

# **VNP Clean Water Joint Powers Board Meeting**

Wednesday May 21, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Cook Land Building

## **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public comments
4. S.E.H. Update & Advisory Board Representative Updates
  - Kabetogama
  - Ash River
  - Crane Lake
  - Koochiching (Island View)
  - VNP
  - DNR
  - MPCA
  - Project Funding Status
7. Other
8. Next meeting date



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Voyageur's National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board (VNPCWJPB)

FROM: Sara Christenson, Randy Jenniges, and Gary Cerkvenik

DATE: May 14, 2014

RE: VNPCWJPB Update Information - May 2014  
Koochiching and St. Louis Counties, Minnesota  
STLCO 118965

### Board Meetings

The last meeting held was at 10:00 a.m. at the Land Dept building on April 14, 2014. Minutes of the last meeting will be available to be approved at the next meeting.

### Kabetogama

Project on schedule to advertise for bids starting May 24, 2014. Bid date scheduled for June 16, 2014 . Construction in mid to late summer and fall, 2014 to accommodate resort properties.

#### DNR land:

Draft lease agreement for 29.2 acres was provided to the Township by DNR on April 21, 2014. The advanced rental price was set at \$65,100, including timber damages. The agreement has been reviewed and Fryberger lawyers have sent a response to the DNR to request rewriting of the agreement in some areas.

SEH discussed the revisions and rewriting process with Debra Phillipovich at the DNR. She anticipated the rewriting work would be done within 2 weeks. According to Nancy Johnson at PFA, the lease only needs to be completed prior to award of the project, which will likely be in late June or July.

#### Shared Tanks:

Method approved by PFA:

- An electrical service would be run to the shared tank from one of the properties utilizing that tank. The electrical usage of the pump would then show up in the electric bill for that resident.
- The Township would read the hour meter on the pump each month, corresponding to the time the electric meters are read. The resident paying for the usage of the pump would then be paid that amount by Township each month.

- The residents would pay their usual monthly sewer bills which would include the electrical charges for that pump. Costs would be split based on EDUs

#### Usage Metering

The easiest way to measure usage will be to have the run time meters on each pump read monthly by the Township. For shared tanks, the usage costs and therefore O & M bills will be split by EDUs.

#### Operating Permit:

Pre-public notice and draft permit were sent to SEH and Township on 4/30/14. No surprises in permit limits. However, piezometer installation will be required at each drainfield (2 per drainfield), to measure depth to groundwater to compare against the elevation of the drainfield discharge pipes.

#### Septage Transfer:

SEH has been in contact with MPCA regarding handling of biosolids/sludge/septage for the treatment system. MPCA is requiring transfer of the septage to another treatment facility since there is no land available in the area for land application.

- SEH has been in contact with North Koochiching Area Sanitary District. They have agreed to receive septage from Pucks Point. Application and disposal ordinance from North Kooch. attached.
- Operator of the system may haul septage or choose septage hauler. North Kooch has recommended Crandall's Septic or Rocky Ledge Resort as licensed haulers.

### **Ash River**

Commissioners and Environmental Service to comment for review of the project.

### **Crane Lake**

The district authorized advertisement of an RFP for services to evaluate the existing SSTS systems on Bear Island and Handberg Road area. The U of M is soliciting the RFP which is due May 29, 2014 with a completion date of fall 2014. This work is the first effort to go with managed systems within the district.

Randy Jenniges to comment.

## **Island View**

The Island View Sanitary Sewer Committee has not met in the last couple of months and waiting on the bonding bill application and financial analysis of the project. The financial analysis is planned to be done by the end of May. From a technical perspective, SEH, NKSD, and a few board members have been meeting to discuss existing freezing issues on Jackfish Bay and reviewing design revisions for Island View to address potential issues. Anticipate a committee meeting in early June. The group has also been working with the DNR to secure property for the detention tank and alternatives are being considered.

## **Advisory Board Representative Updates**

- Voyageurs National Park
- Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

## **Project Funding Status**

The House and Senate completed a \$846 million bonding bill and a Capital Investment cash bill of \$200 million to fund major projects across Minnesota. Our project submitted requests and **received** \$8,567,000. \$750,000 of that amount is dedicated to the Crane Lake Water and Sanitary District for use in Area T and \$7,817,000 is for a grant to Koochiching County for the Island View sewer project as designated in the November, 2013 VNPCWJPB draft comprehensive plan. Woodenfrog will also have mandatory hookup into the Puck's Point sanitary sewer system.

The money can be used to acquire land for and to predesign, design and construct new systems and expand existing systems. Both grants require that at least an equal amount has been committed to the project from non state sources.

We achieved flexibility by adding that any remaining funds from the projects can be used in other areas of the project.

Rarely do projects submitted as part of the state bonding process receive the full amount requested; nor do they appear in all the proposals from the House, Senate, and Governor. In fact, we achieved both of these goals and the final dollar amount reflects that success.

Of course this would not have been possible without the active and enthusiastic support of our State Senator, Tom Bakk, and Representative David Dill, along with the great relationships you have developed with Governor Mark Dayton. They deserve the credit.

Now our focus needs to be on two things: first, engaging the federal government to help fund further expansions and secondly, preparing for the next major bonding bill in 2016.

## Contract

Gary's contract is over May 31 and SEH's contract ends on June 30. We would like to know in which direction the board would like to go with both of these contracts, and in particular SEH's contract if the Bonding bill monies are received or not.

As of 3/31/2014 the Joint Powers Board has a balance of \$19,547.52 in the original contract amount.

It is proposed:

- To have a 6 month extension of SEH's existing agreement under the same conditions, this would extend the existing agreement until 12/31/2014.
- To have a one year extension of The Costin Group's existing agreement under the same conditions, this would extend the existing agreement until 5/31/2015.

For both of these contract extensions, the Joint Powers Board will need to facilitate getting more monies.

Action Requested: Approve a six month contract extension, under the same terms and conditions between VNPCWJPB and SEH.

Action Requested: Approve a one year contract extension, under the same terms and conditions between VNPCWJPB and The Costin Group.

## Meeting Dates

Action Requested: Propose and approve an upcoming meeting date.

If you have any questions regarding these items, please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

Sara Christenson	Randy Jenniges	Mike Larson	Gary Cerkvenik
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Cc: VNPCWJPB Advisory Committee, Koochiching and St. Louis County Environmental Services staff, Project Area residents (upon request)

Att: VNPCWJPB Minutes from April 14, 2014, SEH Invoice, The Costin Group Invoice

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