AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Review/Approve Agenda

4. Consider award of bids for North Pine Government Center

5. Jason Weinerman, Board Conservationist, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
   Presentation: The Snake River Watershed District, Management Board & the One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P).

6. Land Services Department Updates
   A. Property Tax Wetland Exemption
   B. Wetlands Administration Update
   C. County Zoning Initiative Update
   D. Ag Plastics Recycling Program Update
   E. Household Hazardous Waste Facility Report
   F. Willow River Transfer Station Progress/Plan
   G. Aquatic Invasive Species Program Update

7. (Approximately 11:45 a.m.)
   Commissioners Travel to Zion Lutheran Church, 410 Main Street South, Pine City for
   Summer Food & Fun
   • Program Overview
   • Lunch (commissioners to eat with participants)
   • Tour garden beds and youth activities

8. Adjourn (estimate 1:30 p.m.)

An Equal Opportunity Employer
AGENDA REQUEST FORM

Date of Meeting: __July 19, 2018__________________

☐ County Board
☐ Consent Agenda
☒ Regular Agenda
  5 mins. ___ 10 mins. ___ 15 mins. X___ Other___

☐ Personnel Committee
☐ Other _____________

Agenda Item: _Snake River Watershed Management Board-One Watershed One Plan (1W1P)_

Department: Administration

__________________________________
Department Head signature

Background information on Item:

The Snake River Watershed Management Board is a four-county joint powers agreement between the counties of Pine, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Aitkin.

Jason Weinerman, Conservationist for the Board of Water and Soil Resources will provide an overview of the Snake River Watershed Management Board and discuss the 1W1P concept for the Snake River Watershed.
The Snake River Watershed

Yesterday

Today

Tomorrow
A CLOSER LOOK
SNAKE RIVER WATERSHED PRE-1993

BY THE NUMBERS

• 5 COUNTIES
• 5 SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
• NO SINGLE GOVERNING BOARD
• NO INDEPENDENT FUNDING SOURCE
1990: AN INTERESTING YEAR

- LAKE ASSOCIATIONS PETITIONED THE MN BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES (BWSR) FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WATERSHED DISTRICT
- BWSR FOUND THE PETITION VALID AND BEGAN THE INVESTIGATION REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WATERSHED DISTRICT
- AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE WAS HIRED TO TAKE TESTIMONY REGARDING THE NEED FOR A WATERSHED DISTRICT
WHAT IS A WATERSHED DISTRICT?

A SPECIAL PURPOSE GOVERNMENT UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTE 103D

- MD 103D.2 01 SUBDIVISION 1. GENERAL PURPOSES.

- TO CONSERVE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE BY LAND USE PLANNING, FLOOD CONTROL, AND OTHER CONSERVATION PROJECTS BY USING SOUND SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE AND THE PROVIDENT USE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WATERSHED DISTRICTS IS AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS CHAPTER.
WATERSHED DISTRICT’S SPECIFIC PURPOSES MAY INCLUDE

- Control flooding
- Improve streams for drainage, navigation and other purposes
- Reclaim or fill wet and overflowed land
- Provide water for irrigation
- Regulate flow and conserve water
- Divert or change watercourses

- Provide or conserve water for public uses
- Provide for sanitation and public health and waste disposal
- Manage drainage systems
- Control erosion and siltation
- Regulate riparian improvements
- Power generation
- Protect and enhance water quality
WATERSHED DISTRICT OPERATIONS

- INDEPENDENT GOVERNING BOARD
  - APPOINTED BY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- LOCAL LEVY AUTHORITY
- RULES AND REGULATIONS
MANY DAYS OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY
POTENTIAL SOLUTION

• A JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FOUR PRIMARY COUNTIES
  • AITKIN
  • KANABEC
  • MILLE LACS
  • PINE
• A SINGLE GOVERNING BOARD
• DEDICATED REVENUE
1993: VICTORY

- BWSR CONCURS WITH AGREEMENT LANGUAGE
- PETITIONERS AGREE TO LANGUAGE
- WATERSHED PETITION IS DISMISSED
- SNAKE RIVER JOINT POWERS BOARD IS ESTABLISHED
SNAKE RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD

SRWMB

is

is not

Joint Powers Board

Watershed District
SNAKE RIVER WATERSHED TODAY
1993 TO PRESENT

TODAY!
SRWMB

SWCD

County
SWCD

- FOUR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
  - AITKIN, KANABEC, MILLE LACS, PINE
- LOCALLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS
- VOLUNTARY BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- CONSERVATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
- COST SHARE PROGRAMS (BASE AND COMPETITIVE)
COUNTY

- FOUR COUNTIES
  - AITKIN, KANABEC, MILLE LACS, PINE
- LOCALLY ELECTED COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- REGULATORY AUTHORITY (LAND USE PLANNING)
- LOCAL LEVY AUTHORITY
- WATER PLANNING AUTHORITY (SOME DELEGATED TO SWCD)
SNAKE RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD (SRWMB)

- FOUR APPOINTED COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
  - ONE FROM EACH COUNTY
  - AITKIN, KANABEC, MILLE LACS, PINE

- CITIZENS’ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- BASE LEVEL OF FUNDING FROM COUNTIES

- ADMINISTRATION (ADMINISTRATOR OR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT)

- WATER QUALITY MONITORING

- IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS
EXTERNAL FUNDING

• WATER QUALITY MONITORING
• OUTREACH ASSISTANCE
• BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING
TOMORROW

HOPEFULLY THIS
TOMORROW

HOPEFULLY THIS

NOT THIS
BWSR’S VISION FOR ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN IS TO ALIGN LOCAL WATER PLANNING ON MAJOR WATERSHED BOUNDARIES WITH STATE STRATEGIES TOWARDS PRIORITIZED, TARGETED AND MEASURABLE IMPLEMENTATION PLANS – THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF WATER PLANNING IN MINNESOTA.
1W1P ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- MAYBE SIX COUNTIES
These two
1W1P ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- MAYBE SIX COUNTIES
- SPECIFIC GOVERNING STRUCTURE
  - POLICY COMMITTEE
SWCD Elected Officers

Policy Comm.

County Comm. Elected Officers
1W1P ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- MAYBE SIX COUNTIES
- SPECIFIC GOVERNING STRUCTURE
  - POLICY COMMITTEE-ONE FROM EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT (COUNTY AND SWCD)
1W1P ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- MAYBE SIX COUNTIES
- SPECIFIC GOVERNING STRUCTURE
  - POLICY COMMITTEE-ONE FROM EACH LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT (COUNTY AND SWCD)
  - ADVISORY COMMITTEE-PUBLIC COMMENT
Advisory
• Make recommendations

Policy
• Make final decision on content

Plan
SRWMB

4 County Commissioners

Agreement

1W1P

4-6 Counties Involved

County Commissioners

SWCD Supervisors

County and SWCD staff involvement

MOA
PLANNING FOR 2019 APPLICATION

• AWARENESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (COUNTY AND SWCD BOARDS)
• AWARENESS OF COUNTY STAFF
• DISCUSSION ON SRWMB AGREEMENT AND 1W1P MOA
• ASSEMBLE PRE-1W1P WORKING GROUP
• EXPLORE RESOLUTIONS PROCESS
• IDENTIFY 1W1P APPLICANT
EARLY PLANNING AVOIDS THIS

FINISHING HOMEWORK THE DAY ITS DUE

GO GO GO GO
QUESTIONS

I'D LIKE TO BUY A QUESTION MARK.
MEMO

To: Pine County Commissioners  
    David Minke, Pine County Administrator

From: Kelly Schroeder, Pine County Assessor

Date: July 13, 2018

Re: Property Tax Exempt Wetlands

In 1983, Minnesota Statute §272.02 Subd. 11 exempted from property tax all types 3, 4, and 5 wetlands within townships that were at least 10 acres and that were at least 2.5 acres within an incorporated city. In East Central Minnesota, this was not widely implemented for unknown reasons, however it has been on the “to-do” list since 2016 for Pine County (an estimated 250 staff hours are needed to complete the project which needs to be fully implemented in one tax year for uniformity and fairness).

Completing the tax exempt wetlands project has been challenging due to the 2016 flood reassessments and the migration to PRISM reports to the Department of Revenue. However, we are committed to implementing this exemption for the 2019 assessment (taxes payable in 2020).

This exemption will affect approximately 2,000 parcels, but should have a manageable effect on the tax capacity since the acreage being exempted is currently valued as waste (typically $300-$400/acre). For example, in Arlone Township, the total taxable value which will now be exempt is $280,500 or a tax capacity of 2,805.

With the implementation of this exemption, several questions from taxpayers are anticipated such as:

- “I think I have more exempt wetlands than you say I do.”
- “This wetland that you are saying is a type 6 and not exempt is a type 3 and should be exempt, can you fix that?”
- “When do I get my refund for overpaid taxes?”

(Continued on next page)
Staff are prepared to answer the first two questions. However, the third question will need a consistent policy which is upheld by staff and commissioners. Considerations for the policy regarding these refunds are as follows:

- Minnesota Statute §375.192 Subd. 2 states abatements are only available for the current year for any reason and previous two years (not the previous 35) for errors that are typically clerical in nature (for example: a shed was entered as 12x100 rather than 12x10).
- Abatements are discretionary and require the approval of the county assessor, county auditor, and county board.
- Pine County’s general abatement policy requires a minimum refund of $25 to process the abatement. Approximately half of the affected parcels will not reach this threshold, therefore would not be eligible for an abatement.
- Processing approximately 1,000 abatements will result in approximately 80 hours of staff time ($4,000) and a shortfall in revenue of approximately $175,000 spread across the county, townships/cities, and school districts.
MEMO

To: Pine County Commissioners
   David Minke, Pine County Administrator

From: Kelly Schroeder, Pine County Assessor

Date: July 13, 2018

Re: Willow River Transfer Station

As noted on the June 29, 2018 Friday Update, Pine County received a Greater Minnesota Environmental Assistance Grant to facilitate the permanent opening of the Willow River Transfer Station. Since this notification, staff have been working with the DNR on the purchase of the property. The DNR will process the sale of the property with their regular land sale this summer/fall. The County will be notified of the properties which will be sold and have the first opportunity to purchase the property prior to the public.

Once the property is purchased, site preparation can begin. The site preparation is anticipated to take approximately 2-3 months. The site preparation will include: tree/stump removal, driveway construction, landscaping, fencing, electric service, security camera installation, and signage.

Given this, the anticipated open date is January 1, 2019.
Pine County, MN

Overview

Legend
- Roads
- Interstate
- Hwy
- Townships
- Parcels
- Parcels w/o Labels

Proposed Transfer Station

Parcel ID: 310208000
Sec/Twp/Rng: 26-045-020
Property Address:

Alternate ID: n/a
Class: 981 - STATE ACQUIRED
Acreage: 9

Owner Address: DNR - BUREAU OF REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT
TAX SPECIALIST
500 LAFAYETTE RD
ST PAUL, MN 55155

District: 3102
Brief Tax Description: Sect-26 Twp-045 Range-020 9.00 AC THAT PART OF GOVT LOT 4 LYING ELY OF ELY LINE OF HWY 61
(Note: Not to be used on legal documents)

Date created: 7/13/2018
Last Data Uploaded: 6/19/2018 7:27:52 PM

Developed by Schneider Geospatial
Looking back on a summer of food and fun

Staff Report, News@pinecitymn.com  Oct 6, 2017


Jazmine Kelly

During the summer of 2017, Pine City area students in 5th to 12th grades had the opportunity to hang out with adults while learning to cook, grow vegetables, fish and play fitness games in downtown Pine City with a program called Summer Food & Fun.

Organizers said the program started slowly but ended up with 17 kids coming on Mondays and Thursdays to make and eat lunch at Zion Lutheran Church in downtown Pine City.

The students then enjoyed some fun activities at Robinson Park, the Pine City Community Garden and the city fishing docks. The day ended with them taking home ingredients to practice cooking with.
Summer Food & Fun is a 4H club that is open to anyone from 10 – 18 years old who want to learn to cook, eat and enjoy being active with games. Julie Samuelson is the 4H leader, Barb Nordrum is the head chef and Jimmie Johnson provides the active games.

Other adult volunteers were Dave and Lori Cashman, Fred Hanson, Leigha Lange and Heather Knickerbocker.

Starting on Thursday, Oct. 12, the Summer Food and Fun group will continue to meet on the second Thursday each month from 3-4:30 p.m. throughout the school year at the High School Family and Consumer Science room. All students ages 10-18 are welcome to take part in the activities.

Elementary students can ride the bus to the high school, but all students will need a ride home at 4:30 p.m.

Those with questions or seeking more information may call Julie Samuelson at 320-496-3009 or email Hands4PC@gmail.com.

The program was a collaboration of the Pine City School District, Pine County Extension 4H/Master Gardeners and SNAP, Family Pathways, Zion Lutheran Church, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Hands for Pine City Church and a $2,500 grant from Monsanto made it possible.