

Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy

Minutes

June 7, 2021

Members present:

Rep. Patty Acomb Sen. Rich Draheim Sen. Chris Eaton Sen. Kent Eken Rep. Peter Fischer Sen. Michael Goggin Rep. Josh Heintzeman Rep. Todd Lippert Rep. John Poston Rep. Paul Torkelson Sen. Bill Weber Sen. Chuck Wiger

Sen. Eaton called the meeting of the Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

Rep. Fischer moved to approve Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from April 13, 2021. Motion Prevailed.

Keith Olander, AgCentric Executive Director and Jake Wildman, President of MN Irrigators Association gave a presentation on Irrigation Practices to Preserve our Agricultural Future.

Jeff Forester, Executive Director, Minnesota Lakes and Rivers gave a presentation on the Lake Stewards program, and status, trends, and concerns about Minnesota Lakes.

Jim Stark, Director of the Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy, gave a recap off the 2021 session and items for the 2022 session. There are about 50 relevant water issues that have come forward, we will be sending out 3 surveys to the committee members, in order to reduce the list to those with the greatest support. He would also like them sent out to those on the ListServ, approximately 500 people. He then suggests that three or four stakeholder meetings be held on the most important of those topics over the summer. Would like a short meeting in the beginning of July to determine the topics. The field trip to southwest Minnesota, Sen. Weber's district, the tentative Sept 20th date will no longer work. Jim will talk to Mr. Gardner for a new date. If for any reason it doesn't work out, Rep. Poston said that he and Rep. Heintzeman, who both represent the Gull Lake change, would love to have a field trip at the lake to show the good work the stewards have been doing.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.