Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board Meeting Minutes

Saint Louis County Public Works Building 9558 Ashawa Rd

Cook, MN 55732 November 19, 2025, 10:00 AM

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

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

- 1. Call To Order/Establishment of Quorum:
 - a. Meeting called to order at 10:04 AM by Chair McDonald
- 2. Public Comments
 - a. None
- 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2025
 - a. Commissioner's Sjoblom/Hell motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4. SEH/Advisory Board Representative Updates:
 - a. Ash River
 - i. No significant updates. No board members in in attendance.
 - b. Kabetogama
 - i. Soil borings continuing for grinder station locations.
 - ii. Archaeology is ongoing.
 - iii. Draft DNR letter review. Motion by Hell/Jugovich to send letter regarding DNR land swap.
 - c. Crane Lake
 - i. Winterization underway.
 - ii. 5 new ISTS completed in 2025, 5 more planned for 2026.
 - d. Koochiching County
 - i. RV Park connection construction is nearly complete, start-up of facility scheduled for 11/19/25.
 - e. VNP
 - i. Not in attendance, no updates
 - f. DNR
 - i. Not in attendance, no updates.
 - g. MPCA
 - i. Not in attendance, no updates.
- 5. Project Funding

- a. Legislative session will start on February 17, 2026. 21 retirement/vacancy announcements.
- b. Jeff provided an update on the new scoring system for CWC funds for FY28/29. Proposals must be submitted by January 16, 2026. Scoring will occur from February to June 2026. Proposals are up for legislative approval during 2027 session. Jason requested the districts identify their funding needs and submit the information by December 17th JPB meeting. Jason will work with Jeff to complete the applications by the January deadline.
- c. Discussion regarding Ash River Bonding Bill request.
- 6. Federal Government Shutdown
 - a. Concerns alleviated since government is back and operational.
- 7. Pay Invoices
 - a. The following September invoices were presented to the board.
 - i. Costin Group \$2,500
 - ii. SEH \$1,964.41
 - b. Commissioner Sjoblom/Hell motioned to approve the invoices. Motion carried unanimously.
- 8. Other Business
 - i. None
- 9. Next Meeting
 - a. The next meeting will be December 17, 2025 (10AM) at the St. Louis Public Works building in Cook.
- 10. Adjournment:
 - a. Commissioner's Jugovich/Hell motioned to adjourn at 10:41 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Jason J. Chopp.

Commissioner Paul McDonald, Chair

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