a href="mailto:mlarson@sehinc.com">mlarson@sehinc.com</a>	<a href="mailto:gcerk@me.com">gcerk@me.com</a>

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

Att: SEH Invoice, The Costin Group Invoice  
p:\pt\s\stlco\121718\1-gen\16-meeting\new folder\jpb update 012517.doc

## Jason Chopp

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**From:** Jeff Anderson <jeff@costingroupmn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 10:23 AM  
**To:** Jeff Anderson  
**Cc:** Gary Cerkenik  
**Subject:** Update

Good morning:

I wanted to pass along news about the House Omnibus Legacy Finance bill, which includes Clean Water funding and our Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Project funding. After 2 1/2 hours of debate, the bill, as amended, was passed 79-52 in the House last evening. It now moves to the Senate.

Here is a link to the full bill and our specific funding language is below. Please contact us if you have any questions. We expect the Senate to take their bill up soon.

[https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF1079&type=bill&version=3&session=ls92&session\\_year=2021&session\\_number=0](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF1079&type=bill&version=3&session=ls92&session_year=2021&session_number=0)

(h) \$700,000 the first year and \$700,000 the second year are for a grant program for sanitary sewer projects that are included in the draft or any updated Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Project Comprehensive Plan to restore the water quality of waters in Voyageurs National Park. Grants must be awarded to local government units for projects approved by the Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board and must be matched by at least 25 percent from sources other than the clean water fund.

**Jeff Anderson**  
(218) 590-5970

**Costin Group, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 385  
Duluth, MN 55801  
Email: [jeff@costingroupmn.com](mailto:jeff@costingroupmn.com)



### 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	
	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>
	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
	<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	
	Clean Water Legacy	\$905,000	Pending	

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>
	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	
Managed ISTS	Clean Water Legacy	\$600,000	Pending	

\$27,070,252 Outside Funding Source Funds