



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.
Minutes.

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September 2002



Carolyn Dindorf

A lake is a landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature; it is the earth's eye.

Looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.

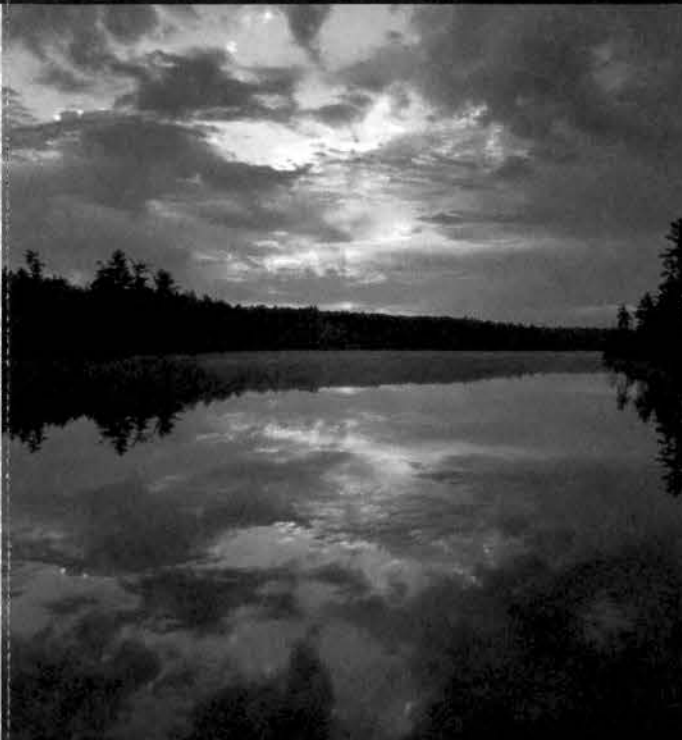
Henry David Thoreau



Carrol Henderson

How You Can Help

- Keep grass clippings, leaves, fire pit ashes and pet waste out of the lake.
- Limit lawn fertilizing and use phosphorus-free fertilizer; never fertilize within 50 feet of the lake.
- Reduce boat speed near the shoreline and in shallow water. High speeds near the shoreline increase shoreline erosion and stir up the lake-bottom.
- Use pesticides, herbicides, and household chemicals sparingly and never near the water.
- Pump your septic system every two years through the manhole on the top of the tank. If you use a garbage disposal, pump the tank every year. Keep kitchen grease out of your septic system. Minimize the amount of household cleaners entering the septic system and the use of antibacterial products.
- Practice water conservation inside and outside.
- Retain or plant native vegetation adjacent to the water – ideally establish at least a 30 foot buffer to protect the shoreline from erosion and filter pollution runoff.
- Prevent the spread of exotic species. Check your boat before and after launching it and never empty a minnow bucket or aquarium into the lake.
- Leave aquatic vegetation in place except for a small swimming area.
- Join your local lake association and support the Minnesota Lakes Association.



WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF MINNESOTA'S LAKES?



MINNESOTA
LAKES
ASSOCIATION

Imagine 20 years from now, Minnesota's lakes are:

*...cleaner and clearer than they are today.
...abundant with fish and wildlife of many species.
...a peaceful place to recreate and enjoy nature.
...a treasure our grandchildren and future generations can enjoy.*

Today, the quality and enjoyment of our lakes is threatened by:

*...overuse and over development.
...Eurasian watermilfoil and invasion of other exotic plants and animals.
...conflicts between users.
...phosphorus, mercury and other pollution problems.*

It's not too late.

We can make the dream come true if we tackle these concerns together.
Support the **Minnesota Lakes Association (MLA)** – our lakes need your help!



What Is MLA?

The Minnesota Lakes Association (MLA) is the only statewide 501(c)3 non-profit organization working solely to protect and improve the quality of Minnesota's lakes. Our diverse members are lake users, lakeshore property owners, lake associations, county coalitions of lake associations, conservation groups and business affiliates who care about the future of our lakes. MLA's actions are determined by a board of directors representing you in eight districts across the state.

You can become part of this growing network of people who collectively can make a difference in the quality of Minnesota's lakes.



What Does MLA Do?

Your tax-deductible support - either as a member (\$20 a year) or a donation - will help MLA:

- Represent the voice of lakeshore interests at the State legislature and on government committees to develop legislation and policies to protect lakes.
- Educate youth, who will be tomorrow's lake stewards.
- Provide services to lake associations, lake improvement districts, and other groups to enhance their effectiveness as an organization.
- Develop partnerships with other organizations and agencies with similar goals of protecting our State's water resources.
- Provide training programs for lake association leaders, citizen volunteers, trade professionals, and local officials.
- Sponsor annual statewide and district educational conferences.
- Publish a quarterly newsletter, maintain a highly acclaimed web site with over 600 lake-related resources, and produce other educational materials.

*We are responsible for the care of our lakes!
We all have an obligation to leave our lakes
clean and beautiful for future generations.*

Why Join MLA?

- To have a voice at the state legislature - more members equals more influence.
- To stay informed about critical lake issues.
- To learn more about responsible lake stewardship.
- To join a partnership for lake protection. It takes you and your lake association at the local level combined with statewide influence to protect our lakes.
- To support the programs of the Minnesota Lakes Association working on your behalf.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- *MLA Reporter* quarterly newsletter containing the latest lake research, best management practices for lake protection, project funding and web resources, and case studies about lake management.
- Legislative email reports.
- Discounts on conferences and publications.
- *Lake Bulletin* - monthly email news of timely information and opportunities.
- Knowledge that you're making a difference in protecting Minnesota's lakes.



CONTACT US:

1-800-515-5253

lakes@mnlakes.org

www.mnlakes.org

Join or donate online.

Paper contains a minimum of 20% post-consumer fiber.

Support MLA Today!

Become a member or provide a donation to support our work...

Together we are a strong, effective voice working to insure that our dream for the future of Minnesota's lakes becomes a reality.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Lake you reside on or use frequently: _____

County _____

Tax Deductible Memberships:

Individual (\$20) _____ Family (\$40) _____

Nonprofit (\$50) _____ Business (\$100) _____

(Call office for lake association membership information)

Additional Tax Deductible Donations:

\$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

Method of Payment Check: ☐ Check ☐ Visa/Mastercard ☐

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Send form & payment to: MLA, PO Box 321, Brainerd, MN 56401

Working Together We Can Make a Difference.

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
GRAND HINCKLEY INN
HINCKLEY, MINNESOTA
SEPTEMBER 25, 2002**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Coe, Jerome Deal, Darrell Bruggman, Jim Anderson-MES, Mark Dittrich-MDA, Char Kahler, Clair Nelson, Lisa Thorvig-MPCA, Dwain Otte, Paul Krabbenhoft, Victor Ormsby, Karen Harder, Jack Frost, Ginny Imholte, Dan Wilson-MDH, Steve Morse-DNR

STAFF PRESENT: Ron Harnack, Doug Thomas, Mary Jo Anderson, Tammy McGlone, John Jaschke, Kevin Lines, Ron Shelito, Phil Belifori, Marybeth Block, Keith Grow, Pete Waller

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sandy Hooker, Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT)
Kevin Scheidecker, Red River Basin Commission
Shelley Becklund, East Otter Tail SWCD

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Chair Coe called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

02-68 ** Adopt Agenda – Chair Coe announced two additions to the agenda, 1) Update on Special Session; and 2) Red River Valley Set-Aside Termination Options. Moved by Victor Ormsby, seconded by Dwain Otte, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

02-69 ** Minutes of August 28, 2002 – Victor Ormsby stated that Steve Morse's name was misspelled on page 3. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Jack Frost, to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Minnesota Lakes Association (MLA) – Paula West, MLA executive director, explained MLA's mission, initiatives, and ties to water planning, and presented a brief overview of MLA. She thanked BWSR for support on water planning issues. Ron Harnack announced that Paula was the recipient of the "Friend of Water Planning for 2002" award presented this morning at the 2002 Local Water Planners Conference. Paula distributed a brochure "What is the Future of Minnesota's Lakes?" for board members' information.

REPORTS

Chair Coe reported that he attended the EQB meeting. EQB took action on the animal agriculture GEIS. Chair Coe circulated a compact disc (CD) distributed by EQB for board members' information. The CD contains 1) Scoping document and GEIS Study Workplan; 2) Individual Literature Summaries; 3) Individual Technical Work Papers; 4) GIS Maps; 5) Preliminary Drafts GEIS; 6) Final GEIS Summary; and 7) Ancillary Documents.

Executive Director – Ron Harnack asked board members to look at the BWSR "Update." Ron encouraged board members to attend the BWSR "Local Water Management: The Next Era" workshop sessions held statewide. Ron announced that Steve Woods has been named Assistant Director. Ron stated that budget implications will be addressed as the new administration and budget forecast evolves. Ron requested board members to submit their expense reports quarterly.

Ron reported that he and Chair Coe met with Department of Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson, Deputy Commissioner Sharon Clark and Assistant Commissioner Perry Aasness. Ron and Chair Coe also met with Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Allan Garber and Deputy Commissioner Steve Morse. A meeting with PCA Commissioner Karen Studders and Assistant Commissioner Lisa Thorvig has been rescheduled. Meetings with the Minnesota Extension Service and Department of

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Health will be scheduled. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern.

Ron stated that the Minnesota Recovers Disaster Task Force is receiving applications for flood damage assistance. Ron stated that agencies are responding by providing assistance as needed.

Ron has been meeting with BWSR staff in regional offices and LGUs in that region. Ron reported that the Administrative Advisory Committee met this morning to delve into budget issues; options will be discussed with the full board in October.

Ron and Doug Thomas attended a meeting with Perry Aasness, Department of Agriculture, and commodity groups in Twin Valley on September 23, to address issues, concerns and needs for disaster help. Dealing with technical assistance is one of the biggest issues they face in the northwest.

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) – Chair Coe commented on the DRC report distributed to board members earlier – seven WCA appeals pending. Chair Coe reported that the DRC met on September 9. An appeal has been received from the Hennepin County Park Board involving a WCA decision by the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

Wetlands Committee – Darrell Bruggman reported that wetland rules training sessions have been scheduled, he distributed dates/locations of the sessions. Ron encouraged board member attendance at the wetland rules training sessions. The focus of the sessions is for LGU staff.

Cost-Share/Soil Conservation Committee – Dwain Otte apologized for the problem with Cost-Share Committee meeting notice on September 16 not being sent out. Those attending the meeting had good discussion; as an outgrowth of that meeting, Wayne Zellmer will develop options, with additional Cost-Share Committee meetings scheduled to develop recommendations for EQIP. Dwain stated that there's a need to get the policy side out for the State Tech Committee, and move on an as-needed basis.

Education Committee – Ron stated that he met with the director of The Bell Museum to discuss opportunities. We will schedule time at the next BWSR Education Committee meeting for a presentation.

Administrative Advisory Committee – Chair Coe stated that the Committee met this morning regarding budget issues. Chair Coe stated that BWSR's strength is our technical assistance to LGUs and asked that board members keep that in mind as we

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look at budget implications. Ron Harnack stated that he doesn't see a major reorganization; agencies are focusing on coordinated efforts, more team efforts than in the past.

Agency Reports

Mark Dittrich, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), reported that Commissioner Gene Hugoson is with the Governor on their way to Havana, Cuba for a trade mission. Sharon Clark will give an update on that at the October board meeting. Mark attended the meeting on Monday in Twin Valley, he stated that there was good interaction and discussion to address the issues in the Red River Valley.

Dan Wilson, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), announced a celebration at Harriet Island that will be held on October 18, to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Clean Water Act. Dan was pleased to report that ⁱⁿ ~~FY02 is at~~ 95% ^{of inspected new wells met} well construction ^{all well} ~~rate~~. There are now over 160,000 abandoned wells that have been sealed. ^{code requirements.}

Steve Morse, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), reported that ATVs legislative task force continues to meet twice a month; differences of opinion on the issues run deep. Steve reported that there's a permit before DNR for on-stream storage on Marsh Creek in Twin Valley, meetings are being scheduled and a timeline in place to move through the permitting process. An interdisciplinary internal team and external stakeholders team have been established to provide comment on the project. Recommendations will be forwarded to DNR Commissioner's office by December 1st. Objective is to try to get things done to show results, hope to get decision that sticks, so they can stay out of court. Steve commented on the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) status. DNR continues to remove deer, moving on-schedule, aggressively moving forward if other outbreaks in the state happen, working with Board of Animal Health, PCA and Department of Health.

Steve commented on DNR's budget – they are doing things differently than other agencies -- DNR is going public – three tiers: inflation, 10% cuts, and lottery-in-lieu fund did not go into the base, about \$47M budget reduction out of their \$260M budget; worst case scenario nearly 500 employees would be impacted. Budgets are requested to be submitted to the Department of Finance by October 15. DNR is also looking at various resource options including a sales tax option. Stakeholders meetings are being held to discuss the budget implications, anyone interested in attending is welcome call Steve's office for a schedule of the meetings.

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Jim Anderson, Minnesota Extension Service (MES), announced the Water Resources Conference, October 29 at the Thunderbird Hotel in Bloomington, to be held in conjunction with the American Society of Civil Engineers session. Jim stated that watershed resource management is using GIS tools, another focus is on bio-engineering. A one-day training session on GIS tools will be held on October 30. Jim distributed a fact-sheet on "Small Community Wastewater Treatment Decisions." Jim commented on the Farm Bill technical assistance and the need to meet with Bill Hunt, NRCS, regarding that issue. Jim reported that the Great Lakes states are meeting in October with state conservationists; will be meeting with Ron Harnack and Doug Thomas to address issues. Chair Coe stated that Ken Olson, Extension Educator of On-Site Sewage Treatment, did an excellent job yesterday at the local water planners conference. Jim stated that he will be meeting with John Jaschke regarding water planning integration and drainage.

Lisa Thorvig, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), reported on the Storm Water Phase II regulations. The industrial storm water general permit is on public notice. MPCA is now rulemaking to adopt the federal Phase II requirements and establish Minnesota criteria for adding smaller municipalities to the storm water requirements. PMCA has solicited comments and is drafting the rule. Rule will likely be public noticed in October.

Lisa reported that construction storm water general permit development has been delayed to address concerns related to Outstanding Resource Value waters, trout waters and wetlands. It is unlikely that the MPCA will meet the federal deadlines for issuance of this general permit. MPCA would like to see expansion of fees for newly regulated parties under Phase II to address implement workload. MPCA would also like to seek funding for local units of government to help in implementing the storm water programs, especially in the areas of inspection and enforcement.

Lisa reported on the impaired waters program. Rulemaking for determining impaired waters are under review and scheduled to be finalized in October. MPCA's proposed impaired waters list has been delayed due to the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities request for a contested case hearing on the proposed list. The federal government may take the state's proposed list and finalize it rather than waiting for MPCA to complete its administrative process to finalize the impaired waters list. MPCA's proposed Regional Fecal Coliform TMDL for 20 impaired waters in southeast Minnesota is delayed due to Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy's (MCEA) request for a contested case hearing. MPCA staff is preparing a recommendation on MCEA's hearing request. MPCA would like to propose a funding and policy initiative to address Minnesota's impaired waters which would include funds to address infrastructure needs to clean up

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the impaired waters (e.g., failing septic systems, storm water BMPs), local government funding needs and state agency funding and monitoring needs.

Lisa reported that the Annual County Feedlot Officers conference will be held in Willmar at the end of October. Lisa stated that MPCA will be working with the Minnesota On-Site Treatment Contractors Association (MOSTCA) on MOSTCA's policy and funding recommendations for the 2003 legislative session. Lisa announced that Gretchen Sabel has been re-hired by MPCA, she will be working on ISTS issues. Lisa stated that MPCA's '04-'05 budget reduction target is about \$9.2 million. They are putting together their reduction options and would like to share these with stakeholders like DNR. Ron invited agency members to meet with AMC, MAWD, MASWCD; all agreed to meet – "the sooner the better" said Steve Morse.

Committee Recommendation

Dispute Resolution Committee

WCA Appeals Involving Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission (WMC) in Brooklyn Center – Chair Coe stated that the hearing closed without a decision, for or against, the DRC decided to remand this back to the LGU. Char Kahler stated that this was interesting, it depended heavily on the TEP panel, the report was not finalized or signed. Char applauded the citizen involvement. Ron Harnack stated that we don't want to assume the responsibility of the LGU, the system needs to be held accountable, and remand this back to the LGU. Moved by Char Kahler, seconded by Lisa Thorvig, to accept and approve the DRC's recommendation to remand this back to the LGU. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**

02-70

Chair Coe called for a break in the meeting at 11:00 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

New Business

Red River Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) – Kevin Scheidecker, Red River Basin Commission (RRBC), presented the northwest perspective of CREP. The focus of the CREP will be flood damage reduction, water quality enhancement and habitat enhancement. It will have a two-state basin-wide framework with individual state implementation. Kevin Scheidecker had been the Fillmore SWCD manager, and recently took the Red River Basin Commission position. Kevin explained the RRBC's mission "To create a comprehensive, integrated basin-wide vision; to build consensus and commitment to the vision; and to speak with a unified voice for the Red River Basin." Kevin stated that RRBC's web site is: www.redriverbasincommission.org Kevin stated that he looks forward to working with BWSR. Ron Harnack stated that there's good potential to make significant strides in addressing the Red River Mediation goals and objectives with this effort. Jerome Deal

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02-71 ** agreed and urged everyone to pick up the pace so that these resources are available sooner than later. Discussion followed. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Ginny Imholte, to endorse the Red River Basin Commission's CREP initiative. Motion passed on a voice vote. Ron Harnack and Chair Coe commended staff for their efforts on this initiative.

Lisa Thorvig reported that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers found inadequacies with MPCA, DNR, and MDH's EIS regarding Devils Lake. The Corps of Engineers is taking time to review the issues regarding the inadequacies of the outlet and may need to do additional studies. The projects currently proposed would violate current water quality standards. North Dakota has contacted MPCA regarding a permitable project; MPCA is preparing for a court challenge if necessary.

Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) Funds Available for Flood Recovery – Ron Harnack stated that this is a flood recovery RIM Reserve sign-up for the 2002 flood disaster counties in the Red River Watershed. As required by RIM statute, wetland restoration easements must be perpetual, and limited duration easements can be no shorter than 20 years. The easement duration and payment rates are for perpetual and 20-year easements. Based on current RIM rule, limited duration easements cannot exceed 75% of the assessors township average market value (ATAMV) for crop land, and 45% of the ATAMV for non-crop land. Staff propose that perpetual crop payment rate be at 90% ATAMV and perpetual non-crop payment rate at 60% ATAMV. The 20-year easement crop payment rate be 60% ATAMV and non-crop payment rate at 40% ATAMV. This is policy that has been in place for several years.

BWSR will fund applications based on the following categories of five priorities: permanent easements on sites suited to temporary storage of floodwater; permanent easements on sites damaged by the flood; limited duration easements on sites that are suited to temporary flood storage; limited duration easements on sites that have been damaged by floodwaters; and permanent easements on sites that currently have a continuous CRP contract. The focus of this special allocation is to help address critical needs for flood storage and flood related erosion. The permanent vs. 20-year will be based on flood storage site priorities of the Watershed Districts and project work teams and consistent with the Red River Mediation agreement. 20-year easements on erosion sites will be preferred when the technical assessment of the SWCD determines that the land could reasonably be returned to crop production after 20 years. In all instances the landowner has the final decision on what option is selected. Mark Dittrich expressed that the commodity groups that met on September 23 favored limited term over permanent. Ron concurred with this assessment. Flexibility to address the needs of the farmers was stressed. Jerome Deal liked the connection to Red River Mediation and the focus on storage.

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- **
02-72 Moved by Steve Morse, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to endorse the proposal as presented. Mark Dittrich asked for more time to review this. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote. Mark Dittrich opposed.

Update on Special Session – Ron Harnack reported that the Legislature convened a “special session” on September 19, to address the flood issues in the northwest; a Flood Damage Bill was signed to provide \$32M for disaster counties in the northwest. The statutory authorization for the Board would allow SWCDs in disaster counties the flexibility to work with producers. Ron will provide copies of specifics to board members. Ron stated that Minnesota Recovers will assist with getting the dollars to the disaster areas as soon as possible. Specific recommendations on applying BWSR waivers will be presented to the Board next month.

- Red River Valley Set-Aside Termination Options** – Ron Harnack reported that two years ago there was an authorization to BWSR for the floods disaster assistance -- \$2.6M to assist landowners in disaster counties with conservation practices on impacted land, 5% of that had to be planted to trees. Landowners are now required to re-certify their base under the new Farm Bill. The new Farm Bill prevents landowners from including these short-term contract lands in their base, even though we were told by FSA that base would not be impacted under the old Farm Bill. Staff's suggestion is to allow termination of the contract, except that lands planted to trees are not allowed to opt out of the agreement. Moved by Paul Krabbenhoft, seconded by Darrell Bruggman, to approve the staff recommendation and allow the landowner to pay back the State for the remaining contract term. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.
- **
02-73

Advisory Comments

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MAWCDS) – Ron Harnack reported that he met with the MASWCD Board of Directors yesterday. EQIP will be addressed at the October meeting. The Association is very interested in how they can posture with NRCS in implementing the conservation provisions of the new Farm Bill.

Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Sandy Hooker announced that the MAT annual conference will be held November 21-23, at the Radisson-Arrowwood in Alexandria. Sandy invited board members to attend.

Ron suggested pooling agencies for booth space at annual conferences. There was support and BWSR will follow-up.

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Upcoming Meetings

- BWSR Meeting, October 23, St. Paul
- MAWD Annual Meeting, December 5-7, Alexandria
- MASWCD Annual Meeting, December 8-10, St. Paul
- AMC Annual Meeting, December 9-11, Duluth
- It was decided that the BWSR meeting in December will be held December 4th.

Chair Coe adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leland G. Coe".

Leland G. Coe
Chair

REGISTRATION FORM
Local Water Management:
The Next Era

Registration fee: \$25

Name

Organization

Address

City

State

ZIP

Phone

Fax

E-mail

INFORMATION FOR STATE AGENCY PARTICIPANTS:

Fund: 200 Appr. SWF Agency: R9P

Org: 2LRM Rev. Source: 8700

PV #

Date paid:

Please fax a print screen to: (651) 215-1144

*This brochure is available in pdf format on the
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www.bwsr.state.mn.us.*

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Local Water Management: The Next Era



Local Water Management:
The Next Era

*A workshop offered by the Minnesota Board of
Water and Soil Resources for local staffs, advisory
committee members, elected or appointed
officials, and regional state agency field staff.*

Plan to attend one of these sessions:

Wednesday, October 9

Kelly Inn/Green Mill

Hwy. 23 and 4th Ave. South, St Cloud

Tuesday, October 15

Shooting Star Casino Hotel & Event Center

Hwy. 59 & Jefferson St., Mahanomen

Wednesday, October 16

Sawmill Inn, 2302 Pokegama Ave. South,
Grand Rapids

Wednesday, October 23

Cabela's, 3900 Cabela Drive, Owatonna

Thursday, October 24

Redwood Area Community Center, 901 Cook St.,
Redwood Falls

Monday, October 28

Community Center, 4600 Victoria St. North,
Shoreview

Thursday, November 7

Minnesota Department of Health, 1645 Energy
Park Drive, St. Paul

Introduction

Increased urbanization, agriculture, recreation, and industry all place high demands on water resources. As more pressure is put on the state's water resources, the need for strong local plans that provide a context for sound local decision-making escalates.

Increasingly, Minnesota citizens and public and private groups will look to counties, watershed districts, and water management organizations to propose and carry out efficient water management strategies. BWSR is sponsoring *Local Water Management: The Next Era* to help position local resource managers, including agency field staffs, in meeting those expectations.

The morning speakers will share planning and implementation approaches that have proven successful in the world of local water management in Minnesota. They will relate key concepts BWSR proposes to incorporate into statutory and policy changes for the state's local water planning program. They'll also discuss a major effort in the integration of water management programs that will result in putting energy where it pays off the most.

What does that mean? Focus on the issues, areas, or resources of the most concern and coordinating actions of all relevant local resource managers to effectively address those concerns.

Outcomes

Participants in this workshop will:

- Learn about successful approaches to plan and implement water management at the local level;
- Become more familiar with changes BWSR is proposing for local water management programs;
- Gain insights and experiences from other local resource managers.

Proposed Agenda:

9:30 a.m.	Welcome/Introduction
10 a.m.	Speaker
10:45 a.m.	Break
	Speaker
12:00 noon	LUNCH
1 p.m.	Integration Update
	Regional Priority Concerns
3:30 p.m.	Wrap Up

Check BWSR's web site (see Quick Links at www.bwsr.state.mn.us) for more information regarding the speakers and subjects for the session you plan to attend.

Registration

Check the session you plan to attend (*registration must be received one week prior to the workshop*):

- ☐ **Wednesday, October 9**
Kelly Inn/Green Mill, Hwy. 23 and 4th Ave. South, St. Cloud
- ☐ **Tuesday, October 15**
Shooting Star Casino Hotel & Event Center
Hwy. 59 & Jefferson St., Mahanomen
- ☐ **Wednesday, October 16**
Sawmill Inn, 2302 Pokegama Ave. South, Grand Rapids
- ☐ **Wednesday, October 23**
Cabela's, 3900 Cabela Drive, Owatonna
- ☐ **Thursday, October 24**
Redwood Area Community Center,
901 Cook St., Redwood Falls
- ☐ **Monday, October 28**
Community Center, 4600 Victoria St. North, Shoreview
- ☐ **Thursday, November 7**
Minnesota Department of Health, 1645 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul

Registration fee: \$25 (includes lunch)

Please note: Pre-registration and payment are required. Fees cannot be accepted the day of the workshop. Send your payment (checks only!) made out to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, along with this registration form to:

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

Attn: Debbie Anderson
One West Water Street, Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55107
Phone: (651) 282-9969
TTY: (800) 627-3529

Fill out both sides of this panel.

Registration Form

Wetland Rules

Board of Water & Soil Resources

217 S 7th St. Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401-3660
Phone: (218) 828-2383

Session Date and Location

Name

Organization

Address

City State Zip

Phone Fax

E-mail

**Please enclose a check made out to
"Board of Water & Soil Resources"
and mail it to Attn: Vicky Erbele,
217 S 7th Street, Ste 202,
Brainerd, MN 56401-3660**

State Agency Payment:

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Org: 2WRT Rev. Source: 8700

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Fax copy of print screen to: 651-215-1144

Dates & Locations

October 14, 2002

Red Lion (Ramada Inn)
1870 Old Hudson Rd
St. Paul, MN 55119-4377
Phone: 651-735-2333

October 15, 2002

Jackpot Junction
39375 Co. Hwy. 24
Morton
Phone: 1-800-946-2274

October 17, 2002

Holiday Inn South
1630 South Broadway
Rochester
Phone: 507-288-1844

October 24, 2002

Northern Inn
3600 Moberg Drive NW
Bemidji
Phone: 218-444-9515

October 29, 2002

Kelly Inn
Hwy 23 & 4th Ave So
St. Cloud
Phone 320-253-0606

October 30, 2002

Holiday Inn
200 W First St
Duluth
Phone 218-722-1202

Registration Information

The registration fee of **\$45** includes refreshments, lunch, and materials. **Preregistration/prepayment is required.** No cash - checks only. Please complete a form for each participant. Enclose a check for the full amount of **\$45** (per person) payable to **The Board of Water & Soil Resources** with the registration form. Mail to BWSR at the address on the registration panel. **Registration must be received by October 3, 2002.**

Presenters

Senior Wetland Specialists:

Dan Eklund, Brainerd
Tom Mings, St. Paul

Wetland Specialists:

Lenore Marken, Rochester
John Overland, Brainerd
Dale Krystosek, Bemidji

BWSR Board Conservationists

DNR Division of Waters Personnel

Tentative Agenda

9:30 a.m.	Registration
10:00 a.m.	Session begins -DNR Protected Waters -WCA
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Endangered Species Act Storm Water Requirements GP-02
3:30 p.m.	Adjourn

Meeting Description

Training sessions are being held by the Board of Water and Soil Resources and the Department of Natural Resources Division of Waters. These sessions are on the new rules pertaining to the Wetland Conservation Act and Public Waters regulations involving wetlands. The rule has been converted from exempt ("emergency") rule status to permanent rule as required by Chapter 382 MN Laws 2000. The purpose of these meetings is to expose local governments, state and federal agencies, and the interested public to the permanent rule changes. In addition, there will be training on the Endangered Species Act requirements, Storm Water requirements, and GP-02.

Who should attend these sessions: Local government units involved with implementation of the Wetland Conservation Act, state and federal agencies interested in or affected by the Act, and any interested citizen.

Wetland Rules

Training sessions are being offered by:

The Board of Water and Soil Resources

And

The Department of Natural Resources
Division of Waters

October 2002

***Some facilities have limited space.
Please register early.***



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

making commitments because sometimes the reporting and additional work required may be more than the community is willing to do or cost more than the funds are worth.

Working with Professionals

Some of the best advice about working with professionals appears in *Assessing Wastewater Options for Small Communities: Trainer Manual for Local Decision Makers* published by the EPA-funded National Environmental Training Center in West Virginia. This publication states, "Many professionals may be biased toward particular technologies, so they may not seriously consider options they are unfamiliar with or simply don't like."

The community team will need to work with a variety of professionals (engineers, regulators, consultants, educators, etc.) who bring individual values, experiences, knowledge and profit motives with them in order to find the solutions that best fit the community's needs. By screening proposals, interviewing candidates, checking references, using multiple sources of information, and involving diverse interests in the process, the community can find a solution that they can live with for many years to come. They must use good critical thinking skills to sort through all of the options and information.

Thousands of communities in Minnesota and across the country are facing wastewater treatment challenges. There are practical solutions available but it's up to citizens, elected officials, and staff to find and implement them!

For More Information

Much more detailed information on all of these topics is available in the University of Minnesota Extension Service publication #BU-07734 *Small Community Wastewater Solutions: A Guide to Making Treatment, Management and Financing Decisions*, available through the Distribution Center, 800-876-8636 or local County Extension Offices. The On-site Sewage Treatment Program also offers educational programs for communities. Consult the website at: www.bae.umn.edu/septic or contact Ken Olson at (800) 657-3516 for more information.

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Phyllis W. Unger, Production and Copy Editor

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A Quick Guide to Small Community Wastewater Treatment Decisions

Ken Olson, Extension Educator
On-site Sewage Treatment

What Is Wastewater?

Everyone generates wastewater. The typical home uses 75 to 100 gallons of water per person per day. When people "use" water it doesn't go away; it becomes dirty and is wastewater or sewage. Wastewater contains **pathogens** (disease organisms), **nutrients** (nitrogen, phosphorus, etc.), **solids** (organic, inorganic), **chemicals** (from cleaners, disinfectants, medications) and **water**. Wastewater must be cleaned up before it is returned to the environment to be recycled for future generations. As individuals and members of a larger community, everyone must take responsibility for wastewater generated in their community.

How to Treat Wastewater

Wastewater treatment protects human and environmental health. There has been much debate over the best way to treat wastewater. Only in the last few years has the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) acknowledged that **decentralized** systems (individual and small multiple-household wastewater treatment systems, sometimes called **on-site septic systems**) are as successful as municipal or **centralized** systems in treating wastewater to meet water quality standards in a cost-effective manner.

Regardless of the approach chosen, two things are clear: 1) all wastewater must be delivered to an effective treatment facility and 2) all treatment facilities must be well managed. These basic principles sound simple, but implementing them in an existing community is not an easy or quick task.

Wastewater Problems Are Community Problems

When a community faces wastewater treatment issues, a successful outcome is often more dependent on the process the community follows to address the issue than it is on the wastewater treatment technologies available to them. Engaging all of the members of the community early in the decision-making process leads to the best solutions and encourages responsibility. Finding appropriate technological solutions to a community's wastewater problems is the easy part. Working together as a community is the challenge.

Communities that are successful in finding a technically effective, economical and socially acceptable solution have several distinguishing characteristics. People in these communities:

- Clearly and completely understand their current situation **before** they start looking for solutions.
- Realize that only they can make the best decisions for their community.
- Take responsibility for and ownership of the problem.

- Have or develop strong leadership from within.
- Have a clearly defined vision and mission, which leads to setting appropriate goals.
- Take the time and energy to identify and examine all options before making decisions.
- Gather information from as many sources as possible before taking action.
- Keep all affected parties involved and informed all along the way.
- Identify and use a set of criteria.

To implement an effective community process that will move the project to completion, a steering committee representing diverse interests must work with the entire community. The process, from start to finish, typically takes from three to seven years! Every community must *struggle* to find the right solution. *Struggling* through the process stimulates every one to learn, understand their differences, negotiate compromises and come to a conclusion that everyone can live with.

Before studying wastewater treatment options, communities must work with local units of government, agencies and organizations to assemble data to help them understand the present situation. Once the data is gathered, steering committee members, officials, experts and key members of the community need to carefully interpret the data to determine what it means. This provides a clear understanding of the current situation and gives a sense of direction.

Once the community understands its situation and resources, it must be prepared to examine options for treatment, legal structure and financing available to them. To do this the community team will need to work with a variety of professionals to find the solutions that best fit the community's needs.

Wastewater Treatment Options

Many small communities begin the process of addressing wastewater treatment needs by thinking that all they need to do is find the "recommended" treatment option and install it! However, each situation is unique and there are numerous treatment technologies available. Of course all treatment options have their advantages and disadvantages.

When deciding on the right treatment system, the community must have clear goals and specific criteria to use in making the decision. The system or systems chosen must provide the community with effective and manageable wastewater treatment at a reasonable cost. Depending on the overall population density, soil conditions and other factors, treatment systems follow one of two general concepts:

- **Decentralized:** Individual and multiple-household (cluster) on-site systems using standard or "alternative" treatment technologies with subsurface discharge (may include pretreatment processes)
- **Centralized:** Municipal-style collection (gravity, pressure or vacuum) and centralized treatment with surface discharge (treatment involves primary, secondary, and perhaps tertiary processes)

A combination of these approaches is frequently the most viable solution.

Management of Wastewater Systems

Management of a wastewater system includes monitoring, operation and maintenance. By providing a high level of management to all systems, communities can meet water quality and cost objectives using a variety of treatment systems.

The benefits of good management include:

- Reduced overall costs
- Longer system life
- Improved system performance
- Increased reliability and overall satisfaction

Everyone involved must understand, carry out and be accountable for their role. The costs to replace a system, plus the hidden costs of human health risks and contamination of drinking water are incentives to do proper management.

Organizational Structures

Someone must be responsible for ownership, monitoring, operation, maintenance and the finances of wastewater treatment systems. This may be the owner of an individual system; however, multiple-household and community systems also require a *responsible management entity*—providing technical skills, legal authority and administrative capabilities.

Minnesota has several legal structures that can be used for wastewater projects. Each has advantages and disadvantages. Each project and community is unique and must find the one that fits best. Options for unincorporated areas include:

- Sanitary District
- Regional Sanitary Sewer District
- Special Legislative District
- Water Quality Cooperative
- Subordinate Service District
- Homeowner and Lake Association
- Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement
- Lake Improvement District
- Rural Water User District
- Watershed Management Organization
- Watershed District

Costs and Financing

The life cycle cost of wastewater treatment systems include design, construction, operation, maintenance, repair and replacement. Communities must be very careful when comparing costs. Usually construction costs are spread over a twenty-year period. When considering costs, pay special attention to the source of the information and be cautious of big differences in life expectancy.

People always look for "free money" to pay for construction of wastewater treatment systems because in the 1970s federal construction grant funds were available. Today very few grants are available and have been replaced by low-interest loans, bonding, service fees and people paying out of their pocket as methods to finance most wastewater systems. To control costs, first find the most cost-effective solution and then consider all financing options.

Communities must develop the fiscal, managerial and technical capacity to plan, design, install, operate and maintain the system(s) over time. Three levels of financial assistance need to be considered—local, state and federal. Thoroughly review the requirements of all funding sources before

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

In re Wetland Conservation Act
Replacement Plan Determination by the
Shingle Creek Watershed Management
Commission ("SCWMC")

BWSR File Nos. 02-8 and 02-9

ORDER

This matter involves combined appeals brought by Diane Niesen and Paul S. Oman pursuant to the Wetland Conservation Act ("WCA") challenging a wetland replacement plan determination made at the March 14, 2002, SCWMC meeting. Both appeals involve the same France Avenue highway relocation project and were combined and heard as one by the Dispute Resolution Committee ("DRC") of BWSR. After the parties were allowed to brief issues related to this proceeding, the DRC met on September 9, 2002, to hear the oral arguments. The hearing was conducted at the BWSR offices at One West Water Street, St. Paul, Minnesota. DRC members, Leland Coe ("Chair"), Clair Nelson, Dwain Otte, Char Kahler, and Jerome Deal were in attendance. Appellants Diane Neisen and Paul Oman represented themselves before the Committee. Charles L. Lefevere of Kennedy and Graven Law Firm, 470 Pillsbury Center, 200 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402, appeared on behalf of the SCWMC.

Based on the entire record in this matter and all the proceedings herein and after discussion and consideration, the DRC voted unanimously to remand the decision of the SCWMC for further development of the record in this matter. That recommendation was then presented to the BWSR Board.

At its meeting on September 25, 2002, the BWSR Board adopted a resolution to accept the recommendation of the DRC and authorize the Chair of BWSR to issue this Order.

Based on the record of these proceedings, BWSR makes the following:

ORDER

The March 14, 2002, determination of the SCWMC is hereby remanded for more full development of the record. The determination on remand shall be completed within 90 days of this Order and specifically must include:

1. A noticed public hearing;
2. Consideration of a formal Technical Evaluation Panel ("TEP") report by the Commission; and

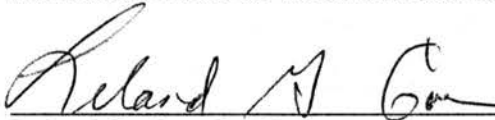
3. Consideration by the Commission of a more detailed analysis of costs for the alternatives presented.

The prior record items before the LGU are to be incorporated by reference into the final record for this matter. Additional testimony and exhibits related to these items will be included as part of the record developed at the public hearing.

The attached Memorandum is included by reference in this Order.

Dated: September 25th, 2002.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leland G. Coe", is written over a horizontal line.

Leland G. Coe, Its Chair

AG: #727085-v1

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

In re Wetland Conservation Act
Replacement Plan Determination by the
Shingle Creek Watershed Management
Commission ("SCWMC")

BWSR File Nos. 02-8 and 02-9

MEMORANDUM

Pursuant to Minnesota Rule 8420.0250, this matter is being remanded to the local unit of government ("LGU") for the development of a more adequate record to be reviewed upon appeal. The rule provides as follows:

The board will affirm the local government unit's decision if the local government unit's findings of fact are not clearly erroneous; if the local government unit correctly applied the law to the facts, including this chapter; and if the local government unit made no procedural errors prejudicial to a party. Otherwise, the board will reverse the decision, amend it, or remand it with instructions for further proceedings.

Further, proceedings in this matter are necessary for the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission ("SCWMC") to give consideration to a formal Technical Evaluation Panel ("TEP") report on the impacts of this particular wetland replacement plan, along with the documentation of more detailed costs for alternatives that were reviewed by the Commission. Those factors, along with relevant public input from a public hearing, will provide the basis for a more fully developed record in this appeal. These items should be reflected in more detailed findings demonstrating the factual basis for the conclusions supporting the LGU's determination.

Flood Recovery RIM Reserve sign-up, Red River Watershed

The proposed sign-up in the Red River watershed will be for approximately \$620,000. Priorities have been set by a working group from the valley and approved by the Board at their August meeting.

I have a few questions and am proposing a few ideas as to how we should proceed with this sign-up.

Easement duration and payment rates

Wetland restoration easements, by statutory requirement, must be perpetual. Limited duration easements can be no shorter than 20 years, also required by RIM statute.

I propose that we offer easement lengths of perpetual and 20 year. Current RIM rule states that limited duration easements cannot exceed 75% of the assessors township average market value (ATAMV) for crop land, and 45% of the ATAMV for non-crop land. Given these parameters I propose the following payment rates for the duration options listed above: (rates listed are an average for all the flood disaster counties)

	Crop payment rate	Non-crop payment rate
perpetual	90% ATAMV (\$443/acre)	60% ATAMV (\$295/acre)
20 year easement	60% ATAMV (\$295/acre)	40% ATAMV (\$197/acre)

Sign-up timing

I propose we begin taking applications as soon as possible once we agree on easement duration and payment rates. How about a sign-up deadline in mid December, say December 13th. This is the date applications must be submitted to the BC. BCs would have two weeks to make funding decisions and get approved applications to St.Paul.

Choosing applications for funding

BCs and Brian Dwight should choose applications for funding based on the five priorities that have been approved. BCs are in the best position to make decisions based on their knowledge of local projects and resource protection needs. Because there is a limited amount of money available and locations of potential flood reduction projects may all be in the same BC region, it is not feasible to use the BC allocation formula in the RIM database to give each BC an allocation of the \$620,000 available.

Prepared by Tim Fredbo

RIM FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FLOOD RECOVERY

BWSR staff are proposing to authorize approximately \$620,000 in Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) funds for easements in counties affected by the 2002 floods. The following counties are currently listed as flood disaster counties: Becker, Beltrami, Clay, Clearwater, Itasca, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, McLeod, Mahnommen, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, East Polk, West Polk, Red Lake, Roseau, Hubbard, and Wright. If approved by the BWSR Board, landowners in these counties will be eligible to apply. Easements will be targeted to sites affected by the 2002 flooding or to sites that could reduce the effects of future floods.

SWCDs in eligible counties will be asked to hold a sign-up as soon as practicable after notification that the program has been authorized by the BWSR Board. If approved, applications will be accepted in the following categories.

First Priority: **Permanent easements on sites suited to temporary storage of floodwater.** Watershed district project teams will make recommendations for these sites to the SWCD.

Second Priority: **Permanent easements on sites damaged by the flood.** These will generally be sites where soil erosion or sedimentation has damaged the landscape to a point where restoring the site to cropland is improbable.

* **Third Priority:** **Limited duration easements on sites that are suited to temporary flood storage.**

* **Fourth Priority:** **Limited duration easements on sites that have been damaged by floodwaters.**

Fifth Priority: **Permanent easements on sites that currently have a continuous CRP contract.**

BWSR will fund applications based on the above listed priorities. This is a one-time program. Any money not used through this special sign-up will be made available statewide. This RIM money must be encumbered by December 31, 2003.

We are asking Board approval to allocate the \$620,000 in RIM funds for a Special flood recovery sign-up beginning in September 2002.

Prepared by Ron Shelito

Local Water Management Integration Phases

Stage I – Enact Change

Step 1 Gather preliminary stakeholder input

Step 2 Establish subcommittee and develop principles, framework, and concepts for change

Step 3 Develop specific proposals for changes

Step 4 Gather stakeholder input on proposed changes

Step 5 Bring final changes forward via:

- i. Legislation
- ii. Board Policy and/or Administrative Rules
- iii. Guidance/ Success Stories

*We are
here.*

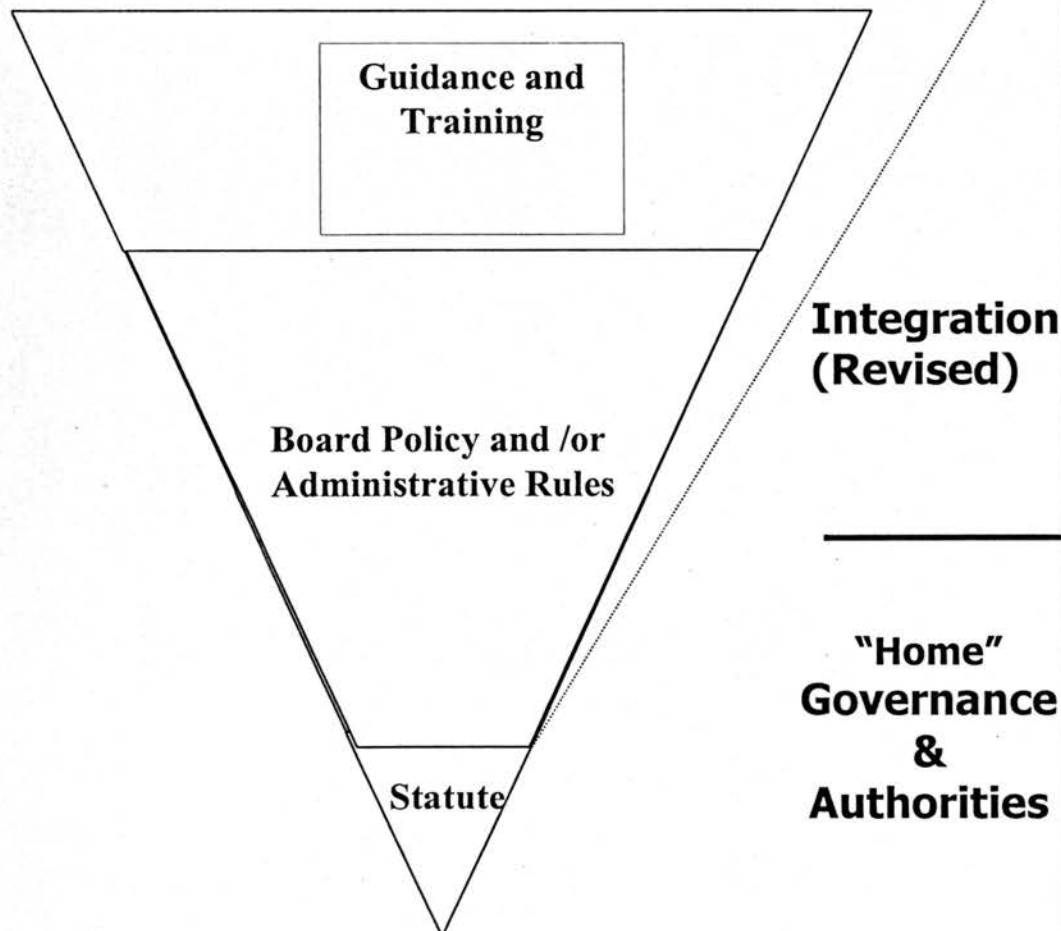
Local Water Management Integration Phases

- Stage II: Communicate the changes
- Stage III: Local Government Implementation

Local Water Management



Integration Work plan – The Big Picture



Proposed Statute Framework

"103Z"
Common Plan
Content, Process and
Coordination

"103X"
Common Implementation
Financing Options

"Home" Governance & Authorities

103B
County – (.301 - .3369)
Metro – (.201 - .251)
GW --(.255)

103D
Watershed
District

103C
SWCD

103G
Wetland
Management
Plan

Note: Statutes will be supplemented by Board policy and guidance. Administrative rules will not be needed.

A vision for BWSR's Local Water Management Programs

Summary of Findings from Stakeholder input:

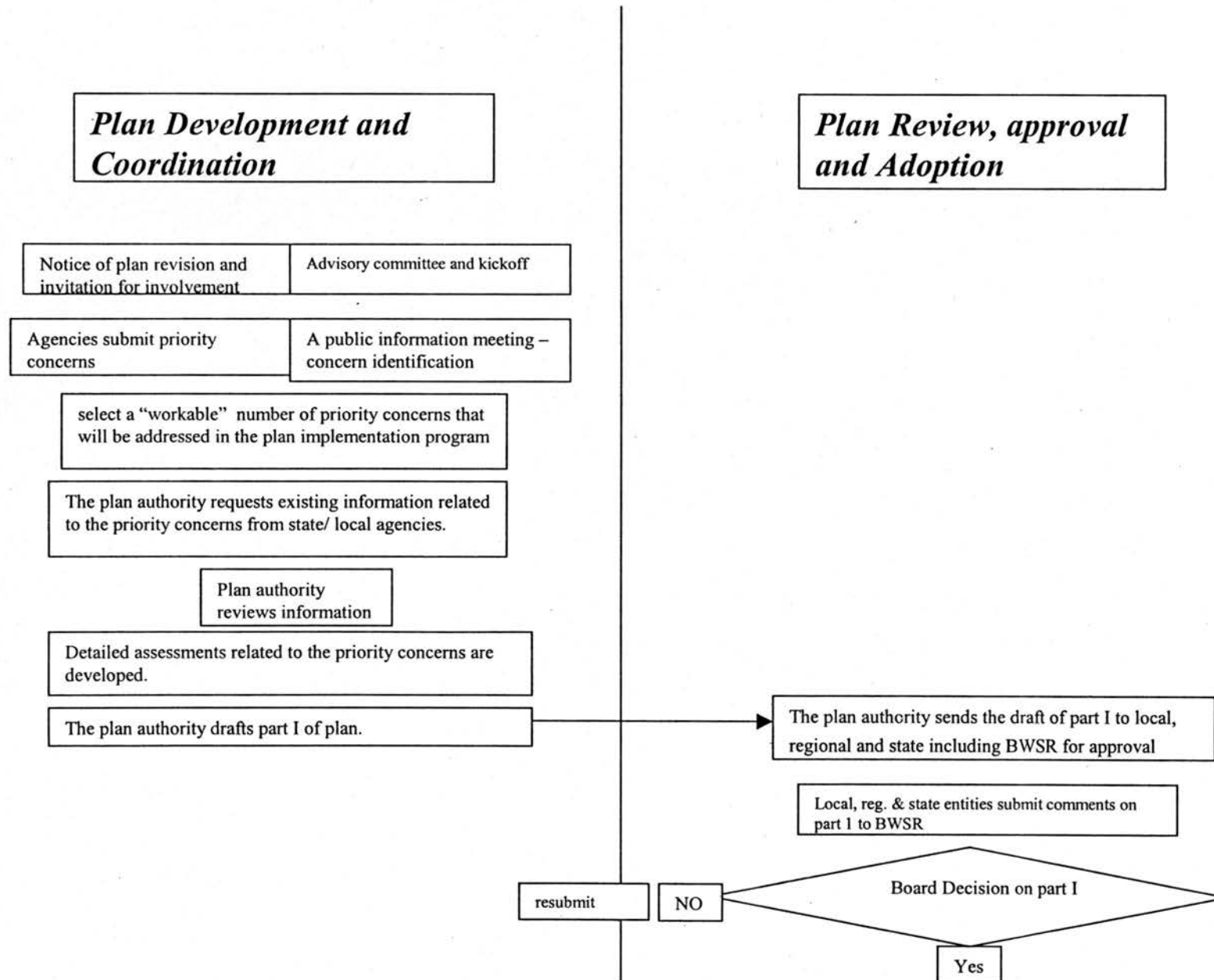
- ★ ➤ Plans and corresponding actions focus on priority concerns¹ that citizens and government units² establish early on.
- ★ ➤ Assessments, actions, and agency comments are focused on the priority concerns, and the priority concerns are endorsed by the board midway in the process, in addition to final plan approval.
- ★ ➤ Plans coordinate actions and programs among government units to address priority concerns and minimize duplicating efforts.
- Actions are measurable, watershed-focused, and connected to land-use plans and official controls.
- The planning framework is adaptable to counties or watershed districts/management organization as well as geographic boundaries.
- There is a single simplified process for developing, approving, and amending all local water management plans.
- There is a process and authority to prevent or reconcile incompatibilities between water management plans that target the same or adjacent geographic areas.
- Annual reports are submitted that measure progress.
- ★ State agency involvement focused here.

¹ Concerns can be issues, areas (e.g., subwatershed), or resources (e.g., lake).

² Government units include local, regional, and state.

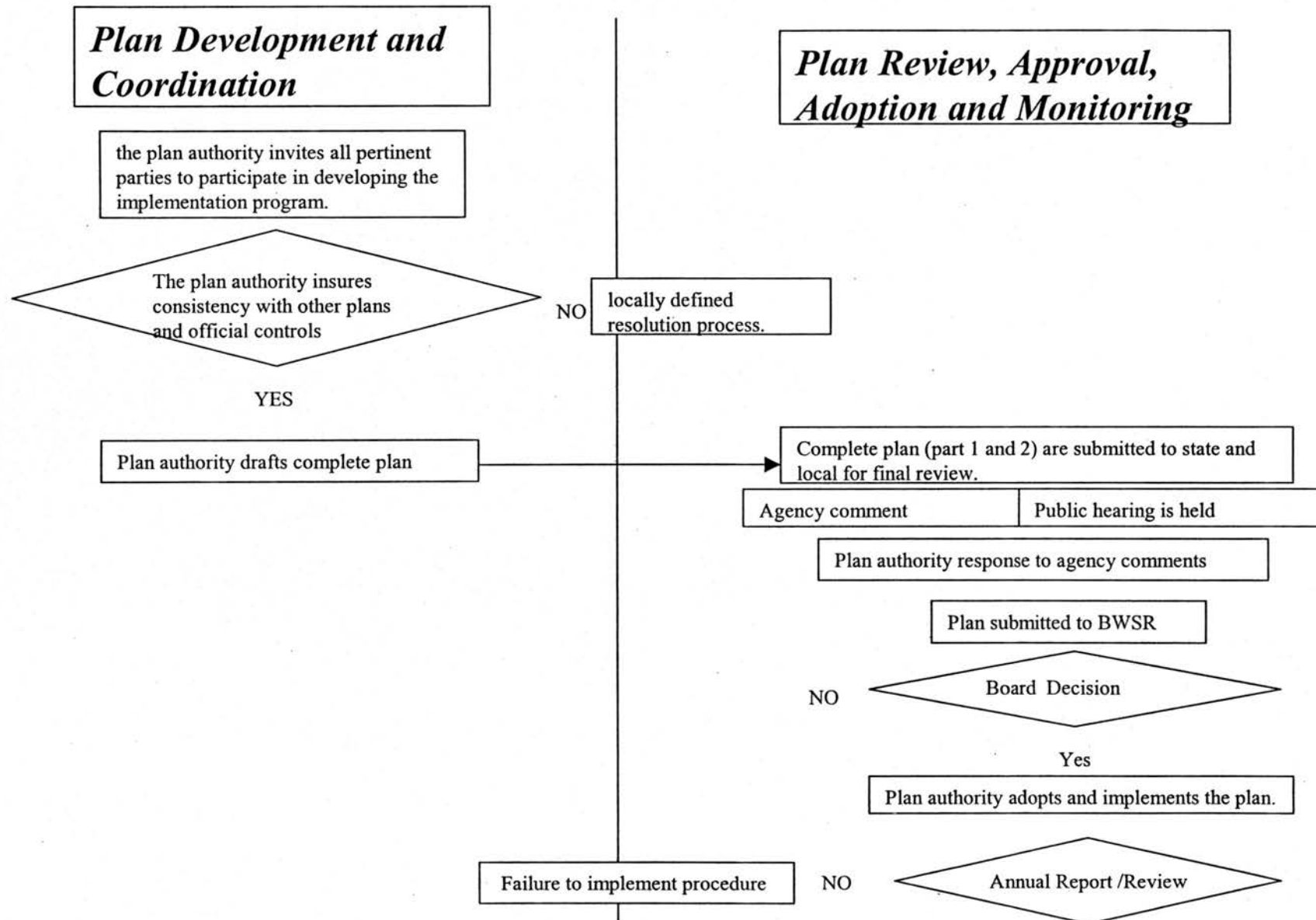
"103Z" Plan Development Process

PART I – Priority Concerns



“103Z” Plan Development Process

PART II –Implementation program



Common Implementation Financing Option (“103X”) - Metro

Establish an “universal financing tool box” for all local water management authorities; changes would include giving...

- JPA WMO’s listed as a special taxing district in chapter 275.066 to raise funds on an ad valorem basis.
- All Metro Counties authority to establish a special purpose district to cover the entirety of the WMO area.
- JPA WMO/WD’s in chapter 103B.241 authority to raise funds on an ad valorem basis in subwatersheds, independent of cities and county authority.
- WMO’s and Metro Counties authority to establish stormwater utilities fees or charges under chapter 444.075.

Common Implementation Financing Option (“103X”) - Greater MN

County Local Water Management

- Counties authority to establish a special purpose district in chapter 275.066 to raise funds on an ad valorem basis for water management and are therefore outside of existing county levy limits

Watershed Districts

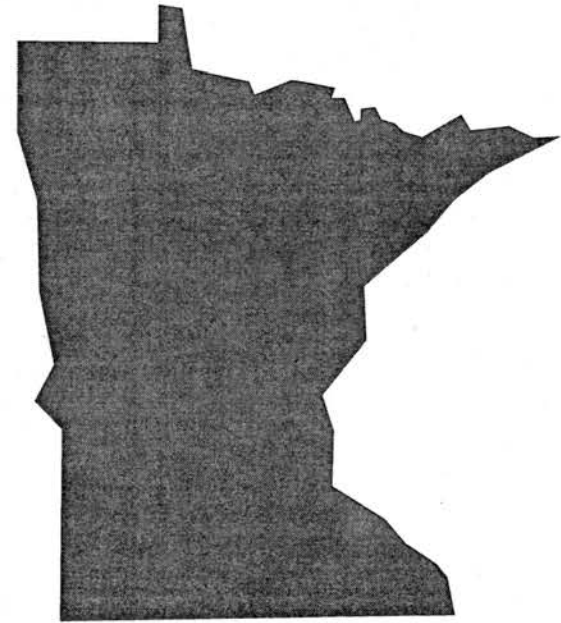
- WD's operating with approved 103D.401 plan in greater Minnesota have the ability to raise funds necessary to implement plan.

Common Implementation Financing - SWCD

- SWCD's operating and implementing through an approved local water management plan (any) have authority to raise funds on an ad valorem basis for water management
(SWCD modernization initiative)

Minnesota Budget Status

FY 2003, FY 2004-05



Minnesota Department of Finance

September 23, 2002

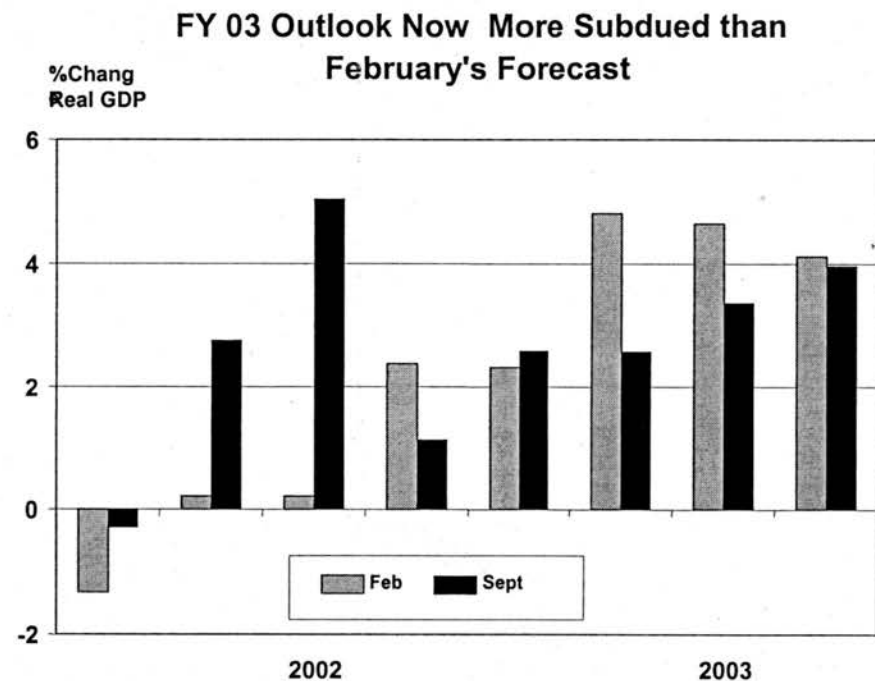
FY 2003 Outlook: Where are we now?

- **Balance / Reserve End of Session \$319**
- **Less: FY 2002 Ending Revenues -212**
- **June 30 Net Reserve 107**

- **July/ August Receipts + 68**
- **As of September 1, Net Reserve \$175**

The FY 2003 Outlook: What are the Risks?

- Tax Year 2001 -- \$275M below Forecast
- Weaker FY 2003 Economic Outlook
- Tax Year 2002 Capital Gains
- Human Services Spending
- International Tensions

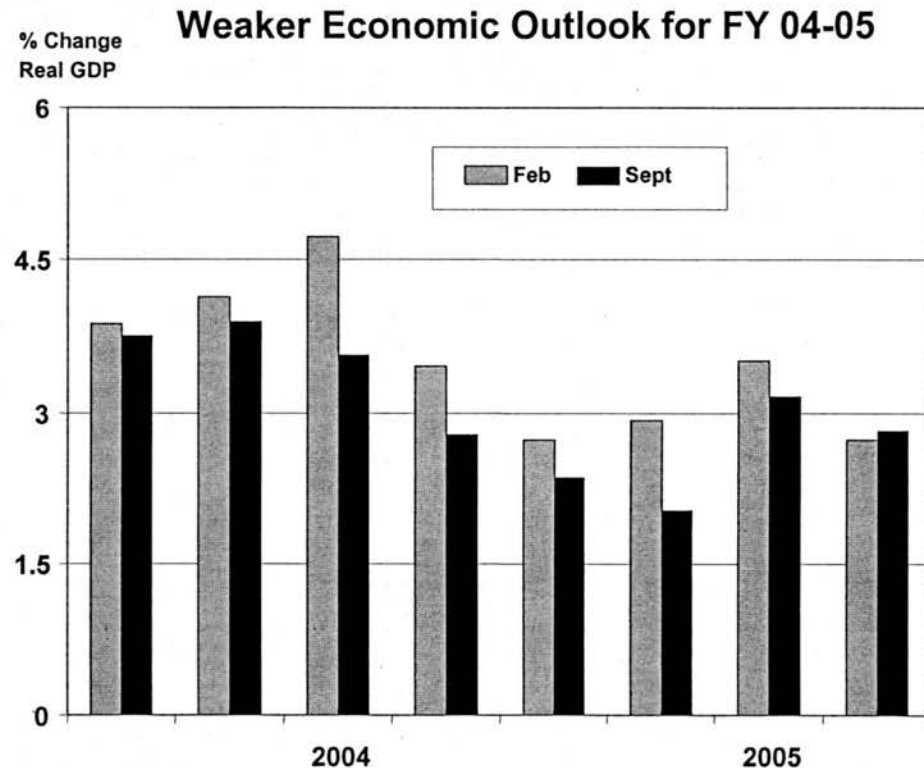


The 2003 Outlook: With 10 months Remaining

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Current Year-to-Date Balance | \$175 |
| • Lower 2001 Tax Base | <u>- 275</u> |
| Preliminary Balance | -100 |
| • Lower Capital Gains | ? |
| • Weaker Economy | ? |
| • Expenditure Changes | ? |

The FY 2004-05 Outlook: What are the Risks?

- **Current Law Forecast
\$1.6 Billion Short**
- **Weaker Economic
Outlook for 2004-05**
- **Lower 2001 Income
Tax Base Carries
Forward**
- **Human Services and
K-12 Spending**



The 2004-05 Outlook: Where are we Now

- **Projected Current Law Deficit** **-\$1.553B**
- **Lower 2001 Inc. Tax Base** **-.550**
- **Subtotal – YTD Impact** **-2.103**

- **Estimated Inflation @2.5 %** **-1.100B**

- **Weaker Economy** **?**
- **Expenditure Changes** **?**

October 2002

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DRAFT

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
ONE WEST WATER STREET, LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55107
OCTOBER 23, 2002**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Coe, Jerome Deal, Darrell Bruggman, Jim Anderson-MES, Sharon Clark-MDA, Char Kahler, Lisa Thorvig-MPCA, Dwain Otte, Victor Ormsby, Karen Harder, Jack Frost, Dan Wilson-MDH, Wayne Edgerton-DNR

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ginny Imholte, Clair Nelson, and Paul Krabbenhoft

STAFF PRESENT: Ron Harnack, John Jaschke, Tammy McGlone, Wayne Zellmer, Tim Fredbo, Kevin Lines, Debbie Anderson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shelia Vanney, Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD)

Mark Dittrich, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)

Tim Gieseke, MACDE

BWSR Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2002
Page Two

Chair Coe called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

**** 02-74 Adopt Agenda** – Moved by Char Kahler, seconded by Jerome Deal to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**** 02-75 Minutes of September 23, 2002** – Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Darrell Bruggman, to approve the minutes of September 23, 2002, as circulated. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Reports

Chair Coe reported that the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) did not meet this month.

Executive Director - Ron Harnack commented on the upcoming annual meetings. AMC, December 9 -11 in Duluth, MASWCD, December 8 -10 in St. Paul, and MAWD, December 4 - 7 in Alexandria. Ron would like board members to attend these conventions if possible. Please call MaryJo Anderson if you will be attending. If you would like to attend as a BWSR representative your expenses will be paid by BWSR. However, if you are representing your district you will be responsible for your own expenses.

Ron gave a brief explanation of the fact sheet *FY 03 Phase 1 Reductions from Legislative Action* regarding the budgets for '02 and '03. Ron also commented on the *Budget Planning/10% Reduction Plus Inflation Strategies*. This is presented to board members for discussion. The bottom line is we need to reinvest in natural resources. Ron stated that we are trying to find a way to balance staffing and program delivery with local governments, and districts. We are obligated to have a proposal in the system while acknowledging that we will have new guidance under a new administration.

Chair Coe stated that the Administrative Advisory Committee met and recommended Option C with the recognition that we revisit the budget in December. The discussion generally supported the Committee's recommendation with the intent to review the position as new guidance is received. Issues of concern during the discussion includes input from SWCDs, Counties, Watersheds; need for gap funding if levy authority was approved; impact of other options on program mandates and outcomes; no levy means revisiting options. General discussion supported need for stable funding. Options could include "1/2 Cent for Nature" conservation fee, impact fees for urban and rural as well as others.

BWSR Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2002
Page Three

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) – Chair Coe reported that there are presently five appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA. The first three appeals are new since the last DRC report dated September 12, 2002. One of the new appeals is no longer pending since it was denied.

Wetland Committee – Darrell Bruggman stated that John Jaschke would report on several items this afternoon.

Cost-Share/Soil Conservation Committee – Dwain Otte reported that the Cost-Share Committee met this month and will report on several agenda items later in the meeting.

Education Committee – Jim Anderson reported that the "Volunteer Stream Monitoring Partnership – Second Annual River Summit" will be November 14, 2002, at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Agency Reports

Sharon Clark, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) reported that MDA will meet with stakeholders to discuss budget issues.

Sharon reported that the Cuba Trade Mission Governor Ventura and Commissioner Hugoson participated in as one of the best trade mission of this administration. Cuba is a country that uses American money more than any other and the Ambassador of Cuba is planning to return to Minnesota on November 17, 2002, to continue discussions on agricultural trade.

Commissioner Hugoson has been invited to attend a "Strategy and Risk" conference in Washington, DC. Discussions will focus on critical challenges, business scenarios for a dangerous world. Sharon reported that MDA will be hosting the "Minnesota Project on Conservation Security Program" on Nov. 6, 2002. Last week the MDA announced a new program called the "Livestock-Friendly County Program." This Program is a voluntary initiative with the goal of helping counties that recognize the economic contributions of animal agriculture and are willing to take steps to create and sustain a business environment conducive to its long-term success. Sharon will provide additional information on this program to board members.

Sharon reported that MDA will be sponsoring a conference on November 26, 2002, in Willmar called "Investing in Minnesota Agriculture." Information on this conference can be found on MDA's website and brochures are available. Sharon reported that MDA, in cooperation with PCA and BWSR (Al Kean) has installed a new tool that will update Minnesota livestock producers on the feedlot rules. It is a guide for producers that are expanding their operation and they can check MDA's website to review the new feedlot rules. The website is www.mda.state.mn.us/feedlots.dmt/.com.

BWSR Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2002
Page Four

Dan Wilson, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) reported that the Public Waters Program has received a second grant from EPA for \$350,000 to work with public water supply systems on vulnerability assessments. This grant is in addition to the initial grant of \$120,000 to MDH. MDH has hired two hydro positions. Scott Knockton (from private industry with 15 years of experience) will be located in Bemidji and Sandy Beck (from PCA in Rochester) will be located in Duluth.

Wayne Edgerton, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) gave an update on the waters permit rule changes. Wayne thanked BWSR staff for their assistance in completing this process, which became effective as of October 14, 2002.

Wayne reported on Chronic Wasting Disease. DNR, MDA, and MDH have assisted in the development of an informational brochure on Chronic Wasting Disease. Information can also be found on a number of web sites listed on the inside of the brochure. Lisa Thorvig stated that there is concern for the disposal of animal carcasses. Minnesota landfills are refusing to take deer carcass because they don't know if they are diseased. MPCA can approve where the carcass goes, but the landfills can refuse to take them and PCA can't force landfills to accept disposal.

Wayne said that DNR has done a one-half hour taping for public television on Chronic Wasting Disease, which will be aired on Monday, October 28 at 9:30 p.m. Sharon Clark asked Dan Wilson if physicians have been notified about any of this. Dan indicated that he would check into this.

Jim Anderson, Minnesota Extension Service (MES) reported that the 35th Annual Water Resource Conference will focus on stormwater management issues. Jim reported that the Second Annual River Summit will be held on Thursday, November 14 at the Minneapolis Convention Center, sponsored by the Volunteer Stream Monitoring Partnership. High schools have been involved with monitoring and will be doing poster sessions highlighting what their results were, and summarize data collected. Jim reported that MES will move forward on the 319 Project that they working cooperatively on with MDA, MPCA, and BWSR regarding individual nutrient management plans with producers.

Lisa Thorvig, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) reported that MPCA is finalizing written materials regarding their budget and this information will be available on their web site. MPCA Board met yesterday and adopted rules which provide assessment factors of water quality standards to waters impaired with nutrients, fish contamination by mercury, or PCB's. The impaired waters information can be found on a GIS database on the MPCA web site. MPCA has approved the Lake Superior Wastewater Extension and the Two Harbors Extension.

BWSR Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2002
Page Five

MPCA finished and submitted the 2002 impaired waters list to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Board also approved the TMDL for southeastern Minnesota for submittal to EPA. In addition, the Board also approved permit issuance for incinerator burning of turkey manure. It has been a controversial project, the project will now move forward; it is part of the biomass incineration proposal that came out of the Prairie Island storage tanks.

Lisa reported that wastewater meetings would be held in Duluth, New Ulm and St. Cloud. MPCA is working with the Public Facilities Authority (PFA) to amend MPCA's project priority list for wastewater treatment funding and collecting input from stakeholders on how they would like to see those rules revised. The rules were established about 25 years ago need revising. MPCA has a legislative initiative to establish the priorities for wastewater treatment plant funding and then MPCA can finalize rules.

Committee Recommendations

Northern Water Planning Subcommittee

02-76 ** Cass County Comprehensive Local Water Plan – The Committee reviewed the plan and recommend adoption. Cass County was very progressive and did a good job with their unique integration of land use. Moved by Darrell Bruggman, seconded by Sharon Clark, to approve the Committee's recommendation to adopt the Cass County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

02-77 ** Crow Wing County Comprehensive Local Water Plan – The Committee reviewed the plan and recommend adoption. Moved by Darrell Bruggman, seconded by Sharon Clark, to approve the Committee's recommendation to adopt the Crow Wing County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

02-78 ** Norman County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Request for Extension – The Committee reviewed the two-year extension request and recommend approval. Norman County is actively involved in the Watershed District plan. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to approve the two-year extension of the Norman County Comprehensive Local Water Plan request for extension. Motion passed on a voice vote.

02-79 ** Pennington County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Request for Extension – The Committee reviewed the request for extension and recommend approval. The Board corrected the extension date from December 31, 2004 to June 30, 2004. Correction will be reflected in the minutes. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to approve the extension of the Pennington County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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02-80 ** Polk County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Request for Extension – The Committee reviewed the request and recommend approval. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to approve the extension of the Polk County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

02-81 ** Red Lake County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Request for Extension – The Committee reviewed the request for extension and recommend approval. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to approve the extension of the Red Lake County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Southern Water Planning Subcommittee

02-82 ** Goodhue County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Request for Extension – The Committee reviewed the request for extension and recommend approval. Goodhue County is in the process of updating their land use plan; the Committee recommends endorsement of the request for extension. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to approve the extension of the Goodhue County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

02-83 ** Olmsted County Comprehensive Local Water Plan Request for Extension – The Committee reviewed the request for extension and recommend approval. Olmsted County is in the process of doing updates of their land use plan. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to approve the extension of the Olmsted County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. Motion passed on voice vote.

Chair Coe called for a break in the meeting at 11:00 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

Cost-Share Committee Recommendation on EQIP

FY 03 EQIP Recommendation – Wayne Zellmer stated that the Farm Bill has included a provision for an environmental quality incentive program which we call "EQIP." Wayne distributed a "revised" copy of recommendations. Minnesota is looking at up to \$12 million potentially to come to the state of Minnesota. None of these monies have been appropriated as of yet. The Cost-Share Committee met last week and is forwarding this recommendation to the Board for adoption and approval. Upon approval it will be forwarded to NRCS for their consideration. Wayne reviewed the recommendations with the Board. 60% of the EQIP money has go to animal agriculture. The Board's recommendation would first go to Bill Hunt, then to the EQIP Subcommittee and then submitted to the full EQIP Committee.

02-84 ** Wayne stated that the Cost-Share Committee recommends adoption of the EQIP recommendations. Moved by Dwain Otte, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to approve the Cost-Share Committee's recommendations to be forwarded to NRCS. Motion passed on voice vote.

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FY 03 NPEA Challenge Grant – There is \$422,500 which is available to be allocated. The previous years number one funding priority went out to Joint Powers Boards (JPB's). All of the non-point engineering assistance JPBs are eligible to receive this grant. There was considerable discussion regarding statewide needs for technical assistance and the Committee recognized that there were a lot of other needs out there, but the Committee has recommended to retain the funding priority as it had been in the past to keep feedlots technical assistance as the number one priority. The Committee will revisit this issue in two years and then reconsider priorities at that time. The Cost-Share Committee is recommending that funding priorities remain the same. Moved by
**
02-85 Dwain Otte, seconded by Jack Frost, to approve the grant as recommended by the Cost-Share Committee. Motion passed on voice vote.

Wayne Zellmer stated that there is another informational item that wasn't in the main board packet but was included in the supplemental information that MaryJo sent out which deals with cost-share program policy. BWSR's current policy takes into account, in allocations, the highest of the last three or four years performance. When there are situations beyond SWCD's control and the money has to be returned and it affects their allocation negatively. SWCDs feel this should be taken into consideration. The Cost-Share Committee does not have a recommendation for the Board at this time concerning this policy, they referred it back to the Grants Team for further analysis and review and how we can better address this issue. Discussion followed.

New Business

Alterations of Conservation Easement 51-02091-01, Kathleen Kernstock Easement in Murray County - Tim Fredbo reported Kathleen Kernstock has 29 acres that she wants to remove from her perpetual conservation easement. Tim explained the details of the request to the Board and said that this is like property for like property. The landowner said the creek would be better buffered and we agree. This is a reasonable request by the landowner. Discussion followed. Wayne Edgerton asked Tim if he received any kind of letter from the wildlife manager? No, Tim did not. There were numerous requests made to the DNR wildlife manager and we heard nothing back from him. Wayne Edgerton said that in the future if you run into this situation again, please call Wayne directly. Could we get hold of the wildlife manager now and table this until this afternoon? Moved by Darrell Bruggman, seconded by Sharon Clark, to approve the exchange as recommended.

Wayne Edgerton offered an amendment to the motion to table this request pending
**
02-86 contact with the wildlife manager. Moved by Karen Harder, seconded by Lisa Thorvig. Tabled. Motion passed on voice vote.

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Alteration of Conservation Easement 21-03-87-01, Joe and Beverly Guyette Easement in Douglas County – Tim Fredbo reported the history of the easement. The Guyette's would like to either remove entirely, or they are willing to replace acres. They would like an outright release or replace it with acres that are an existing type 3 wetland. The District Board is on record of being opposed to this proposal. Tim agrees with this decision and recommends denial of request. Moved by Victor Ormsby, seconded by Darrell Bruggman, to deny the request for alteration. Motion passed on voice vote.

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02-87

Alteration of Conservation Easement 21-01-93-03, Bernhard and Lorraine Rachel in Douglas County. Tim Fredbo explained the request for this alteration. The Rachel's have requested to remove six acres of land from their perpetual permanent wetland preserve. This easement is in Alexandria Township. Douglas SWCD doesn't think this request is in the best interest for wildlife, community, etc. The Rachel's worked closely with Jerry Haggemiller, Douglas SWCD. Mr. Haggemiller tried at the time of original purchase to get the Rachel's to leave more than one acre out and they didn't want to. They chose to leave out one-acre lots that could be built on in case of subdivision. They have sold several hundred acres already. The Rachel's now claim that one-acre lots are not adequate to build on anymore. There have been no changes in the local zoning ordinances, the acres can be developed. Tim Fredbo recommends that we deny this request. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Wayne Edgerton, to deny the alteration request. Motion passed by voice vote.

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02-88

Alteration of Conservation Easement 21-01-93-03-D - Dan and Marlene Weber – Tim Fredbo reported on the alteration request. The Weber's purchased this property from the Rachel's and want to sell this site. They are requesting release of four acres around their existing one-acre building site. The SWCD denied this request, and monitors possible encroachment. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Darrell Bruggman, to deny the alteration request. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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02-89

Wayne Edgerton reported that he has contacted the wildlife manager with regard to the Kathleen Kernstock alteration request. The wildlife manager had heard nothing of this request and he would like to look at it before action is taken. Wayne told the manager to work with the SWCD and come up with a recommendation for the next Board meeting on December 4, 2002. Chair Coe asked if the Board would like to have the option of tabling this request until then. Moved by Lisa Thorvig, seconded by Wayne Edgerton, to table this request until December 4, 2002. Motion passed by voice vote.

**

02-90

Chair Coe called for a lunch break at 12:15 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

Partnership to Accelerate Technical Assistance to Private Landowners with Special Emphasis on Delivering to the Conservation Programs of the 2002 Federal Farm Bill – Kevin Lines reported on Phase I which is an acceleration the last initiative Potential Private Lands Positions. As of today, we have commitments listed and costs, BWSR –

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\$150,000, DNR - \$190,000, Pheasants Forever - \$50,000. Those counties are Traverse, Grant, Pope, Stearns with \$50,000. DNR is matching that \$50,000 out of the \$190,000. The remaining contribution will be done through the local Pheasants Forever chapters and at the district level. We anticipate this funding will provide for approximately 20 new FTE's across much of the pheasant range in Minnesota. We will continue to look for additional sources of funding. Kevin explained that we want to increase land in the targeted pheasant counties. Staff recommends approval. We will be adding partners to this proposal. NRCS would ultimately be able to leverage the match of \$500,000 with \$500,000. Moved by Char Kahler, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to endorse BWSR's \$150,000 allocation to this proposal. Motion passed by voice vote.

**

02-91

General Permit Number-2 (GP-2) – John Jaschke stated that the next Local Water Planning Subcommittee will meet on November 22, from 10:30 to 3:00. John reported that BWSR has been working on the GP-2 issue for a number of years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CoE). There is an agreement in place called "Letter of Permission." We would like to have the CoE as part of the review project and BWSR come to a decision about the outcome and endorsement of that local decision, the CoE then accepts that local decision for replacement plans. BWSR staff would review local decisions and endorse that local decisions met the Wetland Conservation Act requirements. BWSR staff expenses will be a small percentage of our time, possibly 10 percent of FTE in addition to what we do now. CoE will accelerate their role in assisting us in the training of local governments. The CoE will issue a Final Public Notice and go through review period effective early FY 03. The local government and landowner are the benefactors of the efficiency process.

WCA Administration Allocation of Natural Resources Block Grant – John Jaschke reported that the original funding was appropriated in 1993. The MASWCD and some counties have asked us to re-access the distribution of funds. It is currently about \$1.735 million per year. The Wetland Committee collected the information and will provide a recommendation in June of next year. No decisions have been made at this point. Today is an informational update. We would like to get people to look at outcomes. There will be additional work on this project by the Wetland Committee with a recommendation and a final decision in April/May.

Shared Engineering and Technical Services – Ad-Hoc Committee Update - John Jaschke reported we have been asked by the MASWCD and the MACDE to evaluate the possibilities for sharing technical expertise among districts. The meeting on October 10, 2002 was to collect ideas. The Committee will meet again on November 21, 2002 to start to design things that could be helpful in determining their organizational structure and how they market themselves. There will be a recommendation coming from that Committee to the MASWCD and BWSR. This will be reviewed by the Cost-Share Committee with a recommendation to the Board. This process should be complete by spring.

Advisory Comments

Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE) – Tim Gieseke gave an overview of the MACDE meeting on September 13, 2002. In the last several years, the MACDE has participated in many of the ad-hoc meetings mentioned earlier that eventually help write policy. MACDE has worked with BWSR and many of the agencies around the table. The MACDE is also involved at the national level on several committees that help develop the Farm Bill that ultimately impacts the state agencies in Minnesota. We are the “blue collar” conservationists, the ones out there that are going to put the programs on the ground.

MACDE has worked cooperatively with state agencies in the development of is an E-Link BWSR reporting system. This can help develop better working relationships. MACDE has developed a Water Unification Plan, which will be available soon. Tim will give a copy of this draft plan to Ron Harnack. Chair Coe thanked Tim and commended the employees' active participation in discussions.

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – Shelia Vanney attended on behalf of LeAnn Buck. Shelia said that she looks forward to the meeting this afternoon regarding budget cut proposals. Several items that MASWCD is working on include district capacity efforts, preparing for legislative changes this coming year, and laws in statute to provide districts with options to effectively manage resources at the local level. Shelia thanked Lisa Thorvig and MPCA for working with local government associations on NPES Phase 2 and finding a way to deliver that effectively. MASWCD appreciates the partnership that has been established.

There is an organization that has been developed called “Friends of HCD” the website is, www.friendsofHCD.com. They will put out yard signs if you are interested. An article in Star and Tribune received good exposure.

Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Ron Harnack reported that MAT's annual meeting is November 21-23 in Alexandria. Ron will be participating in that meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

- Next Board Meeting December 4, St. Paul
- MAT Annual Meeting, November 21-23, Alexandria
- MAWD Annual Meeting, December 5-7, Alexandria
- MASWCD Annual Meeting, December 8-10, St. Paul
- AMC Annual Meeting, December 9-11, Duluth

** Chair Coe called for adjournment. Moved by Victor Ormsby, seconded by Jack Frost, to
02-92 adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leland Coe".

Leland Coe
Chair

Half Cent for NATURE

Minnesotans are a people defined and inspired by the outdoors and our natural environment.

Our wealth of natural resources has fueled the economic engines of agriculture, forestry, mining, tourism. Our lakes and woods and other natural features figure prominently in what we do for fun and where we decide to live. We take these things that nature gives us for granted, as something that always has been there and always will be, a cherished part of our birthright and a legacy for our heirs.

Resources at risk

But today, with a booming population that's putting more demands than ever on these resources, our natural heritage is in jeopardy. A growing number of trends paint a disturbing picture.

- ☐ Since 1998, we've added 500 lakes and streams to the list of waters that need to be cleaned up under federal law.
- ☐ Between 1994 and 2000, the number of lakes suitable for swimming has declined by 15 percentage points.
- ☐ The miles of streams supporting aquatic life have fallen by eight percentage points.
- ☐ Each year from 1992 to '97, an average of 46,400 acres of natural areas and open space across the state was converted to urban use.
- ☐ In our northern forests, bird species with declining populations outnumber those that are increasing two to one.

The message is clear: Unless we commit the necessary resources to better care for the natural environment that takes care of so many of our wants and needs, we will

lose our great natural legacy and the quality of life associated with it.

A long-term solution

This sobering realization has led the Minnesota DNR, the Pollution Control Agency, the Board of Water and Soil Resources and the Office of Environmental Assistance, in partnership with environmental and conservation organizations, to propose the "Half Cent for Nature" initiative.

By dedicating half a cent of the sales tax generated on each dollar's worth of purchases to our natural environment, we can develop and implement the long-term stewardship plans needed to assure that our children will inherit the same opportunities we have enjoyed.

The health of our lakes and streams, the quality of air we breathe, the loss and degradation of habitat critical to fish and wildlife populations — these are long-term issues that require a long-term approach. Managing these needs within the politically charged arena of the biennial budget process may have worked in years past. Today, the threats are too great — and growing — to continue gambling on the prospect that sound policy will prevail over politics.

A sound investment

Giving half a cent back to nature is not only sensible policy, it's a sound investment. A recent study by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service notes that hunting, fishing and wildlife watching amount to a \$3.5 billion dollar industry in Minnesota. Compared to what state government spends on natural resources, that's nearly a ten-to-one return on our investment.

Half a cent for nature -- it's a small price to pay for all the benefits nature provides us with in return.

Questions & Answers



Q: What is the "Half Cent For Nature" initiative?

A: A proposal to address the growing threats to Minnesota's natural environment by creating a long-term stable funding mechanism.

Q: How would it work?

A: If approved by voters as a constitutional amendment in the 2004 election, the proposal would dedicate half a cent of the sales tax on each dollar's purchases to Minnesota's natural environment. The \$355 million generated would be appropriated by the legislature to replace general fund money for the Minnesota DNR (64%), the Pollution Control Agency (10%), the Board of Water and Soil Resources (10%), the Office of Environmental Assistance (9%) and the Metropolitan Council's park system (7%).

Q: How does "Half Cent For Nature" differ from the "3/16" proposal offered up in the last legislative session?

A: "Half Cent For Nature" is much broader than "3/16." It focuses on better stewardship of our entire natural environment, not just the recreational aspects such as hunting and fishing that the "3/16" proposal targeted. By providing a stable funding source, "Half Cent For Nature" will help the agencies responsible for natural resources and the environment do a better job of planning a coordinated approach to issues such as water quality and habitat protection.

Q: With Minnesota facing so many other pressing needs, why should we provide dedicated funding for natural resources and the environment?

A: The state does indeed face a broad range of needs and issues. But the truth is that funding for natural resources and the environment, which amounts to less than 2 percent of the state's budget, has long failed to reflect the importance of these things to our economy and overall quality of life. Hunting, fishing and wildlife watching alone amount to a \$3.5 billion industry. Yet whenever times get tough, natural resources and the environment are among the first things cut — not because they're

unimportant, but because the impacts don't show up right away. With growing development pressures and increasing recreational demands impacting resources as never before, we're now seeing the cumulative effects of this approach. Unless we come up with a long-term stable funding mechanism that allows resource and environmental agencies to develop long-range coordinated plans, we run the risk of losing the many benefits our natural environment provides.

Q: Don't natural resources and the environment already have dedicated funding from the Lottery?

A: For each dollar of Lottery sales, about 78 cents goes for prizes and administrative costs. Of the remaining 22 cents, only about half goes to the environment and natural resources, and half of that may expire absent legislative re-appropriation. The 5.8 cents that goes into the Environmental Trust Fund is allocated to a range of largely supplemental projects by the legislature in a highly competitive process. As a result, only about 2 percent of the DNR's operating budget comes from the Lottery.

Q: Will Half Cent For Nature head off the drastic budget cuts that DNR and other environmental agencies have been warning about?

A: No. Money from this initiative would not be available until fiscal year 2006. State environmental agencies will still need to develop short-term funding plans to maintain stewardship efforts.

Q: How will the state assure that money from this initiative provides maximum benefit to our natural environment?

A: Agencies funded by this proposal already work with numerous oversight committees and are committed to developing further accountability measures. It's also important to note that while the Half Cent For Nature initiative will create a dedicated funding source, all money will still have to be appropriated by the legislature, subject to the intense scrutiny that body provides.



DNR NEWS – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2002

For more information, contact Communications Director Dennis Stauffer, (651) 297-4884; Deputy Commissioner Steve Morse, (651) 296-2540; or Assistant Commissioner Brad Moore, (651) 296-4944.

Resources at risk

Coalition proposes 'Half A Cent For Nature'

A coalition of state agencies and citizen groups today called for a new approach to what they maintain is one of the most critical issues facing Minnesota: The growing threats to the state's natural environment.

In a series of four press conferences held around the state, officials from state natural resource and environmental agencies detailed the need for a long-term stable funding source if the state is to maintain its outdoors heritage and quality of life. They were joined by representatives from a range of interest groups representing hunters, anglers, park users, lake associations, conservationists and the forest products industry, among others.

Dubbed "Half A Cent For Nature," the groups' proposal calls for dedicating half a cent of the sales tax on each dollar's purchases to Minnesota's natural environment. If approved by voters as a constitutional amendment, it would replace money from the state's general fund for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), the Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA), and the Metropolitan Council's park system.

DNR Commissioner Allen Garber said state resource agencies rightfully can point to numerous success stories in taking care of Minnesota's natural environment. But growing development pressures and increasing recreational demands are impacting resources as never before. Further cutbacks in stewardship efforts would pose dire and lasting consequences for Minnesota's natural heritage.

"For as long as most of us can remember, whenever times get tough, natural resources and the environment are among the first things cut — not because they're unimportant, but because the impacts don't show up right away," said DNR Deputy Commissioner Steve Morse. "Because Minnesota is fortunate to have a wealth of natural resources, we've often been able to get by with that. Now we're at the point where we have to be more serious about taking care of what we have, or face the reality of losing it."

-more-

According to a recent U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service study, hunting, angling and wildlife watching add up to a \$3.5 billion industry in Minnesota. Yet natural resources and the environment account for less than 2 percent of the state's budget, Morse noted. Providing a stable funding source to take care of the natural resources that support these industries and others is not only good stewardship, he said, it is a wise investment.

In addition to enhancing efforts to protect habitat and better manage state forests, parks and other lands, the Half Cent For Nature initiative would help state agencies better address what Minnesotans cite as one of their top concerns: protection of the state's water resources.

"Minnesotans have consistently told us that they want clean and healthy lakes, rivers and streams," said MPCA Commissioner Karen Studders. "If we want to continue touting ourselves as the land of 10,000 lakes, we need stable funding to take better care of our water resources in the face of the growing pressures being put on them."

In particular, agencies will be able to expand outreach to local government, where many of the decisions affecting water quality are made, said Ron Harnack, executive director of BWSR. They also will be able to better coordinate efforts to work with private landowners.

"Privately owned farmland and forestland cover more than three-fourths of the state," Harnack said. "Enhancing conservation efforts on these working lands will produce dramatic benefits for water quality, air quality, and fish and wildlife habitat, while maintaining our economic vitality and quality of life."

Representatives of interest groups participating in the press conferences offered broad support for the initiative.

"Nature provides us with a host of benefits that few states can rival," the DNR's Garber said. "Giving half a cent back to nature seems a small price if we want to preserve these benefits for ourselves and for future generations."

- END -

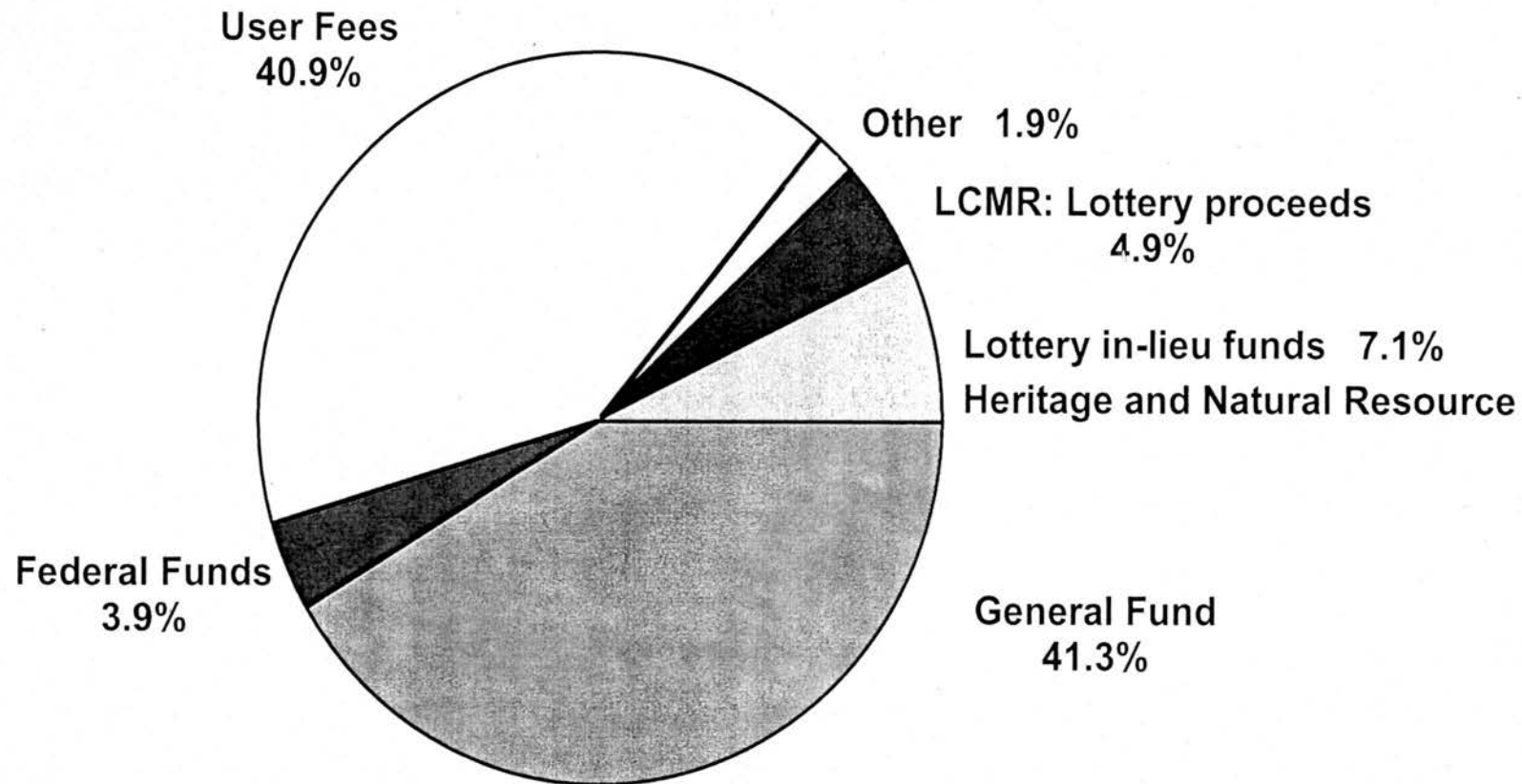
News conferences on October 22, 2002 — working notes on who will be present

St. Paul: 10:00 AM Ft. Snelling State Park (picnic shelter or visitors center)

Agencies: Steve Morse, Deputy Commissioner, MN Dept. of Natural Resources
Ron Harnack, Exec. Dir., MN Board of Water & Soil Resources
Nelson French, Legislative Affairs Director, MN Pollution Control Agency
Sherry Enzler, Director, MN Office of Environmental Assistance

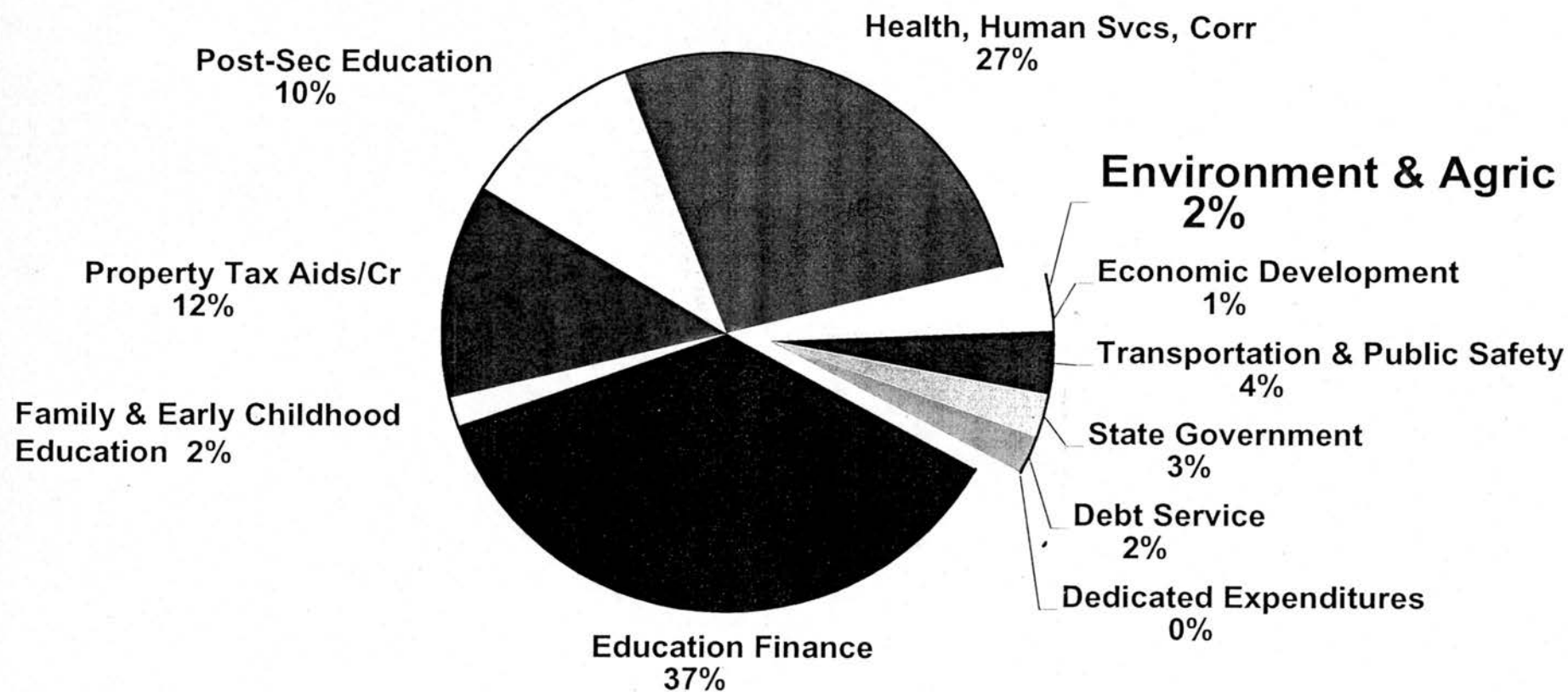
Stakeholders: Gary Botzek
Board member, Minnesota Environmental Partnership
Game & Fish Fund Citizen Oversight Committee
John Curry
Legislative Director for the MN Center for Environmental Advocacy
Game & Fish Fund Citizen Oversight Committee
John Schneider (probable attendee; depends on schedule)
Member of MN Sportfishing Congress
Game & Fish Fund Citizen Oversight Committee
Dave Overland
Member of MN Sportfishing Congress
Game & Fish Fund Citizen Oversight Committee
Kevin Fuerstneau
Southern MN Regional Director of the National Wild Turkey Federation
Judy Erickson
Director of Government Relations for the MN Parks & Trails Council
Mary Merrill Anderson
Superintendent, Minneapolis Park Board

**DNR Appropriations by Funding Source
FY2002-2003
\$639.3 Million**



88% of General Fund Spending is in Four Major Areas

Total Spending \$26.9 Billion



Board of Water and Soil Resources
FY 03 Phase 1 Reductions from Legislative Action
FY 03 Phase 2 Reductions for Hiring and PT Contract Freeze

Program/Activity	Amount	Total FTE			Impact of Reduction
		Reduced	Filled	Vacant	
Agency Operations					
<u>Land and Water Section</u>					
-Section Staff Reduction	28,329.05	1.00	1.00		Elimination of support staff position for section will require other agency support staff (2.0 FTE) to pick up workload. Processing delays will occur.
-PT Contract Elimination	3,675.00				Elimination of contract for local water planners newsletter. Will use in house resources to replace this contract.
-Staff Funding Shift	32,000.00	0.38	0.38		Allocation of .38 FTE to project contract with MPCA for wetland plant identification.
<u>Easement Section</u>					
-Staff Funding Shift	6,836.13	0.10	0.10		Funding for easement coordinator shifted to CREP because that is the sole focus of work for this position in FY 2003.
<u>Engineering Section</u>					
-Staff Reduction	136,561.86	2.00	2.00		Elimination of General Fund engineering support for large scale shoreline erosion control projects, wetland restorations, local government road wetland replacement, feedlot and erosion/water quality cost share projects. Districts will have to provide their own engineering support in specialized, highly skilled engineering disciplines which will significantly increase project costs or cause projects not be implemented. (Because of CREP implementation, positions will not be eliminated until that project is completed in 2004. These individuals have skills that could be transferred to the work in the MN River basin CREP project rather than hiring additional staff or consultants.)
<u>Administrative Services</u>					
-Section Staff Reduction	131,034.87	1.50	1.00	0.50	Reduction of deputy director (part time) and IS position. Results in change in management responsibilities for agency staff and a reduction in ability to support technology services. Long term affect of not being able to provide adequate technical support for local government electronic results reporting system.
<u>Regional Operations</u>					
North					
-PT Contract Elimination	20,774.81				Elimination of contract with U of M Ag. Extension for education program on water resources resulting in a loss of a joint position at BWSR dedicated to providing shoreland training and ground water education in the northern region.
-Staff Funding Shift	50,400.00	0.75	0.75		Contract with US Army COE for cooperative effort to facilitate implementation of GP 2 permit for wetland regulation.
Metro					
-PT Contract Elimination	26,602.19				Elimination of contract with U of M Ag. Extension for education program on water resources resulting in a loss of a joint position at BWSR dedicated to serving metro WMO's, WD's and SWCD's.

South

-Region Staff Reduction	74,602.22	1.50	1.50 Reduction of Board Conservationist and all activities relating to education and training of local SWCD & consultants on cropland tillage and nutrient managment. Reduction of support staff (.5) for field office in Rochester.
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-FY 02 Salary Savings	13,315.75		
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-Staff Funding Shift	85,243.12	1.25	1.25 BC time assigned to work on conservation plans for CREP sites.
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Agency Wide Reductions

-Travel Reduction	45,597.00		Overall reduction in participation in local government activities, meetings, reduction of leased state cars, reduction in training and out state travel.
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-Training Reduction	31,000.00		Elimination of funds for staff development and training supported by agency for local government. Training provided by agency will be fee based.
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-Supplies	24,823.00		General reduction in supplies and expenses.
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-Strike Salary Savings	15,455.00		
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Grants

Cost Share	800,000.00		Elimination of base special projects and special MN River cost share resulting in less projects, therefore, less water quality protection of the State's water resources. This project loss also results in a loss of \$200,000 in landowner matching funds.
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NRBG	382,000.00		Elimination of water planning challenge grants will result in fewer high priority local water resource protection and manangement projects implemented. These projects are also matched on a one to one basis by local funding.
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Area II	49,000.00		Elimination of funding for JPB projects resulting in no projects being constructed to help reduce flood damages in SW MN.
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1,957,250.00

Board of Water and Soil Resources – Budget Planning 10% Reduction Plus Inflation Strategies

	FY 2004	FY 2005
Agency General Fund Budget	16,692,000	16,692,000
10% Reduction	1,692,000	1,692,000
Inflation	<u>106,000</u>	<u>214,000</u>
Total	1,798,000	1,906,000
Operating Cost Covered by Non-GF (Ending) Sources*		
Regional Wetland Specialists	226,000	231,000
Wetland Banking Staff	125,000	128,000
Engineering Technical Services	225,000	230,000
Coastal Engineer	<u>95,000</u>	<u>98,000</u>
Total	671,000	687,000
Total Impacts	2,469,000	2,593,000
		15%

*Does not include CREP implementation staff

Options Reviewed

A. Apply 10% Across the Board Reductions

Impacts

- ⇒ Significant impacts to WCA program will include:
 - Jeopardizes general permit (GP2) with COE reducing state ability to streamline regulatory permitting.
 - No agency participation in technical evaluation panels (TEP's) will result in more violations, less coordination between federal, state and local jurisdiction, and informal on-site resolution of disputes.
 - Eliminates option for 404 assumption and the real opportunity for one-stop shopping on wetland related permits.
 - Delays in local project approval will increase.
 - Eliminates BWSR as a dispute resolution option leaving district court as the only means to contest local decisions.
 - Diminishes citizens and interest groups from participating in project decisions.
 - Less upfront involvement from BWSR staff increasing the likelihood for large/controversial violations.
- ⇒ Eliminates local government road wetland replacement program and wetland banking program.
 - Lose opportunity for quality replacement that maximize public benefit through larger projects that result in higher quality wetlands with public access.
 - Places time and cost back on LGU's and landowners to mitigate small impacts through the loss of the wetland banking program.
- ⇒ Significantly reduces agency provided technical assistance.
 - Eliminates north shore erosion control engineering.
 - Eliminates on-site soil investigations and services to local government.

- Eliminate engineering assistance for large scale streambank and lakeshore erosion projects.
- Eliminates the possibility of creating a state-wide digital soil survey.
- Eliminates training of LGU technicians.
- Eliminates ability to represent LGU's in statewide policy issues.
- Significantly less ability to develop partnerships and leverage federal funds through programs such as CREP, WRP, and NAWCA.
- No ability to support or maintain new reporting system.
- Maintenance of the public investment in 138,000 acres of RIM Reserve easements will not be fully realized due to lack of inspections and subsequent maintenance.

B. Combine operating and grant reductions, targeting components of grants for larger reductions and maintaining a somewhat less reduction in operating costs.

Impacts

- ⇒ Similar WCA consequences because we could not maintain technical staff support to LGU's.
- ⇒ Similar wetland road replacement and banking consequences.
- ⇒ Some level of reduction in technical support.
- ⇒ Some level of reduction to project funds with undetermined ability for EQIP to fill behind.
- ⇒ No ability to support or maintain reporting system.

C. Establish SWCD Taxing Authority and Reallocation to Program Needs.

Impacts

- ⇒ SWCD operating expenses no longer paid by state, all would be supported by local taxes and fees collected for services.
- ⇒ Transfer of responsibility for maintenance for RIM easements from SWCD's to BWSR. Funds for RIM Services have been supplemented for the last few years by bond funds that are going away with CREP implementation funds. Base appropriation is \$750,000 and not sufficient to address maintenance cost as easement inventory has substantially doubled with CREP inventory.
- ⇒ WCA funding so regional staff would stay with BWSR, wetland banking would be continued, county grant funding would increase to meet shortfall in high workload counties. GP2 would not be at risk with the reallocation of these resources. Fees will be created to support wetland banking activities.
- ⇒ Technology funding would be available to support and maintain the new e-link reporting system.
- ⇒ Technical assistance would be provided to clients for engineering and RIM easements. The federal farm bill is going to bring in significant new funding to Minnesota for water quality and erosion control projects. It is not expected there will be sufficient resources provided in federal appropriations to maximize the federal funds put on the ground so it is very important for the agency to provide this level of technical assistance to LGU's and landowners.

Dispute Resolution Report
October 11, 2002

There are presently five appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA. The first three appeals are new since the last report of September 12. One of the new appeals is no longer pending since it was denied.

There is an appeal of a no-loss decision in Meeker County. At issue is the wetland delineation. The appeal is being held in abeyance pending further technical evaluation work.

Another new appeal is of a replacement plan decision in Pope County. The replacement plan application for a driveway was denied by the Pope SWCD since alternatives were available. There was another suitable driveway already in place. The appeal was denied as meritless.

Another new appeal is of an exemption decision in Hennepin County. The appeal involves the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District's denial of an exemption request at Lake of the Isles by the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board. The appeal is in abeyance while further technical evaluation is completed.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan in the City of Albertville in Wright County. The appeal is in abeyance since it has been remanded to the city because a TEP was not held.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan denial in Stearn's County. The appeal involves a single family dwelling site near the Mississippi River. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and the appeal is in abeyance as settlement is explored.

Another appeal involves a wetland banking site in Chisago County. The appeal has been accepted and is being held in abeyance to see how the site develops.

Registration Form

Please Mail Registration and Payment to:
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
(MDA), Finance and Budget Division
90 West Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55107
by Friday, November 8, 2002

Registrations may be mailed, faxed or accepted at the door.

If paid registrations are received by November 8, 2002, meals are included in the registration.

Registrations may be received after this date or at the door. However, a meal will not be guaranteed.

☐ **Cost: \$40.00**

☐ \$20.00 Students ☐ \$20.00 Seniors

Payment for mailed or faxed registrations should be made by check, money order, or interagency payment (GFS PV2 transaction documentation). Send payment to the address above.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

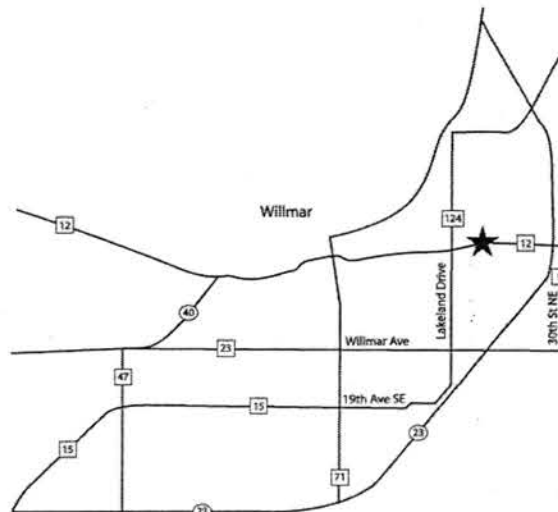
For Interagency Payments use only, please fill in the following GFS PV2 Transaction #: _____

☐ Check here if you would like a receipt.
(A refund will be given if written notice is provided by Tuesday, November 12, 2002.)

*Investing in Minnesota Agriculture Conference
For Office Use Only: 03/200/2531/119/8700*

Meeting Location

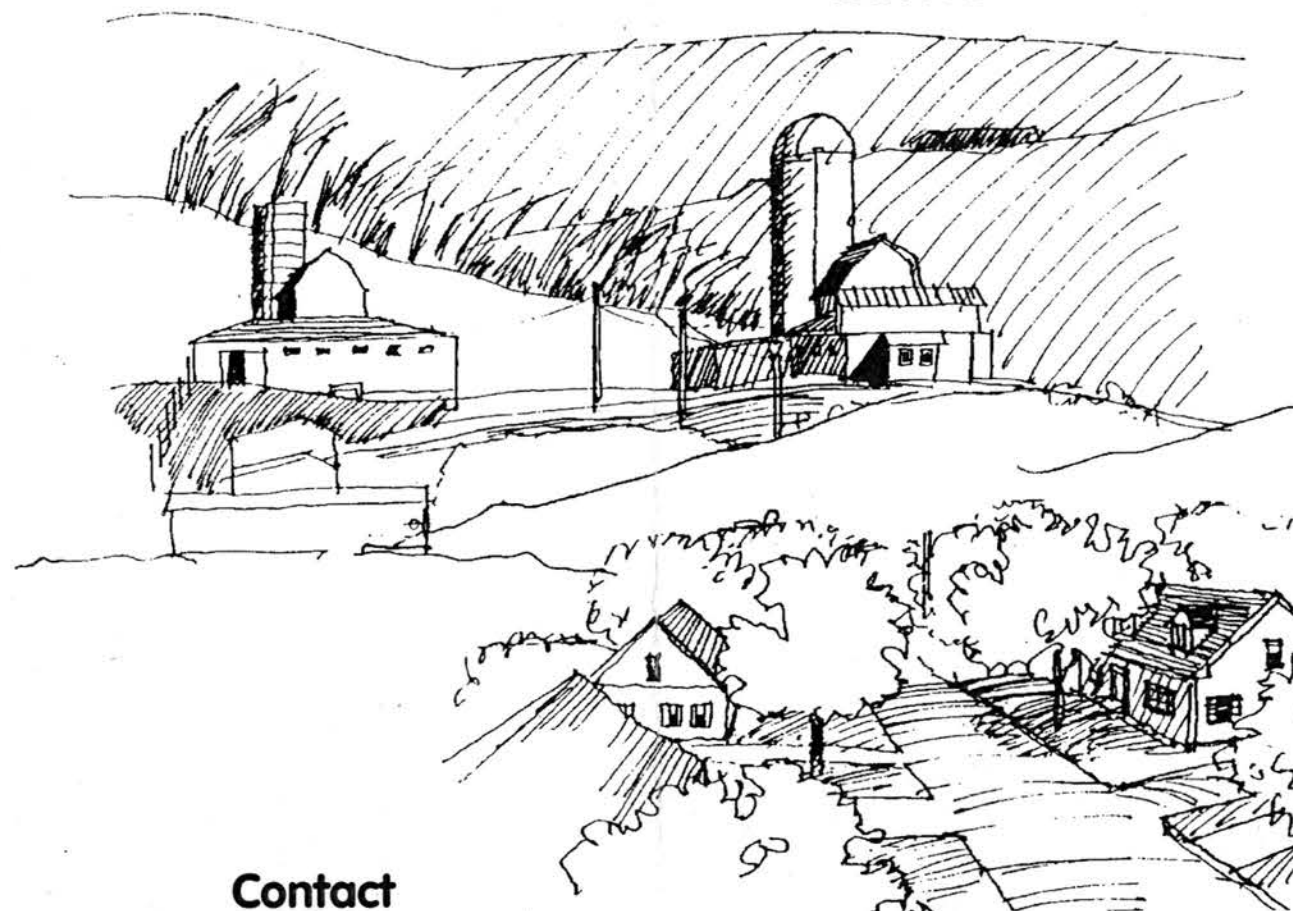
Holiday Inn, Conference Center
2100 East Highway 12
Willmar, MN 56201
Phone: 320-235-3312 Fax: 320-235-0254
Please contact the hotel with special requirements for meals.



Partners

Agriculture Utilization and Research Institute
Kandiyohi County Economic Development Partnership, Inc.
Livestock Development Authority
Meeker County Development Corporation
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Redwood Area Development Corporation
West Central Growth Alliance
Willmar Lakes Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
United States Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Rural Development

Investing in Minnesota Agriculture Conference



Contact

If you have questions or wish to exhibit, please contact Darla Riley
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Development Division
90 West Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55107
Phone: 651-282-5140 • Fax: 651-297-7678
E-mail: Darla.Riley@state.mn.us

A Conference for Community Leaders, Economic Developers, Producers, Bankers, and Others
Interested in Agriculture Development

**Tuesday
November 26, 2002**

Holiday Inn
Willmar, Minnesota

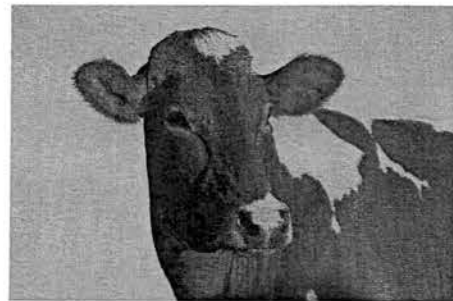
Agenda

November 26, 2002

Morning Chair: Representative Al Juhnke

- 8:00am Registration
- 9:00am Welcome From the Community - Harlan Madsen, Dairy Farmer and County Commissioner, Kandiyohi County
- 9:10am Opening Remarks - Gene Hugoson, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)
- 9:30am Operating in a New Era of Regulation - W. C. Motes, Vice President/Don Ault, Vice President, Sparks Company

- 10:45am Break and Visit with Exhibitors and Speakers
- 11:15am Developments in Livestock
- Presenters:** *Livestock Development Authority (LDA)* - Curt Watson, Board Member of LDA
- Livestock Friendly County* - Bob Patton, Local Government Outreach Coordinator, MDA
- Livestock Zoning: Past, Present and Future - A County Perspective* - Harlan Madsen, Dairy Farmer and County Commissioner, Kandiyohi County
- 11:45am Lunch
- 12:00pm Lunch - Keynote Address: Ohio's Experience in Livestock Regulation - Fred Dailey, Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture



Afternoon Chair: Senator Steve Dille

- 1:00pm Livestock Processing Economic Impact/IMPLAN Study - Harold Stanislawski, Livestock Business Advisor/Su Ye, Market Research, MDA
- 1:20pm Investing in Minnesota Food Processing
- Overview:** Charles Muscoplat, Vice President and Dean, College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences, University of Minnesota (UofM) - *Emerging Opportunities in Food Processing*
- Presenters:** Jeff Ettinger, President, Jennie-O Turkey Store
- Mark Davis, President, Davisco
- Bob Sparboe, President and CEO, Sparboe Companies
- Carrol Duerr, General Manager, Earthwise Processors



- 2:45pm Break and Visit with Exhibitors and Speakers
- 3:00pm Biodiesel Opportunities - Michael Sparby, Project Development Director, Agricultural Utilization Research Institute
- 3:30pm What Does This Mean for Rural Minnesota? - Senator Steve Dille
- 3:45pm Wrap Up and Time for Questions - Julie Rath, Economic Development Specialist, Redwood Area Development Corporation
- Question and Answer with Available Speakers*
- 4:00pm Conference Closing



Minnesota Department of Agriculture
90 West Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107
(651) 297-1629

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, October 17, 2002

Contact: Malissa Fritz, Communications Coordinator, 651-284-3707
Darla Riley, Agricultural Planner, 651-282-5140

MDA invites farmers and rural leaders to discuss stimulating rural economy

ST. PAUL, Minn. - Farmers, bankers, agribusiness managers, government officials and others are invited to attend a one-day conference at the Willmar Holiday Inn on Tuesday, November 26, titled "Investing in Minnesota Agriculture", to discuss ways to develop business opportunities for agriculture and rural Minnesota.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is organizing the conference with help from the West Central Growth Alliance, Kandiyohi Economic Development Corporation, and other agencies and organizations. The event will continue to build on the success of last year's conference. Numerous speakers will focus on major developments in both livestock and value-added agriculture since last year. According to MDA Commissioner Gene Hugoson, the conference is designed to discuss emerging technologies, policies and business opportunities in order to stimulate rural entrepreneurs.

"Minnesota's farm sector is a critical part of our rural economy, and we need to look at ways to encourage economic development to capitalize on emerging opportunities for our producers and processors," Hugoson said. "This conference will provide farmers, businesses and community leaders a chance to network and hear experts discuss the latest ideas for rural economic development."

The keynote speaker for the conference is Fred Dailey, Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture. Dailey will talk about Ohio's experience in livestock regulation. Hugoson and Charles Muscoplat, dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences at the University of Minnesota, will highlight a list of speakers discussing topics such as livestock-friendly counties, value-added agriculture, biodiesel opportunities, and new approaches to agriculture and rural development.

MDA Livestock Development Specialist Harold Stanislawski believes the conference is an important step toward creating a more dynamic economy for rural Minnesota.

"Agriculture is a crucial part of our rural economy, so in order for rural Minnesota to be strong, Minnesota agriculture has to be strong," Stanislawski said. "But the world is changing and farmers face many potential obstacles to success. At this conference, we're going to sit down with rural leaders to get a solid picture of what needs to happen here for our ag sector and our rural economy to succeed down the road."

Registrations will be taken by mail or fax until Friday, November 8, and at the door on the day of the conference. There is a \$40 registration fee, which includes meals (although a meal will not be guaranteed for attendees who register after November 8). For more information or to register, contact Darla Riley by phone at 651-282-5140 or 800-967-2474, fax at 651-297-7678, or e-mail at Darla.Riley@state.mn.us. Mail registrations and payment to the Finance and Budget Division, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 90 West Plato Boulevard, St. Paul, MN 55107, Attention: Cashier.

-30-

This release is available on the MDA website at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us>



In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, an alternative form of communication is available upon request. TTY 1-800-627-3529

SUMMARY OF THE PUBLIC WATERS PERMIT RULE CHANGES – Oct. 14, 2002

The initial version of these rules, adopted in 1978, was based on existing procedures developed by DNR Waters since the inception of the permit program in 1937. The rules were amended once before in 1983 due to concerns raised during the implementation of the Public Waters Inventory. In 2000, the Legislature enacted law changes that resulted in rule amendments for a two-year interim period.

The amendments to the DNR Public Waters Work Permit rules included two areas of change. Within the first area of changes, amendments were made to make permanent the interim rules adopted by the DNR in 2000, and to reflect legislative changes enacted since 1983. The changes included:

- 1990 legislation recodifying water law;
- adoption of public waters terminology to distinguish these waters from wetlands subject to passage of the 1991 Wetland Conservation Act;
- 1995 and 1996 legislation granting the DNR the authority to issue general permits;
- 1996 legislation addressing regulation of permanent lake level controls;
- 1997 legislation defining the DNR's authority to regulate boathouses;
- 2000 legislation addressing changes in enforcement authority, waiver of public waters wetland permit requirements, and addressing procedures for developing written agreements between the local government unit administering provisions of the wetland Conservation Act and the DNR;
- 2001 legislation authorizing the DNR to waive the requirement for a public waters work permit for public road projects affecting wetland areas of public waters to the local government unit administering the Wetland Conservation Act;
- technical changes making it clear that activities subject to aquatic plant management permits, water aeration system permits, watercraft and buoys, and water appropriation permits that are regulated under other statutes and rules do not require a separate public waters work permit; and
- definition changes, including defining marinas as commercial facilities; changing the ordinary high water terminology to make it consistent with DNR practices; and adding definitions on permits, projects, public water wetlands, and local government unit and projects consistent with language found in the Wetland Conservation Act rules.

The other broad area of changes included those initiated by the DNR under its ongoing statutory authority to adopt rules. These changes include language relating to:

- adoption of provisions to address the sequencing concepts of impact avoidance, minimization and compensation comparable to language found in the Wetland Conservation Act program rules;
- adoption of provisions to address when compensation for a major change in the public waters resource is necessary;
- replacing "protected vegetation" with a reference to the authority the DNR has to regulate the taking of threatened or endangered species;
- adoption of procedures that allow plans developed and adopted on a local basis that are approved by the commissioner to form the basis for public water work permit decisions;
- changes to exempt docks from permit requirements if the docks are in compliance with city or county zoning ordinances, and to clarify breakwater and mooring facility development criteria; and
- adoption of a new section in the rules to address natural resource restoration projects.



Volunteer Stream Monitoring Partnership

Announces the

Second Annual River Summit

Celebrating Stream Monitoring and Our Metro Area Rivers!

Thursday, November 14, 2002

at the

Minneapolis Convention Center

Schedule

8:30 a.m.	Registration and Poster Set-Up
9:00 a.m.	Keynote Speakers • Emcee: Belinda Jensen, KARE-11 TV • Keynote Speaker: Mayor R. T. Rybak, Minneapolis • Student Speaker: Adam Hoffman • Music: John Kruth, New York
9:45 a.m.	Watershed Break-out Sessions
11:30 a.m.	Lunch and Poster Session
12:15 p.m.	Watershed Summaries of Metro Monitoring, Concluding Speaker: Cassandra Champion
1:30 p.m.	Adjourn – Buses Depart

- Lunch Provided
- Pre-Registration Required by Friday, October 25, \$10/person
- Limited Scholarship Funds available from county monitoring coordinator

For more information, contact Volunteer Stream Monitoring Partnership, 612-624-7460 or 612-625-6781.

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 Pennington County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas, Pennington County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP)
that is effective until December 31, 2002, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301,
and

Whereas, the Pennington County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an
extension for the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources
(BWSR) on September 3, 2002, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, 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

1. On September 9, 2002, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a request from Pennington County requesting an extension of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to June 30, 2003.
2. On October 11, 2002, Board of Water and Soil Resources recommended approval of the extension.

1. All relevant requirements of Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24, have been met.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the extension of the Pennington County
Comprehensive Local Water Plan until ~~December 31, 2004~~, Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this
23rd day of October 2002. *June 30 (see minutes)*

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Richard G. Coe
BY: Lee Coe, Chairperson
October 23, 2002

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 Pennington County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas, Pennington County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) that is effective until December 31, 2002, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Pennington County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension for the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on September 3, 2002, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, 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 September 9, 2002, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Pennington County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to June 30, 2003.
2. On October 11, 2002, Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Pennington 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 Pennington 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 Pennington County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until ~~December 31~~, 2004. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 23rd day of October 2002. *June 30 (see minutes)*

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Richard G. Coe
BY: Lee Coe, Chairperson

October 23, 2002

FY 03 Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

Allocation Recommendation

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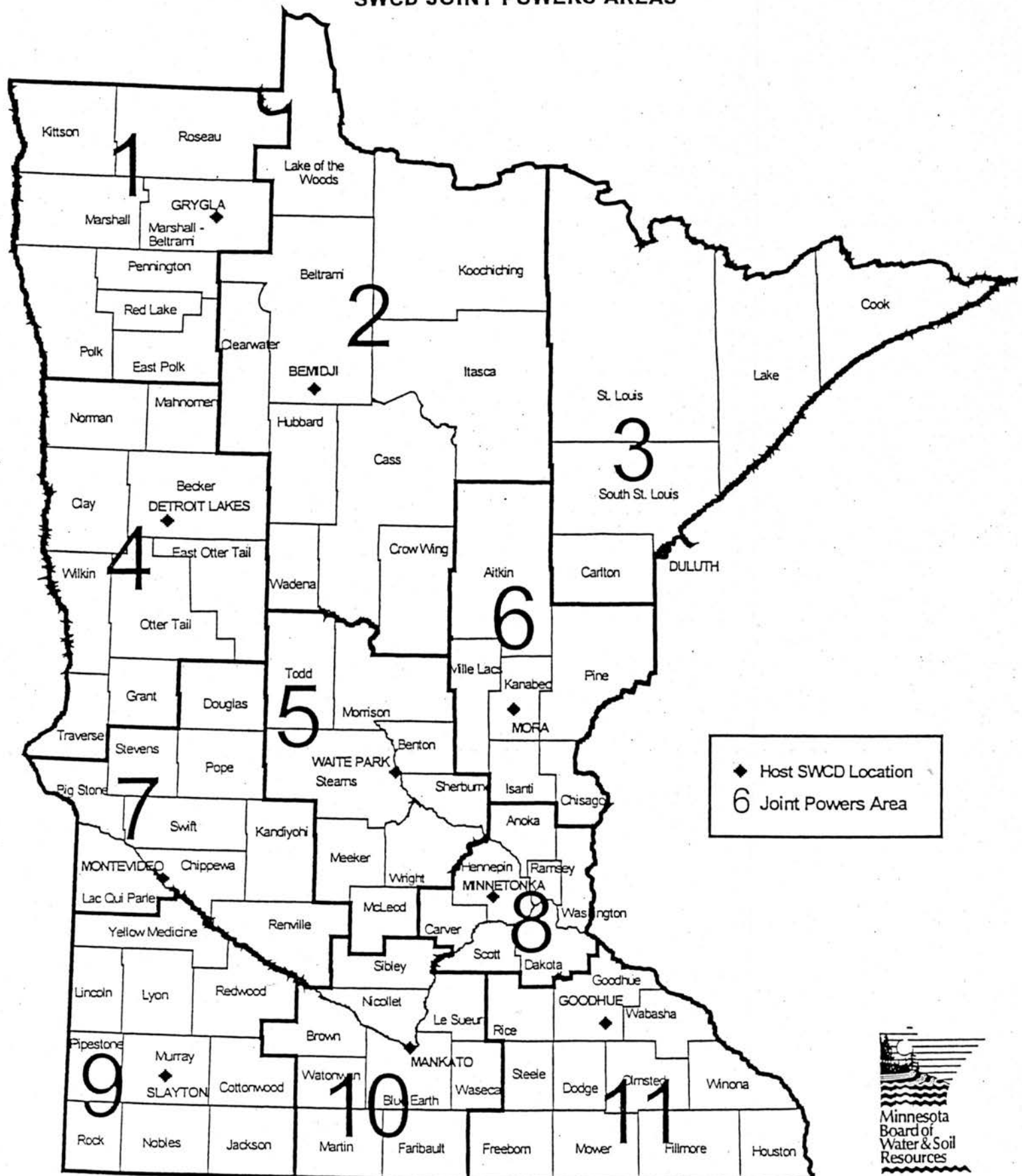
Allocations	
Recommendation	Rationale
1 Allocations should include a base and competitive component, each available statewide.	A base grant provides every county the opportunity to use EQIP funds. A competitive component would allow counties the ability to accelerate practice application.
2 Base grants allocations should be significant enough to allow a viable county EQIP. Base grants should be allocated by a formula which should include the following: ACP, and/or BWSR State Cost Share Program Factors, 303d List (Impaired Waters); NRI Data (erosion, land use); Animal Units; Acres of Ag Land.	Base grant formula should be based on factors included in other successful programs.
3 For the Base grant, local work groups should be established to determine local funding priorities, in addition to feedlots.	State is too complex and diverse to establish statewide priorities. Local Work Groups, with the direction of NRCS, should include local water planners, SWCDs, MN extension, sportsmen's groups, producer groups, etc.
4 Competitive application funding priorities should be established annually through the State Technical Committee.	An annual review would allow NRCS to consider natural factors like floods, droughts, etc... and respond to changing needs.

Policy	
Recommendation	Rationale
5 New feedlots should not be eligible, except when relocation of an existing polluting feedlot is the preferred alternative.	Financial and technical assistance for existing feedlots with pollution problems is a high priority in Minnesota, and the need is substantial. Funds are not intended to subsidize new feedlots.
6 Priority should be given to feedlots with 500 animal units or less and the most pollution potential. Funding eligibility should be capped at 1,000 animal units.	Small feedlots typically have difficulty financing environmental protection, and pollution potential should be a key priority factor for assistance. The 1,000 animal unit cap is consistent with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).
7 Partial feedlot runoff systems implemented in accordance with the Open Lot Agreement of the state Feedlot Rules should be eligible.	Open Lot Agreements only apply to feedlots with less than 300 animal units and require a complete fix by October 2010, or that the feedlot is closed in accordance with the Feedlot Rules.
8 For erosion control practices, at least 80% of the contributing watershed of the practice controlled by the producer should have an erosion rate less or equal to "T".	The design life of erosion control practices should be protected by reasonable expectations for associated erosion control within the contributing watershed.

Technical Assistance	
Recommendation	Rationale
9 NRCS should give priority to supporting technical assistance through the current SWCD/Joint Powers Non-point Engineering Assistance Team.	Application of many conservation practices implemented by local NRCS/SWCD field offices are limited by the amount of high level technical assistance such as engineering and soil investigations.
10 NRCS should give priority to contribution agreements as a means of securing additional technical assistance for implementing EQIP.	Contribution agreements, which require the contributing party to pay for 50% of the technical services for the estimated work, will maximize the leveraging of state and local funding while providing the additionality of technical services that USDA is promoting.

Nonpoint Engineering Assistance

SWCD JOINT POWERS AREAS



**NPEA Ad Hoc Meeting
October 10, 2002
Survey Results**

**Survey Question Results:
How would you describe the NPEA JPB model?**

1	JPB's are SWCD Area Engineering
2	Local and state shared resources to share engineering specialist
3	Partnership to provide engineering and technical assistance to SWCDs through joint powers agreements
4	A technical assistance program to assist SWCDs in the implementation of SRF projects and/or others conservation projects approved by the local joint powers board.
5	Cooperative engineering services for SWCDs and other conservation organizations.
6	Sharing resources and technology to meet the needs of SWCDs.
7	Engineering expertise to assist SWCDs and other agencies.
8	Area engineering assistance for local government.
9	SWCD shared program for technical services funded by the state.
10	Program to provide technical assistance to landowners to apply conservation practices.
11	An officially aligned group of SWCDs who share a common interest and commitment in implementing soil and water practices on behalf of the landowner.
12	Public funded organization with services that can assist landowners in their conservation efforts.
13	BMP implementation practice program for practices needing engineering assistance that is not otherwise provided to SWCDs.
14	Engineering assistance to accompany State Cost Share and SRF to get conservation projects implemented
15	Conservation engineering carried out cooperatively through SWCDs funded by state government
16	Engineering assistance to assist SWCDs and individuals through Joint Power Board agreements
17	Local joint powers boards formed for SWCDs to hire engineering and technical assistance for conservation projects

Examples of SWCD Services Collaboration:

1. BALMM Group in Rochester: 2 SWCD offices spearheaded the collaboration that has existed since October 1999 through a MOU. The two district managers led formation regarding common needs of the Mississippi River and problems in the watershed. MPCA act as the fiscal agent and BALMM receives their funding from grants.
2. Becker/Hubbard County Ground Water Study: Collaborated with DNR, USGS, and received grant funds, local water planning funds, private money, county allocations, MDA, and contracts. Otter Tail River Watershed Organization: 3 SWCDs working together using BWSR and local water planning funds with a "loose" in formal agreement. Fiscal agent responsibilities are shared.
3. JPB works with the Buffalo/Red River watershed district and has very loose agreements on a project by project basis.
4. Chisago JPB used challenge grant funds to hire a technician for 3 months. The JPB and the district agreed to employ the technician for 6 months and at the end the JPB was able to keep the technician on as their employee.
5. 7 Metro SWCDs/NRCS employed a Shoreland stabilization position. They have a MOU amongst the 7 counties and they go around helping local districts complete their projects. The employee provides educational assistance. The Anoka SWCD acts as host district and provides administrative space and support. Applied for 2 more years of grant funds from NRCS and should be able to continue for 4 years. NRCS funds about 60% and the remaining 40% comes from the SWCDs. There was a formula for usage, depending on the hours worked, the districts are then billed for services.
6. Clearwater and Beltrami, in 1990, formed an alliance among 2 SWCDs via a contract, both donating cash to share a Forester. Beltrami was host district for 4-5 years. Now each SWCD has

NPEA Ad Hoc Meeting
October 10, 2002

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their own Forester position. They did not charge a fee for services.

7. RCRC works with 9 counties strictly on watershed projects. They started with a budget of \$50,000 and currently spend between \$500 - \$600 annually coming from grants. Redwood SWCD is the fiscal agent and have between 3-5 employees. The collaboration has worked well but it's strictly on a watershed basis that resulted in approximately 20-30% reduction in sediment coming down the rivers.
8. BERBI River Basin: funded by grants, Martin SWCD fiscal agent, represent 9 counties, a county commissioner and SWCD on the board.
9. Lake Superior Association of conservation districts, districts with jurisdiction within in the watershed, no staff, have several contracts for GIS services and consulting forester for stewardship planning and receive grant funds. Fiscal agent responsibilities are shared. No dues so all work done is on grant money.
10. MN River JPB and CREP positions funded by multiple state agencies and SWCDs.
11. Carver County received money from Met Council to do work in Sibley County for buffers strips.
12. Intra-county Merger: Cass County formed alliance with Cass county board and merged SWCD with Environmental Services; SWCDs became county employees.
13. Inter-county Merger: Pipestone SWCD are merging with counties (and physically with NRCS). They secured SWCD funding and they were better able to serve the public and get more accomplished for enforcements.

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Success Factors and Benefits of SWCD Technical Services
Collaboration:

1. Needs comes up from landowner; Either JPB staff or NRCS staff work together; the public views the two organizations as the same.
2. Benefits for pooling money – gives more and better options when recruiting potential employees
3. Good grant writers
4. Need clear and competent leadership (staff and board) with ability to project and identify problems, obtain funds, and show results.
5. Need recognized by SWCD board and JPB was able to respond. Individually could not do as much with out that collaboration. Economies of scale.
6. Use state staff as facilitators with local board oversight. Eliminates local administrative costs and entanglements.
7. Collaborations have generated recognition on a federal level and have been successful in obtaining funding.
8. Visibility is enhanced and it could be an incentive for leveraging more funding.
9. Targeting a commonly shared resource that allows districts to target resource issues. Identification of needs and bringing together partners.
10. Learn and stretch into areas that may otherwise have never been done or known. When collaborating with different

NPEA Ad Hoc Meeting
October 10, 2002

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groups the SWCD (or JPO) becomes the lead agency and it adds to their visibility.

11. Gain more experience and expertise and the public see how agencies are working together for a shared goal and demonstrates efficiencies.

Obstacles to SWCD Technical Services Collaboration:

1. Funding threshold. Need for a base level of funding to make sharing possible.
2. Limited resources. Collaboration takes a lot of people time to make all the administrative connections (more meetings) and the tradeoff is difficult. Do I work with landowner or put projects on the land? Size or volume of threshold must be met to realize the efficiencies.
3. Turf issues. Giving up authority requires a trust that the benefits will come.
4. Risk of losing identity which can be diminished in a collaboration.
5. Partnering should be with those with common interests, problems, responsibilities and goals.
6. There can be a push toward bigger, more uniform, more clarity from top; not what is seen and desired from public they want access to services.
7. Not always meeting cost effective goal. If goals are not the same there's the potential of waste.
8. Loss of control- who's in charge with unfavorable decisions being made. Boards are not efficient at administrative functions, e.g. personnel.

NPEA Ad Hoc Meeting
October 10, 2002

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9. Reversal of agreements and details are difficult to develop. Loose agreements are not thought out completely and it's not clear how to get out of the agreement.
10. JPB's feel district supervisors don't know what the technical staff is doing. Information is not being communicated with the districts as to what the JPB's are doing.
11. Communication gets more complicated. E.g. board to staff; board to board etc.
12. Attitude or lack of vision to see a common goal or the need to enter and then support the collaboration
13. Lack of ownership by members after the collaboration is created.
14. Inequities among partners. Is everyone getting their fair share of the pie?

Potential Regional SWCD Technical Services Offerings:

1. "Conservation Engineering" (NPEA)
2. Private Forest Management
3. Shared engineering services: road/county engineering
4. Wetland Specialists: WCA and Restoration
5. Watershed Management and Water Quality
6. Flood control; planning, prevention
7. Public relations; e.g., newsletters, press releases in local paper
8. Nutrient Management Specialist; e.g., Feedlot Specialist, Manure Management, Runoff Management
9. Erosion control plans for road issues, plats, and ordinances
10. Construction site erosion control and Low Impact Development (LID)
11. NPDES construction site review and permitting
12. Technical and grant writer
13. Conservation planner, e.g., grazing lands
14. Technology (externally) – GIS, GPS, land records, web reporting, e-link
15. Administrative (internally) – network and software support, audit and bookkeeping support

NPEA Ad Hoc Meeting
October 10, 2002
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16. Conservation Easements Specialist
17. Native grass management; e.g., fires, vegetative management on private lands, burning, native plant intro.
18. Limnologist/Aquatic Biologist
19. Hydrogeologist
20. Lakeshore/ shoreline stabilization; erosion control management prevention
21. Soil Scientist; e.g., Septic, Feedlots, crop productivity, hydric soil interpretation, soil history
22. Dispute resolution, mediation related to natural resource issues

Note: Conflicts of interest, private competition

Potential Regional SWCD Technical Services Clientele:

1. SWCD's
2. Cities
3. Developers
4. Counties, e.g., Highway Department, Planning and Zoning
5. Townships, e.g., Roads
6. Landowners, e.g., Feedlot Operator
7. Realty Agencies
8. Watershed Districts
9. Lake Associations
10. Tribal Governments
11. Private conservation organizations, e.g., Pheasants Forever,
Ducks Unlimited
12. Other state and federal agencies, e.g., DNR, PCA, NRCS,
Health, BWSR, and USFWS, COE
13. State Legislature

Internal Marketing/Administrative Ideas

1. Study alternative Costs, availability per hour, per type of job, contracts with private or public organizations, NRCS, etc.
2. State focus on capability; local/SWCD focus on priorities.
3. Link and compare to NRCS work
4. Attend meeting both at state conventions, presentations at area meetings, BWSR agenda, market accomplishments
5. Long-term funding solidification would help in the marketing of this program for the future; if the funds are not going to be there some district run the risk of not being funded.
6. Show results (using pictures) to the members and stakeholders.
7. Market how we work with locals and lobby for taxing authority and levy.
8. Would it be easier or harder to market and sell under a different name for each JPO?
9. NPEA grant to individual SWCDs to be passed onto the JPBs. BWSR → SWCDs → JPBs
10. Make part of the base SWCD allocation for "Conservation Engineering/Technical Assistance".
11. Put as a part of total BWSR appropriation.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

"Shared Engineering and Technical Services" ad-hoc committee

1st meeting: 10OCT02, 2nd meeting: 21NOV02

The following are the names submitted by the **MASWCD** Board of Representatives and alternates to serve on the NPEA/Technical Assistance ad-hoc work group (sponsored by BWSR). The focus of this group will be to develop options to maximize future NPEA program and technical services delivery through SWCDs.

Area I

- Phil Hamre, West Polk SWCD Supervisor
- Gary Johnson, Roseau SWCD Supervisor
- Alternate: Carol Berg, Hubbard SWCD Supervisor

Area II -

- Jerome Flottesch, Becker County SWCD Supervisor
- Marv Stangl, Morrison County SWCD Supervisor
- Alternate - George Libbon, Stevens County SWCD Supervisor

Area III

- Merrill Loy, Carlton SWCD Supervisor
- Roland Cleveland, Chisago SWCD Supervisor
- Alternate: Gene Larson, Koochiching SWCD Supervisor

Area IV -

- Russ Schlegelmilch, Carver SWCD Supervisor
- Ernie Larsen, Anoka Supervisor

Area V

- LeRoy Stensgaard, Pipestone SWCD Supervisor
- Steve Sunderland, Chippewa SWCD Supervisor
- Alternate: Clint Schuerman, Swift SWCD Supervisor

Area VI -

- Dave Trebelhorn, Sibley SWCD
- Duane Petrowiak, Martin SWCD.
- Alternate Ralph Stadick, Brown SWCD Supervisor

Area VII -

- Jim Gebhardt, Mower SWCD Supervisor
- Clarence Anderson, Rice SWCD Supervisor
- Alternate Glen Kinneberg, Root River SWCD Supervisor

MACDE

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Brad Matlack | Carlton SWCD |
| Chris Parthun | Beltrami SWCD |
| Gary Hoffman | Big Stone SWCD |
| Kyle Krier | Pipestone SWCD/MACDE Pres. |

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WCA Formula

The data and formula used have not been updated since the early 1990s. There is a question as to whether these measures now accurately reflect existing workloads for the administration of the WCA. Staff has been asked to look at the formula to determine if there is a better way to allocate implementation dollars. Two options will be looked at:

- 1) Use the existing formula using the same variables with new data, or
- 2) Create a new formula using new variables and data.

A new formula has been proposed using the following variables.

W C A W o r k l o a d			
Variables	Weighting	Data Type	Data Source
Number of Landowner Contacts resulting in mitigation or replacement	15%	Qualitative	WCA Report (annual)
Number of Cease and Desist Orders & Restoration Orders issued	10%	Quantitative	WCA Report (annual)
Change in population	18%	Quantitative	State Demographer
Amount of wetlands on non-public lands	36%	Quantitative	NWI
Amount of poorly drained soils on non-public lands	8%	Quantitative	LMIC State-wide
Amount of Shoreland on non-public lands	13%	Quantitative	DNR PWI / LMIC

The new formula is based on the data having the following attributes:

Consistent – This means the data is available for all WCA LGUs on frequent basis.

Correlated to actual or potential

workload – This means the data reflects the time or money expended by the WCA LGU by some direct measure. For example, the WCA LGU knows it averages 2 hours when reviewing a replacement plan application. Therefore, the number of replacement plan applications reviewed by the WCA LGU becomes a valid measure of workload.

- **Distinct or unique** – This means the data needs to provide unique workload information. For example, if the change of population and the number of construction permits issued are highly correlated, we would want to use only one of the measures so we do not skew the results by inadvertently weighting the same aspect of workload higher.
- **Qualitative v quantitative** – We need to be clear when each type of data is appropriately used. Preference is for quantitative data

In order to analyze the data it is necessary to express each variable as a common unit. The unit chosen changes the acres, miles, or numbers of the variable to a percent of the total statewide workload per county for each variable in the formula. For example, if there are 100 acres of wetland in the state on private lands and County X has 5.3 acres, then County X would be allocated 5.3% of the total statewide workload for that variable.

The variables, themselves, were weighted to reflect how well the committee believed each correlated with actual workload. The result is a weighted average of the total statewide workload for each county.

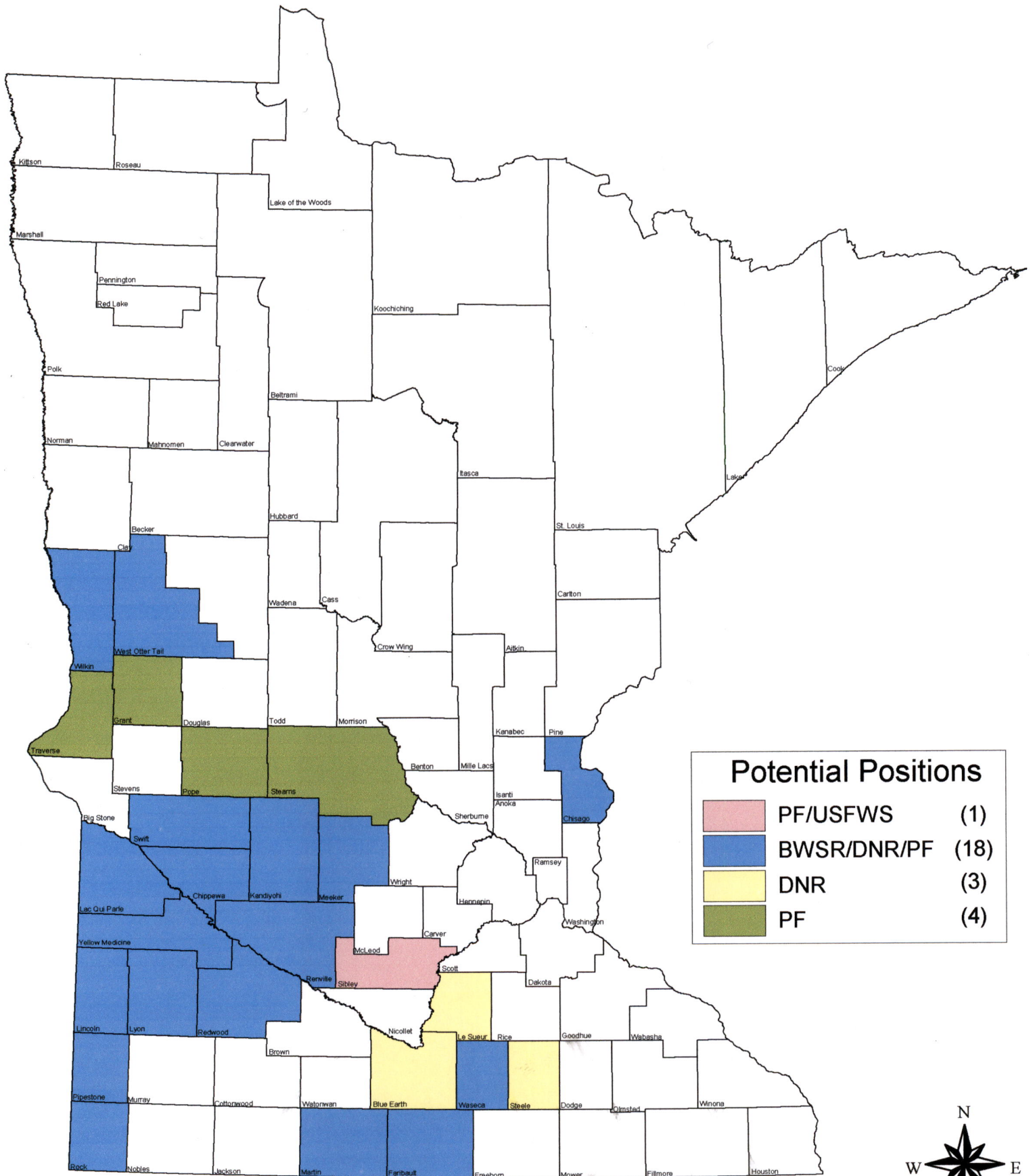
In addition to the above measures of workload, a number of policy issues were considered.

- Allocation Range: cap/maximum and minimum
- SWCD portion for workload required by statute and rule (TEP, Enforcement): fixed amount or percent of County allocation or combination of the two ("base plus")
- Future formula adjustments: frequency and basis, "buffering" via graduated changes
- Match requirements: amount and type
- Create incentives to pool resources (staff) among Counties/LGUs
- Create a competitive pool for "extras" such as wetland plan, DNR delegation, staff certifications, etc.

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What about non county LGUs
like cities & WS in metro area?
Are they compensated?
If so, how?

Potential Private Lands Positions



TO	:	Board Members
FROM	:	Dwain Otte, Cost Share Committee Chair
RE	:	October Board Meeting Cost Share Committee Report

There are three Cost Share Committee items that will be brought to the Board in October. The Committee did not meet until October 15, which was after the regular Board packet mailing, therefore, these items were not included:

- 1) **FY 03 EQIP Recommendation** – The new Farm Bill authorized the EQIP. The Committee is requesting Board approval of their recommendations regarding allocations, policy, and technical assistance. After approval, they will be forwarded to NRCS (see enclosure). **DECISION.**
- 2) **FY 03 NPEA Challenge Grant** – A FY 03 NPEA Challenge Grant is scheduled to be offered to the 11 NPEA JPBs. The Cost Share Committee reviewed current allocation policy and recommends policy remain the same for FY 03, but should be revisited in two years. The BWSR will be requested to approve this recommendation. **DECISION**
Amount Available - \$422,500
Eligible Applicants – All NPEA JPBs
Funding Priority – JPBs whose SWCDs received FY 03 FWQMGs, who plan on adding staff to provide additional technical assistance.
Eligible Funding Projects Include: training, equipment, staff, transportation costs, cost for consultant services
- 3) **Cost Share Program Policy** – Concerns have been raised from SWCDs regarding Board policy. When projects are canceled, beyond the SWCDs control, if the grant agreement has expired, these funds must be returned to BWSR. These returned funds can then result in a future allocation decrease in SWCD allocations. The Committee has referred this issue to the Grants Team for analysis and recommendations. **INFORMATION.**

FY 03 Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

Allocation Recommendation

DRAFT

Allocations	
Recommendation	Rationale
1 Allocations should include a base and competitive component, each available statewide.	A base grant provides every county the opportunity to use EQIP funds. A competitive component would allow counties the ability to accelerate practice application.
2 Base grants allocations should be significant enough to allow a viable county EQIP. Base grants should be allocated by a formula which should include the following: ACP, and/or BWSR State Cost Share Program Factors, 303d List (Impaired Waters); NRI Data (erosion, land use); Animal Units; Acres of Ag Land.	Base grant formula should be based on factors included in other successful programs.
3 For the Base grant, local work groups should be established to determine local funding priorities, in addition to feedlots.	State is too complex and diverse to establish statewide priorities. Local Work Groups, with the direction of NRCS, should include local water planners, SWCDs, MN extension, sportsmen's groups, producer groups, etc.
4 Competitive application funding priorities should be established annually through the State Technical Committee.	An annual review would allow NRCS to consider natural factors like floods, droughts, etc... and respond to changing needs.

Policy	
Recommendation	Rationale
5 New feedlots should not be eligible, except when relocation of an existing polluting feedlot is the preferred alternative.	Financial and technical assistance for existing feedlots with pollution problems is a high priority in Minnesota, and the need is substantial. Funds are not intended to subsidize new feedlots
6 Priority should be given to feedlots with 500 animal units or less and the most pollution potential. Funding eligibility should be capped at 1,000 animal units.	Small feedlots typically have difficulty financing environmental protection, and pollution potential should be a key priority factor for assistance.
7 Partial feedlot runoff systems implemented in accordance with the Open Lot Agreement of the state Feedlot Rules should be eligible.	Open Lot Agreements only apply to feedlots with less than 300 animal units and require a complete fix by October 2010, or that the feedlot is closed in accordance with the Feedlot Rules. The 1,000 animal unit cap is consistent with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).
8 For erosion control practices, at least 80% of the contributing watershed of the practice controlled by the producer should have an erosion rate less or equal to "T".	The design life of erosion control practices should be protected by reasonable expectations for associated erosion control within the contributing watershed.

Technical Assistance	
Recommendation	Rationale
9 NRCS should give priority to supporting technical assistance through the current SWCD/Joint Powers Non-point Engineering Assistance Team.	Application of many conservation practices implemented by local NRCS/SWCD field offices are limited by the amount of high level technical assistance such as engineering and soil investigations.
10 NRCS should give priority to contribution agreements as a means of securing additional technical assistance for implementing EQIP.	Contribution agreements, which require the contributing party to pay for 50% of the technical services for the estimated work, will maximize the leveraging of state and local funding while providing the additionality of technical services that USDA is promoting.



MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
66th ANNUAL MEETING AND 12th ANNUAL TRADE SHOW

UNITED WE STAND -- FOCUS ON THE LAND

DECEMBER 8, 9, & 10, 2002
RADISSON RIVERFRONT HOTEL, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA



Featuring Keynote Speaker

Max Armstrong

one of America's best-known and most widely followed agricultural journalists

*Also featuring a panel discussion on how State and Federal legislative initiatives are working to assist
Minnesota SWCDs as the State experiences budget crunches:*

Billy Wilson, National Association of Conservation Districts, 2nd Vice President

Peggy Ingison, State Budget Director, Minnesota Department of Finance – scheduled to appear

Rick Hansen, MASWCD Legislative Committee

Minnesota's Newly Elected Governor - to be invited

A conference featuring grass-roots initiatives to conserve
the soil and water resources of the State of Minnesota.

The function of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts is to take technical, financial and educational resources, whatever their
source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user.

Hosted By:

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and
the Area II (West Central MN) Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), Mary Ann Scharf, Area II Director

UNITED WE STAND – FOCUS ON THE LAND
MASWCD 66th ANNUAL MEETING AND 12th ANNUAL TRADE SHOW
DECEMBER 8, 9, & 10, 2002
RADISSON RIVERFRONT HOTEL, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

MASWCD ANNUAL CONVENTION AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2002

Noon - 6:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.



*"Sam Ting" -
Tom Gibson*

Registration Open

Convention Kickoff & Dinner

- Announcement of 2002 Essay and Poster Winners
- Readings by Essay Winners and Presentation of Prizes
- Dinner
- Entertainment - "Sam Ting" presented by Tom Gibson
The delightful Norwegian humor of "Sam Ting" captures the attention of all audiences as Sam teaches natural resource conservation awareness through the story of the weasel family. Dressed in his best over-alls, white shoes and finest hat, Sam's presentation is complete with lots of "You Bets" and "Uff-da's."
- Recognition of Deceased Supervisors

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2002

6:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Hospitality Rooms Open

- Open to all convention attendees.

7:30 a.m.

Registration Opens

8:25 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Opening Ceremony and Business Meeting *Monday business meeting will have reports & introduction of business only - all voting will take place during the Tuesday business meeting*

- Presiding: Richard Zupp, MASWCD President
- Presentation of the Flags
- Presidents Report, Richard Zupp, MASWCD President
- Introduction of MASWCD Committee Chairs
- Introduction of MASWCD Resolutions, Scott Hoes, MASWCD Vice President
- Finance Committee Report, Carol Berg, MASWCD Secretary/Treasurer
- Introduction of proposed bylaws changes, Scott Hoes, MASWCD Vice President
- Panel Discussion: *"How Are State and Federal Legislative Initiatives Working to Assist Minnesota SWCDs as the State Experiences Budget Crunches?"*
 - Billy Wilson, NACD 2nd Vice President
 - Peggy Ingison, State Budget Director – *scheduled to appear*
 - Rick Hansen, MASWCD Legislative Committee
 - Minnesota's Newly Elected Governor - *to be invited*

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Trade Show Open

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Press Room Open

- Open to all convention attendees. Stop by and set up interviews for your local radio stations and get assistance with local press releases.

10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Refreshment Break in the Trade Show Area

10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Keynote Address: Max Armstrong



Max Armstrong is one of America's best-known and most widely followed agricultural journalists. His daily broadcasts, with colleague Orion Samuelson, have been heard by millions of Americans across the United States for nearly 25 years. A product of a farm in Southwestern Indiana, Max has spent the past two decades delivering the news about agriculture to his vast farming audience, as well as the non-farm consumers in the nation's third largest city - Chicago.

11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Awards Luncheon

- Minnesota DNR Division of Waters Appreciation Award
- MASWCD/DNR Outstanding Forest Steward Award
- MASWCD Media Award
- MASWCD Legislator of the Year Award
- MASWCD Environmental Education Award
- Outstanding District Employee Award
- MASWCD Outstanding Supervisor Award

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

MINI SESSIONS

YOU WANT IT WHEN? ENGINEERING ALTERNATIVES - WHAT'S AVAILABLE!

With the ever-increasing requests for engineering assistance, attendees of this session will learn about the Non Point Engineering Assistance Program. Hear how it began, how it is working, and see a presentation of projects designed and installed across Minnesota with assistance from this program.

Presenters: Al Broyles, Professional Engineer, JPB Area 4
Jeff Haverland, Engineering Technician, JPB Area 4
Al Kean, Chief Engineer, BWSR

Moderator: Jerome Flottesch, Becker SWCD Supervisor

TAKE THE LEAD ON NEW DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

This is a repeat and expansion of last year's concurrent session on the Non-point source pollution Education of Municipal Officials (NEMO) program. This is a program that every SWCD board should hear about! Learn how your SWCD can take the lead in your county to help officials dealing with development understand the implications of new development in sensitive areas.

Presenter: Jay Michels, Minnesota Erosion Control Association

Moderator: Helen McLennan, Morrison SWCD District Manager

TALK, TEACH, TOUCH... BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH DECISION MAKERS

How do you go about building relationships with elected officials? Is it your job or someone else's? Can you build relationships and do your job as well? This workshop will impress upon you the importance of building relationships in your organization and how to build it into the work you do for the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. You will get real life ideas of ways to build relationships as well as hear anecdotal stories about what works and what doesn't, thrown in with a good dose of humor!

Presenter: Cindy Bigger, University of Minnesota Extension Service

Moderator: Jerry Haggemiller, Douglas SWCD District Manager

MINNESOTA FIREWISE: WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT CAN MEAN TO YOUR SWCD

Minnesota Firewise is a project sponsored by the USDA National Fire Plan, operated by the Minnesota DNR. It seeks to work with homeowners and local community organizations to prevent losses of life and property from wildfire. This presentation will outline the program and discuss cooperation with local SWCDs.

Presenter: Tom Eiber, Minnesota DNR Forestry

Moderator: Tom Schulz, Wadena SWCD Supervisor

Refreshment Break in the Trade Show Area

MINI-SESSIONS

TO BE OR NOT TO BE?... THIRD PARTY VENDORS

This session will look at opportunities for technical assistance with the new Farm Bill including third party vendors. The certification process will be explained along with the USDA requirements to be qualified as a third party vendor.

Presenter: Paul Flynn, State Resource Conservationist, USDA NRCS

Moderator: Kim Krueger, Pope SWCD District Manager

BUILDING CAPACITY? HERE'S A WAY TO STEP UP TO THE PLATE

An opportunity is on the horizon for SWCDs to help implement Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Learn how to implement this service in your county and what type of partnership can be established with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Presenters: Reed Larson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Jay Riggs, Urban Conservationist, Dakota SWCD

Moderator: Keith Pohl, Crow Wing SWCD District Manager

TIDBITS FROM THE STATE CAPITOL

Learn of upcoming changes in SWCD laws and the 2004 -2005 budget issues that will directly affect local SWCDs. You will also get an update on the many new faces in the legislature this coming year.

Presenters: Ron Harnack, Executive Director, BWSR

Jim Birkholz, Capacity Project Manager, BWSR

Judy Erickson, MASWCD Lobbyist

Moderator: Harold Bruns, Cass SWCD Supervisor

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MINI-SESSIONS (continued)

ORGANIC OPTIONS AND EQIP

With the new Farm Bill, the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) has an option supporting the transition to organic cropping. Take a look at the possibilities as the panelists give an overview of where to start as you consider organics on yours or a cooperator's farm. Getting started from the producer's point of view, getting certified, organic marketing opportunities and making the transition with EQIP cost-share are key points.

Presenters: Carmen Fernholz, MN Organic Crop Improvement Assoc.
Craig Murphy, Organic Farmer
Tim Koehler, Assistant State Conservationist, USDA NRCS
Moderator: Mary Ann Scharf, Stevens SWCD Supervisor

5:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Drawing for Prizes In The Trade Show Area

7:30 p.m.

Auction for Conservation Education

- Hosted by the MASWCD Auxiliary
- Funds raised by the auction support conservation education activities.
- Auctioneer - Vince Bachmann, 1997 Minnesota Champion Auctioneer

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2002

6:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Hospitality Room Open

- Open to all convention attendees.

7:30 a.m.

Registration Opens

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Minnesota Construction Site Erosion Control Training/Certification

This training will be comprised of three parts: overview of new Minnesota NPDES Phase II construction permit, review of proper erosion control techniques and practices; development and implementation of an erosion control plan and a certification exam.

Instructor: Jay Michels, Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA)

8:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Business Meeting

- Presiding: Richard Zupp, MASWCD President
- Approval of Standing Rules
- Action on 2003 Budget
- Action on Proposed Resolutions
- Election of Officers
- New Business
 - Introduction of 2003 Legislative Agenda: Marilyn Bernhardson, Chair, MASWCD Legislative Committee
 - Introduction of Proposed Bylaws Changes

8:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Photos of Outstanding Conservationists

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

EMPLOYEE SESSIONS

USING GIS TO GET THE MOST DIRT FROM YOUR SOIL SURVEY

Published soil surveys typically contain over 20 tables of information along with 30 -60 maps sheets. Using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology is the only efficient way to handle that much information in a timely fashion.

Presenters: Ken Matzdorf, Soil Scientist, USDA NRCS
Gloria Weisel, GIS Coordinator, Todd County

Moderator: Sandy Rohr, Todd SWCD District Manager

QUICK TIPS FOR QUICKBOOKS USERS

Informational topics and ideas consolidated from district input will be addressed at this session. Useful tips and shortcuts will be shared with all to incorporate into your individual Quickbooks accounting program. Don't miss this opportunity to learn and share!

Presenter: Vicki Miller, Norman SWCD Assistant Manager

Moderator: Mary Jensen, West Otter Tail SWCD Secretary

PRAIRIE GRASSES AND FORBS ON MY FARM? WHY? THE WAIT IS WORTH IT!

Learn successful methods for establishing native grasses and forbs on upland sites. Whether planting to reduce lawn mowing and beautify your yard on a field scale for water quality and wildlife benefits, hear why native plants are so popular. Presenters will explain how to do it right and what to avoid. Tried and true methods will be explained as well as innovative approaches.

Presenters: Garth Kaste, Kaste Seed Company
Kevin Kotts, DNR Wildlife Manager
Terry Tank, Minnesota River Native Seed Supply

Moderator: Dave Jungst, Stevens SWCD District Manager

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Press Room Open
Refreshment Break
EMPLOYEE SESSIONS

RECOGNIZING THE MESSENGER

Partnerships are key to the success of most conservation done on the ground today. The ability to identify those partners with mutual goals is paramount to achieving those resource goals. This session will explore different "messengers" for conservation.

Presenters: Matt Holland, Pheasants Forever Regional Wildlife Biologist
DuWayne Dittrich, USDA-NRCS District Conservationist

Moderator: Don Otto, Traverse SWCD District Manager

HEALTHY, WEALTHY AND WISE

Attend this session to learn more about the Public Employees Insurance Program (PEIP) and the Minnesota Deferred Compensation Plan (MNDCP). The PEIP's mission is to make affordable health, dental and life insurance coverage to all public employees regardless of size, location or other factors. The MNDCP is an easy, "automatic" way to save through payroll deduction and is open to all public employees in Minnesota.

Presenters: Bonnie Torgerson, Public Employees Insurance Program
Shawn Byrne, Public Employees Insurance Program
Michael Ragatz, NBI/Och's Services, Inc.

Moderators: Diane Lommel, Wilkin SWCD and Karen Carlsrud, Clay SWCD

"GET THE NEWS OUT!" ADDING ZING TO YOUR MARKETING MATERIALS

Flyers, brochures, mailings, newsletters. How does a district get noticed in today's competitive marketing environment? Get some tips on improving your marketing materials, receive resources for new ideas, discuss a process to implement a design style and be ready to share your tricks. Bring your latest publications (with extras to share at an exchange table) and share your success stories.

Presenter: Peter Raeker, Communications Director, BWSR

Moderator: Kari Tomperi, Wadena SWCD Staff

Outstanding Conservationists Luncheon

(Co-Sponsored by *The Farmer Magazine* and MASWCD)

- Moderating: Don Wick, Farm Reporter, WCCO Radio
- Slide Show of Minnesota's Outstanding Conservationists
- Presentation of the Minnesota Outstanding Conservationist Award
- Recognition of the Nominating SWCD
- Presentation of Distinguished Service Awards to SWCDs
- Presentation of the SWCD of the Year Award

Minnesota Construction Site Erosion Control Training/Certification

This training will be comprised of three parts: overview of new Minnesota NPDES Phase II construction permit, review of proper erosion control techniques and practices; development and implementation of an erosion control plan and a certification exam.

Instructor: Jay Michels, Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA)

Refreshment Break

United We Stand - Making it Happen

Organization excellence starts with individuals working together to make things better for themselves and their organization. This program is about how we can become united to make this happen. Steps to success, team building, and goal setting are just a few of the topics to be covered in this session.

Presenter: Martha Bryan, Bryan and Bryan Associates

Reception

Banquet

- Presiding: Richard Zupp, MASWCD President
- Recognition of Retiring Supervisors
- Entertainment - **Marcoux Corner**

Marcoux Corner pleases every audience with their diverse and unique brand of live entertainment. Not only does Marcoux Corner provide amazing vocal harmonies, they also have an uncanny knack for entertaining. With a great blend of humor and harmony, they cover 5 decades of music from the doo-wop style of the '50s to a more contemporary twist on many of your favorite songs.

Noon - 2:00 p.m.



Don Wick

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2002

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Certified Professional in Erosion & Sediment Control (CPESC) Training*(Certification exam will follow on Thursday, for those who pre-qualify with CPESC, Inc.)*

Sponsored by MECA and MASWCD. Having CPESC certification can help an SWCD to: enhance professional credibility; promote awareness of the erosion and sediment control profession; have greater influence on policy decisions affecting technical and professional issues; and gain access to unique sources of information and educational opportunities.

Instructors: Jay Michels, CPESC, Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA)
 Jay Riggs, CPESC, Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District
 Jennifer Hildebrand, CPESC, Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik & Assoc.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2002

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Certified Professional in Erosion & Sediment Control (CPESC) Certification Exam*(available to those who pre-qualify with CPESC, Inc.)*

Sponsored by MECA and MASWCD.

MASWCD AUXILIARY PROGRAM**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2002**

6:00 - 8:15 p.m.

Convention Kickoff and Dinner**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2002**

7:30 p.m.

Auction for Conservation Education**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2002**

8:30 a.m.

Breakfast & Business Meeting

■ Presiding: Yvonne Hoese, MASWCD Auxiliary President

10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Silent Auction

2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

"Make it and Take it" Craft Workshop*'Tis the Season! Have fun putting together hand-made Christmas gifts.**You must be pre-registered for this workshop- there is a \$10 charge***FOR CONVENTION INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Sheila Vanney or LeAnn Buck

MASWCD, Suite 201, 790 Cleveland Avenue South Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55116

Phone: (651) 690-9028 FAX: (651) 690-9065 <http://www.maswcd.org>**MASWCD 2002 ANNUAL MEETING & TRADE SHOW**

Radisson Riverfront Hotel

11 East Kellogg Boulevard, St. Paul, MN

(651) 292-1900

2002 CONVENTION SPONSORED BY:

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

2002 CONVENTION CO-SPONSORS:

The Farmer Magazine · · · MN Board of Water and Soil Resources

MN Natural Resource Conservation Service · · MN Erosion Control Association

Minnesota Department of Agriculture
90 West Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107
(651) 297-1629

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, October 17, 2002

Contact: Malissa Fritz, Communications Coordinator, 651-284-3707
Darla Riley, Agricultural Planner, 651-282-5140

MDA invites farmers and rural leaders to discuss stimulating rural economy

ST. PAUL, Minn. - Farmers, bankers, agribusiness managers, government officials and others are invited to attend a one-day conference at the Willmar Holiday Inn on Tuesday, November 26, titled "Investing in Minnesota Agriculture", to discuss ways to develop business opportunities for agriculture and rural Minnesota.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is organizing the conference with help from the West Central Growth Alliance, Kandiyohi Economic Development Corporation, and other agencies and organizations. The event will continue to build on the success of last year's conference. Numerous speakers will focus on major developments in both livestock and value-added agriculture since last year. According to MDA Commissioner Gene Hugoson, the conference is designed to discuss emerging technologies, policies and business opportunities in order to stimulate rural entrepreneurs.

"Minnesota's farm sector is a critical part of our rural economy, and we need to look at ways to encourage economic development to capitalize on emerging opportunities for our producers and processors," Hugoson said. "This conference will provide farmers, businesses and community leaders a chance to network and hear experts discuss the latest ideas for rural economic development."

The keynote speaker for the conference is Fred Dailey, Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture. Dailey will talk about Ohio's experience in livestock regulation. Hugoson and Charles Muscoplat, dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences at the University of Minnesota, will highlight a list of speakers discussing topics such as livestock-friendly counties, value-added agriculture, biodiesel opportunities, and new approaches to agriculture and rural development.

MDA Livestock Development Specialist Harold Stanislawski believes the conference is an important step toward creating a more dynamic economy for rural Minnesota.

"Agriculture is a crucial part of our rural economy, so in order for rural Minnesota to be strong, Minnesota agriculture has to be strong," Stanislawski said. "But the world is changing and farmers face many potential obstacles to success. At this conference, we're going to sit down with rural leaders to get a solid picture of what needs to happen here for our ag sector and our rural economy to succeed down the road."

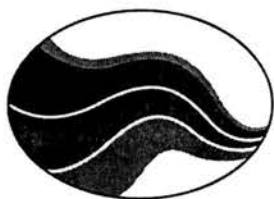
Registrations will be taken by mail or fax until Friday, November 8, and at the door on the day of the conference. There is a \$40 registration fee, which includes meals (although a meal will not be guaranteed for attendees who register after November 8). For more information or to register, contact Darla Riley by phone at 651-282-5140 or 800-967-2474, fax at 651-297-7678, or e-mail at Darla.Riley@state.mn.us. Mail registrations and payment to the Finance and Budget Division, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 90 West Plato Boulevard, St. Paul, MN 55107, Attention: Cashier.

-30-

This release is available on the MDA website at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us>



In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, an alternative form of communication is available upon request. TTY 1-800-627-3529



Volunteer Stream Monitoring Partnership

Announces the

Second Annual River Summit

Celebrating Stream Monitoring and Our Metro Area Rivers!

Thursday, November 14, 2002

at the

Minneapolis Convention Center

Schedule

8:30 a.m.	Registration and Poster Set-Up
9:00 a.m.	Keynote Speakers • Emcee: Belinda Jensen, KARE-11 TV • Keynote Speaker: Mayor R. T. Rybak, Minneapolis • Student Speaker: Adam Hoffman • Music: John Kruth, New York
9:45 a.m.	Watershed Break-out Sessions
11:30 a.m.	Lunch and Poster Session
12:15 p.m.	Watershed Summaries of Metro Monitoring, Concluding Speaker: Cassandra Champion
1:30 p.m.	Adjourn – Buses Depart

- Lunch Provided
- Pre-Registration Required by Friday, October 25, \$10/person
- Limited Scholarship Funds available from county monitoring coordinator

For more information, contact Volunteer Stream Monitoring Partnership, 612-624-7460 or 612-625-6781.

SUMMARY OF THE PUBLIC WATERS PERMIT RULE CHANGES – Oct. 14, 2002

The initial version of these rules, adopted in 1978, was based on existing procedures developed by DNR Waters since the inception of the permit program in 1937. The rules were amended once before in 1983 due to concerns raised during the implementation of the Public Waters Inventory. In 2000, the Legislature enacted law changes that resulted in rule amendments for a two-year interim period.

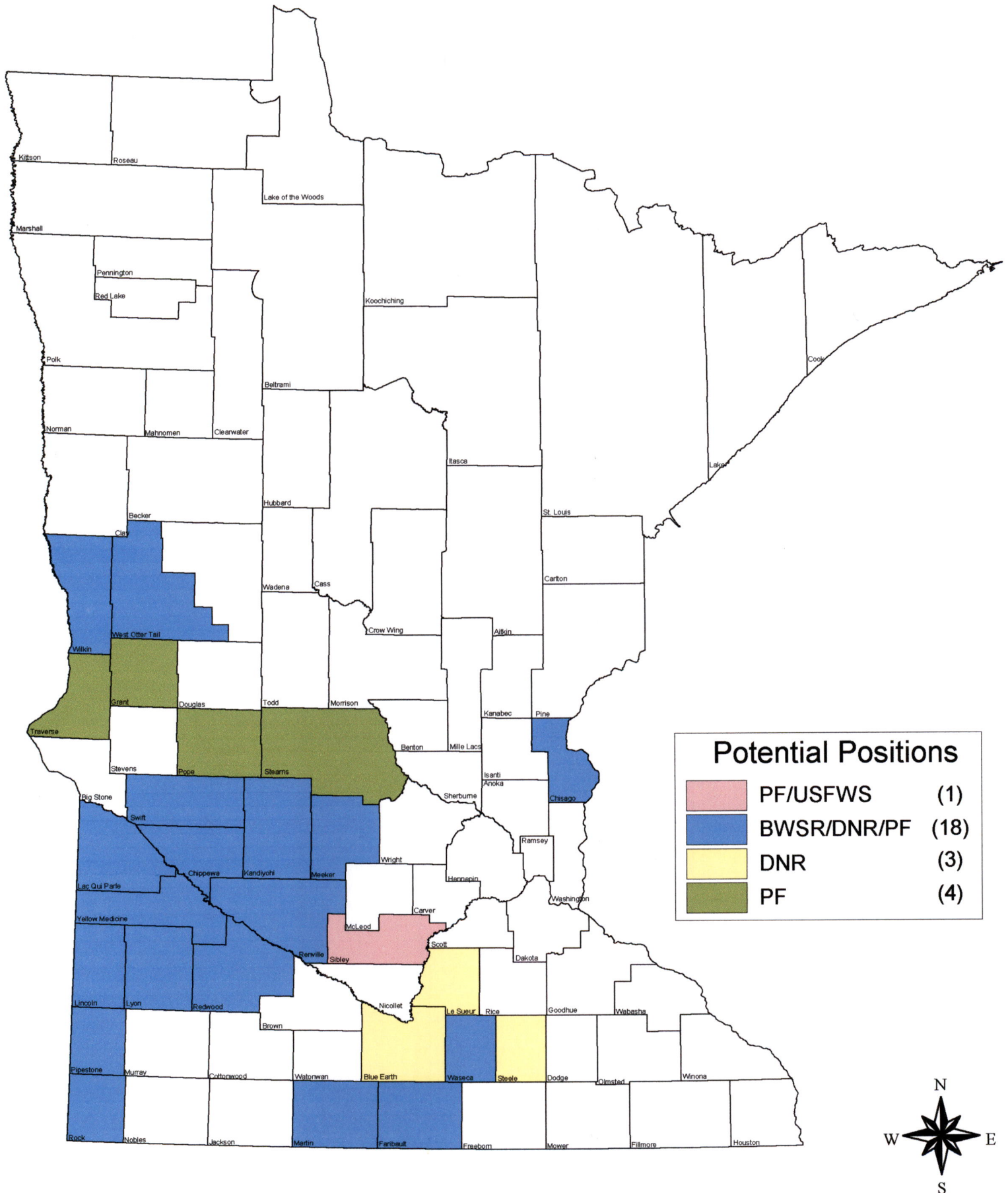
The amendments to the DNR Public Waters Work Permit rules included two areas of change. Within the first area of changes, amendments were made to make permanent the interim rules adopted by the DNR in 2000, and to reflect legislative changes enacted since 1983. The changes included:

- 1990 legislation recodifying water law;
- adoption of public waters terminology to distinguish these waters from wetlands subject to passage of the 1991 Wetland Conservation Act;
- 1995 and 1996 legislation granting the DNR the authority to issue general permits;
- 1996 legislation addressing regulation of permanent lake level controls;
- 1997 legislation defining the DNR's authority to regulate boathouses;
- 2000 legislation addressing changes in enforcement authority, waiver of public waters wetland permit requirements, and addressing procedures for developing written agreements between the local government unit administering provisions of the wetland Conservation Act and the DNR;
- 2001 legislation authorizing the DNR to waive the requirement for a public waters work permit for public road projects affecting wetland areas of public waters to the local government unit administering the Wetland Conservation Act;
- technical changes making it clear that activities subject to aquatic plant management permits, water aeration system permits, watercraft and buoys, and water appropriation permits that are regulated under other statutes and rules do not require a separate public waters work permit; and
- definition changes, including defining marinas as commercial facilities; changing the ordinary high water terminology to make it consistent with DNR practices; and adding definitions on permits, projects, public water wetlands, and local government unit and projects consistent with language found in the Wetland Conservation Act rules.

The other broad area of changes included those initiated by the DNR under its ongoing statutory authority to adopt rules. These changes include language relating to:

- adoption of provisions to address the sequencing concepts of impact avoidance, minimization and compensation comparable to language found in the Wetland Conservation Act program rules;
- adoption of provisions to address when compensation for a major change in the public waters resource is necessary;
- replacing "protected vegetation" with a reference to the authority the DNR has to regulate the taking of threatened or endangered species;
- adoption of procedures that allow plans developed and adopted on a local basis that are approved by the commissioner to form the basis for public water work permit decisions;
- changes to exempt docks from permit requirements if the docks are in compliance with city or county zoning ordinances, and to clarify breakwater and mooring facility development criteria; and
- adoption of a new section in the rules to address natural resource restoration projects.

Potential Private Lands Positions





ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE
SERVICES
2116 CAMPUS DR SE
ROCHESTER, MN 55904-4744
507/285-8339 FAX 507/280-4799

September 27, 2002

Mary Kells
Board Conservationist
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
40 Sixteenth Street Southeast
Rochester, Minnesota 55904

RE: Request to Extend the Ending Date of the Olmsted County Comprehensive Water Management Plan

Olmsted County requests that the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources grant a two-year extension of the County's Comprehensive Water Management Plan. The extension is needed to allow time to complete the Water Plan Update. The scheduled completion date of the plan update is December 31, 2002. The County requests that the ending date of the plan be extended until December 31, 2004.

This additional time is needed to complete projects that were undertaken in implementing the County's current water plan and in preparing for the water plan update. These include the following:

- Completing three studies that attempt to quantify nitrogen and chloride inputs, storage, and losses in County surface waters and ground waters (the studies will provide a basis for developing measurable goals and objectives in the updated Water Plan);
- Remapping the bedrock geology of the Decorah Edge Groundwater Recharge Area at a scale sufficient to guide land development decisions;
- Remapping Land Cover in the County using classifications that will facilitate more fully integrating water management objectives in land development decisions and in the update of the County Land Use Plan;
- Completing the County Feedlot Inventory; and
- Developing a surface water management plan for the South Zumbro Watershed that integrates water management objectives into transportation planning and bridge and culvert management.

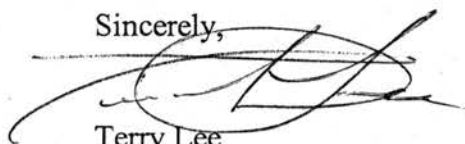
All of these projects will be completed in 2002 or early-2003 and we anticipate that a preliminary draft of the Water Plan update will be completed and available for public review by September of 2003.



Attached is a copy of the Olmsted County Board Resolution formally requesting and extension from the Board of Water and Soil Resources. As is noted, no projects using authorities under 103B.331 subdivisions 3 and 4 will be ordered or commenced during the extension period.

If you have any question regarding this request, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Terry Lee', written over a horizontal line.

Terry Lee
Coordinator

OLMSTED COUNTY BOARD RESOLUTION #02-92

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Statute, Section 103B.301 gives the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Board the authority to grant extensions of up to two years to counties for the purpose of extending the ending date of their local water plans, and

WHEREAS, Olmsted County requires additional time to complete the update of the County's Water Plan before its expiration on December 31, 2002, and

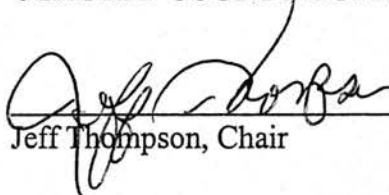
WHEREAS, Olmsted County requires the additional time to required review processes, and

WHEREAS, no projects will be ordered or commenced during the extension period using the authorities under M.S. 103B.331 subd. 3 and 4, and

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Olmsted County Board of Commissioners requests the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Board grant the county a two-year extension of the ending date of our County Water Plan to December 31, 2004.

Dated this 24th day of September, 2002 at Rochester, Minnesota.

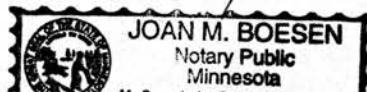
OLMSTED COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Jeff Thompson, Chair

ATTEST:

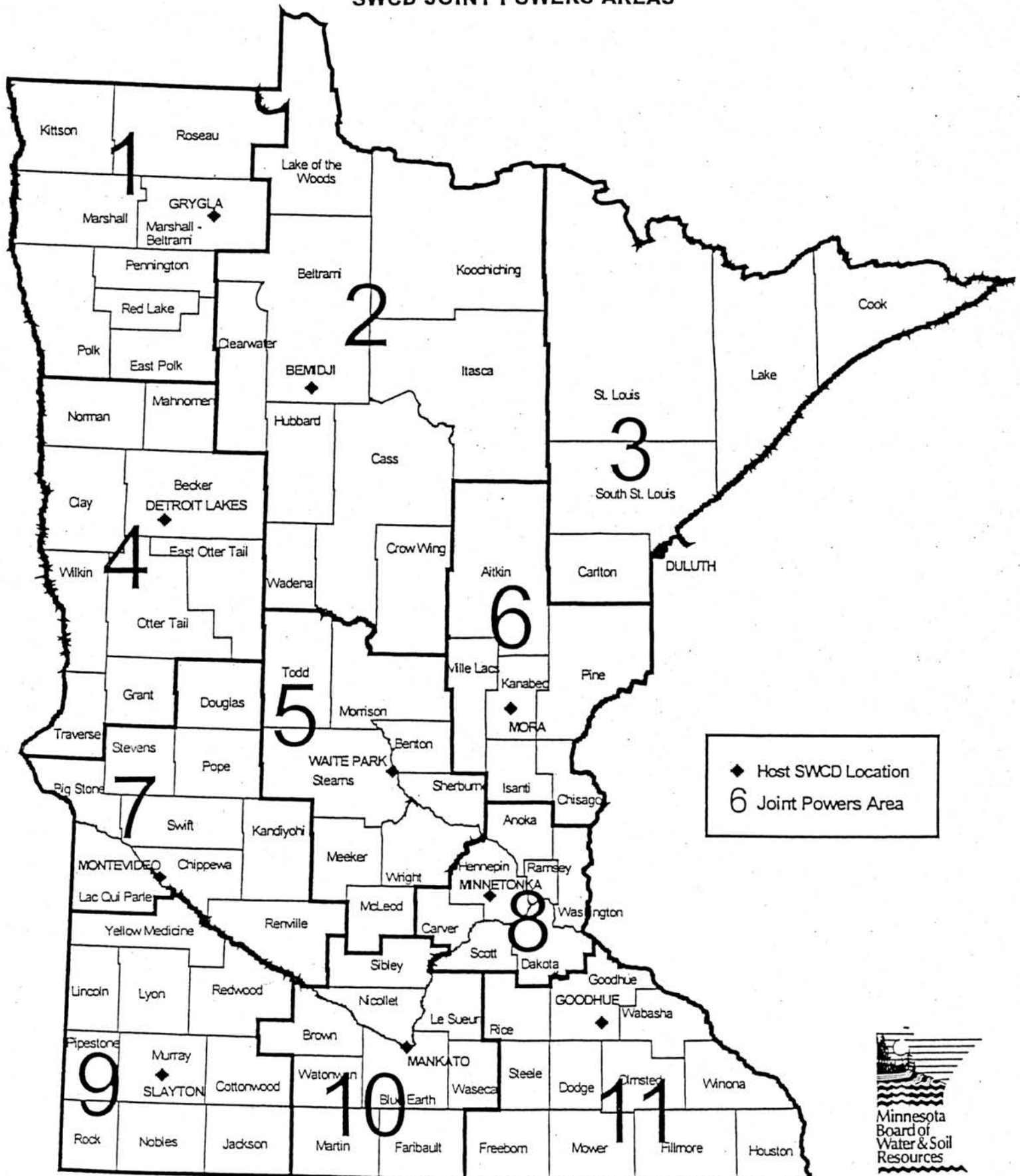

Richard Devlin, Clerk/Administrator

State of Minnesota
County of Olmsted 10/3/02
Signed and sworn to before me on 10/3/02 by
Richard Devlin
Joan M. Boesen
(signature of notarial officer)
My commission expires 1/30/05



Nonpoint Engineering Assistance

SWCD JOINT POWERS AREAS



How should I dispose of the bones and offal from my deer?

Bones and offal can be disposed through rendering, burial, incineration or landfill.

What precautions should taxidermist take when handling the head?

Common-sense precautions should be applied to all taxidermy work. Always minimize the handling of the brain, tonsils, and other organs in the head. Wear disposable gloves when handling these items. Tools used in taxidermy work should be cleaned and sanitized after use.



For more information please view updated information on the following web sites:

Minnesota Deer Hunters Association

<http://www.mndeerhunters.com/>

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

<http://www.dnr.state.us/hunting/index.html>

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us>

University of Minnesota

<http://www.cvm.umn.edu/cahfs>

Minnesota Department of Health

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/>

Minnesota Board of Animal Health

<http://www.bah.state.mn.us/>

United States Department of Agriculture at

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov>



CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

Information on
Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)
for deer hunters, meat
processors and consumers.



Questions and Answers for deer hunters, meat processors and consumers

What is Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)?

CWD is a fatal brain and nervous system disease found in deer and elk in certain parts of North America. CWD is caused by an abnormally shaped protein called a prion, which can damage brain and nerve tissue.

Transmission between animals is likely by animal-to-animal contact and/or contamination of the habitat by a diseased animal.

What are the symptoms of CWD?

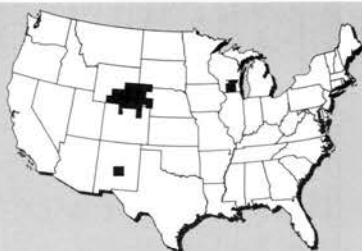
Infected deer and elk show progressive weight loss with accompanying behavioral changes. In later stages of the disease, infected animals become emaciated (thus "wasting" disease). Other signs include staggering, consuming large amounts of water, excessive urination, and drooling. If you see a deer showing these signs or acting strangely, contact the local Department of Natural Resources office.

Is CWD transmissible to humans?

There is no evidence CWD can be transmitted to humans. Epidemiologists with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have found no evidence that prion-related disease in humans occurs more often in hunters and consumers of wild game than in the general population. More than 16 years of monitoring in affected areas of Colorado found no disease in people living there. Ongoing public health surveillance is important to fully assess the potential risk.

Is it safe to eat venison?

The prions have never been found in muscle meat, even in infected deer. Officials are not recommending any general restrictions on consumption of deer meat. However, as a precaution, it is recommended that you do not eat deer or elk brains, spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils or lymph glands (the tissue where the prions accumulate).



Represents the affected areas in wild herds.

Has CWD ever been found in Minnesota?

CWD was discovered in a single animal on one central Minnesota elk farm in August 2002. However, the disease has never been found in wild deer in Minnesota. Cases have been found in wild deer in South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico and Saskatchewan, Canada. In addition to the single Minnesota case, CWD has been found in captive deer or elk in Colorado, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Montana Wyoming and Saskatchewan.

What is being done in Minnesota to monitor wild and captive deer and elk herds for CWD?

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is testing thousands of animals from Minnesota's wild deer population. The Minnesota Board of Animal Health monitors captive deer and elk herds in the state. Also, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture obtains samples from captive deer and elk herds at slaughter plants.

What precautionary steps should hunters take when field dressing deer or handling meat?

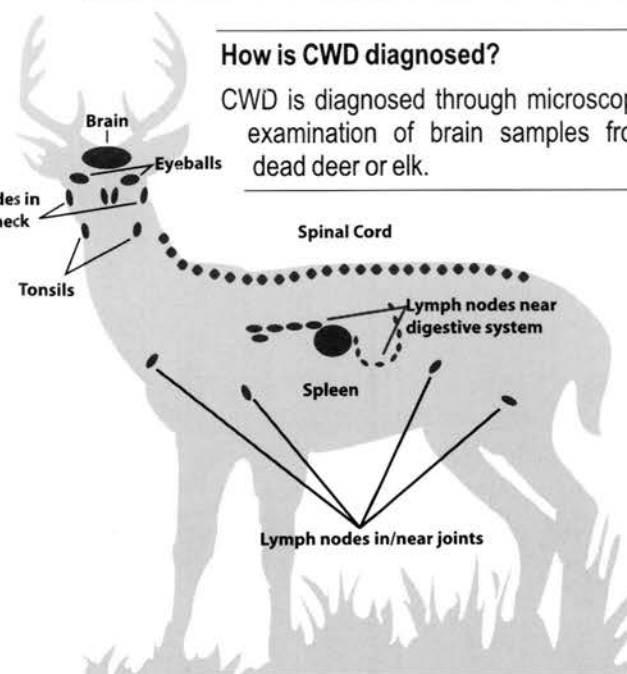
Although there is no evidence that CWD is a human health risk, it is best to avoid unnecessary contact with the deer's brain, tonsils, spleen, spinal cord and lymph glands - the parts of a deer in which CWD-causing prions accumulate. Good field-dressing technique is important including the use of disposable rubber gloves to minimize contact with tissue that could harbor the CWD prion. Proper techniques should be used regardless as other known potential hazards such as E.coli can be prevented through good handling practices.

What precautionary steps should meat processors take when handling deer and elk meat products?

It is important to minimize handling of the brain, tonsils, spleen, spinal cord and lymph glands. Meat should be processed without splitting the backbone. All cuts used in steaks and chops can be removed from the carcass as boneless cuts. One knife or handsaw should be designated for head removal. It is also important to ensure thorough cleaning and sanitizing of knives, saws, grinders and other meat-cutting tools. Meat trimmings should be inspected and all lymph glands removed before grinding and sausage making. All equipment must be completely disassembled and all meat scraps removed before the equipment is used again. All parts should be washed with a detergent specifically designed for cleaning meat equipment. Equipment should then be rinsed with clean water, sanitized with a chemical sanitizer or 180 degrees Fahrenheit water and allowed to air dry. These sound sanitation practices protect against known food safety concerns.

How is CWD diagnosed?

CWD is diagnosed through microscopic examination of brain samples from dead deer or elk.



Registration Form

Please Mail Registration and Payment to:
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
(MDA), Finance and Budget Division
90 West Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55107
by Friday, November 8, 2002

Registrations may be mailed, faxed or accepted at the door.

If paid registrations are received by November 8, 2002, meals are included in the registration.

Registrations may be received after this date or at the door. However, a meal will not be guaranteed.

- ☐ **Cost: \$40.00**
☐ \$20.00 Students ☐ \$20.00 Seniors

Payment for mailed or faxed registrations should be made by check, money order, or interagency payment (GFS PV2 transaction documentation). Send payment to the address above.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

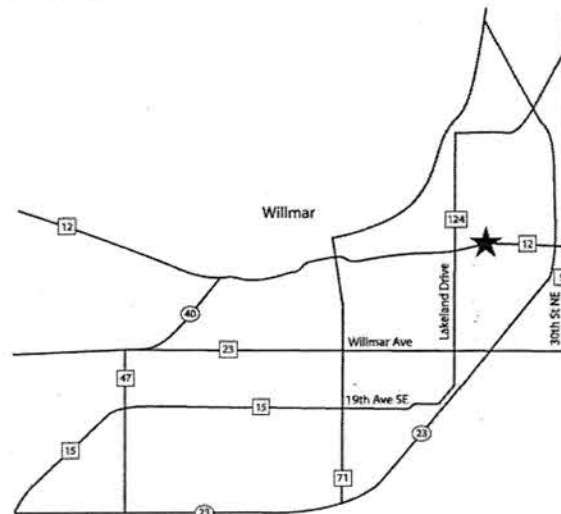
For Interagency Payments use only, please fill in the following GFS PV2 Transaction #: _____

- ☐ Check here if you would like a receipt.
(A refund will be given if written notice is provided by Tuesday, November 12, 2002.)

Investing in Minnesota Agriculture Conference
For Office Use Only: 03/200/2531/119/8700

Meeting Location

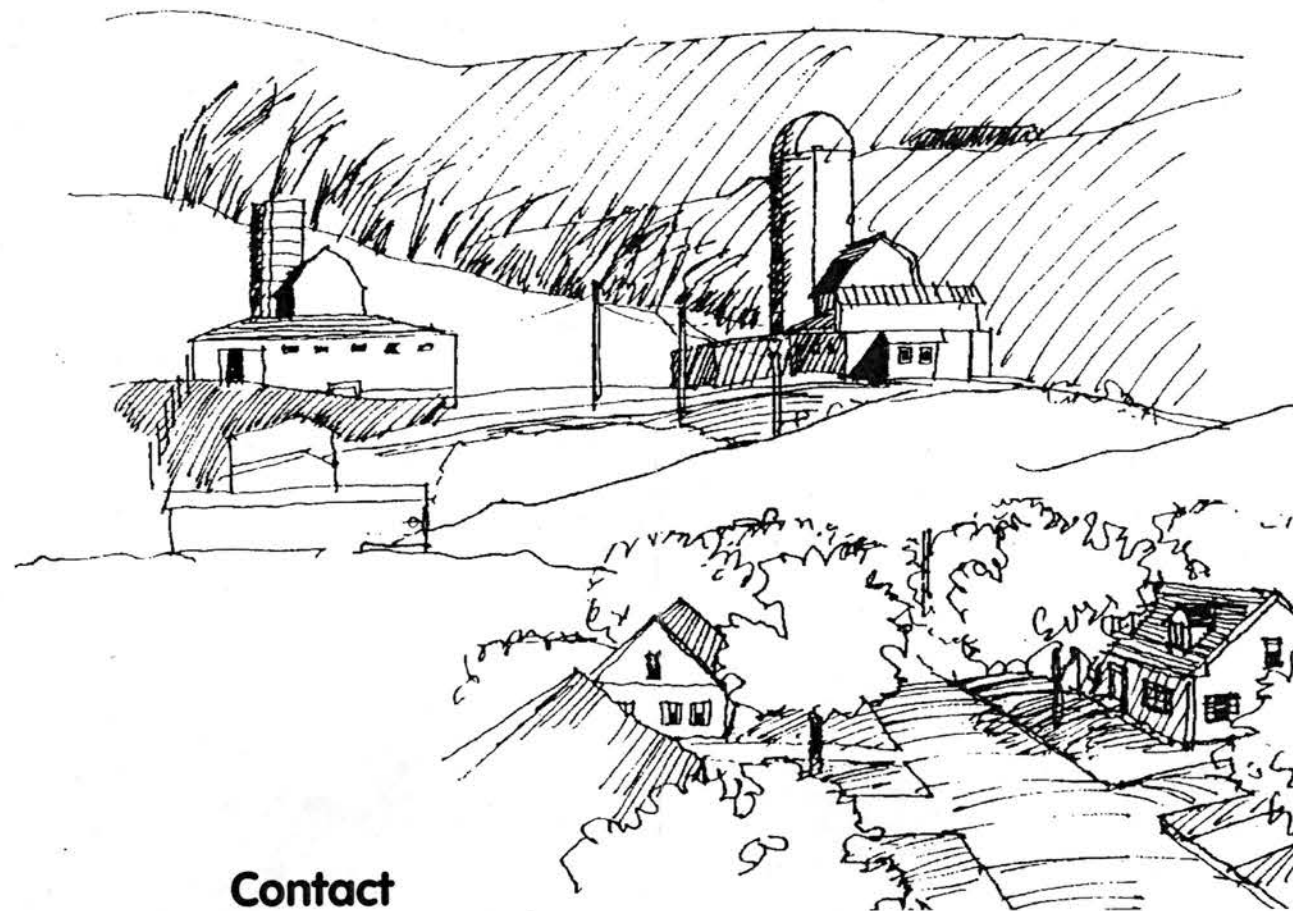
Holiday Inn, Conference Center
2100 East Highway 12
Willmar, MN 56201
Phone: 320-235-3312 Fax: 320-235-0254
Please contact the hotel with special requirements for meals.



Partners

Agriculture Utilization and Research Institute
Kandiyohi County Economic Development Partnership, Inc.
Livestock Development Authority
Meeker County Development Corporation
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Redwood Area Development Corporation
West Central Growth Alliance
Willmar Lakes Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
United States Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Rural Development

Investing in Minnesota Agriculture Conference



Contact

If you have questions or wish to exhibit, please contact Darla Riley
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Development Division
90 West Plato Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55107
Phone: 651-282-5140 • Fax: 651-297-7678
E-mail: Darla.Riley@state.mn.us

A Conference for Community Leaders, Economic Developers, Producers, Bankers, and Others
Interested in Agriculture Development

Tuesday
November 26, 2002

Holiday Inn
Willmar, Minnesota

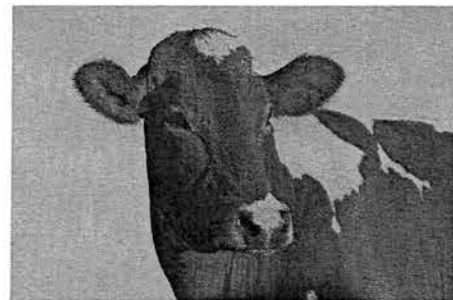
Agenda

November 26, 2002

Morning Chair: Representative Al Juhnke

- 8:00am *Registration*
- 9:00am Welcome From the Community - Harlan Madsen, Dairy Farmer and County Commissioner, Kandiyohi County
- 9:10am Opening Remarks - Gene Hugoson, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)
- 9:30am Operating in a New Era of Regulation - W. C. Motes, Vice President/Don Ault, Vice President, Sparks Company

- 10:45am Break and Visit with Exhibitors and Speakers
- 11:15am Developments in Livestock
- Presenters: Livestock Development Authority (LDA) - Curt Watson, Board Member of LDA*
- Livestock Friendly County - Bob Patton, Local Government Outreach Coordinator, MDA*
- Livestock Zoning: Past, Present and Future - A County Perspective - Harlan Madsen, Dairy Farmer and County Commissioner, Kandiyohi County*
- 11:45am Lunch
- 12:00pm Lunch - Keynote Address: Ohio's Experience in Livestock Regulation - Fred Dailey, Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture



Afternoon Chair: Senator Steve Dille

- 1:00pm Livestock Processing Economic Impact/IMPLAN Study - Harold Stanislawski, Livestock Business Advisor/Su Ye, Market Research, MDA
- 1:20pm Investing in Minnesota Food Processing
- Overview: Charles Muscoplat, Vice President and Dean, College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences, University of Minnesota (UofM) - Emerging Opportunities in Food Processing*
- Presenters: Jeff Ettinger, President, Jennie-O Turkey Store*
- Mark Davis, President, Davisco*
- Bob Sparboe, President and CEO, Sparboe Companies*
- Carrol Duerr, General Manager, Earthwise Processors*



- 2:45pm Break and Visit with Exhibitors and Speakers
- 3:00pm Biodiesel Opportunities - Michael Sparby, Project Development Director, Agricultural Utilization Research Institute
- 3:30pm What Does This Mean for Rural Minnesota? - Senator Steve Dille
- 3:45pm Wrap Up and Time for Questions - Julie Rath, Economic Development Specialist, Redwood Area Development Corporation
- Question and Answer with Available Speakers*
- 4:00pm Conference Closing

