



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.
Minutes.

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DATE: November 27, 2000
TO: Board of Water and Soil Resources Members, Advisors and Staff
FROM: Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director
SUBJECT: December 13th BWSR Meeting

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will meet on Wednesday, December 13, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the BWSR conference room at One West Water Street, St. Paul. The following information pertains to the agenda items:

Consent Agenda

1. Aitkin County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension: See attached. DECISION
2. Lyon County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension: See attached. DECISION
3. Nicollet County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension: See attached. DECISION
4. Pine County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension: See attached. DECISION
5. Sibley County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension: See attached. DECISION
6. Stevens County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension: See attached. DECISION

Committee Recommendations

1. Fillmore County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update: See attached. DECISION
2. Houston County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update: See attached. DECISION
3. Todd County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update: See attached. DECISION

4. Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Watershed Management Plan: On November 15, 2000, the BWSR Metro Subcommittee recommended approval of the Capitol Region Watershed District Watershed Management Plan to the BWSR Board. The BWSR Metro Region Staff also recommends approval of the CRWD Plan. The Plan does comply with the Minnesota Rules 8410 and the fundamental planning expectations articulated by BWSR. The Plan accurately reflects a focused management framework consistent with the recommendations provided by the Citizen Advisory Committee and the interagency work team. See attached.
DECISION

New Business

1. Local Government Accomplishments in 1998 and 1999 Reported via the Local Government Annual Reporting Systems (LARS): See attached.
INFORMATION/DISCUSSION
2. 2002/03 Local Water Planning Challenge Grant Policy Changes: The LCMR has recommended that \$1.34 million be awarded to BWSR to distribute through the LWP Challenge Grant Program and they also earmarked \$25,000 to the ongoing efforts to create a GIS-based reporting system. In addition to the \$1.34 proposed for challenge grants in the 2002/03 biennium, BWSR has \$660,000 for a total of \$2 million available to local units of government. The Grants Team has met and agreed to a process to distribute the grant money pending board approval. See attached.
DECISION
3. Minnesota's Tillage Transect Survey for Monitoring Trends in Crop Residue Management: See attached. INFORMATION

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call. I look forward to seeing you on December 13!

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
ONE WEST WATER STREET, CONFERENCE ROOM
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55107
DECEMBER 13, 2000**

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

9:00 a.m. Call Meeting to Order

Adopt Agenda

Minutes of October 25, 2000

Reports

- Chair – Kathleen Roer
- Executive Director – Ron Harnack
- Dispute Resolution Committee – Jim Dahlvang
- Wetlands Committee – Darrell Bruggman
- Cost-Share/Soil Conservation Committee – Dwain Otte
- Education and Public Relations Committee – Paul Krabbenhoft
- Financial Oversight Committee – Ginny Imholte
- Administrative Advisory Committee – Kathleen Roer

Agency Reports

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Extension Service
- Pollution Control Agency

Consent Agenda

1. Aitkin County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension – DECISION
2. Lyon County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension – DECISION
3. Nicollet County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension - DECISION
4. Pine County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension – DECISION
5. Sibley County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension - DECISION
6. Stevens County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan Extension - DECISION

Committee Recommendations

1. Fillmore County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update – DECISION
2. Houston County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update – DECISION
3. Todd County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update – DECISION
4. Capitol Region Watershed District Watershed Management Plan – DECISION

New Business

1. Local Government Accomplishments in 1998 and 1999 Reported via the Local Government Annual Reporting System (LARS) – Eric Mohring – INFORMATION/DISCUSSION
2. 2002/03 Local Water Planning Challenge Grant Policy Changes – Marybeth Block – DECISION
3. Minnesota's Tillage Transect Survey for Monitoring Trends in Crop Residue Management – Derek Fisher - INFORMATION

Advisory Comments

- Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT)
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE)
- Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD)
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Upcoming Meetings

- Next BWSR Meeting, January 24, 2001, St. Paul
- NACD Annual Meeting, February 4-8, 2001, Fort Worth, Texas

Consent Agenda

1. **Aitkin County Request for
Comprehensive Local Water
Plan Extension
DECISION**

(FOR BOARD ACTION)

AITKIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN EXTENSION

Aitkin County's current Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on December 20, 1995. The effective or end date of this CLWP is December 31, 2000.

The 1995 amendment to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, M.S. 103B.301, gives BWSR authority to grant an extension of a CLWP ending date. The County's request, which has a two year limit, must be in writing. On November 15, 2000, the BWSR received a Resolution from the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners.

At the present time, Aitkin County has a number of major planning efforts underway. These planning efforts include a Comprehensive Land Use Management Plan, a Comprehensive Wetland Management Plan, and a Shoreland Management Ordinance. The resolution for the extension requested is based on the need to incorporate these on-going efforts into the water plan update. In order to allow an adequate amount of time for coordination to take place, Board Conservationist Keith Grow recommends approval of Aitkin County's 18-month extension request until June 30, 2002.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED November 7, 2000

1. By Commissioner: Peterson

110700-134

WHEREAS, 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Planning Act, M.S. 103B.301 gave the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period not to exceed 2 years; and

WHEREAS, Aitkin County has a current state approved and locally adopted Comprehensive Local Water Plan with an end date of December 31, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Aitkin County is an active participant in other major planning efforts currently underway such as the Comprehensive Land Use Management Plan, the County Wetland Plan and the Shore Land Management Ordinance Update, which require county staff and commissioner time and work effort; and

WHEREAS, These other major planning efforts will result in information that will benefit the county during its Comprehensive Local Water Plan update efforts; and

WHEREAS, To continue as an active participant and obtain information that will benefit the Comprehensive Local Water Plan update, Aitkin County will not be able to complete its Comprehensive Local Water Plan update prior to December 31, 2000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners request from BWSR a 18 month extension (until June 30, 2002) of their existing Comprehensive Local Water Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Aitkin County will insure continued public participation in the form of Water Plan Advisory Committee and Public Information meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, No projects will be ordered or commenced under M.S. 103B.301 subd. 3 and 4 during the extension period.

Commissioner Haug moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Aitkin) ss.
Office of County Auditor,)

I, Kirk Peysar, Auditor, of the County of Aitkin, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in my office on the 7th day of November A.D., 2000, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Aitkin, Minnesota, this 7th day of November A.D. 2000


KIRK PEYSAR, County Auditor
BY _____, Deputy

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
for Aitkin County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24 authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas, Aitkin County had a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until December 31, 2000 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources on November 7, 2000, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now Therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On November 15, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Aitkin County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan.
2. On November 16, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Aitkin County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Aitkin County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the extension of the Aitkin County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until June 30, 2002. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 13th day of December, 2000.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chair

Consent Agenda

**2. Lyon County Request for
Comprehensive Local Water
Plan Extension
DECISION**

Lyon COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN (FOR BOARD ACTION)

Lyon County has a Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on December 18,, 1996. Lyon County then locally adopted their CLWP via a county resolution dated January 21, 1997. The effective date (end date) of this CLWP is December 31, 2001.

The 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, M.S. 103B.301, gives the Board of Water and Soil Resources authority to grant extensions to counties for the purpose of extending the ending date of their water plans. These extensions must be requested in writing and cannot be for more than two years.

At their December 15, 1999, board meeting, the BWSR approved a local water planning document which addressed BWSR expectations, internal actions and multi-planning strategies. Multi-planning strategies addresses granting CLWP extensions to counties where other planning efforts (water or watershed level) are currently underway. These other efforts require the input of the water planner and associated technical advisors in the county. Completion of other water planning efforts would benefit the CLWP update.

Lyon County is currently updating their Land Use Management Plan. This major effort will require county staff time and work effort.

Board Conservationist Tabor Hoek recommends approval of Lyon County's one year extension request.

NOV 1 2000

RESOLUTION

EXTENSION REQUEST FOR COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN UPDATE COMPLETION DATE

WHEREAS, 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Act, M.S. 103B.301 gave the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period not to exceed 2 years; and

WHEREAS, Lyon County has a current state approved and locally adopted Comprehensive Local Water Plan with an end date of December 31, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Lyon County will be developing a new comprehensive land use plan over the next 18 months; and

WHEREAS, this planning effort will result in information that will benefit the Comprehensive Local Water Plan update, Lyon County will not be able to complete its Comprehensive Local Water Plan update, prior to December 31, 2001.

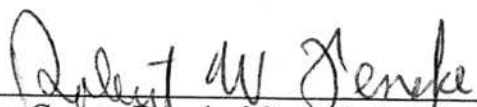
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyon County Board of Commissioners request from BWSR a one year extension of their existing Comprehensive Local Water Plan.

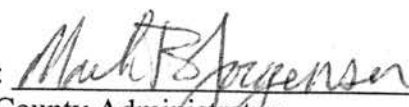
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Lyon County will insure continued public participation in the form of Water Plan Task Force Committee and Public Information meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, no projects will be ordered or commenced under M.S. 103B.331, subd. 3 and 4 during the extension period.

Ayes 5

Nays 0


Lyon County Board of Commissioners, Chair

Attest: 
Lyon County Administrator

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
for Lyon County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24 authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas, Lyon County had a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until December 31, 2001 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Lyon County Board of Commissioners requested an extension of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources on November 7, 2000, pursuant to Minnesota Session law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now Therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On November 14, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Lyon County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan.
2. On November 14, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Lyon County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Lyon County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the extension of the Lyon County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until December 31, 2002. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 13th day of December, 2000.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chairperson

Consent Agenda

3. **Nicollet County Request for
Comprehensive Local Water
Plan Extension
DECISION**

NICOLLET COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN (FOR BOARD ACTION)

Nicollet County has a Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on December 18, 1996. Nicollet County's board of commissioners locally adopted their CLWP on January 28, 1997. The effective date (end date) of this CLWP is December 31, 2000.

The 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, M.S. 103B.301, gives the Board of Water and Soil Resources authority to grant extensions to counties for the purpose of extending the ending date of their water plans. These extensions must be requested in writing and cannot be for more than two years.

At their December 15, 1999, board meeting, the BWSR approved a local water planning document which addressed BWSR expectations, internal actions and multi-planning strategies. Multi-planning strategies addresses granting CLWP extensions to counties where other planning efforts (water or watershed level) are currently underway. These other efforts require the input of the water planner and associated technical advisors in the county. Completion of other water planning efforts would benefit the CLWP update.

Nicollet County is an active player in two watershed level efforts currently underway: the Middle Minnesota River Watershed; and the Lower Minnesota River Watershed. These two watersheds are undergoing the initial growing pains associated with structural organization. Participation in these activities require county staff time and work effort.

On October 26, 1999, the Nicollet County board of commissioner authorized staff to begin the third generation CLWP updating process. Staff began the process in early 2000, but will not be able to complete it by December 31, 2000. A request has been made to grant a one-year extension which would allow adequate time to fully complete the third generation CLWP.

Board Conservationist Tom Fischer recommends approval of Nicollet County's one-year extension request. The existing plan would be extended until December 31, 2001.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
for **Nicollet** County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24 authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas, Nicollet County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until December 31, 2000 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Nicollet County Board of Commissioners requested an extension of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources on October 10, 2000, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now Therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On October 10, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Nicollet County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan.
2. On October 16, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Nicollet County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Nicollet County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the extension of the Nicollet County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until December 31, 2001. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 13th day of December, 2000.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chairperson

Consent Agenda

4. **Pine County Request for
Comprehensive Local Water
Plan Extension
DECISION**

(FOR BOARD ACTION)

PINE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN EXTENSION

Pine County's current Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on December 16, 1992. The effective, or end date, of this CLWP is December 31, 2000.

The 1995 amendment to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, M.S. 103B.301, gives BWSR authority to grant an extension of a CLWP ending date. A County's request which has a two-year limit must be in writing. On October 17, 2000, the BWSR received a Resolution from the Pine County Board of Commissioners.

At the present time, Pine County is attempting to coordinate a number of planning efforts within the County. This includes a Clean Water Partnership on Cross Lake, an Askov sinkhole study, the Pine Lake Township ISTI study, and the completion of the Pine County Atlas.

Data resulting from the on-going studies will strengthen the assessment, goals, and objectives portion of the County Water Plan update. The resolution extension requested is based on the need to incorporate these activities. In order to allow for a coordinated effort, Board Conservationist Keith Grow recommends approval of Pine County's 18-month Extension request until June 30, 2002.

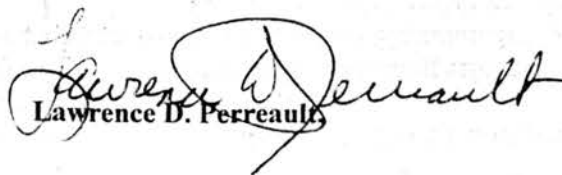
Water Plan Administrator

Resolution Requesting Extension of Pine County Comprehensive Local Water Plan

Commissioner Montbriand offered the following resolution No. WP-10.03.00 and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS, 1995 Amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Planning Act, M.S. 103B.301 gave the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period not to exceed 2 years; and
WHEREAS, Pine County has a current state approved and locally adopted Comprehensive Local Water Plan with an end date of December 31, 2000; and
WHEREAS, Pine County is an active participant in other major planning efforts currently underway (i.e. Cross Lake Clean Water Partnership Phase 1, Askov Sinkhole Study, the Pine County Geologic Atlas, and the Pine Lake Township ISTS Study) which require county staff and commissioner time and work effort; and
WHEREAS, these other major planning efforts will result in information that will benefit the county during its Comprehensive Local Water Plan update efforts; and
WHEREAS, to continue as an active participant and obtain information that will benefit the Comprehensive Local Water Plan update, Pine County will not be able to complete its Comprehensive Local Water Plan update prior to December 31, 2000.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Pine County Board of Commissioners request from BWSR an eighteen (18) month extension of their existing Comprehensive Local Water Plan.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Pine County will continue public participation in the form of Water Plan Task Force Committee and Public Information meetings.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, no projects will be ordered or commenced under M.S. 103B.331, subd. 3 and 4 during the extension period.
Commissioner Lindquist seconded the motion for adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0

Certification: I, Lawrence D. Perreault, Clerk of the Pine County Board of Commissioners do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of a resolution presented to and adopted by the County of Pine at a duly authorized meeting thereof held on the 3rd day of October, 2000


Lawrence D. Perreault

RECEIVED

OCT 17 2000

**BD OF WATER & SOIL
RESOURCES - BRAINERD**

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
for Pine County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24 authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas, Pine County had a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until December 31, 2000 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Pine County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources on October 3, 2000, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now Therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On October 17, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Pine County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan.
2. On October 18, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Pine County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Pine County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the extension of the Pine County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until June 30, 2002. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 13th day of December, 2000.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chair

Consent Agenda

**5. Sibley County Request for
Comprehensive Local Water
Plan Extension
DECISION**

SIBLEY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN (FOR BOARD ACTION)

Sibley County has a Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on June 26, 1996. Sibley County's board of commissioners locally adopted their CLWP on July 9, 1996. The effective date (end date) of this CLWP is December 31, 2000.

The 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, M.S. 103B.301, gives the Board of Water and Soil Resources authority to grant extensions to counties for the purpose of extending the ending date of their water plans. These extensions must be requested in writing and cannot be for more than two years.

At their December 15, 1999, board meeting, the BWSR approved a local water planning document which addressed BWSR expectations, internal actions and multi-planning strategies. Multi-planning strategies addresses granting CLWP extensions to counties where other planning efforts (water or watershed level) are currently underway. These other efforts require the input of the water planner and associated technical advisors in the county. Completion of other water planning efforts would benefit the CLWP update.

Sibley County is an active player in two watershed level efforts currently underway: the Middle Minnesota River Watershed; and the Lower Minnesota River Watershed. These two watersheds are undergoing the initial growing pains associated with structural organization. Sibley County is also an active player in the Crow River Watershed Clean Water Partnership Project (begun in 1999) and is the coordinator in a two-year Clean Water Partnership Project for the High Island Creek Watershed (began in early 2000). Participation in these activities require county staff time and work effort. Also, information gathered from the two Clean Water Partnership Projects should be beneficial to the county's third generation CLWP.

On February 8, 2000, the Sibley County board of commissioner authorized staff to begin the third generation CLWP updating process. Staff began the process in early 2000, but will not be able to complete it by December 31, 2000. A request has been made to grant a one-year extension which would allow adequate time to fully complete the third generation CLWP.

Board Conservationist Tom Fischer recommends approval of Sibley County's one-year extension request. The existing plan would be extended until December 31, 2001.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
for **Sibley** County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24 authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas, Sibley County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until December 31, 2000 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Sibley County Board of Commissioners requested an extension of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources on October 12, 2000, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now Therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On October 12, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Sibley County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan.
2. On October 16, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Sibley County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Sibley County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the extension of the Sibley County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until December 31, 2001. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 13th day of December, 2000.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chairperson

Consent Agenda

**6. Stevens County Request for
Comprehensive Local Water
Plan Extension
DECISION**

STEVENS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN (FOR BOARD ACTION)

Stevens County has a Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on December 18, 1996. Stevens County then locally adopted their CLWP via a county resolution dated February 20, 1997. The effective date (end date) of this CLWP is December 18, 2001.

The 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act (M.S. 103B.301) gives the Board of Water and Soil Resources authority to grant extensions to counties for the purpose of extending the ending date of their water plans. These extensions must be requested in writing and cannot be for more than two years.

At their December 15, 1999, board meeting, the BWSR approved a local water planning document which addressed BWSR expectations, internal actions and multi-planning strategies. Multi-planning strategies address granting CLWP extensions to counties where other planning efforts (water or watershed level) are currently underway. These other efforts require the input of the water planner and associated technical advisors in the county. Completion of other water planning efforts would benefit the CLWP update.

Stevens County is an active player in the Chippewa River Watershed Project, Pomme de Terre River Watershed Project, and the Bois de Sioux Watershed District Overall Plan update.

Board Conservationist Pete Waller recommends approval of Stevens County's two-year extension request to December 18, 2003.

STEVENS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

DATE: October 24, 2000

RESOLUTION NO. 24

Motion by Loher

Seconded by Kloos

**RESOLUTION NO. 20001016-24
REQUESTING EXTENSION OF
COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN**

WHEREAS, 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Planing Act, M.S. 103B.301 gave the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period not to exceed 2 years; and

WHEREAS, Stevens County has a current state approved and locally adopted Comprehensive Local Water Plan with an end date of December 18, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Stevens County is an active participant in other major planning efforts currently underway such as the Chippewa River Watershed Project, Pomme de Terre River Watershed Project, and the Bois de Sioux Watershed Plan Update;

WHEREAS, these other major planning efforts will result in information that will benefit the county during its Comprehensive Local Water Plan update efforts; and

WHEREAS, to continue as an active participant and obtain information that will benefit the Comprehensive Local Water Plan update Stevens County will not be able to complete its Comprehensive Local Water Plan update prior to December 18, 2001.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stevens County Board of Commissioners request from BWSR a 2 year extension of their existing Comprehensive Local Water Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Stevens County will ensure continued public participation in the form of Water Plan Task Force and Public Information meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, no projects will be ordered or commenced under M.S. 103B.331 subd.. 3 or 4 during the extension period.

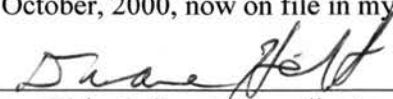
Name	Yes	No	Name	Yes	No
Stevenson	Y		Sherstad	Y	
Kloos	Y		Loher	Y	

STATE OF MINNESOTA)

) ss.

COUNTY OF STEVENS)

I, Duane Hebert, County Coordinator for the County of Stevens, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, Stevens County, Minnesota at their session held on the 16th day of October, 2000, now on file in my office, and have found the same to be a true and correct copy thereof.


Duane Hebert, County Coordinator

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
for **Stevens** County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24 authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas, Stevens County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until December 18, 2001 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Stevens County Board of Commissioners requested an extension of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources on October 16, 2000, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now Therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On October 31, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Stevens County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan.
2. On November 2, 2000, the Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Stevens County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Stevens County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the extension of the Stevens County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until December 18, 2003. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 13th day of December, 2000.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chairperson
December 13, 2000

Committee Recommendations
**1. Fillmore County Comprehensive
Local Water Plan Update
DECISION**

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55107

**FILLMORE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE
LOCAL WATER PLAN UPDATE 2000**

FOR BOARD ACTION

The Fillmore County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (Plan) was adopted by Fillmore County on April 10, 1990, a revision was adopted on February 6, 1996, and approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on January 26, 1996. Fillmore County submitted a Local Water Plan 2000 Update (Plan Update) to the BWSR and the final ninety-day state review process began on October 12, 2000. The final review period ends January 9, 2001.

The BWSR Staff prepared a written overview of the Plan Update on November 20, 2000 for information and review. This is included in the BWSR December agenda packet.

On November 29, 2000, the BWSR Water Plan Review Committee is scheduled to meet with the BWSR Staff and Representatives of Fillmore County to review and discuss the Plan Update. The review committee will make their recommendations to the BWSR at the December 13, 2000 board meeting. The draft Board Order will be sent to all board members for your review following the November 29, 2000 committee meeting and prior to the BWSR December board meeting. Board decision on the Fillmore County Plan Update will be requested.

OVERVIEW OF THE FILLMORE COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLAN UPDATE FOR THE DECEMBER 13, 2000 BWSR MEETING

INTRODUCTION

Fillmore County has prepared a Comprehensive Water Management Plan (Plan) in accordance to Minnesota Statutes 103B and Minnesota Rule Chapter 9300. The Water Plan Update (Plan Update) covers a period of five years, 2000 to 2005.

Fillmore County is a member of the nine county Southeastern Minnesota Water Resources Joint Powers Board (JPB). The JPB is supported by a technical committee made up of county water plan coordinators and cooperating resource agency staff.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF COUNTY

Fillmore County is located in southeastern Minnesota in the southernmost tier of counties along the Iowa Border. The county has a total area of 864 square miles: 65% of the land is used for croplands, 21% is used for pasture or timberland, 5% is developed, and 9% is used for other activities. Fillmore County has 13 cities along with numerous small unincorporated communities of varying size. Industry is mostly agricultural based with an increasing number of businesses relying on tourism.

Fillmore County is a gently rolling or rolling upland plain, deeply dissected in places by stream valley resulting in no remaining natural basins for lakes. Narrow valleys and limestone bluffs are typical of the highly dissected areas in the eastern half of the county. The western half of the county is gently rolling drift plain, only slightly dissected by streams. In the extreme northwest and southwest, on the broad divides between streams, the relief is level and smooth because of the leveling and filling action of glaciers. In this area extensive flats and large poorly drained depressions are common. The soils and land types of Fillmore county formed primarily in the deposits laid down by wind, water, and ice during the glacial period with an extensive mantle of loess, ranging from a few inches to more than 20 feet deep.

Fillmore County is drained almost entirely by the eastward flowing tributaries of the Root River with a small portion being drained by the Upper Iowa River. Many small tributary streams are fed by springs, but surface water often drains into sinks or sinkholes and thence to underground drainage channels.

Fillmore County relies primarily on the Prairie Du Chien - Jordan aquifer for its drinking water. Other aquifers of importance are the Upper Carbonate and the Franconia - Ironston - Galesville aquifers. Fillmore County's landscape is characterized by its karst topography. Shallow soil cover in about two-thirds of the county and the karst features, such as sinkholes, springs, caves, combine to create an area highly sensitive to ground water contamination from pollution sources at the land's surface.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fillmore county and cooperating agencies have accomplished a number of successful implementation activities. Just a few of the accomplishments of this partnership include:

- 1) The initiation of a targeted watershed project in the South Branch of the Root River in 1996 resulting in an approved Clean Water Partnership Grant being awarded for data collection and watershed assessment. An active steering committee has been assisting local, state and federal agency partners with project implementation and education activities.
- 2) Fillmore County has taken a lead in addressing feedlot and manure management issues outlined in the water plan. This leadership has resulted in a full-time feedlot officer being hired in 2000 to help direct, coordinate and implement the planned activities.
- 3) Ground water issues have been actively addressed with activities such as well testing clinics, well sealing demonstrations, wellhead protection assistance to city, dye trace studies, "Report-a-Dump" campaign and ISTS installation demonstrations.
- 4) Sinkhole treatment and land use management issues continue to be addressed by the partners. A result was the Wykoff sinkhole treatment project that diverted stormwater runoff from a sinkhole through a constructed grassed waterway system. This was funded by a BWSR special project grant. The city of Canton had a similar project funded in the past.
- 5) The County and SWCD's decision to fund and use state-of-the-art GIS technology to help define, plan and implement good land and water management principals and practices.

The county, technical advisory committee and citizen's advisory committee have demonstrated a major commitment toward water management protection.

STAFF REVIEW

The Fillmore County Water Plan Update is well organized. The table of contents includes all requirements of a stand-alone document and effective dates are stated as 2001 to 2005. The overall goal of the Plan Update is the protection of the county's ground and surface waters from point and non-point sources of pollution at or near the lands surface. The Plan Update is organized around ten water quality issues. Under each policy issue, the county's goals is stated followed by a setting that describes present conditions and assessment of the particular issued. The Plan Update clearly lays out the implementation plans of the county for the next five years. A county water plan matrix (2001-2005) summarizes the implementation actions by year.

The ten priority policy issues for this version of the water plan has changed from the last version based on the comments and prioritization process from the public information meeting and are as follows: 1) land use, development and zoning; 2) feedlots and manure management; 3) karst topography; 4) fertilizer and pesticide use; 5) erosion and runoff control; 6) public and private water supplies and source water protection; 7) sewage and wastewater storage and transportation; 8) solid waste management; 9) fuel and hazardous materials storage and transportation and 10) wetlands, floodplains and shore lands.

The Plan Update was submitted to BWSR for final review that began on October 12, 2000.

**Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55107**

In the Matter of Reviewing the Comprehensive Water Plan Update
For Fillmore County (Minnesota Statutes 1990, Section 103B.311,
Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5 and Minnesota
Rules 9300.0171)

**ORDER APPROVING
COMPREHENSIVE
WATER PLAN**

Whereas, the Fillmore County Board of Commissioners adopted a Comprehensive Water Plan on April 10, 1990, under authority of M.S. 1990, Section 103B.301, which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on March 28, 1990, pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Fillmore County Board of Commissioners adopted a revised Comprehensive Water Plan (Plan) on February 6, 1996, under authority of M.S. 1990, Section 103B.301, which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on January 25, 1996, pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Plan provided for updating in 2000 pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.311, Subd.4, and

Whereas, the Fillmore County Board of Commissioners submitted a Comprehensive Water Plan Update (Plan Update) to the BWSR on October 12, 2000, pursuant to M.S.1990, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the BWSR has completed its review of the Plan Update.

Now Therefore, the BWSR hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. M.S. 1990, Section 103B.311, Subd. 4, requires adopted Comprehensive Water Plans to be updated on a recurring basis.
2. On September 21, 1999, Fillmore County passed a resolution to develop a Comprehensive Water Plan Update to meet the Plan Update requirements.
3. Fillmore County completed a draft Plan Update on June 28, 2000, and submitted it to affected local units of government for review and comment pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd. 1. The County received written local comments from the City of Harmony.

4. On June 28, 2000, Fillmore County submitted a draft Plan Update to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the State Planning Agency and the Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS) for preliminary review and comment. The County received written preliminary comments from MPCA, DNR, MGS, MDA, and the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR).
5. On September 19, 2000, Fillmore County held a public hearing on the Plan Update pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd. 4, for the purpose of obtaining public input into the Plan Update.
6. On October 12, 2000, BWSR received Fillmore County's final Plan Update along with all written comments and responses received on the Plan Update and a record of the public hearing for final State review pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd 4.
7. On November 27, 2000, a written overview of the Fillmore County Plan Update was sent to the BWSR for their information and review.
8. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH): No preliminary comments were received. BWSR received the final comment letter on November 9, 2000, stating MDH has reviewed and recommends the approval of the Fillmore County Comprehensive Water Plan Update.
9. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): Preliminary comments were made to the County on the land use, development, and zoning issue, suggesting action items to address development pressure for revising ordinance to allow more than "one per forty"; erosion and runoff control issue regarding a more comprehensive approach or objective for urban stormwater management; and resource data and maps. Additional data items were sent to the County for their records and assessments. MPCA commended Fillmore County for developing a well-organized and user-friendly Plan Update.

The County responded in writing to MPCA's preliminary comments saying that changes were incorporated into the final draft of the Plan Update based on their recommendations. Final comment letter was received on November 27, 2000, and recommended the approval of the Plan Update.

10. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR): The local DNR forester was an active participant in the Plan Update development. Preliminary comments were made to the County on wetlands, suggesting the option of land acquisition of priority wetlands when the opportunity exists.

The County responded in writing to DNR's preliminary comments saying that changes were incorporated into the final draft of the Plan Update based on their recommendations. A final comment letter from DNR was not received.

11. Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS): Preliminary comments were made to the County on the County Well Index database and its possible uses by County residents; interest in knowing how the County will be applying the revised MPCA feedlot rules in the karst areas; and the MGS concerns that County staff still did not have enough data to determine the status and trend of groundwater quality in the major aquifers of the County (top of p.15). MGS was impressed by the number and variety of actions proposed by the County to deal with karst and its continued commitment to springshed mapping to build on the foundation provided by the County's geologic atlas investigation.

The County responded in writing to MGS's preliminary comments saying that changes were incorporated into the final draft of the Plan Update based on their recommendations. Final comment letter was received on November 16, 2000, and recommended approval of the Plan Update.

12. Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA): Preliminary comments were made to the County regarding the County's plans for pesticide monitoring in South Branch Root River watershed and Upper Iowa watershed. MDA supports this action as an achievable, laudable goal for the County; however, such a program has not yet been formalized, and they cannot fully commit to implementation within the timeframe shown. They are willing to pursue the interest in this action and partnership. MDA provided a staff directory for programs of the Agronomy and Plant Protection Division for the County's use.

The County responded in writing to MDA's preliminary comments saying that changes were incorporated into the final draft of the Plan Update based on their recommendations. A final comment letter was not received.

13. Minnesota State Planning Agency/Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Review: No written preliminary or final comments were received.
14. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Review: Preliminary comments were made to the County and commendations on the Plan Update organization, development and resource assessments were noted. Comments were given on current trends and identified issues presented in the Plan Update relating to stormwater management activities and upland tillage BMP implementation. Comments and questions were asked of the wetland management activities and the SWCD's cost-share priorities as it relates to the Plan Update and the targeted watersheds.

The County responded in writing to BWSR's preliminary comments saying that changes were incorporated into the final draft of the Plan Update based on the recommendations. All revisions were incorporated into the Plan Update prior to the final review.

BWSR final comments were provided during the BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee meeting. Fillmore County partners did an excellent job of putting together a comprehensive water resource management plan that addresses the water resource issues and incorporates all local, state and federal partner comments and concerns. The County and the partners are strongly committed to providing resources, time, and dollars to meet the goals and implement the Plan Update.

This Plan Update clearly states the resource issues, priorities and implementation plan of the County for the next five years. In addition, the Fillmore SWCD has adopted this Plan Update as their Comprehensive Plan.

This Plan Update exceeds the minimum requirements for updating county water plans. BWSR expectations for third generation water plans have been met. Fillmore County and partners are commended for their comprehensive approach to water resource management and their leadership in addressing priority issues.

15. BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee Meeting: On November 29, 2000, the BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee met in Rushford, Minnesota, with BWSR staff and representatives from Fillmore County to review and discuss the Plan Update. Those in attendance were Mark Dittrick, MDA; Jim Dahlvang, Al Oehlke and Char Kahler, BWSR members; Jeff Neilsen and Mary Kells, BWSR staff; and County representatives Nancy Overcott, Deb Anderson, Duane Bakke, Kevin Scheidecker and Donna Rasmussen.

The BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee met to determine whether all relevant law and rule requirements had been met and to hear comments from the County on the planning process.

CONCLUSIONS

1. On November 29, 2000, the BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee recommended that the Board of Water and Soil Resources approve the Fillmore County Plan Update.
2. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The BWSR has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of Fillmore County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1990, 103B.311, Subd. 4, and Minnesota Rules 9300.0170, Subp. 4.
3. The Fillmore County Plan Update attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the County; possible solutions; general goals, objectives and actions of the County; and an implementation program. The attached Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes 1990, 103B.301 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 9300.

ORDER

The BWSR hereby approves the attached plan as the Comprehensive Water Plan Update of Fillmore County, dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this thirteenth day of December two thousand.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chair

Committee Recommendations
**2. Houston County Comprehensive
Local Water Plan Update
DECISION**

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55107

**HOUSTON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE
LOCAL WATER PLAN UPDATE 2000**

FOR BOARD ACTION

The original Houston County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (Plan) was adopted by Houston County on April 10, 1990, a revision to that plan was adopted on January 30, 1996, and approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on January 25, 1996. Houston County submitted a Local Water Plan Update (Plan Update) to the BWSR on September 28, 2000, at which time the final ninety-day state review process began. The final review period ends December 26, 2000.

The BWSR Staff prepared a written overview of the Plan Update on November 29, 2000 for information and review. This is included in the BWSR December agenda packet.

On November 29, 2000, the BWSR Water Plan Review Committee will meet with the BWSR Staff and Representatives of Houston County to review and discuss the Plan Update. The review committee will make their recommendations to the BWSR at the December 13, 2000 board meeting. The draft Board Order will be sent to all board members for your review following the November 29, 2000 committee meetings and prior to the BWSR December board meeting. Board decision on the Houston County Plan Update will be requested.

OVERVIEW OF THE HOUSTON COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLAN UPDATE FOR THE DECEMBER 13, 2000 BWSR MEETING

INTRODUCTION

Houston County has prepared a Comprehensive Water Management Plan (Plan) in accordance to Minnesota Statutes 103B and Minnesota Rule Chapter 9300. The Water Plan Update covers a period of five years, 2000 to 2005.

Houston County is a member of the nine-county Southeastern Minnesota Water Resources Joint Powers Board (JPB). The JPB is supported by a technical committee made up of county water plan coordinators and cooperating resource agency staff.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF COUNTY

Houston County is in the southeast corner of the state. It has an area of about 570 square miles and consists of 17 townships, seven incorporated communities and 13 unincorporated communities. The land use of the County is predominately agriculture. The population and towns are dependent on agriculture and associated agricultural operations for their livelihood. Apples are an important crop in the northeastern part of the County. Small industries include food processing, a metal plating industry and timber mills.

Houston County is at the western edge of the driftless region of the upper Mississippi valley and has the most extreme topography of any county in the southern part of Minnesota. Differences in elevations between ridge tops and flood plains range as much as 600 feet. The upland consists of a high narrow ridge and lower lying dissected plain. The ridge and plain consist of sedimentary rock deposited in former inland seas. The bedrock has a mantle of loamy to clayey erosional sediment on its surface in most places. This is blanketed by a mantle of loess that covers all but the steep to very steep slopes along river and creeks. The lower lying plain, making up most of the County, has been carved into an intricate pattern of deep valleys and ridges. The valleys formed by the dissection of the plain have terraces along the major creeks and streams that are as high as 80 feet above the valley floor. The landforms in the County have no natural depressions of significance to trap runoff. The runoff that cannot be absorbed by the soil drains into the many creeks, which lead to three major rivers: Root River, Mississippi River and the Iowa River.

Houston County is located in the karst region. The terrain is made up mainly of shallow soils over fractured limestone bedrock. The most commonly used aquifers in Houston County are sandstone and limestone of the following formations: Prairie Du Chien Group, Jordan, Iron-ton-Galesville, and to a lesser extent, the Farnconian. There is little separation between these aquifers by confining layers; consequently contaminants would tend to be introduced through recharge conduits.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Houston County and cooperating agencies have accomplished a number of successful implementation activities identified through their Plan. Some of the accomplishments include:

1. Ninety Push-Up Ponds constructed, reducing sediment delivery downstream as well as providing erosion control, wildlife habitat and flood control.
2. Sixteen tons of household hazardous waste have been collected and properly disposed on in 7 separate household waste collections.

3. Seven abandoned wells have been properly sealed.
4. A successful education campaign has resulted in an annual fair booth display, annual sixth grade environmental education day, award recognition of outstanding individuals and businesses, an on-farm conservation tour and hayride, and a manure calibration and nutrient management program.
5. Water testing for 80 private families with infants and children.
6. One hundred fifty thousand dollars of state and private funds leveraged for management practices on forestlands.

The County, technical advisory committee and citizen's advisory committee have demonstrated a substantial commitment toward water management and protection.

STAFF REVIEW

Houston County has revised its Plan in three substantial areas.

1. **Format:** The document has been restructured to include action items, objectives, and goals based on the target resource (i.e. ground water, surface water) rather than the issue threatening those resources as previously identified. This Water Plan Update was meant to serve as a stand-alone for plan implementers and a companion to the 1995 and 1990 water plans to serve as the official Comprehensive Water Plan.
2. **Updates:** Action items have been reviewed. Completed actions have been removed. Actions requiring further implementation have been continued and actions that were ineffective were revised or eliminated. Assessments of the required indices of water management are also included.
3. **Structure:** The Water Plan Update identifies goals, objectives and actions; however, addenda were added to include agency and department work plans as well as mandates.

These changes were meant to improve the functionality of the Plan and are not consider major shifts in public policy or direction in water management. Administrative duties of the Houston County Water Plan have been transferred to the Root River SWCD since January 1999.

Goals and priority resource issues addressed by the Water Plan Update include: 1) Improving surface water quality through reducing delivery of sediments, livestock and municipal waste, and rural and urban fertilizer and pesticides to the rivers and streams through education, GIS technology transfer, and land and water treatment; 2) Manage storm water runoff to minimize risk to human life, property and the environment by providing BMP incentives, enforcing existing regulations, assisting with watershed projects, and continuing emergency preparedness procedures to reduce risk to public safety from storm water; 3) Protect ground water in order to maintain an adequate supply of safe drinking water for current and future generations by proper management of wells and wellhead protection areas, testing drinking water to insure portability, update rural septic systems, conducting education campaign, continuing county recycling program, monitoring springs and public waters, and exploring the need for a public health environmentalist position; and 4) Optimize recreational uses of water resources by improving access and facilities for recreation, encourage sound fisheries/wildlife management by management of river islands and promoting riparian buffers, reduce impact/spread of exotic species by enforcing regulations, and exploring alternative methods for control. The state mandate additions of wetland priority areas in Houston County Water Plan Update was included in Goal #5 but was not identified as a priority action at the local level.

The Water Plan Update was submitted to BWSR for final review on September 28, 2000.

**Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55107**

In the Matter of Reviewing the Comprehensive Water Plan Update
For Houston County (Minnesota Statutes 1990, Section 103B.311,
Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5 and Minnesota
Rules 9300.0171)

**ORDER APPROVING
COMPREHENSIVE
WATER PLAN**

Whereas, the Houston County Board of Commissioners adopted a Comprehensive Water Plan on April 11, 1990, under authority of M.S. 1990, Section 103B.301, which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on March 28, 1990, pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Houston County Board of Commissioners adopted a revised Comprehensive Water Plan (Plan) on January 30, 1996, under authority of M.S. 1990, Section 103B.301, which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on January 25, 1996, pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Plan provided for updating in 2000 pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.311, Subd.4, and

Whereas, the Houston County Board of Commissioners submitted a Comprehensive Water Plan Update (Plan Update) to the BWSR on September 28, 2000, pursuant to M.S.1990, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the BWSR has completed its review of the Plan Update.

Now Therefore, the BWSR hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. M.S. 1990, Section 103B.311, Subd. 4, requires adopted Comprehensive Water Plans to be updated on a recurring basis.
2. On September 21, 1999, Houston County passed a resolution to develop a Comprehensive Water Plan Update to meet the Plan Update requirements.
3. Houston County completed a draft Plan Update on May 22, 2000, and submitted it to affected local units of government for review and comment pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd. 1. Written local comments were received from Fillmore County and the Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board. The County responded in writing to these comments.

4. On May 22, 2000, Houston County submitted a draft Plan Update to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the State Planning Agency and the Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS) for preliminary review and comment. The County received written preliminary comments from the MPCA, DNR, MDH and the BWSR.
5. On September 12, 2000, Houston County held a public hearing on the Plan Update pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd. 4, for the purpose of obtaining public input into the Plan Update.
6. On September 28, 2000, Houston County submitted its final Plan Update along with all written comments and responses received on the Plan Update, a copy of the County's response to written comments and a record of the public hearing to the BWSR for final State review pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd 4.
7. On November 27, 2000, a written overview of the Houston County Plan Update was sent to the BWSR for their information and review.
8. Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) Review: No preliminary or final comments were received.
9. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Review: Preliminary comments were made on wellhead protection (suggestions clarifying wellhead protection plan assistance to communities and assigned responsibility for this assistance), sealing unused wells and data reporting.

The County responded in writing to MDH stating careful consideration was given to the suggested actions. Final comment letter was received on November 8, 2000, and recommended approval of the Plan Update.

10. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Preliminary comments were made on objectives to reduce sediment delivery to streams and the need for enforcement of the ten-foot buffer in all shore land areas.

The County responded in writing to DNR's preliminary comments thanking them for their comment. A local DNR representative was involved through the technical committee and incorporated the DNR action plan into the final Plan Update. Final comment letter from DNR was not received.

11. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): Preliminary comments were made on the Plan Update format and structure, watershed management approach, water quality indicators and problems requiring attention, identification of priority water bodies, accomplishments from last plan update and agency responsibilities for goals/objectives/actions. Additional data items were sent to the County to incorporate into the data items and resource assessments. More specific comments were made on the Executive Summary content, summary of new data and the resource assessments, suggested items for inclusion in the goal/objective/actions sections and comments on agency action plans.

The County responded to the MPCA's preliminary comments. Some of the comments were incorporated into the Plan Update and others were carefully considered but not incorporated. Final comment letter was received by electronic mail on November 27, 2000, stating that staff reviewed the Plan Update and did not find it inconsistent with State law. MPCA, therefore, recommended approval of the Plan Update. Two outstanding concerns from preliminary comments were noted: (1) MPCA disagreed with the decision to not have a watershed approach to water quality and stream

geomorphology protection; and (2) In response to Houston's request for MPCA to submit a work plan, they felt that a work plan submitted from the State level would not enhance citizen or staff participation at the local level to address the local water resource issues and that local leadership with State assistance is the best overall "formula" to follow.

12. Minnesota State Planning Agency/Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Review: No written preliminary or final comments were received.
13. Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS) Preliminary Review: No written preliminary or final comments were received.
14. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Review: Preliminary comments were made on the Plan Update format and relationship to the 1995 Plan Update, Table of Contents, Executive Summary, public participation requirements, data and resource assessments, wetland management, watershed assessment/analysis, goals and objectives and the implementation section. Board Conservationist (BC) Mary Kells met with the Houston County water plan coordinator to review comments and concerns about the draft Plan Update. BC Mary Kells also met with the technical and advisory committee to discuss these issues. BC Mary Kells attended a County commissioner's meeting to discuss the outstanding issues and concerns regarding wetland management and watershed management strategies.

The County responded in writing to the BWSR's preliminary comments. Several recommendations were incorporated in the Plan Update. Wetland management requirements were added in a separate section titled State Mandated Additions to Plan. Watershed management approach was carefully considered, but the County elected to manage land use and environmental issues outside the confines of watershed boundaries. The outstanding issues, wetland management and watershed management, were discussed with County representatives and have been covered in this review. Budget amounts and costs of actions had not yet been addressed.

BWSR's final comments were provided during the BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee meeting and summarized as follows. The Plan Update is a companion document to the 1995 Plan Update, which is a companion document to the original 1990 Comprehensive Water Management Plan. To find all the required components of the water plan as set forth in the M.S. 1990, Section 103B and MN Rules 93000.0170 one has to look at all three documents.

The County went through the necessary steps in developing the Plan Update. They took the public/committee participation seriously when developing the goals/objectives/actions to be implemented to address the resource issues and concerns in Houston County. The County and partners are commended for their commitment to local implementation of their water plan. A more thorough Executive Summary would have helped provide an overview of the resource issues and County priorities and given the general public a better understanding of what these are in Houston County. BC Mary Kells recommended that the County consider a stand-alone document for their next water plan update scheduled in 2005. Plans for a comprehensive GIS technology in the County will result in the ability to produce resource maps and tables for ready-reference by all users. This will help present the water resource issues in an informative light to the general public.

Houston County has met the minimum requirements of the Plan Update. BWSR expectations for the third generation water plan revisions regarding watershed management, measurable goals and objectives and budget amounts for the implementation plan are not incorporated into the Houston County Comprehensive Water Plan Update.

15. BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee Meeting: On November 29, 2000, the BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee met in Rushford, Minnesota, with BWSR staff and County representatives from Houston County to review and discuss the Plan Update. Those in attendance were Mark Dittrich, MDA; Al Oehlke, Char Kahler and Jim Dahlvang, BWSR board members; Jeff Nielsen and Mary Kells, BWSR staff; Dave Morrison, MPCA staff; and County representatives Ralph Tuck, Vern Fruechte, Ann Thompson, Francis Bruering and Norman Oseth.

The BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee met to determine whether all relevant law and rule requirements had been met and to hear comments from the County on the planning process.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The BWSR has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of Houston County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1990, 103B.311, Subd. 4, and Minnesota Rules 9300.0170, Subp. 4.
2. The Houston County Comprehensive Water Plan Update attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the County; possible solutions; general goals, objectives and actions of the County; and an implementation program. The attached Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes 1990, 103B.301 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 9300.
3. On November 29, 2000, the BWSR Southern Water Plan Review Committee recommended that the Board of Water and Soil Resources approve the Houston County Plan Update with the following conditions: (1) that the County submit to BWSR a budget for the implementation action items by January 1, 2001; and (2) that in the next water plan update scheduled for 2005, the County consolidate the plans or rewrite the official comprehensive water plan into one stand-alone document that is submitted to BWSR for final review.

ORDER

The BWSR hereby approves the attached plan as the Comprehensive Water Plan Update of Houston County with the conditions noted in the Conclusions dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this thirteenth day of December two thousand.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chair

Committee Recommendations
**3. Todd County Comprehensive
Local Water Plan Update**
DECISION

OVERVIEW

TODD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN UPDATE THIRD GENERATION

Background

Todd County began development of their original water plan in September 1989. The county board adopted the original Plan in 1991. In 1995 the county completed its first plan update. The original Plan was developed through the county extension office. The county has looked to the Todd SWCD for coordination of implementation since the first plan was completed.

Local Comprehensive Water Plan Update Process and Plan Strengths

The county passed a resolution to begin work on their third generation update on September 21, 1999. Over the next eight months and ten task force meetings the county put together their draft plan update. From the outset the county coordinated development of their water plan update with development of their first comprehensive land use plan. The county hired the same consultant to assist them with both plans. The county is interested in applying the local water plan categories for implementation to the comp plan process. The county placed great importance on receiving lots of input from the public. A strength of the Plan is how every citizen comment was followed up on, every comment is listed in document and ranked by the task force for relative priority. Another strength of the Plan is its actions correlate well with watershed context. Examples of watershed context include small lakes in the Swan River watershed, water quality in the Long Prairie River watershed, and working with the Sauk River Watershed District on the lake water quality issues with Sauk Lake, Lake Osakis and the Horseshoe Chain. The Plan was sent out for local government and state review in May 2000. Agencies were well represented on the task force, which helped the county minimize plan review issues. On August 15, 2000 the county held their required public hearing on the Plan. On August 29, 2000 final agency review was begun.

County Description

Todd County is located in central Minnesota. The county is a largely rural county with an area of 1,000 square miles. The county is a rural county with a population of 24,000. The county seat of Todd County is Long Prairie. Todd County is located in the state's transition area. The county has areas of prime agricultural land as well as large acreages of recreational lands. Cropland is twice as common as forestland, but transitional ag lands are also a large component.

The major watersheds of the county are the Long Prairie, Crow Wing and the Sauk. The entire county drains to the upper Mississippi River basin. The southern quarter of the county is within the Sauk River Watershed District. The county has about 200 lakes, with the largest being Lake Osakis. Major geomorphic regions of the county include the Todd Drumlin Area, the St. Croix Moraine Complex, and the Park Rapids-Staples Outwash Plain.

DRAFT

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street
Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

DRAFT

In the Matter of Reviewing the Comprehensive Water Plan Update
for **Todd County** (Minnesota Statutes 1990, Section 103B.311,
Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5 and Minnesota
Rules 9300.0170)

ORDER
APPROVING
COMPREHENSIVE
WATER PLAN

Whereas, the Todd County Board of Commissioners adopted a Comprehensive Water Plan (Plan) on November 19, 1991, under authority of M.S. 1990, Section 103B.301, which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on December 18, 1991, pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Plan provided for updating in 1995 pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.311, Subd. 4, and

Whereas, the Todd County Board of Commissioners submitted a Comprehensive Water Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Board on August 29, 2000, pursuant to M.S. 1990, Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update.

Now Therefore, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. M.S. 1990, Section 103B.311, Subd. 4, requires adopted Comprehensive Water Plans to be updated on a recurring basis.
2. On September 21, 1999, Todd County passed a resolution to develop a Comprehensive Water Plan Update to meet the Plan update requirements.
3. Todd County completed a draft Plan Update on May 17, 2000, and submitted it to affected local units of government for review and comment pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd. 1.
4. On May 17, 2000, Todd County submitted a draft Plan Update to the Departments of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency, the State Planning Agency and the Minnesota Geological Survey for preliminary review and comment.
5. On August 15, 2000, Todd County held a public hearing on the Plan Update pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd. 4, for the purpose of obtaining public input into the Plan Update.
6. On August 29, 2000, Todd County submitted its Plan Update along with all written comments received on the Plan Update, and a record of the public hearing to the Board for final State review pursuant to Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

- DRAFT
7. On November 20, 2000, a written overview of the Todd County Plan Update was presented to the Board for their information and review.
 8. **Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) Review:** No written preliminary or final review comments were received from the MDA.
 9. **Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Review:** In its preliminary review dated June 19, 2000, MDH recommended the County include the updated wellhead protection listing for public water suppliers in the county. The MDH offered other comments related to sealing unused wells and data reporting.

In its final review comments dated October 16, 2000, the MDH commented that the Plan presents a great opportunity to further public health protection. The MDH recommended approval of the Todd County Plan.

10. **Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Review:** In its preliminary review dated July 14, 2000, the DNR provided written comments on the Plan Update. Comments included three items related to Trails and Waterways and water based recreation.

On September 29, 2000, in its final review comments to the Board, the DNR made two final comments. One comment related to federally administered WMA's, and the other with the need for an index of figures and maps. The DNR commended the County on their water resource planning efforts.

11. **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Review:** In its preliminary review dated June 26, 2000, the MPCA provided written comments on the Plan Update. Comments included: ground water quality information, water quality education programs, and best management practices along agriculture drainage ditches.

On September 26, 2000, in its final comments to the Board, MPCA recommended approval of the Plan Update.

12. **Minnesota State Planning Agency/Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Review:** No written comments were received.

13. **Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS) Review:** In its review dated July 11, 2000, the MGS provided written comments on the Plan Update. MGS's main comments were in regard to the Otter Tail Regional Atlas and Regional Hydrogeologic Assessment. MGS also provided information on the options available for County Well Index.

On October 17, 2000, the MGS provided final comments on the Plan. MGS recommended approval of the Plan.

14. **Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR):** On June 29, 2000, the BWSR provided written comments on the Plan Update. Comments provided included new surface water quality information, watershed context, public input, and local funding options.

15. **County Response to Agency Comments:** In its final Plan Update submitted to the Board on August 29, 2000, Todd County incorporated many of the changes and additions to the Plan Update as recommended in the agency and local comments. The BWSR concluded its final review of the Plan Update and state agencies' comments on November 22, 2000.
16. **Board Water Plan Review Committee Meeting:** On December 7, 2000, the Board committee met in Brainerd with Board staff and representatives from Todd County to review and discuss the Plan Update. Those in attendance were Darrell Bruggman, Ginny Imholte, and of the Board of Water & Soil Resources Board; Ron Shelito and Dan Steward of the Brainerd Regional Office; Todd County Water Planning Task Force, and Sandy Rohr, manager of the Todd Soil & Water Conservation District. The water plan review committee met to determine whether all relevant law and rule requirements had been met and to hear comments from the county on the planning process.
17. On December 7, 2000, the BWSR water plan review committee recommended that the Board of Water & Soil Resources Board approve the Todd County Plan Update.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of Todd County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1990, 103B.311, Subd. 4, and Minnesota Rules 9300.0170, Subp. 4.
2. The Todd County Plan Update attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the county, possible solutions, general goals, objectives and actions of the county, and an implementation program. The attached Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes 1990, 103B.301 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 9300.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Plan as the Comprehensive Water Plan Update of Todd County. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this thirteenth day of December, 2000.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen Roer, Chair

Committee Recommendations

**4. Capitol Region Watershed District
Watershed Management Plan
DECISION**

Executive Summary

The Capitol Region Watershed District was established by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on September 24, 1998. The District mission and vision were developed in the first year. The District's mission is: "To protect, manage and improve the water resources of the Capitol Region Watershed District."

The vision of the District is to:

- "be a protector of our water resources
- be stewards of the Mississippi River community to which we are a part
- remember the Watershed District's diverse population and economic status
- develop cost-effective solutions to our water quality problems
- protect and enhance our water resources for the enjoyment of all its users."

The Capitol Region Watershed District has prepared this Watershed Management Plan in accordance with State Statutes 103b and 103d and the requirements of Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410. The District has responsibilities under 103D and 103B to assess and manage land and water resources for several special purposes:

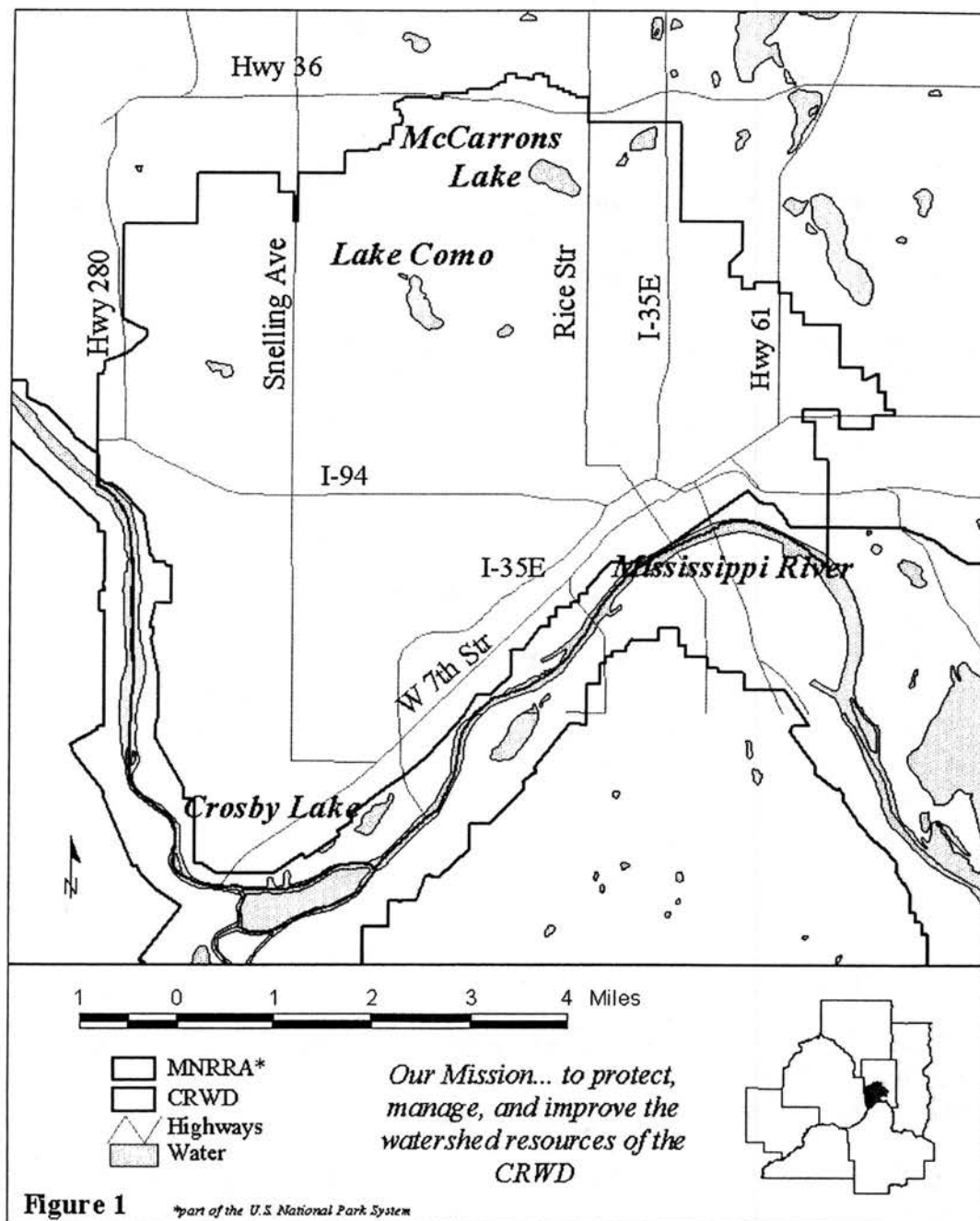
- Protect, preserve and use natural surface and groundwater storage and retention systems;
- Minimize public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems;
- Identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface and groundwater quality;
- Establish more uniform local policies and official controls for surface and groundwater management;
- Prevent erosion of soil into surface water systems;
- Promote groundwater recharge;
- Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities and;
- Secure the other benefits associated with the proper management of surface and groundwater.

The District will then be able to quantify and evaluate issues as they arise and determine the best course of action to address the issue and whether some other entity, City, County, or other agency or entity, is best suited to respond to the specific need.

The anticipated effective term for the plan is 10 years following adoption, or 2010. The District will conduct an extensive review of the plan in 2005 (5 years after adoption) with input from the District CAC and agencies to determine if a complete rewrite of the watershed management plan is needed prior to the end of the 10 year period.

The District boundary and major water resources are identified in Figure 1.

Capitol Region Watershed District



Goals and Policies

The District has developed goals and policies as an outcome of Issue Forums, Citizen's Advisory Committee input, and Work Group input. These goals and policies are organized within the following six Major Areas of District Involvement:

Watershed Management - Manage the watershed from an effective Watershed Management Plan that addresses short and long-term goals and that meets the needs of the watershed public.

Water Quality - Protect and improve water quality to maintain or enhance the range of uses for the District's water resources.

Water Quantity Management - Effectively manage the flow of floodwaters within the District without threatening life or permanent improvements.

Wetland Management - Manage wetlands to achieve no-net loss of acreage and functions and values, and where possible, strive to enhance the functions and values of existing wetlands within the District. Seek to achieve a net wetland gain within the Watershed by restoring previous impacted wetlands and creating new wetlands.

Groundwater Quality Protection - Protect and conserve the groundwater resource and encourage the infiltration of properly treated surface water to recharge groundwater.

Stewardship - Provide those living, working and recreating in the Capitol Region Watershed District with the knowledge and skills required to assure protection and improvements of the Watershed District's surface water and groundwater resources.

Issue Statements

The District's approach in preparing this plan was to focus on the issues which led to the formation of the District. To identify additional issues, six issue forums were held by the District. The outcome of these forums was a list of watershed issues to form the backbone of this management plan.

Como Lake - Como Lake is a major recreational amenity for the region and very important community resource that serves stormwater treatment functions for St. Paul, Roseville and Falcon Hts. Documented problems include poor water quality, sedimentation, and excessive vegetation during parts of the year. The City of St. Paul, Ramsey County, CRWD and the DNR each have responsibility for portions of the lake's management, but no organization has primary responsibility for managing the lake.

Crosby Lake/Hidden Falls Regional Park - Crosby Lake is one of a limited number of large District waterbodies and is largely unmanaged. Background and opportunities for managing Crosby Lake and the surrounding park area are not well documented. The area

is an important amenity for local residents who use the lake's DNR fishing pier and surrounding park area for a wide variety passive recreational uses.

Groundwater Quality Protection - Watershed activities have the potential to impact both positively and negatively sensitive groundwater resources and should be consistent with County groundwater protection efforts.

Lake McCarrons - Lake McCarrons has been subject to water quality degradation due to urban impacts, including thermal pollution, increased nutrient loading and 2 partial winter fish kills that are considered undesirable by the community. There also appears to be uncertainty about what entity can and should be responsible for long-term management of the lake.

Mississippi River Corridor – District-wide Stormwater Permitting and Resource Management

There are two main areas of concern for the District regarding the Mississippi River:

- Water quality impacts to the River and associated regulatory responsibilities
- Continuity and ecological integrity of the natural corridor along the Mississippi River Valley

The District is working toward quantifying the extent of watershed urban runoff pollutant loadings to the Mississippi River. The Mississippi River Corridor natural areas are significant District, regional, and national environmental resources that require coordination and management at all levels of jurisdiction.

Trout Brook System - The Metropolitan Council and City of St. Paul propose to convey the Trout Brook Stormwater System to the District for the future operation and maintenance of the system.

Urban Redevelopment - Redevelopment issues within the District, including population growth and urban revitalization projects, provide a challenge and opportunity to manage water resources in an environmentally proactive manner in partnership with local government and neighborhood community groups.

Utilizing Urban Best Management Practices (BMP's) and Retrofitting - The mature and highly developed character of most of the District threaten the water quality of waterbodies and water flowing to the Mississippi River. Maintenance activities, retrofitting and using BMP's in redevelopment are important opportunities for the District to improve water quality including sites such as Gottfried's Pit.

Wetland Restoration and Protection - As a highly urbanized watershed, the Capitol Region wetland resource has had significant pressure placed upon it. Many of the pre-settlement wetlands in this area have been filled for development and wetlands that do remain have all been degraded to some extent such as being partially filled, drained, or overtaken by undesirable plants.

Land and Water Resource Inventory

Comprehensive data has been collected, analyzed, and included in this Watershed Plan. There are general data and issue specific data. General data is organized into the following categories:

- Surface Water Management Roles
- Climate and Precipitation
- Topography
- Geology
- Soils
- Aquifers
- Caves and Springs
- Hydrology
- Water Quality
- Impervious Surfaces
- P-8 Modeling
- State Owned Land
- Land-use

Issue specific data covers all of the relevant data available for each issue. Each issue identified in Section II of this Plan is covered in detail.

Implementation

To reach the goals identified in the plan, implementation activities are enumerated. The activities are organized around the issues and include the major areas of District involvement. The activities consist of traditional capital improvements as well as management programs. The capital improvements include structural and non-structural activities. The management programs include those activities which would be accomplished by the District. The management program also includes a detailed discussion of the District's education and outreach program

A detailed year by year plan is presented as well as an overall five year plan for implementation. The District's process for developing performance based standards is outlined in the Implementation section. The District intends to develop rules to meet subwatershed performance standards for water quality and quantity. As an interim step, the District will develop a Memorandum of Understanding with member cities in 2001 to coordinate activities related to stormwater management and other issues. Cities will continue permitting activities with review by the District. Once established, the District rules implementation will be evaluated every two years to ensure that the standards are being met. General administrative procedures are also discussed in the Implementation section.

The estimated implementation program costs over the first five years are summarized in Table 1. Each year, the District will develop a workplan and budget for the following

year. In this process, the cities and District Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) will review and comment on the proposed workplan. The estimated implementation program costs (Table 1) will be modified annually to maintain a 5-year look at potential future costs.

Table 1. Implementation Program - Project Costs

Overall Watershed District Implementation Program	Year				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Como Lake	\$150,000	\$270,000	\$230,000	\$310,000	\$201,000
Crosby Lake/ Hidden Falls Regional Park	\$1,000	\$6,000	\$21,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Groundwater Quality Protection	\$49,000	\$69,000	\$49,000	\$69,000	\$49,000
Lake McCarrons	\$288,000	\$205,000	\$224,000	\$174,000	\$174,000
Mississippi River Corridor	\$78,000	\$98,000	\$38,000	\$42,000	\$128,000
Trout Brook System	\$151,000	\$366,000	\$346,000	\$326,000	\$396,000
Urban Redevelopment	\$41,000	\$86,000	\$41,000	\$91,000	\$91,000
Utilizing Urban BMPs & Retrofitting	\$27,000	\$152,000	\$227,000	\$57,000	\$47,000
Wetland Restoration & Protection	\$142,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$239,500	\$239,500
State Owned Lands	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$14,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Education Outreach	\$ 78,000	\$ 78,000	\$ 88,000	\$ 93,000	\$98,000
Yearly Totals	\$1,090,000	\$1,351,000	\$1,295,000	\$1,406,500	\$1,428,500

Proposed implementation programs for 2001 include: Como Lake sediment delta removal, intercommunity flooding, well sealing cost-share program, Lake McCarrons strategic plan development, outlet modification for the Villa Park wetland system, water quality monitoring of major inflows to the Mississippi River, assessment of the condition of the Trout Brook Stormsewer System and preliminary maintenance activities, installation of "rain gardens in Swede Hollow/Lower Phalen Creek, evaluation of design alternatives for the University of Minnesota -St. Paul Campus wetland, monitoring of urban BMP effectiveness, education and outreach in Swede Hollow/Lower Phalen Creek, providing information District-wide, and lawncare workshops for residents.

The District has the authority to levy taxes to pay for the programs and projects identified in the Watershed Plan. The annual levy amount will be distributed over all taxable property within the District based on valuation and property type (residential, apartment, commercial and industrial).

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
One West Water Street, Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of the review of the Watershed
Management Plan for the **Capitol Region**
Watershed District pursuant to Minnesota
Statutes Section 103B.231, Subdivision 9

**ORDER
APPROVING
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Whereas, the Board of Managers of the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) submitted a Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.231, Subd. 9, and;

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan;

Now Therefore, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. **District Establishment.** The CRWD was established by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on September 24, 1998. The mission of the District is to protect, manage and improve the water resources of the Capitol Region Watershed District.
2. **Requirement to Plan.** The Metropolitan Water Management Act requires the preparation of a watershed management plan for the subject watershed area which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251. The CRWD Plan focuses on nine key local watershed issues including Como and McCarrons Lake protection and Trout Brook conveyance.
3. **Nature of the Watershed.** The Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) is approximately 40.6 square miles in size and includes part of the Cities of St. Paul, Roseville, Falcon Heights, Maplewood, and Lauderdale. The District is considered fully developed with impervious surfaces covering 35 % of the District Area. The major water features in the District include Como, McCarrons, Crosby Lakes and the Trout Brook Stormwater System.
4. **Local Review.** The CRWD circulated a copy of the draft Plan to local units of

government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7, prior to submittal to the Metropolitan Council.

5. **Metropolitan Council Review.** In a letter dated June 14, 2000, the Council encouraged the District to continue to work with Council staff to resolve the Trout Brook reconveyance issue and to develop watershed specific standards and requirement that local governments would enforce. In a letter dated September 28, 2000, the Council again stated the need to develop performance standards and addressed the Trout Brook reconveyance issue and commended the District for development of a strong TAC and CAC.
6. **Department of Agriculture Review.** The MDA did not provide comments on the CRWD Plan.
7. **Department of Health Review.** The MDH did not provide comments on the CRWD Plan.
8. **Department of Natural Resources Review.** The primary recommendations stated by DNR were relating to the need for DNR protected waters to be specifically mentioned in the Plan and more clearly labeled with all DNR numbers. The DNR also recommended that the District identify weaknesses in city ordinances and address those areas relating to water quality. In response to the initial DNR comments, the CRWD included a detailed process for development of water quality performance standards and incorporating local ordinances. The CRWD also identified the goals, policies and capital projects affecting DNR waters and incorporated DNR Public Waters Inventory data into the wetland management section of the Plan. The DNR did not provide a 45-day comment letter.
9. **Pollution Control Agency Review.** In a letter dated June 27, 2000, the MPCA commented that NPDES Phase II permit would be required for regulated operators within the District by March 2003. In a final review letter dated October 6, 2000, the MPCA requested a more detailed inventory of lake resources and measurable goals for phosphorus, chlorophyll and Secchi depth. In response, the District amended the final plan to include lake resource information in the assessment of issues and inventory sections and defined a process to establish subwatershed performance standards through the Como and McCarrons Lake strategic plans. The MPCA concluded their final review by commending the District for putting together an excellent watershed management plan.
10. **Board Review.** In a letter dated June 21, 2000, the BWSR included the following initial comments: 1) Provide the need, purpose and expected outcomes for all capital expenditures to avoid future general plan amendment requirements, 2) Define logistics of how CRWD will determine if local ordinances are successfully implementing District standards, 3) Consider adding another step to the rules development process that would

allow development of a local regulation MOU to foster local compliance with District performance standards. In a letter dated October 6, 2000, the BWSR again recommended that the capital improvement section of the Plan should include further explanation/justification and that the Plan further define how and when CRWD rules/standards (when developed) will affect existing local controls. The CRWD final Plan dated December 2000, included changes agreed upon at the June 27, 2000 interagency meeting and provided further clarification in the implementation section to describe the need, purpose and outcomes for each CIP. The Plan also was modified to include a provision extending the MOU with the cities beyond the time of rule development. The Plan does comply with Minnesota Rules 8410 and the fundamental planning expectations articulated by BWSR. The Plan accurately reflects a management framework consistent with the recommendations provided by the Citizen Advisory Committee and interagency workteam.

11. **Highlights of the Plan.** The critical elements included in the Plan are:
 - a. Definition of specific projects/actions, responsible parties and set time line,
 - b. Identification of nine priority issues determined through strong citizen involvement and agency participation,
 - c. Concise implementation section with identified management standards and activities,
 - d. Communication and partnership with cities on management and regulation programs.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Watershed Management Plan for the Capitol Region Watershed District pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201, Subd. 9 and 103D.405.
3. The Capitol Region Watershed District Plan attached to this Order defines water and water-related problems within the CRWD boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program.
4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251 and 103D.405.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Plan dated December 2000 as the Watershed Management Plan for the Capitol Region Watershed District.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 13th day of December, 2000.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Kathleen M. Roer, Chair

New Business

1. Local Government

**Accomplishments in 1998 and
1999 Reported via the Local
Government Annual Reporting
Systems (LARS)**

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A look at 1998 and 1999 accomplishments reported via LARS.

Presenter: Eric Mohring.
For information, discussion.

Here's a description. Could also be included as a 1-page info sheet in the Board Packet.

Outcomes: Local government accomplishments in 1998 and 1999 reported via the Local Government Annual Reporting System (LARS).

BWSR funnels state dollars to local units of government to accomplish a variety of management and planning functions. When those funds are used to put projects such as erosion control or water quality improvement practices on the ground, there is an increasing need to assess measurable benefits, and determine the effectiveness of state spending.

In the past, BWSR received reams of paper reports every year from various local governments to meet the reporting requirements of various programs. Paging through hundreds of paper reports was not a very efficient way of determining the measurable benefits of these programs. Beginning in 1996, BWSR with cooperation of MPCA and others, started developing a computerized reporting system. The resulting database application became known as LARS (Local government Annual Reporting System).

Though there has been a host of problems putting the system in place, the data collected in 1998 and 1999 give a much clearer picture of the outcomes of the funded projects (in terms of soil saved, sediment reduction, and phosphorus reduction) that could ever be pieced together in the days of "boxes of paper reports". These outcomes will be presented graphically.

We are in the early stages of developing a GIS- and web-based reporting tool. There is tremendous potential using current communications and GIS technology to weave accomplishment reporting and evaluation much more effectively into the fabric of our operations.

New Business

**2. 2002/03 Local Water Planning
Challenge Grant Policy Changes
DECISION**

November 27, 2000

To: Board Members

From: Marybeth Block

RE: 2002/03 LWP Challenge Grant Policy Changes

The LCMR is recommending \$1.365 be appropriated to BWSR to distribute as local water planning challenge grants to fund projects that accelerate achieving goals identified in local water plans (\$25,000 is earmarked to assist with the development of a reporting system.) BWSR has submitted a workplan for those monies and it is pending final LCMR approval. Proposed policy changes from the 2000/01 program reflected in that workplan include:

Grant Categories:

- o \$1,340,000 available for projects offering a 1:1 cash match (LCMR money)
- o \$350,000 available for projects aimed at lake management planning offering 1:1 cash or in kind match.
- o \$160,000 available for projects over \$10,000 offering a 1:1 cash or in kind match
- o \$150,000 available for projects under \$10,000 offering a 1:1 cash or in kind match

Grant Limits:

- o \$50,000 per local governmental unit
- o \$125,000 per project

Workplan Timeline:

- o Project funding will be cancelled if the project workplan is not approved within 90 days of the date an applicant was notified that their project was funded.

SUGGESTED BOARD MOTION: Pending a \$1.365 appropriation from the Minnesota Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources, the BWSR will distribute \$2.0 million via the 2002/03 LWP Challenge Grant Program to successful applicants to accelerate achieving the goals identified in their Comprehensive Local Water Plans.

FYI: GRANT TIME LINE:

Dec 12, 2000	<i>Notice that BWSR is accepting grant application proposals is distributed.</i>
Feb 16, 2001	<i>Grant application proposals must be received in the BWSR St. Paul office by 4:30 p.m..</i>
March, 2001	<i>The Interagency Review Committee meets and receives the applications to review.</i>
April, 2001	<i>Review team meets to select which projects to recommend that the Board fund.</i>
April 25, 2001	<i>BWSR Board approves applicants contingent on LCMR approval.</i>
May 1, 2001	<i>Notice of funding sent to successful applicants along with directions to prepare detailed workplans.</i>
May/June, 2001	<i>Detailed workplans due to the Board Conservationist for approval and grant agreements are completed</i>
May 2001	<i>Legislature reviews (changes?) and approves LCMR appropriation/.</i>
July 1, 2001	<i>Grant money available to the applicants with an approved workplan.</i>
June 30, 2003	<i>Projects have been completed, grant monies and match have been SPENT and final report submitted.</i>

New Business

**3. Minnesota's Tillage Transect
Survey for Monitoring Trends in
Crop Residue Management
DECISION**

Minnesota's Tillage Transect Survey for Monitoring Trends in Crop Residue Management

*Derek Fisher, Conservation Agronomist
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources*

Every spring since 1995, local government staff in Minnesota's agricultural counties have driven along a designated route to build an annual record of crops grown, tillage type, and surface residue remaining after planting. For each participating county, the route is designed as a grid that equally represents all cultivated areas. Local staff from the SWCD, NRCS and other conservation organizations cooperate to cover the route, stopping every half mile to record field conditions to the left and right of the road. With 450-500 field observations in each county, the data represents a statistical average of the entire cropland area. This tillage transect survey procedure was developed by the Department of Agronomy at Purdue University.

The results are entered on forms that are scanned into a computer program that aids in summarizing the data. Each data point is associated with its county, major watershed, slope length and steepness and other USLE based erosion information. A methodology has been developed to conduct the survey in minor watersheds, and participating watersheds will be able to compare crop residue trends with stream monitoring data.

Counties facing growing expectations for water and soil resource conservation are finding the data useful for demonstrating the importance of promoting conservation tillage, and prioritizing where those efforts should be targeted. The data also enables conservation staff to monitor outcomes from tillage programs, and recognize the success (or failure) of agricultural producers in meeting crop residue targets. When it is used to demonstrate needs, prioritize efforts, track progress and recognize success, the Tillage Transect Program's data enables a county to secure funding and achieve conservation objectives.

Trends in crop residue management are summarized using a method that calculates the percent of fields in the corn-soybean rotation that meet crop residue targets. It is computed as the percent of fields with >30% residue, plus fields with >15% residue when following soybeans. From 1995 to 2000, the number of Minnesota counties conducting the survey has been 37, 37, 27, 39, 43 and 74, respectively. During those years, the percent of cropland meeting residue targets has been 30%, 39%, 48%, 38%, 37% and 38%, respectively. There is large variation in surface residue management from county-to-county, and year-to-year. The amount of residue left on the surface depends on many factors, most importantly opportunity to till (based on weather conditions) and intent to maintain residue.

Visit <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/whatshot/tillagehome2.html> to download recent data summaries, software and instructions.

Report 1. 2000 Minnesota Corn-Soybean Residue Survey Results Statewide Summary - by County

Rank	County	Percent of Corn and Soybean Fields Meeting Residue Targets ¹ in 2000		Residue Trend Analysis Percent of Corn and Soybean Fields Meeting Residue Targets ^{1,2}					
		CORN	SOYBEANS	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
1	Rock	98%	94%	*	59	78	97	51	96
2	Swift	89%	79%	28	56	64	59	74	84
3	Big Stone	85%	78%	*	45	*	58	67	80
4	Le Sueur	75%	78%	47	72	*	65	74	77
5	Martin	68%	78%	56	66	75	61	73	73
6	Waseca	59%	70%	42	26	63	33	38	64
7	Houston	57%	81%	*	*	*	*	*	64
8	Lac Qui Parle	65%	55%	37	36	46	72	34	60
9	Cottonwood	48%	65%	59	66	74	60	70	56
10	Traverse	60%	52%	23	44	*	39	35	54
11	Dakota	53%	57%	*	*	33	34	29	54
12	Chippewa	65%	44%	8	33	29	27	39	54
13	Winona	47%	79%	*	*	*	*	*	53
14	Freeborn	39%	69%	*	*	*	*	*	53
15	Jackson	42%	65%	19	35	61	55	65	53
16	Sibley	50%	52%	22	46	42	42	41	51
17	Scott	43%	58%	10	39	64	23	42	49
18	Lincoln	46%	49%	33	47	51	48	58	47
19	Fillmore	44%	52%	47	*	*	26	14	47
20	Stevens	42%	49%	*	*	*	32	60	46
21	Nobles	44%	44%	63	*	77	47	83	44
22	Washington	24%	74%	*	*	*	13	14	43
23	Faribault	39%	48%	30	38	*	*	*	43
24	Steele	32%	55%	*	*	*	*	*	43
25	McLeod	47%	39%	14	45	54	*	20	42
26	Dodge	36%	47%	*	*	*	39	36	41
27	Kittson	40%	42%	*	*	*	*	*	41
28	Murray	43%	39%	*	50	61	52	55	41
29	Redwood	34%	48%	27	29	29	30	14	40
30	Kandiyohi	27%	47%	26	38	39	20	28	36
31	Blue Earth	20%	50%	37	57	47	10	5	36
32	Mower	24%	45%	*	*	*	*	10	34
33	Olmsted	30%	38%	65	*	*	26	*	33
34	Rice	23%	41%	*	*	*	6	18	32
35	Renville	23%	39%	19	25	11	9	28	31
36	Brown	17%	45%	15	24	31	23	15	29
37	Nicollet	27%	32%	*	50	60	46	62	29
38	Goodhue	17%	45%	*	*	*	*	*	28
39	Pope	30%	25%	31	*	*	*	*	28
40	Watonwan	20%	34%	38	45	*	36	26	27

Continued on Next Page

1 Fields meeting residue targets include fields with >30% residue plus fields with >15% residue when following soybeans.

2 An asterisk indicates no data were collected.

Report 1 (Page 2). 2000 MN Corn-Soybean Residue Survey Results
Statewide Summary - by County

Rank	County	Percent of Corn and Soybean Fields Meeting Residue Targets ¹ in 2000		Residue Trend Analysis Percent of Corn and Soybean Fields Meeting Residue Targets ^{1, 2}					
		CORN	SOYBEANS	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
41	Otter Tail	18%	36%	*	*	*	*	*	27
42	Yellow Medicine	21%	30%	24	24	45	22	6	26
43	Lyon	27%	24%	25	35	*	40	21	26
44	Sherburne	27%	24%	*	12	15	22	18	25
45	Douglas	28%	24%	*	*	*	*	*	25
46	Wabasha	22%	24%	*	*	*	*	*	23
47	Meeker	10%	33%	21	*	*	*	*	23
48	Pipestone	20%	23%	12	20	24	13	27	22
49	Isanti	22%	12%	*	38	*	*	*	17
50	Carver	9%	28%	*	*	7	6	6	17
51	Wright	18%	15%	39	34	*	*	*	16
52	Stearns	13%	22%	15	21	*	*	*	16
53	Todd	9%	26%	9	11	*	11	6	14
54	Grant	18%	12%	16	24	17	*	4	14
55	Morrison	13%	10%	14	*	*	*	*	13
56	Benton	11%	13%	*	13	*	7	10	11
57	Pine	6%	18%	7	*	*	*	7	11
58	Norman	31%	2%	2	*	*	*	*	10
59	Mille Lacs	7%	8%	*	*	*	*	*	7
60	Chisago	3%	10%	*	*	*	*	*	6
61	Kanabec	4%	9%	*	*	*	*	*	6
62	Polk	6%	4%	*	*	*	*	*	5
63	Wilkin	7%	3%	*	*	*	*	*	4
64	Wadena	2%	0%	*	*	*	*	0	2
65	Clay	5%	1%	*	*	*	*	*	2
66	Becker	0%	2%	2	2	*	*	1	2
67	Red Lake	0%	2%	*	*	*	*	*	1
68	Pennington	10%	0%	*	0	20	26	*	1
69	Aitkin	0%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	0
70	Hubbard	0%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	0
71	Lake Of The Woods	0%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	0
73	Marshall	0%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	0
74	Roseau	0%	0%	*	*	*	*	*	0
	Hennepin	*	*	34	37	*	35	33	*
Averages		35%	41%	30	39	48	38	37	38
Average of Counties Reporting									

1 Fields meeting residue targets include fields with >30% residue plus fields with >15% residue when following soybeans.

2 An asterisk indicates no data were collected.