

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MINNESOTA WATER POLICY- STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Remote Information Meeting

SEPTEMBER 16, 2021

9 AM

Co-Chairs:

Sen. Chris Eaton

Rep. John Poston

Jim Stark, Director

Subcommittee Support: Sandy Most

AGENDA

- **Discuss potential legislative topics related to water**
- **Final of three: Previous meetings focused on governance and policy**
- **Topics from Legislators and Stakeholders**
- **Prioritized, based on stakeholder survey**
- **We are looking for input. Do topics address a need? Suggestions?**
- **Additional legislative issues? July 22 is an opportunity**
 - **There are several topics to discuss, two 2 breakout sessions**
 - **Details posted draft position papers and in this PowerPoint**
- **Kris Van Amber and Stacy Shogren (MMB) will facilitate**
- **Breakouts--Paul Gardner is helping (CWC)**
- **PP and detailed explanation are available on the Subcommittee website**

CATEGORIES OF LEGISLATION

- **WATER GOVERNANCE**
- **POLICY**

TOPICS FOR TODAY

SESSION 1:

- **SAFE DRINKING WATER**
 - **SECTION 1: VOLUNTARY PRIVATE WATER-WELL TESTING**
 - **SECTION 2: SAFETY OF PRIVATE WELLS, IDENTIFYING VULNERABLE AQUIFERS**
- **WATER SAFETY PLANNING PILOT FOR CITIES**
- **SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE DRINKING WATER FOR THE FUTURE**

SESSION 2:

- **PROMOTING HEALTHY SOIL AND HEALTHY WATER**
- **ENCOURAGE AND FUND RESEARCH AND OUTREACH ON PRECISION AGRICULTURE**
- **TAX CREDIT FOR RIPARIAN BUFFER LANDS COMPENSATION FOR AGRICULTURAL BUFFERS**
- **FOREVER CHEMICALS (PFOA AND PFOS) IN FOOD WASTE COMPOST**
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SESSION 1: SAFE DRINKING WATER

TOPIC A: SECTION 1: VOLUNTARY PRIVATE WELL SAFETY TESTING

- **PRIVATE WELLS SUPPLY 1.2 MILLION**
- **WATER SAFETY FOR PRIVATE WELLS IS UNREGULATED**
- **IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY IN THE RECENT UM/MDH REPORT**
- **NON-PROFITS: STARTING A VOLUNTARY PROGRAM OF TESTING CLINICS**
- **PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT WELL SAFETY AND TREATMENT OPTIONS**
- **FINANCIAL SUPPORT: SUPPLIES, COORDINATION AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**

SESSION 1: TOPIC A

TOPIC A: SECTION 2: IDENTIFYING VULNERABLE AQUIFERS

- **IDENTIFYING SHALLOW AQUIFERS THAT ARE VULNERABLE TO CONTAMINATION**
- **PARTICULARLY FOR PRIVATE WELLS**
- **INCREASED MONITORING AND EDUCATION**
- **COORDINATION TO IDENTIFY PRIORITY AQUIFERS AND NEEDED MONITORING**
- **CREATE A MULTI-AGENCY WELL NETWORK TO IDENTIFY VULNERABLE AQUIFERS**
- **IN MANY AREAS THESE WELLS ALREADY EXIST**
- **COORDINATION, AND IN SOME AREAS, EXPANSION IS NEEDED**
- **INCREASED AGENCY FUNDING AND COORDINATION**

SESSION 1: TOPIC B

TOPIC B: DRINKING WATER SAFETY PILOT FOR CITIES

- **LOCAL WATER SAFETY PLANS ARE NEEDED TO PROTECT PUBLIC DRINKING WATER**
- **THESE PLANS WOULD PROVIDE A FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO WATER SAFETY**
- **APPROACH IS A PRIORITY IN THE UM/MDH REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**
- **DESCRIBED IN DETAIL**
- **WOULD RESULT IN WATER PROTECTION PLANS FOR MDH REVIEW/APPROVAL**
- **COMBINE SOURCE-WATER, EMERGENCY RESPONSE, TREATMENT, DISTRIBUTION, AND OPERATING PLANS**
- **SUPPORT IS NEEDED TO PREPARE A PROTOTYPE PROOF OF CONCEPT**

SESSION 1: TOPIC C

TOPIC C: DEFINE SUSTAINABLE DRINKING WATER LIMITS

- WE NEED TO PLAN TO HAVE ADEQUATE WATER--SUSTAINABILITY IS IMPORTANT**
- FOCUS OF UM REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE--DEFINED AND REQUIRED IN STATE STATUTE**
- HAVE A MANDATE—YET WE DON'T HAVE QUANTIFIED LIMITS FOR MOST AQUIFERS**
- NEED TO KNOW OUR BANK BALANCES FOR WATER**
- CO ATLAS PRODUCTS ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO UNDERSTANDING AQUIFERS**
- HOWEVER THEY DON'T DEFINE WATER BANK ACCOUNTS**
- PILOT STUDY WOULD ADVANCE OUR ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND LIMITS**
- SELECT A MULTI-COUNTY AREA COINCIDING WITH A 1WATER/1 PLAN AREA**
- SYNTHESIZING ATLAS DATA ACROSS COUNTY BOUNDARIES**
- COMPILING RECHARGE AND DISCHARGE DATA FOR THE AREA**
- BUILD A MODEL THAT DEFINES THE WATER BACK ACCOUNT.**
- USE THE INFORMATION TO DEFINE LIMITS ON FUTURE WATER US**

BREAKOUT 2: TOPIC D

TOPIC D: PROMOTE HEALTHY SOIL AND WATER

- **SOIL IMPROVEMENT IS GOOD FOR AGRICULTURE AND WATER**
- **A STATE-WIDE SOIL-HEALTH PLAN IS NEEDED**
- **COOPERATIVE EFFORT: UM, BWSR, MDA**
- **RESEARCH, OUTREACH AND IMPLEMENTATION TO IMPROVE SOIL**
- **WOULD INCLUDE TILLAGE, IRRIGATION AND FERTILIZER MANAGEMENT**
- **OFFICE FOR SOIL HEALTH WOULD COLLABORATE WITH AGENCIES, AG BUSINESSES, AND PRODUCERS**
- **PROVIDES LONG-TERM LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE OFFICE FOR SOIL HEALTH**

BREAKOUT 2, TOPIC E

TOPIC E: RESEARCH AND OUTREACH THAT PROMOTES PRECISION AGRICULTURE

- **PRECISION AGRICULTURAL INCREASES PRODUCTION, SAVES WATER, IMPROVES SOIL HEALTH**
- **IMPORTANT IN ENSURING AGRICULTURAL COMPETITIVENESS**
- **REQUIRES EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES SUCH AS SATELLITES AND ROBOTICS**
- **RESEARCH IS A MULTIDISCIPLINARY EFFORT**
- **TEAMS INVOLVE EXPERTISE IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND DATA ANALYTICS.**
- **A PILOT (UM) IS NEEDED FOR RESEARCH AND OUTREACH FOR PRECISION AGRICULTURE**
- **POLICY: DATA PRIVACY, PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS, RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE**
- **RESEARCH FUNDING/POLICY FOR NUTRIENT, IRRIGATION, SOIL AND CROP STRESS MANAGEMENT**

SESSION 2, TOPIC F

- **TOPIC F: TAX CREDIT FOR RIPARIAN BUFFER LANDS**
- **BUFFER LAW PROVIDED A MAJOR STEP IN IMPROVING OUR WATERS**
- **REQUIRED BUFFERS ALONG LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS AND SOME DITCHES**
- **PROBLEMS INCLUDE LOST REVENUE ASSOCIATED WITH LAND TAKEN OUT OF PRODUCTION**
- **TRADE GROUPS SUPPORT A PAYMENT OPTION FOR LOST LANDS**
- **ONE OPTION INCLUDES A TAX CREDIT OR SUBSIDY FOR THE LOSS OF TILLABLE LANDS**

SESSION 2, TOPIC G

TOPIC G: FOREVER CHEMICALS IN FOOD-WASTE COMPOST

- **FOREVER CHEMICALS THREATEN THE ORGANIC COMPOSTING INDUSTRY**
- **THEY CONTAMINATE FOOD AND PACKAGES**
- **MAKES PACKAGING COMPOST UNUSABLE FOR LAND APPLICATION**
- **CHEMICALS ARE BEING PHASED OUT**
- **THE PROBLEM WILL CONTINUE FOR SOME TIME**
- **OPTIONS ARE NEEDED TO KEEP FROM DERAILING THE INDUSTRY:**
- **FUNDING AND POLICY TO SUPPORT THE COMPOSTING INDUSTRY**
- **GROUNDWATER SAMPLING AT SELECTED SITES**
- **TEMPORARY BAN ON THE COMPOSTING OF FOOD PACKAGING MATERIALS**
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G1: BREAKOUT PROCESS

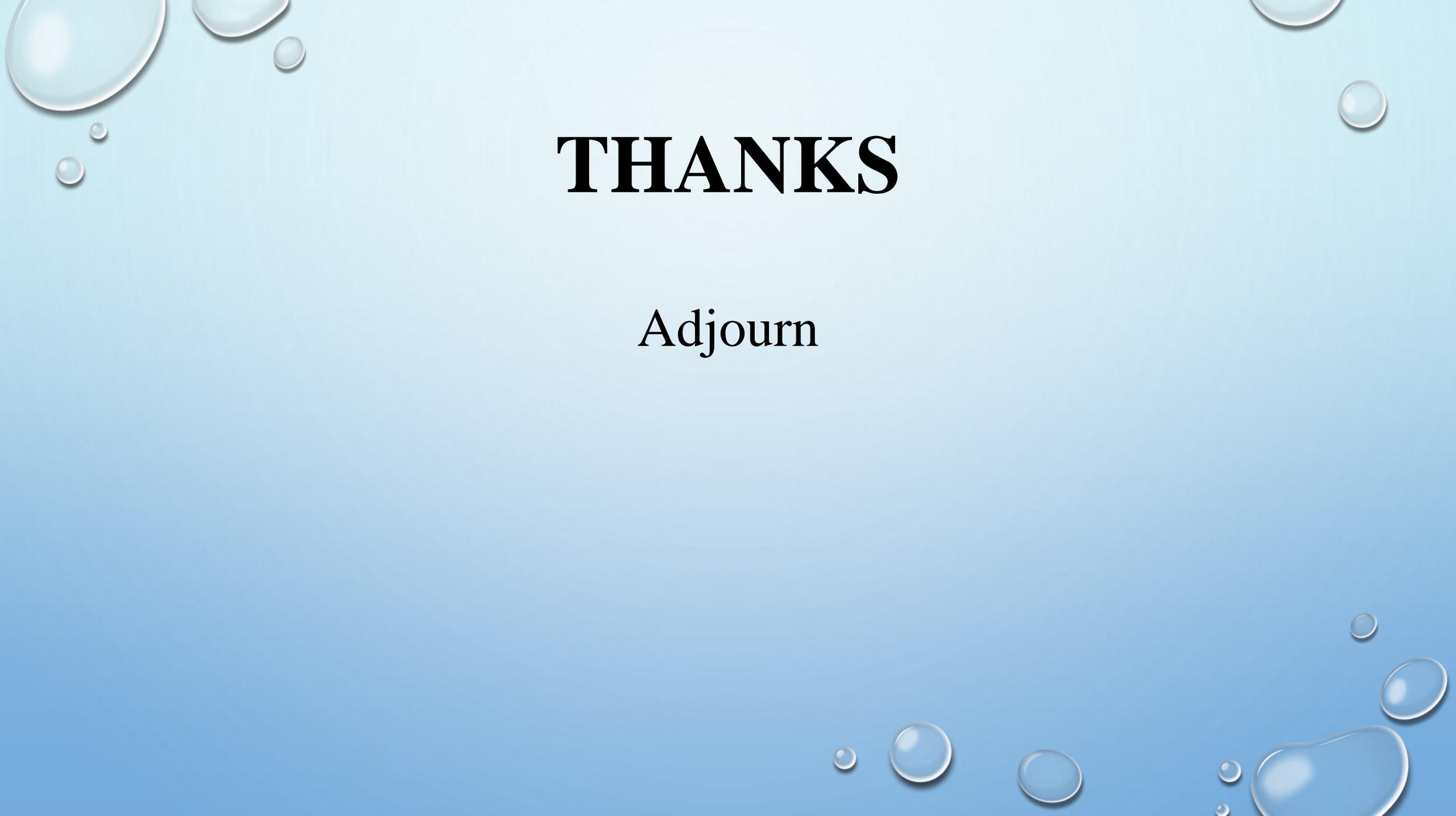
- **Kris Van Amber, Stacy Sjogren (MMB)**
- **Session 1- Stacy and Jim**
- **Session 2- Kris and Paul Gardner**
- **Introduction to Process- Kris**
- **Go to Breakout Sessions**

END OF BREAKOUT SESSION

- **Additional comments and suggestions?**
- **Policy topics that were missed?**
- **Next meeting**
- **Thanks!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The background is a light blue gradient. There are several realistic water droplets of various sizes in the corners: top-left, top-right, and bottom-right. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a 3D appearance.

THANKS

Adjourn