



LCC Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy

Minutes

November 12, 2019

Members present:

Rep. Jeff Brand
Sen. Chris Eaton
Sen. Kent Eken
Rep. Peter Fischer
Rep. Josh Heintzeman
Rep. Paul Torkelson
Sen. Bill Weber
Sen. Chuck Wiger

Members excused:

Sen. Rich Draheim
Sen. Michael Goggin
Rep. Todd Lippert
Rep. John Poston

Senator Weber called the meeting of the Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy to order at 1:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 10 of the State Office Building. A quorum was present.

A motion was made to approve Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from September 17, 2019 and October 17, 2019 was made by Rep. Heintzeman. **Motion carried.**

The Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy Director provided his report and discussed Subcommittee Legislative Priorities. They are as follows:

(The following, or portions thereof, contain language and intent that is similar to the language in bills introduced during the 2019 session. These bills did not become law at that time)

Topic 2C: Incentives for Healthy Soil

Topic 3D: Safe and Sustainable Drinking Water for the future

Topic 5D: Reduce the over-use of salt: protect our lakes, rivers and groundwater

Topic 5E: Encourage efficient wastewater and storm water technology and treatment

Topic 6C: Improve Minnesota's Water Infrastructure

Representative Heintzeman moved to have staff put forth these items in revised bill form and brought back to the subcommittee for review. (Second by Senator Chuck Wiger.) **Motion carried.**

(Jim Stark is to meet with the chairs to further discuss these topics.)

Topic 1A: Water-Quality Standards Review and Revision Process

Topic 1B: Simplifying the Irrigation Water appropriation process

Topic 1C: Assumption of Federal Wetlands Permits (Section 404)

Topic 1X: Address Soil and Water Conservation District Funding

Topic 7A: Creation of a Department of Water Resources

Topic 7B: Changing the structure of the Clean Water Council, LCC Water Policy Committee

(The following are new topics which need further discussion. Members have been asked to take these home and review for the next meeting. Rep. Torkelson reminded members that if there is an item of particular interest to that member, they may begin the bill drafting process.)

Topic 2A: Prioritizing Outcomes for Clean Water Programs

Topic 3A: Prioritizing our Environmental Spending:

Topic 4A Keeping Water on the Land-Water Storage and Flood Retention

Topic 4C: Research and outreach that promotes precision agriculture.

Topic 7D: Dedicated Funding Programs to Maximize Conservation Outcomes

Presentation from the Minnesota Water Well Association was provided by Dave Schulenberg, Executive Director and Dave Heinrich, President of the MWWA.

Several members of the Irrigators Association of Minnesota provided testimony. They are:

- Wally Parkins, IAM
- Grant Anderson, IAM
- Jim Anderson, IAM
- Maria Crownhart, Birdseye/ConAgra
- Bailey Nursery

Melissa Kuskie, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, provided a presentation on Waters of the United States.

Monte Niemi, President, TDA Manufacturing, provided a presentation on how tire derived aggregate (TDA) may be used to clean water.

The next meeting of the Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy will be held in December.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.