

Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board
Meeting Minutes
Saint Louis County Public Works Building
9558 Ashawa Rd
Cook, MN 55732
May 20, 2026, 10:00 AM

Board Members Present: Paul McDonald (St Louis County), Jason Sjoblom (Koochiching County), Destry Hell (Koochiching County), Mike Jugovich (St Louis County)

Others Present: Jason Chopp (SEH), John Stegmeir (Kabetogama) Matt Gouin (Koochiching County), Cameron Bruce (SEH), Clarissa Spicer (DNR), Jeff Anderson (Costin Group), Rob Scott (Crane Lake), Ryan Logan (St Louis County)

1. Call To Order/Establishment of Quorum:
 - a. Meeting called to order at 10:01 AM by Chair McDonald
2. Public Comments
 - a. None
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2026
 - a. Commissioner's Jugovich/Hell motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.
4. SEH/Advisory Board Representative Updates:
 - a. Ash River
 1. Completed draft plans and specifications. They have been submitted to the MPCA for review and approval.
 2. Finalizing additional permit applications.
 3. Submit IUP by June 5 to PFA
 4. The project was not successful with 2026 Bonding funding or CDS applications.
 - b. Kabetogama
 - i. Update on land exchange process. John wanted to note that the process started in 2022.
 - ii. Continued design progress.
 - iii. field work will be ongoing (Soil Borings, Archaeology, etc) for spring/summer 2026.
 - iv. Anticipate submitting Facility Plan to the MPCA in the summer of 2026.
 - c. Crane Lake
 - i. Rob Scott reported on ongoing O&M issues during winter period. District is targeting 6 ISTS installations for the summer 2026. ISTS O&M service update.
 - d. Koochiching County

- i. No significant updates.
 - ii. RV Park connection construction completes and in project closeout phase. (43 RV Sites)
 - e. VNP
 - i. Not in attendance.
 - f. DNR
 - i. Clarrisa wanted to know if the County had a plan for the Kabetogama land exchange. Commissioner McDonald would like to set up a meeting with the DNR to discuss options in detail. SEH would like to begin soil boring and archaeology as soon as the DNR allows.
 - g. MPCA
 - i. Not in attendance.
 - ii. Discussion on existing FY22/23 Ash River allocation of \$300,000. Ash River currently cannot use these funds since construction funding has not been secured yet.
 - iii. Motion by Commissioner Sjoblom/Jugovich to reallocate FY22/23 Ash River funding to Koochiching County and Crane Lake. Motion carried unanimously.
 - iv. Districts to reach out to David Sahli to discuss workplan and required timeline.
- 5. Project Funding
 - a. Still awaiting CWC funding recommendations. This is anticipated in June.
 - b. 2026 Bonding request was not successful.
 - c. Jeff is requesting a meeting to discuss funding strategy for Ash River moving forward.
- 6. Pay Invoices
 - a. April invoice from SEH for \$2,046.42 and \$2,500 for Costin Group.
 - b. Commissioner Hell/Jugovich motioned SEH and Costin invoices. Motion carried unanimously.
 - c.
- 7. BL 26-03 – Resolution for Professional Services Agreement with Bakey Tilly.
 - a. Commissioner Sjoblom/Hell motioned to approve Baker Tilly agreement for auditing services. Motion carried unanimously.
- 8. Other business.
 - a. Summer meeting schedule
 - i. June 16, 2026 Kabetogama (10AM)
 - ii. July 23, 2026, Koochiching County (10AM)
 - iii. August 24, 2026 – Ash River (10AM)
 - iv. September 30, 2026 – Crane Lake (10AM)
 - b. Professional Services Agreement
 - i. Ryan Logan is working on amendments to SEH and Costing Group services agreements for the next fiscal year starting July 1, 2026.

9. Next Meeting

- a. The next meeting will be June 16, 2026 (10AM) at the Kabetogama Town Hall.
- b. Commissioner's Sjoblom/Jugovich motioned to adjourn at 10:57 AM.
Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Jason J. Chopp.

Paul McDonald

6/24/2026

Commissioner Paul McDonald, Chair

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