



## Legislative Water Commission

Jim Stark, Director

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## Minutes February 26, 2018

### Members present

Rep. Paul Torkelson, Chair  
Sen. Chuck Wiger, Co-chair  
Rep. David Bly  
Sen. Rich Draheim  
Sen. Kent Eken  
Rep. Peter Fischer  
Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen  
Sen. Jason Isaacson  
Rep. Clark Johnson  
Sen. Bill Weber

### Members excused

Sen. Paul Anderson  
Rep. John Poston

Rep. Torkelson called the Legislative Water Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 26, 2018 in hearing room 5 of the State Office Building.

The new Legislative Water Commission director, Jim Stark was introduced.

Rep. Fischer moved to approve the Minutes of the December 19, 2017 meeting. **Motion carried.**

The following recommendations were discussed:

1. Independent, quantified, cost-effectiveness analysis of wastewater-permit requirements  
Becca Nash, Director, LCCMR testified.  
Sen. Weber moved to include this in the report to the legislature. **Motion carried**
2. Independent peer review of wastewater standards  
Greta Gauthier, Legislative Director, MPCA and Shannon Lotthammer, Assistant Commissioner, MPCA testified regarding the Commissioner's order for peer review.  
Rep. Johnson moved to include this in the report to the legislature. **Motion carried**

3. Pilot watershed-scale trading program that involves stakeholders  
Will be “parked” for future consideration.
4. Identify efficiencies for regional wastewater administration, operation and maintenance  
Rep. Fischer moved to include this in the report to the legislature. **Motion carried.**
5. Change flushable wipes labels on personal-care wipes  
Based upon the fact that there is national testing being done, Rep. Gruenhagen moved that this be laid over until next year. Sen. Wiger provided a second. The parties on both sides agreed to lay this over. However, each side recognizes a need for action. **Motion carried.**
6. Continue or increase Public Facilities Authority loan and grant funding (\$167 M/biennium)  
Sen. Isaakson moved to include this in the report to the legislature. **Motion carried.**
7. Provide inflow and infiltration funding for public and private sewer lines  
Ned Smith, Finance and Revenue, Metropolitan Council testified.  
Will be “parked” for future consideration.
8. New funding sources (such as the Chesapeake Bay model)  
Will be “parked” for future consideration.
9. Streamline regulatory process  
Will be “parked” for future consideration.

Sen. Wiger moved that the Commission adopt the intent of draft recommendations 1,2,4, and 6 per the Commission’s discussion; and that the remaining recommendations be parked, per the Commission’s discussion and that the co-chairs, in consultation with the director, be directed to prepare a report on the Commission’s recommendation to the 2018 Minnesota legislature. Said report being distributed to the commission for review by its members.

**Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.