

VNP CLEAN WATER JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING May 13, 2015

The monthly meeting of the VNP Clean Water Powers Board was held at the Saint Louis County Land Office on May 13, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Commissioner Pavleck. Commissioner Ecklund and Commissioner Rukavina were also present. Introductions were made and there were no comments from the public.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rukavina and seconded by Commissioner Ecklund to approve the March 18 meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

S.E.H. provided a funding update. Gary Cerkenik met with Sen. Klobuchar and Rep. Nolan in Washington to discuss the JPB's request for Federal funding. They both are aware of and support the VNP Clean Water project. Lori Dowling-Hanson, DNR, discussed the administrative correspondence needed for the upcoming meeting with the DNR Commissioner. The purpose of the meeting is to get DNR to be the State sponsor for the Federal funding request. The key items needed to be put together include a letter from VNP outlining the need, an executive summary about the project, and a public relations pitch. There was agreement that the need and facts support the project and all parties speak from the same script.

Kabetogama: There is a concern with the costs to date and the lack of adequate funding. There is some movement to abolish the sewer district. Additional funding is critical.

Ash River: Work continues on obtaining County land for a treatment plant. There is a need to finalize what parcel of land will be used for the treatment plant.

Crane Lake: The Crane Lake expansion project is ready to start construction of the force main down the Handberg Road to the DNR landing. Work continues on the CAR for the Handberg Road and Bear Island.

Koochiching: There was nothing new to report. The Island View project awaits funding for the next phase to begin

A motion was made by Commissioner Ecklund and supported by Commissioner Rukavina to pay the Costin Group invoice. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00. The next meeting is set for July 15th at 10:00 at the Crane Lake Chapel. Bring your bibles.

Submitted by: Rob Scott, secretary