



LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

616 THIRD AVENUE, TWO HARBORS, MN 55616

P: (218) 834-8372 F: (218) 834-8545

WWW.CO.LAKE.MN.US/SWCD

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors

Thursday, January 5, 1pm

Split Rock Room

Lake County Service Center, Two Harbors, MN 55616

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Vice-Chair Brodigan.
Present: Ronning -Brodigan - Haus
Absent: Kovach-Vacancy
Staff: Tucker-Schutte-Byrns
- Oath of Office: Brodigan gave the oath of office to Doug Haus, new District 5 Supervisor.
- Agenda: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to approve the agenda with additions. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Minutes: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to approve the minutes for December 1, 2016 meeting as printed. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Special Meeting Minutes: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to approve the minutes for Special meeting on December 21, 2016 meeting as printed. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Financial and administrative reports:
- Treasurers Report: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to approve the treasures report as presented. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Audit Update: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to approve the 2015 Audit now that the State has approved it. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- **Guest Updates:**
- NRCS Report: Tom Gervais, Acting DC, supplied a written report that was shared. They thanked Tim Byrns for all his help on EQUIP applications. They hope to get a new District Conservationist in place in January.
- **Staff Updates:**
- **District Manager's Report:** Schutte updated the Board on the office space purchase. We will plan to had a more detailed budget next month to approve when we know more of the building expenses. **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to table the budget until next meeting. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.** The new AIS Coordinator, Sonja Smerud will start January 17th. The agreement with the County is to pay \$80,000 in AIS expenses to Lake SWCD for staff funding and materials. An updated contract will be presented at the February 9, 2017 meeting. Dan and Ilena (Cook SWCD) are presenting 1W1P information at a BWSR Northern Region Committee meeting in Brainerd on January 11th. The Northern Region Committee will recommend the Plan for approval to the full BWSR Board. 2012 CWF Knife/Stewart Grant closeout meeting went well and we should receive final payment soon. They requested that we have an Operations and Maintenance memo explaining the district responsibilities for the project. On file. **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to approve the memo. Affirmative:**

Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried. We met with Erin Loeffler about the Flood Phase 4 and she approved the second 40% payment. We decided to apply for a CCMI apprentice and were approved.

Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to approve hosting a CCMI apprentice this summer.

Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried. The Annual Plan was reviewed by staff and supervisors and Dan will add the Agate Bay e-choli work. A contract for the Nelson flood project for

\$10,000 was presented. **Motion by Haus and seconded by Ronning to approve the contract with Nelson**

for \$10,000. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried. Motion by Ronning and

seconded by Haus to approve payment to the City of Silver Bay for \$14,080.68 in Engineering costs.

Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried. Schutte submitted an invoice for reimbursement. Schutte was invited to be on the Governor's Water Summit in Morris on February 27th to sit on a discussion panel.

- **Rainy River Coordinator:** His report was reviewed.
- **Outreach Coordinator:** Nelson has been busy with radio interviews and submitting end of year reports.
- **Conservation Technician:** Byrns has finished the plans and GIS data for NRCS contracts, the contracts will be awarded in April. NSFC will be providing fencing at a low cost to landowners.
- **GIS Technician:** Olson has been working on Skunk Creek maps as well as buffer mandates. 16 parcels have been identified as possible concerns and/or opportunity for additional buffer establishment and/or protection.
- **Correspondence:**

Supervisor Committee Reports:

Audit Committee: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to approve and sign 17 checks and 6 direct deposits totaling \$50,009.16. Affirmative: Haus, Ronning, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.** The Visa bill will be paid as soon as it is received.

Election of Officers: **Motion by Haus and seconded by Brodigan to nominate Ronning as Chair. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Motion by Haus and seconded by Ronning to nominate Brodigan as Vice-Chair and Kovach as Treasurer.

Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.

Motion by Ronning and seconded by Brodigan to nominate Haus as Secretary. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: Kovach. Carried.

Appoint New Supervisor for District 4: Two Applications were received and reviewed. **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to appoint Barb Omarzu to represent District 4. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.** Schutte will inform Barb about her appointment and confirm that she accepts. She will be invited to participate in the February, 2017 Board meeting.

Committee Assignments: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Brodigan assign Doug Haus to NSFC and Forestry meetings. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus assign Ron Brodigan to RC&D meetings. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried. Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus assign Todd Ronning to Area III TSA and Water Plan/1W1P meetings with Brodigan as an alternate for Water Plan/1W1P. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried. The rest will be assigned when the full Board is present.

Legislative Briefing: FYI this will take place in March

Designated Depository: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Brodigan to designate Lake Bank. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Signature approval: **Motion by Haus and seconded by Ronning to have all Supervisors and District Clerk be approved to sign checks. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Designated News Paper: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus designate the North Shore Journal as the designated newspaper. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Meeting Date/Time/Location: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to have the regular meeting be the second Thursday of the month at 408 1st Avenue at 1 PM with payroll being set for the 7th of the month and approved at the monthly meeting. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

PERA DCP: Information was handed out/ tabled until February meeting.

Mileage and Meal rates: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to use IRS rate .535 for mileage and keep meals at \$10, \$12 and \$15. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Supervisor Stipend: **Motion by Ronning and seconded by Haus to keep the stipend at \$75 per day. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Dues: **Motion by Haus and seconded by Ronning to approve and pay annual dues \$2,565.59 for MASWCD and \$60 for Forestry. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

MPCA Wild Rice Sulfate standards public meetings- Brodigan passed out an article about a public meeting that is being held addressing this issue.

North Shore Forestry Collaborative: Ronning reported that he attended and that 149 rolls of fencing were handed out last year and they would like to double that with maybe a location in Two Harbors. It is priced at about 1/3 the retail cost. We will pass along more information when it is available.

Motion to adjourn at 3:45. Next meeting will be held February 9th at 1 PM at 408 1st Avenue, Two Harbors, MN

Todd Ronning, Chairman

Doug Haus, Secretary

Submitted by:

Karen R. Tucker, District Clerk

For:

Doug Haus, Lake SWCD



Natural Resources Conservation Service
4850 Miller Trunk Hwy., Suite 2B
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: (218) 720-5209

December 29, 2016

To: Lake County SWCD Board

From: Duluth Field Office

8 Active Program Contracts:

- EQIP-6
- CSP 2

47 Program Applications:

- EQIP: 47

We are continuing to develop the required aspects of these applications in hopes that we can finalize them all ASAP. FY2017 EQIP eligibility deadline has been extended to January 20th, 2017. Contract obligation targeted deadline has not changed. Still looking at spring 2017.

We've been getting a lot of help from Tim Byrns on Lake Co EQIP applications...he has been developing many project plans for applicants and we appreciate the great work he's done.

Practice Implementation:

- Woody Residue Treatment – 7.7 ac
- Forest Stand Improvement – 8.7 ac

Farm Bill:

New EQIP Applications that we receive now will be considered for the 2018 Fiscal Year.

Other:

- The Duluth District Conservationist Vacancy closed on December 19th. Management hopes to have the selection made by January 9th so it's possible the next Duluth DC could be in place yet in January. I will continue to be acting DC until January 23rd at which point I have been assigned to another acting detail (State Grazing Specialist).
- The Duluth FO will have a number of conservation plans for the board to review and approve at one of the next meetings.
- Annual Civil Rights Policy review should take place at the next meeting if possible.



DISTRICT MANAGER MONTHLY UPDATE DECEMBER 1, 2016 – JANUARY 5, 2017

DAN SCHUTTE, DISTRICT MANAGER
LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

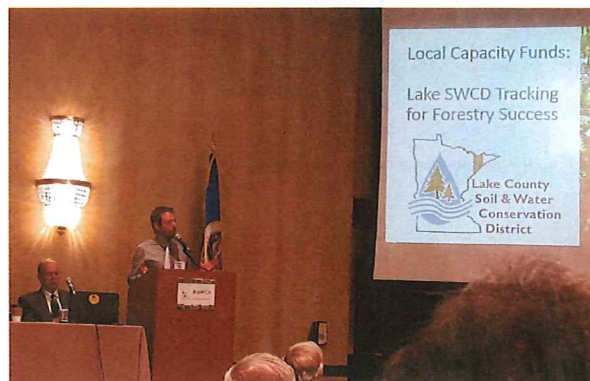


GENERAL ACTIVITIES

- Office space planning, inspection, and finalization
- AIS Coordinator hiring process/Interviews – Sonja Smerud hired
- BWSR grant reporting starting, Feb. 1 deadline.
- Christmas!

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

- MASWCD conference and presentation on local capacity.
- SeaGrant Climate Change Assistant Professor seminars. All complete, awaiting word on offer to candidate.
- Dec. 14 – 1W1P Policy Committee meeting. Northern Region Committee meeting on Jan. 11th, Brainerd.
- 2012 CWF Grant closeout meeting with BWSR – went well, all in order for final payment.
- 2012 Phase 4 Flood reconciliation meeting; all good, next 40% payment on the way (\$87K +).
- Met with ARDC and NSMB – ARDC submitting a grant for 1W1P “next step” planning with North Shore municipalities. Cook/Lake SWCD documenting \$1,000/each match from 1W1P funds through May.
- CCMI Crew Days and Conservation Apprentice submittal (Apprentice will be working with Courtney on urban stormwater assessment)
- Met with Paul Sandstrom and Courtney to discuss culvert inventory process/next steps
- Met with Max to discuss spring schedule – Max working 10 hours/wk on discreet projects through May, perhaps expanding to include invasives management/inventory in summer.

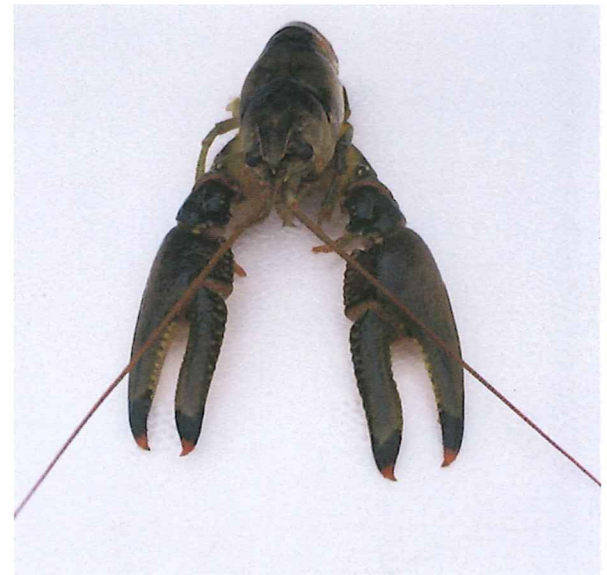


ITEMS OF NOTE AND/OR MOTION NEEDED

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| • Annual plan, annual budget | <i>Motion</i> |
| • Office space update and approval of purchase/payment | <i>Motion</i> |
| • Knife/Stewart Operations and Maintenance memo approval | <i>Motion</i> |
| • Nelson Flood Relief Contract (Phase 2 Flood - \$10,000) | <i>Motion</i> |
| • Silver Bay partial payment, engineering (\$14,080.68) | <i>Motion</i> |
| • Approval of Lake SWCD Conservation Apprentice hosting for 2017 | <i>Motion</i> |
| • Dan will be at home Tues/Thursday mornings, 8:00-1:00. | <i>Motion</i> |
| ○ Likely working 1-1.5 hours in that time | |
| ○ Will be utilizing vacation time to supplement hours as needed through May | |
| • Invited to sit as a panelist at the Governor’s Water Summit in Morris, Feb. 27th | |

Rainy Headwaters Citizen Engagement Contracts

- NSLSWCD CE
 - Discussed venues for blue green algae monitoring in Vermilion watershed with Kooch and NSL SWCDs
- Lake County Civic Engagement - RRHW/Cloquet Watersheds
 - Inventoried/Ordered monitoring equipment for 2017 monitoring season
 - Coordinating metals sampling in Birch and White Iron Lakes in 2017
 - Wicola has \$5000 to fund sampling.
 - Assisted Wicola in developing monitoring grant request for 2018
 - VCC interns work planning with MPCA
 - May be able to assist NSLSWCD in Culvert inventory
 - MPCA planning to sample Becoosin Lake in 2017 – discussed access issues based on 2016 blowdown
- Vermilion/Cloquet Grant (2015 SWAG)
- AIS
 - Participated in AIS coordinator interview/hiring process.
 - Sentry Program
 - Met with Wicola and Darren to discuss implementation of AIS Sentry Program in Ely Area
 - Patterned after St Louis River Alliance Program
 - Three trainings in June, July, August
 - Classroom training at USFS Ranger Station
 - High resolution/waterproof aquatic field guides
 - Field Training in aquatic plant identification
 - Shagawa, Farm and Burntside Lakes
 - Reporting
 - Working to get Lake County AIS data into State reporting network (GLEDN)
 - Currently reported in USGS NNIS system
 - Advertising
 - Two Harbors Chamber Advertisement
 - Coordinate getting graphic to publication
 - AIS Sticker
 - Working with Max to design “No Spiny’s” and “No Rusties” stickers
 - Parade handouts
 - Interviewed by IJC regarding invasive threats to the Rainy Basin
 - DNR Access Editor
 - Began reviewing trailer parking spaces at Lake County accesses.
 - At least 10% increase in boat trailer parking => increase in AIS funding for future years.
 - New AIS threats to The Great Lakes



January 3,
2017

- 56 threatening species
 - Based on water chemistry and where ships originate
 - Bloody Red Shrimp biggest concern.
- Developing Portable system to decontaminate ballast water while ships traverse between Quebec and Lake Ontario.

Lake County Activities

- White Cedar Restoration
 - Completed as-built drawings (Thanks Tim) and forwarded them to Rick Dahlman
- WCA
- North Shore Horizons
 - Met with Stephane Coffey
 - Discussed partnering with them for two infiltration practices
- Skunk Creek/Two Harbors Storm drainage system
 - Inspected Skunk Creek storm water basins
 - In need of maintenance
 - Sediment build up in Cemetery Basin
 - Floating debris clogging outlet(s) from 19th Avenue Basin
 - Reviewed data from beach monitoring and stream monitoring
 - Agate Bay was worse than Burlington Bay for E. Coli in 2016
 - No Skunk Creek drainage
 - Predominantly storm sewer/ street runoff.
 - Serious issue for redevelopment potential for Agate Bay
 - Discussed storm sewer construction with City's consultant
 - No information on age,

materials or sewer
separation projects





Conservation Outreach Coordinator Report

December 2, 2016 – January 5, 2017

Lake Superior North & South Civic Engagement

Radio Program

- Dan and I did a 2016 year-in-review radio episode, which included a short introduction from most staff members. It aired the day after Christmas.
- I interviewed Kenny Blumenfeld, a MN DNR climatologist, about climate change. That episode will air on Monday.
- I edited past radio episodes to remove copyrighted music so they can be added to KTWH's online archive. I am meeting with Leo and Mike from KTWH next Monday to discuss the archive and the potential for a podcast.
- I wrote up directions for producing radio episodes, which I sent to Darren and Max, and I trained Max in editing episodes in Audacity.

Other

- Dan and I helped Jim Lind lay out black plastic in his yard to prepare for a native planting next year.
- I've been working on data entry for the BEHI analysis.

RRHW/Cloquet Civic Engagement

- I completed the final data review for EQuIS – found a few problems with dissolved oxygen readings, which were then removed from the dataset.
- We ordered our new sonde from YSI (YSI Pro-DSS) and got a 10% discount ☺
- I met with Darren to discuss

2015 SWAG

- I completed the 2015 SWAG data review for EQuIS – found no problems.
- I graphed more of the results and compiled information for our water monitoring volunteers. The graphs and data tables can be used in future presentations within the Cloquet River Watershed.

Coastal Program

- I've completed ~33% of a story map on terrestrial invasive species.

Envirothon

- I recruited presenters for the current events station at the Envirothon and sent out test-writing guidelines to all presenters.



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December, 2016 Forestry/Engineering Report

Tim Byrns

EQIP

All signed plans and GIS data has been delivered to NRCS. Contracts will be awarded in April.

Training

Minnesota's Changing Forests: 1935 to today Webinar

USFS Responses to Climate Change Training Module

Wood Ash Applications in Forested Settings: A Real-World Adaptation Solution Webinar

Conservation Planning

John Burchfield Forest Stewardship Plan- 30 acres

Jamie Juenemann Riparian Forest Buffer Plan- 4 acres

Meetings

Northeast Landscape Coordination Committee

- Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) part of the 2014 Farmbill allows the Forest Service to enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with States to perform watershed restoration and forest management services.
- Senator Klobuchar's proposed forestry legislation. To improve cross boundary forest management. Focuses on landscape restoration, supports State Forest Action Plans, and provides competitive funding for GNA projects.
- Governor Dayton has given a directive to harvest 1 million cords per year in MN. In response the state has increased EAB harvesting.
- Golden Warbler and Connecticut Warbler habitat. Breeding populations of these have steadily declined over the last 50 years due to habitat loss. Golden winged warblers prefer large patches of early successional forests and shrubby wetlands. Connecticut warblers prefer large patches of aged balsam fir and tamarack. Encouragement of these habitat types should be integrated into our conservation and management plans.

General Forestry Assistance

Jeff Durfee

Sue Dahlberg CCM crew- balsam removal

Other

NFSC 2017 Deer Fencing Program for private landowners. NSFC & Sugarloaf will run another fencing/conifer planting program again this year.

NSFC & Sugarloaf also received a grant from the Lake Superior Coastal Program to help plan a Neighbor to Neighbor learning program. This is a program where neighbors are encouraged by other neighbors to discuss their ideas for restoration of their lands, share information, learn from each other, and help each other with restoration efforts.

Ecological Pathways

Engineering

Total Station- Trimble S7 pending TSA approval this month
Dufresne Rd, White Cedar Restoration as built plan completed

Upcoming Training

2017 Forestry and Wildlife Research Review January 10
Forest Health Workshop January 31



Courtney Olson

GIS Technician

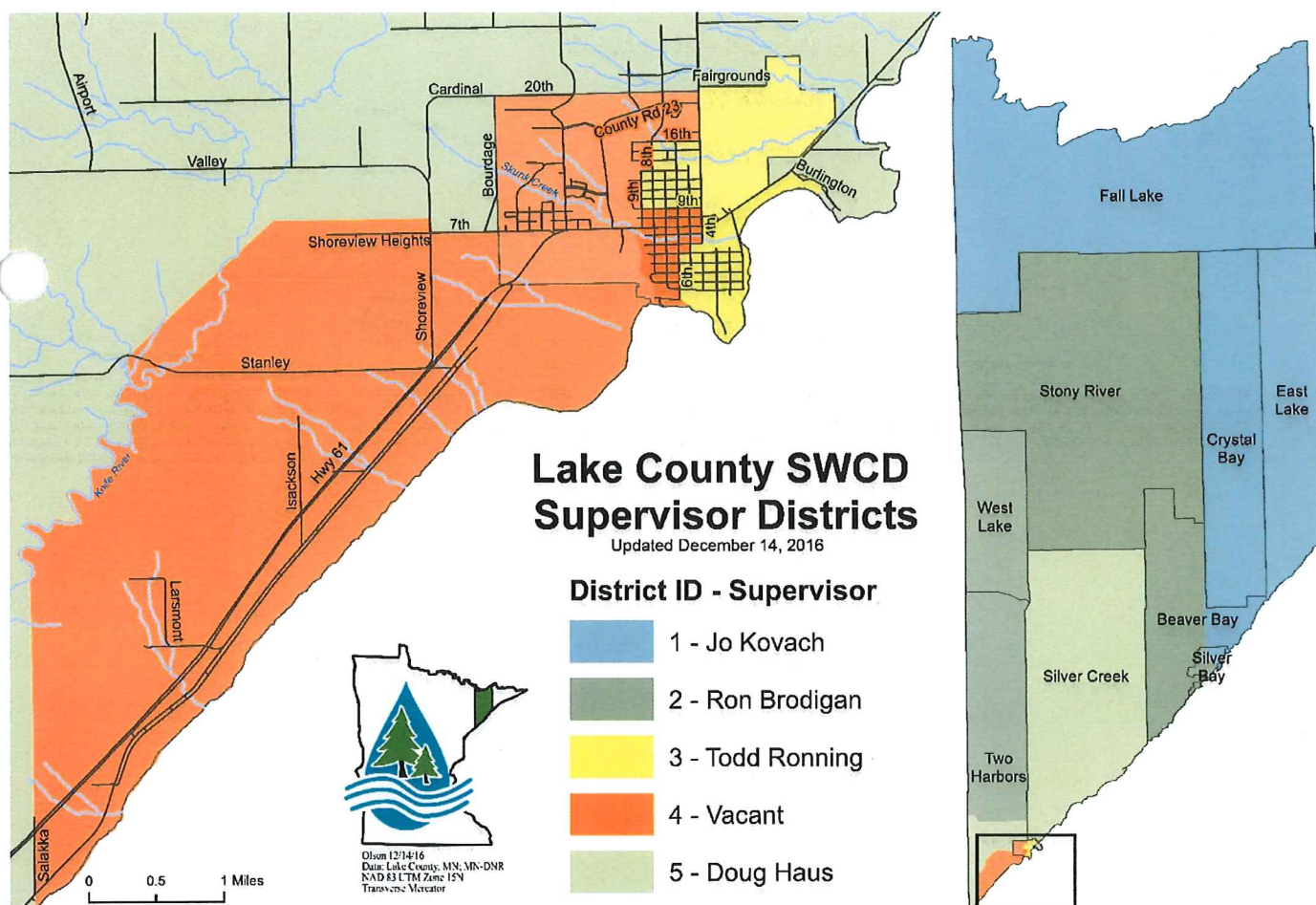
January 5, 2017 Board Meeting

BuffCAT

- A preliminary assessment of all Lake County parcels within 50 ft. of stream or river completed through a comparison of aerial photography and BWSR tool, BuffCAT.
- 16 parcels did not pass prelim assessment of compliance. Although some I flagged may be compliant under the buffer law, but worth SWCD looking into. I will transfer data from tool to have our own data on the prelim noncompliant parcels, for now it's online with BuffCAT.

Supervisor District Map

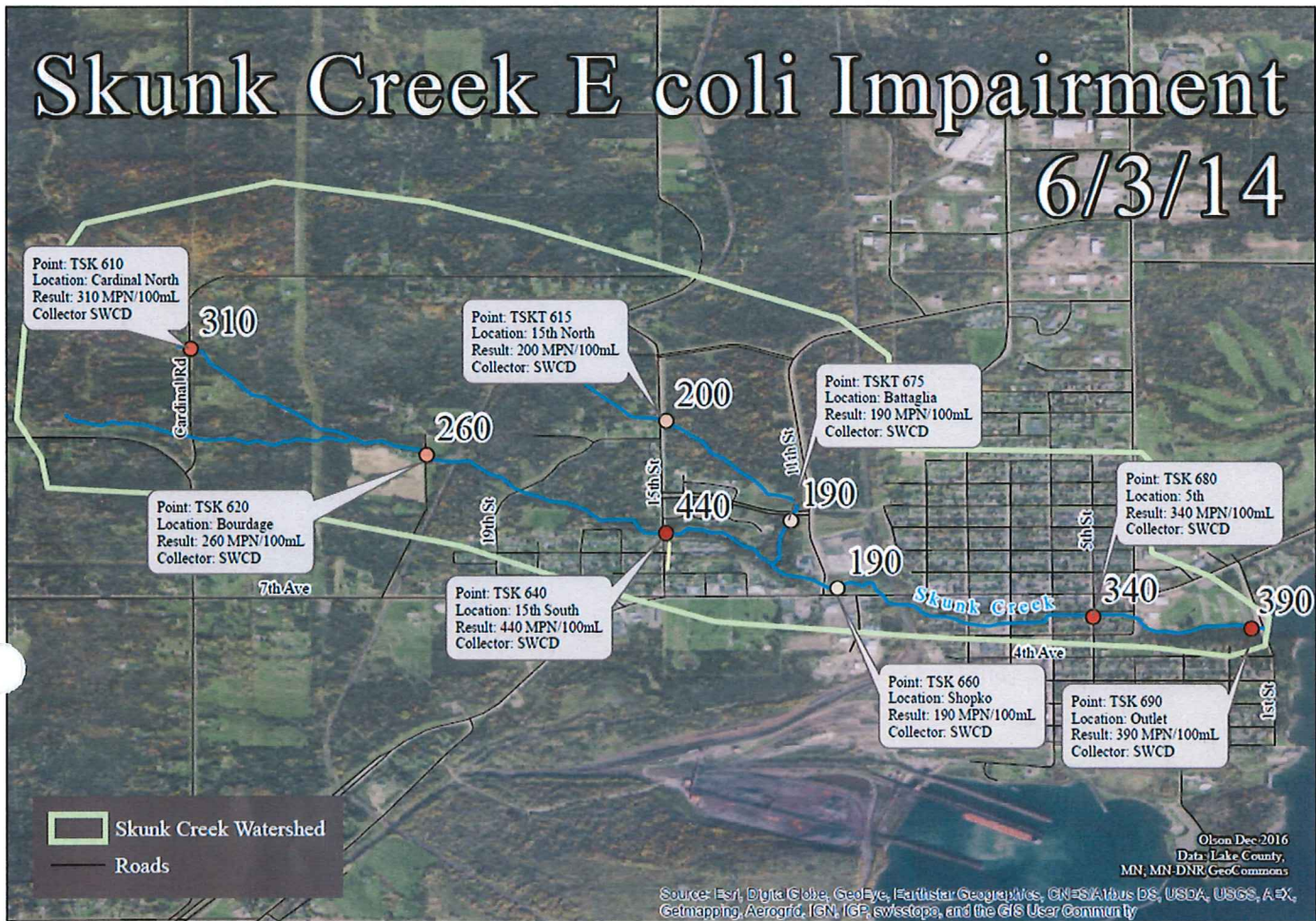
- Update for publication



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Skunk Creek E coli Analysis

- Mapping out data collected in '14 and '15 (DOH MN Beach Monitoring Program and SWCD data) to find geographical hotspots over time, increase or decrease throughout length of stream; looking for highest rates to begin understanding sources
- Example of one date for time lapse comparison (darker red = higher MPN/100mL); Will continue with more comprehensive assessment of all data to get bigger picture



Stormwater Grant received

- Preliminary discussions on how to proceed; possible collaboration between SWCD (field work), engineering firm Bolton/Menk (analysis and modeling), and city of Two Harbors

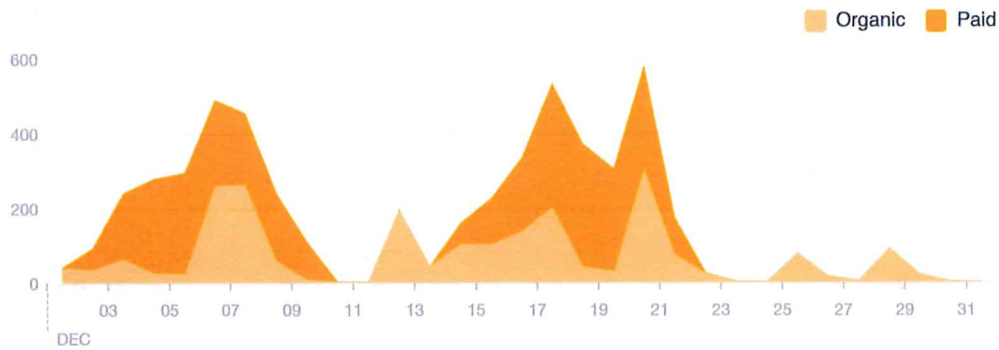
Coursework

- Completed 1st semester in December (1 of 4 courses)
- 2nd semester beginning next week (2 courses): Cartography, and Modeling Techniques in Geographic Information Science

December 2016 Facebook Insights

Total Reach

The number of people who were served any activity from your Page including your posts, posts to your Page by other people, Page like ads, mentions and checkins.



BENCHMARK

Compare your average performance over time.

Organic

Paid

Your Fans

People Reached

People Engaged

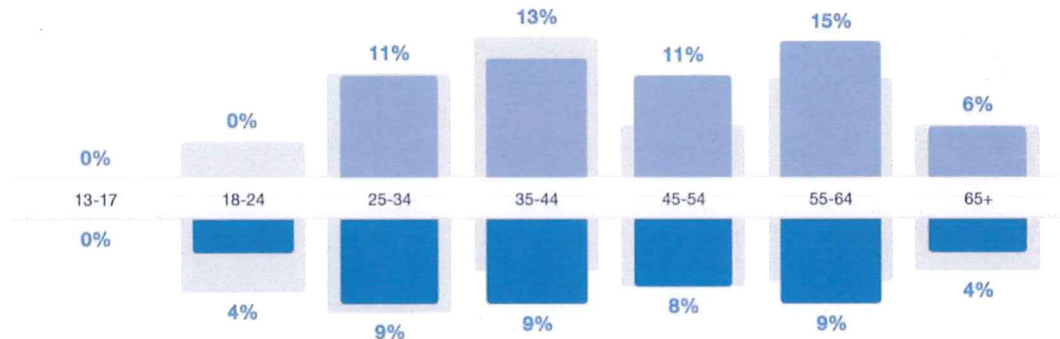
The people who have liked, commented on, or shared your posts or engaged with your Page in the past 28 days.

Women

57% People Engaged
54% Your Fans

Men

43% People Engaged
45% Your Fans



Country	People Engag...	City	People Engag...	Language	People Engag...
United States of America	53	Two Harbors, MN	30	English (US)	52
		Duluth, MN	9	English (Pirate)	1
		Knife River, MN	5		
		Saint Louis Park, MN	1		
		Ruskin, FL	1		
		Arnold, MN	1		
		Eau Claire, WI	1		
		Ely, MN	1		
		Hubbard, MN	1		
		Minneapolis, MN	1		

Reach

December 8 - January 4

3,496

People Reached ▲46%

