



MEETING NOTICE
PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020

Time: 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting:

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/91517316587?pwd=ZTFEdWhwcFhHQIRpK2JRYWhFMFZVZz09>

Meeting ID: 915 1731 6587 | **Password:** 953849 | **Phone:** +1-651-372-8299

The Chair of the Partnership on Waste and Energy Board has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the declared state and local emergencies. Commissioners will participate by telephone or other electronic means and the Board meeting will be conducted pursuant to and in compliance with Minnesota Statute 13D.021 and 13D.04 Subd. 3. Members of the public will be able to watch the public meeting live online.

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions
- 2. Approval of Agenda Action Page 1
- 3. Approval of Minutes of January 23, 2020 Action Page 2
- 4. Reports
 - a. Legislative Session Review Information Page 10
- 5. Business
 - a. PWE Budget Update Information Page 30
 - b. Amendment to Agreement with Great Plains Institute Action Page 32
 - c. Hazardous Waste Online Training Action Page 39
- 6. Other
- 7. Adjourn

Next Meeting:

Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 12:30 PM | Ramsey County Environmental Health, Maplewood, MN



**Thursday, January 23, 2020
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Partnership on Waste and Energy (PWE) was held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at Ramsey County Environmental Health, 2785 White Bear Ave., Maplewood, Minnesota.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Debbie Goettel – Hennepin County
Commissioner Fran Miron – Washington County
Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt – Ramsey County

ALSO ATTENDING

Zitlali Chavez Ayala, Leigh Behrens, Dave Benke, Dan Donkers, Dushani Dye, Tony Hainault, Zack Hansen, Sam Hanson, Sam Holl, Brendan Jordan, Kevin Magnuson, Andrea McKennan, Dave McNary, Logan O'Grady, Sam Richie, John Ristad, Ken Smith, John Springman, Nikki Stewart, Jody Tharp, Jeff Travis, Kevin Walli, Kris Wehlage

Introductions were made.

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Goettel called the meeting to order. Commissioner Miron moved, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to approve the agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2019 MINUTES

Commissioner Miron moved, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to approve the December 18, 2019 minutes.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

REPORTS

Legislative Session Preview

Kevin Walli, Fryberger Law, presented an update on efforts for the upcoming legislative session.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Report

Fryberger has met with legislators and other stakeholders in attempt to get a supplemental appropriation bill in front of legislators for action.



The Environmental Quality Board (EQB) report on EAB indicates that \$8.5 million per year is needed to manage the EAB problem.

Commissioner Goettel asked whether they also recommended an amount separate from the \$8.5 million to facilitate District Energy managing this wood waste. Walli indicated that the \$8.5 million wasn't specifically allocated. This amount is lower than what has been discussed by the wider coalition, which has identified roughly \$15 million needed.

Commissioner Reinhardt recommended the overview from Senator McCollum's office to show what's being done at the federal level. This overview was presented when the senator toured the CoGen wood waste site.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked whether there was EQB discussion about reforestation. Walli indicated that replacement is the term that's used by EQB, and that this is being discussed.

A meeting is scheduled for January 28 with the Walz administration regarding the MN EAB Interagency Report. Walli will coordinate who should be included in the meeting.

Ken Smith, District Energy, noted that EQB directed staff to come back with action steps following this report, an unusual move by EQB. The results of that direction are to be discussed at the January 28 meeting. EQB is wanting to hear from stakeholders and is seeking feedback.

Clean Energy Legislation

Kevin Walli indicated that a well-funded national organization posted a position in late fall for a community action organizer to work directly on opposing Minnesota's incinerators.

A carbon-free bill is moving forward, and Fryberger is working to understand the extent to which waste-to-energy will be allowed or denied under this bill. Walli attended a meeting of the Senate Utilities Committee at which there was testimony from the Commissioner of Commerce, Ottertail County's Solid Waste Manager and others. The bill has a provision that adds mixed municipal solid waste (MSW) or refuse derived fuel (RDF) from mixed MSW to the definition of renewable energy, and the carbon-free resource definition starts with including renewable energy. This is a sign that RDF may be considered part of clean energy.

Commissioner Reinhardt commented that there is less carbon from incineration than from other forms of energy. While not carbon free, incineration provides for energy recovery. She stated the state statute has a 75% recycling goal, with no more than 9% going to landfill, and 16% assumed to be processing. She asked Dave Benke, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), how these goals fit with the clean energy effort.

Benke stated that it is a continuing question as to how waste-to-energy fits with the hierarchy. Not all materials are suitable for recycling; MPCA wants to focus on the fraction suitable for energy recovery and sets goals based on these numbers



Commissioner Reinhardt referred to the state statute goals and commented that if only 16% can be processed into energy, whether renewable or not, significant changes will have to be made to our county facilities. When looking at HERC, if only 16% of waste can be going there, HERC cannot remain viable in its current form. Reinhardt commented that the move to carbon-free requires a reasonable transition.

Walli said there appears to be strong bipartisan understanding of the need for a reasonable transition. Sen. Dave Senjem, author of the carbon-free bill, spoke to the need for transition and the challenges in getting to carbon-free.

Commissioner Reinhardt noted a commitment has been made by all three counties to upgrading facilities and technologies. She indicated that transition means there must be alternatives and markets, and part of the transition is keeping waste-to-energy as a renewable resource during the process.

Commissioner Goettel noted that if waste-to-energy is not classified as a renewable resource during transition, we go backwards, putting more into landfills.

Walli said February 13 is the next opportunity for Sen. Senjem's bill to move forward. One issue raised is insufficient electrical transmission capacity to accommodate renewable, carbon-free energy. Transmission infrastructure was built twenty years ago, and that system is now full. This issue will be the focus of a February 3 meeting of the Legislative Energy Commission.

Commissioner Reinhardt commented that it's important to promote the goals of the bill, consider opportunities for partnership, and emphasize that we are not adversaries, but need to be realistic about what can be done and when.

Dave McNary, Hennepin County, shared that the organization hiring a person to organize to oppose burners is the Minnesota Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Environmental & Climate Justice Table (BIPOC Table) from North Minneapolis. The job posting specified that their primary goal is to shut down Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) and then pursue the other six Minnesota incinerators. Minnesota Resource Recovery Association (MRRA) is tracking it, working to develop a strategy and to educate policy makers and the overall community on the benefits of waste-to-energy. This effort to shut down burners is similar to what has been done in Baltimore and Oregon.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Legislative Preview

Dave Benke reported on the primary focuses for MPCA. The agency has put forth ten items that include policy and supplemental requests. Highlights from the solid waste standpoint:

- Uniform labeling policy to ensure that products that are currently considered compostable are indeed compostable and not contaminants
- Chronic wasting disease and proper disposal of that waste
 - Eight landfills take leachate and recirculate that or land-apply it. A system that doesn't allow deer to access areas with spray-irrigated leachate is necessary. Fencing and air



- curtain incinerators are being considered where the potential for the disease is the highest. Landfills haven't yet been the cause of spread of chronic wasting disease.
- DNR has created surveillance zones throughout the state to monitor the spread of chronic wasting disease. DNR wants to take the diseased carcasses to the alkaline digester at the University of Minnesota, which is the best way to dispose of this waste.
 - During the height of the hunting season, where 80% of the deer are harvested in a two-week period, it's hard to get the test results back quickly enough to manage via testing.
 - Responsible disposal of vaping waste
 - Concerns exist in high schools, middle schools and grade schools where vaping materials are being confiscated, as vaping pen lithium ion batteries are designed to heat up to 400 degrees rapidly. MPCA continues to work with schools and household hazardous waste programs on this issue.
 - Trichloroethylene (TCE) ban
 - Efforts are underway to keep this chemical out of the production, manufacturing, and the waste stream.
 - Perfluorooctyl bromide (PFOB)
 - A cross-agency team was recently created to look at PFOB use and disposal.
 - Closed Landfill Investment Fund Use
 - This fund was designed to handle long-term closure and post-closure of landfills. MPCA's concern is to ensure enough funding to manage closed landfills. MPCA recently completed a report on the Metro Landfill Contingency Action Trust. They are working on plans for how to spend and maintain the funds.

Commissioner Goettel asked, with regard to vaping and pulling batteries out of the waste stream, whether there's discussion of legislation to require it be easier to remove batteries from vaping pens. Benke responded that Minnesota currently has a rechargeable battery law in place that is intended to make the batteries removeable. The law addresses rechargeable but not one-time-use batteries. The difficulty is in getting manufacturers everywhere, not just in Minnesota, to ensure that batteries can be removed. One idea is to view manufacturers from a product stewardship standpoint to get them involved in the proper disposal of these materials.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked whether lessons from work done to ban mercury switches in kids' shoes might be applied to this issue with batteries. Benke said the immediate need is to focus is on recovery of batteries from confiscated items in schools and make sure they are disposed of in the proper manner. MPCA can then look longer term at engaging manufacturers in solutions.

Commissioner Goettel commented that companies producing vaping materials may be receptive because they are receiving a lot of negative attention. If the larger companies were pressured to do something, the others might go along.

Zack Hansen, R&E, indicated that lithium ion batteries are one of the PWE platform issues. R&E is investing significant money at the R&E Center to install heat detection equipment. HERC and Washington County Environmental Center have had fires, as has the private sector. Fires related to lithium ion batteries present an occupational risk, a property damage risk, and a public safety risk.



Commissioner Goettel noted that the medical device industry is one of the biggest users of lithium ion batteries and has many best practices that could be borrowed from for the safe handling and storage of these batteries, as well as issues around insuring facilities.

EAB and Wood Waste Management

Tony Hainault, Hennepin County, presented a resolution acknowledging the critical function of St. Paul CoGeneration (CoGen) in the management of wood waste, calling for new state funding to assist local governments in addressing the EAB issue and to stabilize markets for biomass energy production from wood waste. The resolution encourages counties, cities and others to join the Partnership in supporting these positions.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked for clarification of how much funding CoGen is seeking from the state in support of this effort and requested an additional 'whereas' statement to specify this, serving as background for legislators who are considering funding. She prefers the "whereas" language be worked on independent of this meeting. Commissioners Miron and Goettel agreed.

Commissioner Goettel stated that she appreciates that grants for local governments for identification and treatment is being discussed. One way to mitigate EAB as it progresses is to encourage treatment by cities rather than clear cutting, giving time to find appropriate replacement trees over the next decade.

Commissioner Reinhardt moved, seconded by Commissioner Goettel, to approve as amended the resolution in support of funding from the state general fund to assist local government with response to EAB. The PWE Board:

- Supports funding from the state general fund or other appropriate state funds for an ongoing matching grant program to assist local government with building capacity for community forest management and meeting the costs of preparing for, and responding to, catastrophic community forest problems such as Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).
- Supports direct grants to local government to address the significant need for identification, treatment, removal, environmentally appropriate management and replacement of trees related to managing EAB.
- Supports efforts to promote the highest and best use of diseased or damaged trees affected by EAB or other invasive pests, consistent with the waste management hierarchy in state statutes, prioritizing biomass energy when higher value options are not practical or feasible for management of such tree waste.
- Supports creation of funding systems that stabilize markets for biomass energy production from wood waste to avoid management of such waste in landfills and other solid waste facilities and to prevent the open burning of waste wood.
- Supports creation of new funding sources for these purposes.
- Encourages counties, cities and other interested parties to join the Partnership in supporting these positions in the development of policy and funding options by the state of Minnesota.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.



Clean Fuels Update

Brendan Jordan, Great Plains Institute (GPI), presented an overview of the Midwestern Clean Fuels Initiative report that was recently released.

California was the first state to adopt a clean fuels policy; Oregon, Washington, Colorado, New York and other states are working on similar policies. There is also similar policy work in Canada, Brazil, the U.K. and the European Union.

The policy penalizes higher-carbon transportation fuels and provides incentives for lower-carbon fuels. It evaluates all fuels based on consistent science- and engineering-based life cycle assessments, looking at each fuel producer separately to determine what their individual carbon footprint is. This is different from other transportation-based policies that are not performance-based. For example, the Federal Renewable Fuel Standard requires 15 billion gallons per year of biofuels and does not address how they are made (what their carbon footprint is). Another example is the Electric Vehicle Tax Credit which says you get X amount for an electric vehicle but does not address what kind of electricity goes into the vehicle. A clean fuels policy addresses carbon. If a company has demonstrated that their carbon intensity is lower than the required standard that the jurisdiction has imposed, they get to generate credit. High-carbon fuel producers can buy those credits.

The Midwestern Governors Association discussed this policy about a decade ago. At that time, it was felt that it wasn't the right timing for a policy such as this, but there has been renewed interest in the past couple of years from a variety of stakeholder groups in the Midwest, including automakers trying to introduce electric vehicles. They are dealing with a short-term cost differential, and incentives would help jumpstart that market. Ethanol and biodiesel producers have learned when there's a policy in place rewarding them for lowering their carbon footprint, they're able to do that very well.

This stakeholder group includes agriculture, biofuels sector, consulting groups, automakers, electric vehicle makers and environmental NGOs. They have been engaged in dialogue for a couple of years about what a policy could look like in the Midwest, related to the region's industries and natural resources.

The Partnership has been a part of this discussion because renewable natural gas is a low-carbon fuel. GPI has done work with the Partnership on anaerobic digestion projects relying on organic waste, and what the policy and economic barriers look like. The conclusion is that a clean fuel policy is the most powerful incentive for making the economics work for anaerobic digestion projects producing renewable natural gas.

In interviews, industry representatives have indicated that they are interested in developing projects in states like Minnesota and then exporting the gas to California where they have the clean fuels policy. There are two disadvantages to Minnesota in this situation: 1) California would receive the environmental benefit from Minnesota resources, and 2) Minnesota doesn't control the policy environment, so it puts the state in a vulnerable position of relying on the California Resources Board to keep this policy framework in place.



The Midwestern Clean Fuels Initiative report is a first step in issuing recommendations on what a clean fuels policy could look like. It is encouraging that, for the first time, a group of Midwestern interests has come together to identify that a clean fuels policy would support clean energy industries, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, benefit air quality, and offer large net economic benefits. The Midwest would be able to rely almost entirely on clean fuels produced in the region, unlike states on the west coast that rely on importing fuels from the Midwest.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked how the credit system is making a cleaner environment. Jordan responded that the standard requires reducing the average carbon intensity over time.

Commissioner Goettel asked what the credit exchange rate would be. Jordan stated that this has been modeled after transportation greenhouse gas emissions reductions of 10-20% over the course of ten years. It resembles the approach to increasing wetlands.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked whether this requires real reductions for high producers if they are able to purchase credits. Jordan said that it would require real reductions over time. To illustrate, if setting a 20% carbon intensity schedule standard for Minnesota, one strategy modeled would be increasing electric vehicle (EV) use. The program would offer an incentive for EV charging, which would accelerate EV adoption. In order to hit the 20% standard, EV would be about 25% of all vehicle sales within 10 years. From the biofuels sector, increases in biofuel blending as a percentage of gasoline and diesel and also performance improvements in biofuel production would be required. GPI also looked at increased use of renewable natural gas as a diesel replacement.

Commissioners Reinhardt and Goettel asked: What kind of company or industry is using all credits? Is there a limit whereby they can only use so many credits, and they must also accomplish some real reduction? Is that part of the policy?

Jordan said the credits do represent real greenhouse gas emissions reductions. The petroleum refinery isn't producing natural gas or electricity, so the only way for benefit to get to those low-carbon fuel providers is from the credit market.

Commissioner Goettel stated that if there is no change in fossil fuels processing at the refineries, neighborhoods around them don't benefit from any reduction and continue to be impacted by the refinery, which is an environmental justice issue. Jordan responded that modeling indicates that standards would call for a lower demand for those fossil fuels over time. It's a relatively rapid decrease; ten years is considered fast when discussing reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Even without a change to their process, there will be a benefit to communities around producers of high-carbon fuels because there will be a smaller market for their product.

Commissioner Goettel stated that this is an important report for all three counties represented in the Partnership, and thanked GPI for the work they've done.



BUSINESS

2020 Meeting Schedule

The 2020 PWE Board meeting schedule was presented for consideration by the Board. One meeting each year will be held in Hennepin County. A correction was made to the schedule presented; the December meeting will be on December 10.

Commissioner Miron moved, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt to approve the PWE Board 2020 Meeting Schedule with the correction to the December date. The PWE Board:

- Approves the 2020 meeting calendar.
- Approves the June and September meetings to be held at the office of Ramsey County Environmental Health located at 2785 White Bear Avenue North, Suite 350, Maplewood, MN 55109, and the December meeting to be held at the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center located at 505 North 6th Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55405.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Miron moved, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt to adjourn. Commissioner Goettel adjourned the meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, June 25, 2020, 12:30 PM

Ramsey County Environmental Health, Maplewood, MN



**PARTNERSHIP ON
WASTE AND ENERGY**
HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATE:	June 25, 2020	AGENDA ITEM:	4.a.			
SUBJECT:	Legislative Session Review					
TYPE OF ITEM:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only					

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The 2020 Legislative Session concluded on May 18, 2020. The attached summaries provide information on bills of interest to the Partnership on Waste and Energy (PWE). The PWE lobbyists will be attending the meeting to provide a report and answer questions on the regular session. They will also provide an update on the June 2020 Special Session, which is not addressed in the attached.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2020 Regular Session summary provided by Fryberger
2. 2020 Regular Session summary provided by Capitol Hill Associates
3. 2020 PWE Legislative Platform

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY
HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

2785 White Bear Avenue North, Suite 350 | Maplewood, MN 55109
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SUBJECT: Legislative Session Review



PARTNERSHIP ON
WASTE AND ENERGY
HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES	DATE	
Hennepin County		6/19/2020
Recycling & Energy		6/12/2020
		6/12/2020
Ramsey County Attorney		6/14/2020
Washington County Attorney		6/14/2020

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY
HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

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FRYBERGER

— LAW FIRM —

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioner Debbie Goettel, Hennepin County
Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County
Commissioner Fran Miron, Washington County
Zack Hansen, Environmental Health Director, Ramsey County Public Health
Dave McNary, Assistant Director, Hennepin County Environment and Energy
Department, Solid Waste & Energy Division
Nicole Stewart, Senior Environmental Resource Manager, Washington
County Public Health & Environment
Tony Hainault, Hennepin County Environment and Energy Department
Jeff Travis, Senior Environmental Program Manager, Washington County
Kirk Pederson, Policy Program Manager, Hennepin County
Jennifer O'Rourke, Director of Ramsey County's Government Relations Division
Rob Vanasek, Capitol Hill Associates, Inc.
Sam Walseth, Capitol Hill Associates, Inc.
Margaret Vesel, Larkin Hoffman

FROM: Kevin Walli and Sam Richie, Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A.

RE: Legislative Report – 2020 Session

- Partnership Role in Supporting Funds to Combat Emerald Ash Borer
- Partnership Role in Support of Energy Legislation

DATE: June 8, 2020

FRYBERGER, BUCHANAN, SMITH & FREDERICK, P.A.

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- **PARTNERSHIP ROLE IN SUPPORTING FUNDS TO COMBAT EMERALD ASH BORER**

The Partnership maintained a steady flow of information to Administration officials and Legislators in both bodies and from both parties in the months leading up to and throughout the 2020 Session.

Last fall, we engaged in discussions with representatives of the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) and separately with leading staff of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). That dialogue continued into the 2020 Legislative Session.

In addition, we scheduled one-on-one meetings with a number of key legislators including Representative Rick Hansen, Chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Division, Senator Bill Ingebrihtsen, Chair of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee, and Senator Carrie Ruud, Chair of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Committee. We also had the occasion to meet with Representative Fue Lee, Vice Chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Division, who was carrying legislation to extend the timeframe for use of EAB appropriations that were authorized in the 2019 Session. Representative Lee specifically requested that the Partnership testify on behalf of his legislative proposal – and we did.

Prior to the hearing on Representative Lee’s bill, we had taken the opportunity to testify at an Oversight Hearing before Representative Hansen’s Committee. Commissioner Fran Miron testified on behalf of the Partnership. The focus of our attention was on securing funds to address EAB in community forests. Any prospects of securing general fund appropriations for this purpose was dampened by the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic which has dramatically impacted the state revenue flow and eliminated the projected state general fund surplus.

Attention shifted to alternate funding sources such as the Environmental Trust Fund. The Trust Fund Bill included two provisions of particular interest to the Partnership and others who were advocating for funds to address EAB. The House File included funding for managing EAB in community forests in the amount of \$3,820,000 over a two-year span. The Senate included funding for the same purpose – in the amount of \$3,500,000.

Both the House and Senate also proposed to commit \$700,000 to University of Minnesota experiments to maintain the benefits of our Black Ash Forests.

Both the House and Senate passed their respective Environment and Natural Resources Finance/LCCMR Appropriations Bills but they ultimately passed somewhat different versions of the measure -- and with no agreement, there was no final enactment.

It remains to be seen whether the bill will be resurrected in a Special Session.

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Another opportunity for EAB funding may arise in the context of the Omnibus Bonding Bill. The House and Senate were not able to come to terms on a Bonding Bill during the Regular Session – although it was reported that they arrived at a target amount of \$1,350,000,000 in state general obligation bonds at the close of the Regular Session.

The Governor’s Recommendation and the House Bonding Bill both included Community Tree Planting Grants using State G.O. Bonds. The Governor’s Recommendation was \$2 million and the House position called for \$3 million.

The Senate had a modest appropriation of \$500,000 for the “Forests for the Future” Program.

During the course of the Session we closely monitored the testimony before the House Capital Investment Committee. Representative Rick Hansen was Chief Author of the EAB bonding provision – just as he had been the Chief Author on the legislation calling for Environmental Trust Fund dollars for EAB response.

Attached for your information is the page from the 2020 Capital Budget Comparison prepared by House Research staff at the close of the Regular Session. We have provided the page which includes the Community Tree Planting Grant proposals.

Also attached is a synopsis of key provisions of the Environment and Natural Resources/LCCMR Appropriations Measure. We have highlighted the vote in the House and Senate on each body’s respective version of the bill. We have also provided information on the funding levels proposed in the two bills and tried to identify certain provisions on which there was a decidedly different proposal from the House and Senate which ultimately did not allow for the timely enactment of an identical bill.

One additional provision that was of interest to the Partnership was the measure to provide financial support for diverting unsold food from landfills. The objective is to capture this food for food shelf use. Both the House and Senate proposed to include \$130,000 for this purpose.

- **PARTNERSHIP ROLE IN SUPPORT OF ENERGY LEGISLATION**

We monitored activity in the House Climate and Energy Committee and the Senate Energy and Utilities Committee for several energy bills – only one of which was ultimately enacted. Energy bills of interest included the following:

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- Renewable Development Account Project Funding
- Natural Gas Innovation Act
- Energy Conservation and Optimization Act
- Clean Energy First Act

Renewable Development Account Project Funding

A Renewable Development Account proposal did pass during the 2020 Session. The House and Senate came to terms on a set of projects for which they authorized the expenditure of funds from the Renewable Development Account. The projects which were approved included:

- Solar Rewards Program
- Prairie Island Net Zero Emissions Project
- Granite Falls Hydropower Turbine Grant
- DEED Host Community Grant Program for communities impacted by closing electric generation facilities

The key issue regarding the Renewable Development Account is that the Legislature left \$58,420,000 on the bottom line. There is some discussion about assembling another package of energy projects that would be financed with Renewable Development Account resources and approved during the upcoming Special Session.

The Renewable Development Account Spreadsheet is attached for your information highlighting the amount remaining on the bottom line.

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Natural Gas Innovation Act

House File 3254 -- Stephenson

Senate File 3013 – Weber

Received from the Senate May 13 th referred to Energy and Climate Committee.	Senate Summary February 24 Carlon Fontaine (651)296-4395 Heard/passed in Senate Energy and Utilities—to finance February 20 th . Hear/passed (as amended) in Senate Finance to Floor March 16. Bill passed the Senate May 12, <u>62 to 4</u> .
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We worked closely with the legislative staff of Center Point Energy who had taken a leadership role in helping to craft the Natural Gas Innovation Act.

The objective is to keep natural gas in the energy mix in Minnesota in the face of significant opposition to that objective. The Senate moved the bill through Committee and to the Floor where it easily passed by a margin of 62 to 4.

A number of compromise proposals were discussed with Members of the House of Representatives. However, they ultimately did not come to terms before the close of Session. Some of the key provisions in the bill include the following:

- Establishment of pilot programs for both industrial and residential consumers. The bill authorizes natural gas utilities to file Alternative Resource Plans which would implement biogas, power-to-hydrogen, or renewable natural gas for review and approval by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. Biogas is specifically defined as gas created by the anerobic digestion of biomass, gasification of biomass or other effective conversion processes. The opposition to the measure in the House came primarily from Representative Jean Wagenius, Chair of the House Energy and Climate Finance and Policy Division. It remains to be seen whether a compromise can be reached with the House Chair in order for the bill to be considered in a Special Session.

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Energy Conservation and Optimization Act

House File 4502—Stephenson

Senate File 4409 – Rarick

House Research Summary May 4 th Bob Eleff Heard /passed House Energy and Climate Committee April 28.	Senate Summary April 23 rd Carlon Fontaine (651) 296-4395
Bill passed the House May 11, <u>79 to 55</u> .	Heard/passed Senate Energy and Utilities Laid on the Table May 13.

The Energy Conservation and Optimization Act reorganizes the statute by grouping provisions separately for cooperative electric associations and municipal utilities – regarded as “consumer-owned utilities” and public utilities – investor-owned companies. The bill contains a new provision separate from the Conservation Improvement Program statute which allows a public utility to recover costs through its energy rates, for investments in “Innovative Clean Technologies”. These are technologies not widely deployed by utilities but which demonstrate economic benefits to ratepayers. Implementation of these Innovative Clean Technologies is subject to approval by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. The energy saving goals for consumer-owned utilities and investor-owned utilities are separated and specified. Goals for energy conservation for low-income households is established.

Public utilities must include in their conservation plans activities to improve energy efficiency in public schools. Expenditures in Energy Conservation Programs related to low-income households is increased. Fuel switching improvements may contribute to a public utility’s overall conservation improvement objectives. LED lighting is encouraged under the measure.

There is also incentive for the implementation of load management programs which would maximize the utilization of energy during off-peak hours. For example, utilities would be able to place controls on residential water heaters to heat water at night when rates are low rather than at peak daytime hours.

The House of Representatives passed this bill during the Session by a margin of 79 to 55. The bill was heard and passed by the Senate Energy and Utilities Committee but did not come up from a Floor Vote. It’s noteworthy that Senator Dave Osmeck, Chair of the Senate Energy and Utilities Committee has scheduled a hearing in advance of the Special Session on this bill. This provides some indication that this may be part of an energy compromise going into the Special Session.

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Clean Energy First Act

House File 1405 – Stephenson

Senate File 1456 -- Senjem

<p>House research summary March 6th Bob Eleff</p> <p>Heard/passed (as amended) in Energy and Climate Finance Division, March 3rd. To Jobs and Economic Development Finance March 11th</p> <p>Heard/passed and referred back to Energy and Climate Finance Division April 14th</p>	<p>Senate Summary February 12th, Carlon Fontaine.</p> <p>Heard/passed (as amended) in Senate Energy and Utilities to Finance Committee April 1.</p>
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The Clean Energy First Act was heard and passed by both the House and Senate Energy Committees – although in somewhat different versions. One of the key provisions is authorization for the Public Utilities Commission to approve or disapprove of utility investments to upgrade existing transmission infrastructure necessary to facilitate electric generation by clean energy resources. The Commission would be authorized to allow cost recovery of utility expenses associated with efforts to maximize local employment to construct and maintain electric generation facilities.

Utilities would be required to include information in customer billing statements regarding incentives to promote energy conservation and use of renewable energy. Utility resource planning would require utilities to file Cost Plans meeting certain objectives for clean energy and carbon-free resources. Resource planning would also include favoring clean energy resources to meet electricity demand, limiting a utility’s ability to seek approval of energy capacity from non-renewable sources, prohibit the Public Utilities Commission from approving non-renewable energy facilities unless the utility has demonstrated with clear and convincing evidence that a renewable energy facility alone or combined with other clean energy resources is not in the public interest. The standard would require a finding that the clean energy resources are not sufficiently affordable or reliable to be preferred in the Resource Plan.

Local worker preference is also specified for the Commission to issue Site Permits for Wind Systems of 25 MW or larger.

The bill calls for a Coordinated Electric Transmission Study. Currently, the transmission system serving Southern and Western Minnesota is at or near its capacity and this is prime area for development of both wind and solar resources. Additional transmission capacity must be part of the solution to clean energy development.

FRYBERGER LAW FIRM

June 12, 2020
Page 8

In each instance, we monitored proceedings of the House and Senate Committees and communicated with other interested parties to remain informed about the progress of these measures. We will continue that process as legislators determine what may be included in a Special Session Legislative Agenda.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding any of these items. We can be reached at (651) 221-1044 (office), 651-698-5833 (Kevin's home phone), 218-301-9758 (Sam's cell) or by e-mail at kwalli@fryberger.com or srichie@fryberger.com.

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2020 Capital Budget - Comparison

All figures in thousands 000's

		Amed on Floor		Amed on Floor	
		Fund	Governor's Recs	HF 2529 5/16/2020	Senate 5/17/2020
56	Department of Natural Resources				
57					
58	Natural Resources Asset Preservation	GO	70,000	65,000	18,000
59	Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance Program	GO	20,000	20,000	18,000
60	Legacy Mine Complexes Studies	GF		443	
61	Canisteo and Hill Annex Mine Complexes	GO		2,000	
62	Dam Safety Repair, Reconstruction or Removal	GO	20,000	20,000	19,000
63	Natural Resources Betterment of Buildings	GO	25,000	25,000	
64	Improving Accessibility to State Parks and Recreation Areas	GO	10,000	10,000	5,000
65	Parks and Trails Local and Regional Grant Program	GO	4,000	4,000	
66	Natural Resources Acquisition and Betterment of Public Lands	GO	30,000		
67	Wildlife Management Areas	GO		2,500	
68	Aquatic Management Areas	GO		2,500	
69	Scientific and Natural Areas	GO		5,000	
70	Wildfire Aviation Infrastructure	GO	9,500	9,500	
71	Lake Vermilion / Soudan Underground Mine State Park (House in AP)	GO	5,800		5,800
72	Community Tree Planting Grants	GO	2,000	3,000	
73	Forests for the Future	GO			500
74	DNR State Trails				
75	Blazing Star State Trail	GO	1,750	600	1,000
76	Gateway State Trail	GO	1,250	1,250	
77	Camp Ripley/ Veterans State Trail	GO			1,000
78	Gitchi Gami State Trail	GO			2,500
79	Heartland State Trails	GO		3,000	3,000
80	Itasca State Park to Heartland Trail Connection	GO			2,800
81	Mississippi Blufflands State Trail	GO	900	900	
82	Oberstar Trail Segment	GO	650	650	
83	DNR - Grants to Political Subdivisions				
84	City of Babbitt - Recreation Area	GO		750	
85	Crane Lake Township - Voyageurs National Park Visitor Center	GO	6,600		
86	Ely, City of- Ely Regional Trailhead Construction	GO	2,800	1,000	
87	City of Lake City - Hok-Si-La Park Water and Sewer Extension	GO	587	587	
88	City of Lake City - Ohuta Beach Breakwater	GO	1,058	1,000	
89	City of Lake City - Ohuta Breakwater & Hok-Si-La (Senate in DEED)	GO			2,670
90	City of Lake City - Roschen Park and Boat Ramp Breakwater	GO	1,058		
91	City of Lake City - Mississippi Blufflands Trail (Seante in DEED)	GO			
92	City of Lakeville - Orchard Lake Improvement	GO			260
93	Mankato, City of - Riverbank Restoration / Valley Opportunities	GO	12,385	11,485	4,000
94	City of Mankato - Water Quality Mitigation	GO	4,150	4,150	
95	City of Northfield - Local Trail Connections	GO		2,500	
96	Otter Tail County - Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail	GO	1,978	1,603	
97	City of Rochester - Cascade Lake Park	GO	2,750		
98	City of Red Wing - Upper Harbor - Bay Point Renewal	GO	2,000	325	
99	City of Rockville - Rocori Trail Phase 3	GO	1,370		
100	Scott County - McMahon Lake Flood Mitigation	GO			600
101	City of Silver Bay - Trailhead Center	GO	1,900	1,900	
102	City of St. Joseph - East Park	GO	300		
103	St. Louis County - Voyageur Country ATV Trail	GO	1,000	1,000	1,000
104	City of Winona - Riverfront Trail	GO			2,000
105					
106		Total GO	240,786	201,200	87,130
107		Total GF	-	443	-
108		Agency Total	240,786	201,643	87,130

2020 Capital Budget - Comparison

All figures in thousands 000's

		Amed on Floor		Amed on Floor	
		Governor's Recs	HF 2529 5/16/2020	Senate 5/17/2020	
	Fund				
109	Pollution Control Agency				
110	***Additional Projects in Appropriations Bonds Section				
111	Organics Infrastructure Projects	GO	10,000	5,000	
112	Sustainable Communities and Climate Resiliency	GO	15,000	10,000	
113	Removal of PAH-Contamination Stormwater from Pond Sediments	GO	2,000		
114	Grants to Political Subdivisions				
115	Clay County - Resource Recovery Campus	GO	8,500	8,500	7,000
116	Pope Douglas Solid Waste Management Campus Expansion	GO	9,000	9,000	
117	Ramsey / Washington Recycling Capital Assistance	GO	8,000	8,000	
118	Brookston Closed Landfill	GO	1,330	1,330	
119	Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility	GO	391	391	
120	City of Coon Rapids Recycling Center Expansion	GO	700	700	
121	Dakota and Scott County Household Hazardous Waste	GO	4,000		7,000
122	Hennepin County Organics Transfer Station Expansion	GO	2,000	2,000	
123	Todd County Campus Expansion	GO	6,000	6,000	
124	City of Minneapolis Transfer Station Renovation	GO	571	571	
125	Winona Groundwater Contamination State Superfund Site	GO		2,100	
126					
127		Total GO	67,492	53,592	14,000
128	Board of Water and Soil Resources				
129					
130	Local Roads Wetlands Replacement Program	GO	26,400	15,000	18,000
131	Local Roads Wetlands Replacement Program	GF	8,000	8,000	
132	MN CREP - Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program	GO	16,500	12,500	1,000
133	Grants to Political Subdivisions				
134	Cedar River Watershed District - Capital Investment Plan, Phase II	GO		1,850	
135	Shell Rock River Watershed District - Fountain Lake Phase 2	GO		7,500	
136					
137		Total GO	42,900	36,850	19,000
138		Total GF	8,000	8,000	-
139		Agency Total	50,900	44,850	19,000
140	Department of Health / Department of Agriculture				
141					
142	MDA MDH Laboratory Building Equipment	GF	779	779	
143	MDA MDH Laboratory Building Infrastructure	GO	20,499	20,499	20,000
144	Grants				
145	Hmong Americans Farmers Association	GF		2,000	
146	City of Northfield - Poultry Processing Plant	GO		250	
147					
148		Total GO	20,499	20,749	20,000
149		Total GF	779	2,779	-
150		Agency Total	21,278	23,528	20,000
151	Rural Finance Authority (RFA) Loans	Total UF	50,000	40,000	

Environment and Natural Resources Finance/LCCMR Appropriations

House File 4554 – Hansen

Senate File 4499 -- Ingebrigtsen

<p>Environment and Natural Resources Finance Division refers bill as amended to the House Floor May 13.</p> <p>Passed the House May 16, <u>74 to 59</u>.</p>	<p>Bill re-referred from Environment and Natural Resources Policy to Environment and Natural Resources Finance April 13.</p> <p>Passed as amended April 30th—referred to Senate Floor.</p> <p>Passed the Senate May 16, <u>41 to 26</u>.</p>
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Provisions of Interest in House File

Provisions of Interest in Senate File

Community forest—managing for EAB. \$320,000 year one \$3,500,000 year two	Community forest—managing for EAB, \$3,500,000 year two.
Black Ash Benefits EAB Experiments, University of Minnesota, \$750,000 year two.	Black Ash Benefits--EAB Experiments, University of Minnesota, \$750,000 year two.
Diverting unsold food from landfills, \$130,000 year two.	Diverting unsold food from landfills, \$130,000 year two.
Advisory Council on water supply systems and waste water treatment facilities.	(no comparable provision)
Technology for Energy—generating on-site industrial waste water treatment, \$450,000 year two.	(no comparable provision)
Renewable Energy Demo Projects at Waste Water Treatment Facilities, \$1,095,000, year two.	(no comparable provision)
Evaluating coronavirus contamination of drinking water from waste water, \$699,000 year one.	(no comparable provision)
Strategies to manage PFA’s in land applied biosolids, \$1,404,000 year two.	Strategies to manage PFA’s in land applied biosolids, \$1,000,000 year two.



PARTNERSHIP ON
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Legislative Update – June 2020

Waste Issues

Submitted by Rob Vanasek, Sam Walseth and Britta Torkelson, Capitol Hill Associates, Inc.
On behalf of the Partnership on Waste and Energy Team

The 2020 session brought challenges on multiple fronts. Complexities of legislating via telephone or internet and social distancing speed bumps were barely overcome in Minnesota. Most state legislatures completely shut down for the year or came back to meet for 1-3 days in May. In Minnesota, ours kept working, but the legislative bandwidth was greatly restricted. With most of their members attending session virtually, the House in particular suffered from multitudes of lengthy roll call votes that consumed valuable time.

After the COVID-19 pandemic hit Minnesota, the legislature pivoted priorities to three areas: (1) COVID-19 related legislation; (2) non-controversial bills with little or no spending; and (3) a bonding bill. The legislature succeeded in passing a much-needed COVID-19 relief bill, a smattering of policy bills, and a handful omnibus packages that were agreed upon by both bodies.

We entered this session with a sizable surplus – well over a billion dollars – without counting inflation, but due to the recession, the latest economic projections swung the state's ledger to the negative by about four billion dollars. An expected bonding bill this year did not pass. There will be pressures to cut programs in the 2021 budget setting session.

Including omnibus bills, we were tracking one hundred bills during the regular session. There are only a couple we expect movement on in special session scheduled to begin June 12 and go until possibly July 4. There may be multiple special sessions this summer and fall.

Below highlights bills and issues of interest to the Partnership on Waste and Energy. Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington County staff and contract lobbyists worked closely together, along with other organizations, to advocate the Partnership legislative platform.

- **Clean Energy First Act and WTE:** Last Fall an organizer was hired by a national group to shut down all WTE facilities in Minnesota. From that moment forward until the legislature shut down due to the pandemic, we directly lobbied a quarter of the entire legislature defending waste to energy (WTE). We took this opportunity to educate legislators on the benefits of these facilities in their communities, the role they play in moving waste up the hierarchy, and the data that show the facilities increase the recycling rates as well as increase landfill diversion rates. These conversations sometimes allowed for us to tie into various aspects of our legislative platform, but mostly were focused on WTE as the Clean Energy First legislation allowed opponents the opportunity to both work legislators privately and provide testimony publicly in opposition to WTE.

RENEWABLE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT (SF 2084/HF 1842)

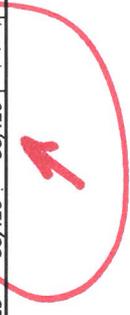
BASE (FEBRUARY 2020 FORECAST)

SF 2084 (delete-everything amendment)

(all dollars in thousands) (changes highlighted in shaded rows)

	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20-21	FY22	FY23	FY22-23	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY23	FY22-23	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY23	FY22-23	Δ BASE	Δ BASE
1 REVENUE																		
Revenue - Carryforward	58,779	70,023	58,779	84,170	111,305	84,170	58,779	70,023	84,170	111,305	84,170	58,779	70,023	84,170	111,305	84,170		(25,750)
4 Revenue - Xcel Payments to MMB	14,852	17,372	32,224	29,874	30,060	59,934	14,852	17,372	29,874	30,060	59,934	14,852	17,372	29,874	30,060	59,934		
5 Revenue - Investment Income	1,432	1,815	3,247	2,301	2,950	5,251	1,432	1,815	2,301	2,950	5,251	1,432	1,815	2,301	2,950	5,251		
6 Revenue - Additional Withholding by Xcel for Solar Rewards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,000)	-	-	-	-	(5,000)	-	-	(10,000)	(5,000)	(10,000)
7 TOTAL REVENUE	75,063	89,210	94,250	116,345	144,315	149,355	75,063	84,210	116,345	144,315	149,355	75,063	84,210	116,345	144,315	149,355	(5,000)	(35,750)
8 SPENDING																		
9 Current Law																		
10 Xcel Spending Obligations*	19,694	17,058	36,752	7,000	6,750	13,750	19,694	17,058	7,000	6,750	13,750	19,694	17,058	7,000	6,750	13,750		
11 --Solar Rewards Program	[10,000]	[5,000]	[15,000]	-	-	-	[10,000]	[10,000]	-	-	-	[10,000]	[10,000]	[5,000]	-	[10,000]	[5,000]	[10,000]
11 Made in Minnesota Payments (Statutory)	4,440	4,440	8,880	4,440	4,440	8,880	4,440	4,440	4,440	4,440	8,880	4,440	4,440	4,440	4,440	8,880		
12 Made in Minnesota Administration (Directly Appropriated)	100	100	200	100	100	200	100	100	100	100	200	100	100	100	100	200		
13 Made in Minnesota 3rd Party Evaluator (Directly Appropriated)	500	500	1,000	500	500	1,000	500	500	500	500	1,000	500	500	500	500	1,000		
14 New Spending in SF 2084/HF 1842	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
15 Commerce - Prairie Island Net Zero Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
16 Commerce - [Granite Falls] Hydropower Turbine Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
17 --Flood Damage Repair	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
18 DEED - Host Community Grant Program	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
19 TOTAL SPENDING	5,040	5,040	10,080	5,040	5,040	10,080	5,040	5,040	5,040	5,040	10,080	5,040	5,040	5,040	5,040	10,080		
20 BALANCE	70,023	84,170	84,170	111,305	139,275	139,275	70,023	84,210	111,305	139,275	139,275	70,023	84,210	111,305	139,275	139,275	(25,750)	(65,950)

*Includes amounts expended for Solar Rewards, REPI, Fibromen, and Laurentian.



We worked closely with the Senate bill chief author, Senator David Senjem, to amend his bill, (SF 1456, Senjem/HF 1405, Stephenson, to include “anaerobic digestion, and mixed municipal solid waste or refuse-derived fuel from mixed municipal solid waste” in the Renewable Energy definition.

The House version of Clean Energy First did not include solid waste in the definition of renewable energy. Efforts made on behalf of the Partnership to expand this definition were met with strong opposition by some environmental advocacy groups and House members. The House language would make it nearly impossible to construct a new WTE facility.

In the last eight or nine days of session, Sen. Senjem and Rep. Stephenson worked on a compromise to the Clean Energy First Act, but we understand the House DFL caucus would not sign off on it. Sen. Senjem’s bill did pass through Senate Energy & Utilities Finance & Policy, and was re-referred to Senate Finance, but the bill ran into some unexpected questioning, and was laid on the table due to concerns over costs being passed on to rate payers.

Several bills were introduced and number of them were heard that raised issues around air permits and the cumulative impact of facilities emissions on communities. These were brought forward as an environmental justice initiative by several different House members.

We successfully stopped the most anti-WTE bills from progressing this year as we pointed out the problematic nature of them. These include:

- HF 3297, Hornstein, removes processing of “mixed municipal solid waste generated in the county at a resource recovery facility” as an allowable use of SCORE funds.
- HF 3796, Hornstein/SF 4311, Marty, removes “an energy recovery facility used to capture the heat value of mixed municipal solid waste or refuse derived fuel from mixed municipal solid waste...” as a technology that contributes to a utility’s renewable energy standard.
- HF 3795, Hornstein/SF 3668 Dibble, requires incinerators to reduce carbon emissions by 45% by 2030. This is an impossible standard to meet.

Not enacted. These issues will continue in 2021.

- **Bonding Bill:** HF 2529, unveiled May 5th, contained 250 projects and totaled \$2.5 billion. The total amount was much lower than planned pre-COVID, but mirrored the governor’s total bonding bill amount. With 36 hours to go, the Senate released a \$999 million bonding bill. Neither bill passed. An agreement between Speaker Hortman and Majority Leader Gazelka on a total amount for a bonding bill of between \$1.1-1.35 billion came too late to garner support from House Minority Leader Daudt and therefore a bonding bill was prevented from coming together on the last day of session. Recent conversations with legislators lead us to believe Rep. Murphy is having difficulties shrinking her bill down to the target agreed to by leadership. The House bill voted upon on May 16th contained:

- \$5 million to MPCA for organics infrastructure grants (down from \$10 million recommended by the Governor and included in the Senate Minority’s bill)
- \$8 million for Ramsey/Washington R&E Center improvements (same as the Governor and Senate Minority)
- \$2 million for Hennepin Co. transfer station (same as the Governor and Senate Minority)

Leadership between the two chambers were exchanging offers and the majority and minority parties were exchanging offers with progress being made, until the newest pressure on the bonding bill entered as a result of the death of George Floyd. Both talk of reconstruction dollars and policing standards have placed a number of DFL votes for a bonding bill into question.

SCORE Dollars

A bill written by the Senate Environment Finance Committee was heard, SF 3161, Eichorn, that would have restructured the Solid Waste Management Tax to provide a likely significant increase in SCORE dollars in the out years, but at the expense of the MPCA's future increases to its Environmental Fund. County associations testified in favor of this bill, but it was never introduced in the House.

A similar bill, SF 3228, Abler/no House companion, was also heard by the Senate Environment Finance Committee. This bill restructured the financing of the Metropolitan Landfill Abatement Account to benefit counties slightly but resulting in layoffs at MPCA. This bill was strongly opposed by the MPCA.

• **Wood Waste, St. Paul District Energy**

A bill was introduced in the closing days of session that represents an agreement between Evergreen Energy and Xcel on a path forward for the St. Paul cogeneration plant that uses wood waste for fuel in the near term. The bill, HF 4676, Wagenius/SF 4630, Marty, envisions a new short term PPA, and requires the development of a plan for full renewable electrification of District Energy, and creates restrictions on Ash wood waste transport to comply with MDA requirements. The bill does not identify a public subsidy funding source but rather allows Xcel to pursue automatic cost recovery outside of a general rate case.

• **Environment and Natural Resources Omnibus Bill**

The omnibus environmental bills, HF 4554, Hansen and SF 4499, Ingebrigtsen, each passed off the floor of their respective bodies, though neither were taken up by the opposite chamber.

The bills included:

- \$1 million (Senate)/\$1.4 million (House) to MPCA for developing strategies to manage PFAS in land-applied biosolids
 - Ban on PFAS in food packaging (House)
 - \$130,000 for an agreement with Second Harvest Heartland to prevent unsold foods from going to landfills
 - As reported above, the Metropolitan Landfill Abatement Account modification (originally introduced as SF 3228, added to SF 4499).
 - A provision that would allow exemptions to the Solid Waste Management Tax to continue in situations impacted by COVID-19
- **Reversing the prohibition of local bag bans:** HF 511, Elkins/SF 1903, Torres Ray, as introduced was a repeal bill attempting to lift the ban on local bag/packaging bans currently in place. The bill

made its first appearance in 2019, and the House version resurfaced this session, but did not make it past a second reading on the floor.

- **Product stewardship:** HF 1138, Fisher/SF 1077, Osmeck, as introduced would create a mandate for equipment manufacturers to make parts, documentation, and other information available to any independent repair provider, unless the parts are no longer available. The House bill passed out of House Judiciary Finance but stalled on the House floor.



**PARTNERSHIP ON
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2020 Partnership Legislative Platform

Topic	Policy Position
Partnership Priorities	
Market Development	<p>The Partnership supports a public/private partnership to identify key steps necessary to assure markets for recyclable materials that are local, reliable and economically stable.</p> <p>The Partnership supports state funding to support market development and businesses that use recycled materials. The Partnership supports an interagency stakeholder group of state and local entities to champion and develop market development efforts.</p>
Solid Waste Financing	The Partnership supports increased capital assistance project funding for county solid waste infrastructure and reasonable state oversight for capital improvement projects when state funds are passed through the Pollution Control Agency or other state entity.
Solid Waste Management Tax	The Partnership supports allocating all revenue generated by the Solid Waste Management Tax (SWMT) to waste management activities and increasing SCORE funding.
Food Waste Reduction	The Partnership supports the expansion of food waste reduction initiatives. The Partnership opposes establishing a food waste hierarchy in state statute separate from and redundant with the existing waste hierarchy.
Wood Waste Management through Biomass Energy	The Partnership supports efforts to promote the highest and best use of diseased or damaged trees affected by invasive pests, such as emerald ash borer (EAB), consistent with the statutory waste management hierarchy. The Partnership would prioritize biomass energy when higher value options are not practical or feasible for managing such tree waste. The Partnership supports new funding to manage wood waste through biomass energy production.
Additional Platform Items	
Incentives for Waste Processing Services	The Partnership supports additional state funding or incentives, such as waste processing credits, to counties that process waste.
Inverse Condemnation	The Partnership opposes “inverse condemnation” legislation which would restrict, hinder, or impair local government’s ability to carry out waste management responsibilities.
Legislative Solid Waste Committee	The Partnership supports the establishment of a bi-partisan, bicameral committee to address solid waste related issues.
Lithium Ion Batteries	The Partnership supports evaluating end-of-life management systems for lithium ion batteries and advancing any changes necessary to ensure full compliance with the Minnesota rechargeable battery statute, provide for full cost recovery from manufacturers, and ensure safe collection and transportation in compliance with U.S. Department of Transportation regulations.
New Technologies for Waste Processing	The Partnership supports financial incentives by the state, as well as reduced barriers, for the development and permitting of new or alternative technologies for waste reduction, reuse, recycling, beneficial reuse, and waste processing, including use of new technology and methods to recover materials, energy and biofuels from waste.
Opposing preemption of local control	The Partnership opposes limiting, prohibiting or interfering with the ability of local government to implement any component of a solid waste master plan, required by Minnesota Statutes Chapters 115a and 473. It further opposes preemption of local control and unfunded mandates that restrict, hinder or impair the ability of local government to implement solid waste plans.

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY
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**PARTNERSHIP ON
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<p>Product Stewardship</p>	<p>The Partnership supports product stewardship programs, particularly an Extended Producer Responsibility framework that provides environmental protection, indemnification of counties from product liability, county cost recovery, and measurable and enforceable goals. It also supports manufacturer incentives that reduce waste packaging from consumer products.</p> <p>The Partnership supports maximizing the collection and environmentally sound disposal of unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medicines via an internalized pharmaceutical manufacturer financing mechanism that covers collection, transportation and hazardous waste disposal costs, and that does not rely upon taxpayer subsidies. It further supports flexibility for current collection infrastructure and requirements on the pharmaceutical industry to implement public education and outreach about collection systems and that covers all administrative and support costs incurred by local government involved in collection activities.</p> <p>The Partnership supports efforts to make improvements that would maximize the state’s electronic waste recycling program, including the use of manufacturer payments to fully reimburse county collection and recycling costs and reducing end-of-life costs to consumers.</p> <p>The Partnership supports manufacturer financing mechanisms that cover the cost to collect, transport and safely dispose of sharps.</p> <p>The Partnership supports a statewide program implemented and financed by manufacturers that manages carpet by reducing waste generated from carpet, promoting its reuse and recycling, and providing for collection, transport and processing of carpet for end-of-life recycling and reuse in ways that do not rely upon end-of-life fees or local government funding.</p>
<p>Sales Tax Rebates for Processing Facilities</p>	<p>The Partnership supports aligning solid waste management tax rebates to those entities that recover, recycle, or reuse material.</p>
<p>Solid Waste as a Renewable Fuel</p>	<p>The Partnership supports continued state and federal recognition of solid waste as a renewable fuel, as well as state and federal financial support for waste and energy industries to use public and private solid waste facilities as a part of their sustainable, renewable energy resource programs, including production of biofuels.</p>
<p>Solid Waste Roles and Responsibilities</p>	<p>The Partnership supports the Waste Management Act, under which counties are the entities accountable for meeting state goals and requirements related to solid waste. Locally elected officials are in the best position to make decisions for their counties, within broad guidance from the state. This role is appropriate since elected county commissioners make decisions locally.</p> <p>The Partnership supports robust public engagement to develop county solid waste plans.</p>
<p>Waste Hierarchy Goals and Measurement</p>	<p>The Partnership supports implementation of a waste hierarchy goal that identifies progress in meeting solid waste system performance by measuring the volume and characteristics of waste managed by land disposal, and also monitoring the policy goals of the Waste Management Act such as reducing the toxicity of waste, separating materials and energy, reducing greenhouse gases, promoting beneficial use, and orderly development of the system.</p>
<p>Waste Management Act Goals</p>	<p>The Partnership supports the waste management goal of the state and the integrity of the order of preferred waste management practices, known as the solid waste management hierarchy.</p>

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY
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**PARTNERSHIP ON
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PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATE:		June 25, 2020		AGENDA ITEM:		5.a.	
SUBJECT:		PWE Budget Update					
TYPE OF ITEM:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
ACTION REQUESTED:		Information Only					

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The PWE Board approved the 2020 budget at its December 2019 meeting. A budget status report is provided.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2020 Budget Status Report

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES	DATE
Hennepin County 	6/22/2020
Recycling & Energy 	6/19/2020
	6/19/2020

PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY
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Partnership on Waste and Energy
 2020 Year-End Projection Report
 As of May 31, 2020

Category, Item, Description	2020 Approved Budget	Year-end Projection	Variance
<u>Staffing and Administration</u>			
- Intern, 75%	18,800	-	18,800
- Accounting Manager, 4%	5,592	5,592	-
- Contract Manager, 4%	4,944	4,944	-
Staffing and Administration Subtotal	29,336	10,536	18,800
<u>Contracts</u>			
- Insurance, MCIT	1,200	1,121	79
- Business Waste & Recycling Guide	10,500	10,500	-
- Lobbying Contract - Capital Hill	50,000	50,000	-
- Lobbying Contract - Fryberger	25,000	25,000	-
- Anaerobic Digestion Contract Great Plains	25,000	25,000	-
- Energy Policy Development Services	46,062	46,062	-
Contracts Subtotal	157,762	157,683	79
Grand Total	187,098	168,219	18,879
<u>Carryover Previous Year Balance</u>			13,545
<u>Total Available Partnership on Waste and Energy</u>			32,424



**PARTNERSHIP ON
WASTE AND ENERGY**
HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATE:		June 25, 2020		AGENDA ITEM:		5.b.	
SUBJECT:		Amendment to Agreement with Great Plains Institute, Inc.					
TYPE OF ITEM:		<input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
ACTION REQUESTED:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Great Plains Institute with a term of June 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, increasing the not to exceed amount of the agreement by \$25,000. 2. Authorize the chair to execute the agreement upon approval as to form by the county attorney. 					

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Anaerobic digestion (AD) is a technology that captures the carbon in a feedstock, such as organic waste, and converts it to a biogas, which can be used as fuel. Several anaerobic digesters already exist in Minnesota, using various feedstocks, such as manure, sewage sludge, paper mill waste, or food processing waste to produce biogas, which is used as a renewable fuel. Incentives exist in state law to promote further development of AD. Hennepin County and the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board (R&E Board) have expressed strong interest in using AD as a technology to manage source-separated or mechanically separated organic waste. Stakeholders in Minnesota have a range of opinions regarding AD, both in terms of its role in the energy system and its role in the waste hierarchy.

From the summer of 2018 through the summer of 2019, Great Plains Institute (GPI) completed work for the Partnership on Waste and Energy to support the exploration of potential anaerobic digestion projects relying on municipal solid waste in the Twin Cities metro area (Phases 1 and 2). This project included:

- A literature review and analysis evaluating the economics of operating an anaerobic digestion system, potential policy incentives, regulatory considerations, and case studies from the US and Europe. A white paper entitled [Anerobic Digestion Evaluation Study](#) was published September 2018 with the results.
- Engagement of stakeholders and technical experts through a series of meetings.
- Engagement of state officials to scope out the permitting process and the generate interest from state agencies in supporting potential anaerobic digestion projects.

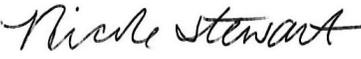
During Phase 3, building on the work from Phases 1 and 2, GPI is working to identify specific steps that should be taken to facilitate the development of new anaerobic digestion projects in Minnesota through additional stakeholder meetings, interviews, and literature review, culminating in a report of policy and regulatory recommendations that will be presented to the Partnership in September 2020.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution
2. Proposed Amendment to Agreement with Great Plains Institute, Inc.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The contract maximum is increased by \$25,000. Funding is available in the 2020 budget.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		DATE
Hennepin County		6/4/2020
Recycling & Energy		6/4/2020
		6/4/2020
Assistant Ramsey County Attorney		6/4/2020
Assistant Washington County Attorney		6/4/2020



**PARTNERSHIP ON
WASTE AND ENERGY**
HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

Resolution PWE-2020-03

Agreement with Great Plains Institute, Inc.

WHEREAS, The Joint Powers Agreement (“JPA”) between the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board (“R&E Board”) and Hennepin County for a Partnership on Waste and Energy Issues (“Partnership”) directs the Governing Board of the Partnership to develop an annual budget; and

WHEREAS, The JPA further specifies that the Governing Board may negotiate, enter, and enforce contracts necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth in the JPA; and

WHEREAS, The R&E Board and Hennepin County are evaluating new technologies for managing waste and recyclables, including anaerobic digestion; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to gather more information about anaerobic digestion from an environmental, economic, energy and regulator perspective, and to frame discussions about advancing the use of this technology in waste management; and

WHEREAS, On June 7, 2018 the Partnership’s Governing Board approved a contract with the Great Plains Institute (GPI) to study anaerobic digestion (AD), which included gathering information on the technology and building consensus in order to move AD forward in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, On June 12, 2019 the Partnership’s Governing Board approved a contract amendment with the Great Plains Institute (GPI) to continue work on study anaerobic digestion (AD), which included outlining policy and regulatory recommendations to move AD forward in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Following completion of the initial projects, work remains to build broad consensus on future administrative and legislative policy that will help to advance AD technology in Minnesota.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, The Governing Board hereby approves the Amendment to the Agreement with Great Plains Institute with a term of June 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, increasing the not to exceed amount of the agreement by \$25,000. BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Chair to execute the agreement upon approval as to form by the county attorney.

Chair, Governing Board

June 25, 2020
Date

Attest, Vice Chair

June 25, 2020
Date

2nd Amendment to Agreement Between Governing Board of the Partnership on Waste and Energy and Great Plains Institute

This is an amendment to the Agreement made and entered into by and between the Governing Board of the Partnership on Waste and Energy, hereinafter referred to as the “Partnership”, and Great Plains Institute with its principal place of business at 2801 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407, hereinafter referred to as the “Contractor” or “Vendor”.

In this Amendment, deleted terms will be struck out and added terms will be underlined and bolded, except where described otherwise.

The parties agree to amend the Agreement as follows:

1. Term

The term of the Agreement shall be June 18, 2018 through ~~June 30~~ **December 31**, 2020.

2. Cost/Payment

- a) The Contractor shall submit a monthly invoice to the Partnership detailing the work task performed during the invoice period and time spent on each task by person, direct expenses, and other, as appropriate, as outlined below under Contractor Obligations.
- b) The Partnership shall pay such invoice within 30 days unless there is a dispute in which case the invoice will be paid 30 days following resolution of the dispute. The Contractor will complete the work below on a time and expense basis, based on the billing rates listed in Section 4.
- c) If applicable, invoices shall show applicable Minnesota sales tax of 6.875% separately.
- d) No payment will be made until the invoice has been approved by the Partnership.
- e) The Partnership shall pay the Contractor a maximum not to exceed fee- as outlined below:

Term	Amount
June 18, 2018 - June 30, 2019	\$50,000
July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020	\$25,000
<u>July 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020</u>	<u>\$50,000</u>
	\$75,000
Total	<u>\$100,000</u>

- f) Contractor will be reimbursed at an hourly rate based on the hourly rates listed in Section 3.
- g) Pursuant to Section 11, below, the Contractor may sub-contract for research and evaluation tasks upon written approval of Partnership staff and will be reimbursed those direct costs with no mark-up rate applied.
- h) The Partnership will reimburse direct costs for copying and mileage with no mark-up rate applied.
- i) Payment of interest and disputes regarding payment shall be governed by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes §471.425.

3. Contractor Obligations

The Partnership agrees to purchase, and the Contractor agrees to furnish, services as set forth below:

Phase 1: Analyze information about anaerobic digestion technology (AD) – Completed by September 14, 2018.

- A. Finance, policy, and regulatory information
 - i. Identify key economic influences, economic value propositions and indicators, and issues associated with AD. This includes federal and state tax credits, incentives, and subsidies, as well as other economic tools and factors that affect the economics of AD development and operation.
 - ii. Identify key environmental issues, any related regulatory issues and experience in Minnesota and elsewhere.
 - iii. Identify fuel consumption in Minnesota and how biogas could offset that.
 - iv. Prepare a written report that summarizes this information
- B. Inventory existing information – Using information from previous and recent feasibility studies and reports:
 - i. Summarize existing AD facilities in Minnesota.
 - ii. Summarize different AD technologies in use in North America and Europe.
 - iii. Identify which feedstocks are most appropriate for different AD technologies.
 - iv. Outline at least one case study for a reference facility for each technology type that uses solid waste or the organic portion of solid waste as a feedstock.
 - v. Identify information gaps in the literature about technologies.
 - vi. Prepare a written document that describes the findings.
- C. Gather additional information.
 - i. An engineering firm will gather information specific to the gaps identified in the inventory of existing information
 - ii. Prepare a written document that describes the additional information
- D. Analysis – Using information gathered in this phase, identify:
 - i. What policy and regulatory issues must be addressed for an ideal AD project to pencil out economically?
 - ii. What business structure, product (fuels vs. electricity vs. heat), and investments would make an AD project viable?
 - iii. What research needs are critical in moving projects forward?

Phase 2 - Build awareness, and possibly consensus, regarding the use of AD for waste and recycling in Minnesota among stakeholders. Completed by June 30, 2019.

- A. Review with Partnership staff a list of potential task force and stakeholder membership to participate in this phase.
- B. Gather stakeholders, conduct interviews, share information with stakeholders to
- A. Review with Partnership staff a list of potential task force and stakeholder membership to participate in this phase.
- B. Gather stakeholders, conduct interviews, share information with stakeholders to address these issues:
 - i. How can AD best fit into Minnesota's energy and waste system future?
 - ii. What are the characteristics of an AD project that can enjoy broad stakeholder support?

- C. Make recommendations to policymakers and regulators on the specific steps that should be taken to facilitate the development of new AD projects in the state.

Phase 3: Build on the work initiated in Phase 2. Completed by June 30, 2020

- A. Identify specific steps that should be taken to facilitate the development of new AD projects in the state. This could include identifying policy and regulatory changes, research needs, and other project development activities
- B. Advise the Partnership on specific policy and regulatory changes for which they might advocate facilitating project development.
- C. Engage key stakeholders to build support for any needed policy or regulatory changes
- D. Support the Partnership's efforts to advocate for any needed policy or regulatory changes
- E. Make connections between the Partnership and other relevant efforts, including:
 - i. Efforts by natural gas utilities in the state to explore the integration of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) into the distribution system
 - ii. A new collaborative effort, similar in nature to the E21 project, to chart a course for natural gas utilities in a decarbonized world
 - iii. An ongoing stakeholder dialogue to explore a possible Minnesota Clean Fuel Policy that could provide attractive incentives for use of RNG.

Planned deliverables include:

- A. A document outlining policy and regulatory recommendations
- B. Meeting summaries from stakeholder meetings

Contractor shall do the following as part of phase 3b to be completed by December 31, 2020:

- A. **Assess full applicability or limitations of WARM model methodology for determining emissions impact of solid waste management practices in Minnesota, including anaerobic digestion. Once analysis is conducted, GPI would work with the MPCA to inform EPA or work directly with EPA after establishing a relationship. There are two ways to conduct analysis:**
 - i. **Less time intensive: Identify primary influential factors in GREET life cycle assessment circulation.**
 - ii. **More time intensive: Gather data from facilities to produce life cycle assessment.**
- B. **Conduct analysis on permitting barriers experienced and lessons learned at facilities in five states (California, Maryland, Oregon, Wisconsin, and Iowa), incorporating interviews held with facilities. Amend the policy and regulatory recommendations report with results.**
- C. **Continue to engage and educate anaerobic digestion stakeholders about the Midwestern Clean Fuels Policy Initiative that could provide attractive incentives for use of renewable natural gas.**

Except as modified herein, the terms of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Agreement as of the dates below.

Great Plains Institute

By: _____

Date: _____

Title: _____

By: _____

Date: _____

Title: _____

Partnership on Waste and Energy:

By: _____
Board Chair

Date: _____

Attest to: _____

Date: _____

Recommended for Approval by Partnership Policy Staff:

By: Zack Hansen
Zack Hansen, Ramsey County

Date: 6/4/2020

By: Nicole Stewart
Nicole Stewart, Washington County

Date: 6/4/2020

By: David McNary
David McNary, Hennepin County

Date: 6/4/2020

Approved As To Form:

By: [Signature]
County Attorney

Date: 6/4/2020



**PARTNERSHIP ON
WASTE AND ENERGY**
HENNEPIN | RAMSEY | WASHINGTON

PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATE:		June 25, 2020		AGENDA ITEM:		5.c.	
SUBJECT:		Hazardous Waste Online Training					
TYPE OF ITEM:		<input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
ACTION REQUESTED:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorize the PWE leadership team to select one or more vendors to develop the co-branded online training for commercial hazardous waste generators. 2. Authorize the PWE leadership team to execute an agreement, upon approval as to form by the county attorney, with the selected vendor(s). 3. Authorize the PWE leadership team to adjust the 2020 Partnership on Waste and Energy budget to fund the development of a co-branded online training for commercial hazardous waste generators. 					

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The arrival of COVID-19 in the first quarter of 2020 created a disruption in the regular course of business. This disruption occurred not only for the local county hazardous waste compliance programs, but for the businesses in which those counties regulate. Training on proper management of hazardous waste is an essential function, and businesses are required to complete this training. Due to the current pandemic, offering this training in a classroom setting is not feasible. In addition, even before the pandemic, feedback from many businesses indicated a growing interest in an online training, which could be completed at their convenience.

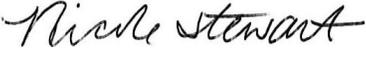
Hennepin County has a well-established online training program with a significant amount of content that is transferrable to both Ramsey and Washington counties. Ramsey, Hennepin and Washington counties regularly collaborate as partners in the Partnership on Waste and Energy (PWE). The three counties would like to collaborate on a project, expand on the existing Hennepin county online training and adapt it to meet all three of the counties needs and regulations. The counties also would like to offer the training in Spanish and include closed captioning in both English and Spanish. This partnership also provides the opportunity to develop the video presentations in other languages after this initial project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution
2. Scope of Services

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The estimate cost of the work is \$25,000. Funding is available in the 2020 budget.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		DATE
Hennepin County		6/18/2020
Recycling & Energy		6/18/2020
		6/18/2020
Approved as to form:		
Ramsey County Attorney		6/18/2020



Resolution PWE–2020 -04

Hazardous Waste Online Training

WHEREAS, The joint powers agreement (“JPA”) between the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board (“R&E Board”) and Hennepin County for a Partnership on Waste and Energy Issues (“Partnership”) directs the Governing Board of the Partnership to develop an annual budget; and

WHEREAS, The Partnership has determined a need for collaboration in certain areas of waste management, including legislation and policy development, communication and outreach, planning and evaluation of waste processing and other selected programs; and

WHEREAS, The JPA further specifies that the Governing Board may negotiate, enter, and enforce contracts necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth in the JPA; and

WHEREAS, The arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic in the first quarter of 2020 created a disruption in the regular course of business for many commercial entities; and

WHEREAS, Hazardous waste management is an essential function, and hazardous waste management employers are required to provide related training to their operators; and

WHEREAS, Hennepin County has a well-established online training program with content applicable to Ramsey and Washington counties; and

WHEREAS, Hazardous waste operators have requested training options that do not require in-person attendance and online training offers opportunities to reach more operators than traditional classroom training; and

WHEREAS, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties would like to further expand training access for commercial hazardous waste generators by offering training videos in Spanish and with closed-captioning in both English and Spanish; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Governing Board hereby authorizes the Partnership leadership team to select one or more vendors to develop the co-branded online training for commercial hazardous waste generators. BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Governing Board authorizes the Partnership leadership team to execute the agreement(s) upon approval as to form by the county attorney. BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Governing Board hereby authorizes the Partnership leadership team to adjust the 2020 Partnership on Waste and Energy budget to fund the development of a co-branded online training for commercial hazardous waste generators.

Chair, Governing Board

June 25, 2020

Date

Attest, Vice Chair

June 25, 2020

Date

Hazardous Waste program online training Goals, scope, timeline and responsibilities

Goals of project:

- Hazardous waste operators have training options that do not require in-person attendance.
- On-line training offers opportunities to reach more operators than traditional classroom training.
- Ramsey, Hennepin and Washington counties collaborate to develop Spanish- and English-language on-line training.

Background:

- The arrival of COVID-19 in Q1 2020 created a disruption in the regular course of business.
- Hazardous Waste management is an essential function.
- Hazardous Waste management employers are required to provide related training.
- Hennepin County has a well-established on-line training with content transferrable to Ramsey and Washington counties.
- Ramsey, Hennepin and Washington Counties regularly collaborate as partners in the Partnership on Waste and Energy (PWE).
- The Counties would like to expand training access by offering it in Spanish and closed captioning.

General:

- Seven-module on-line training.
- Each module will be prepared as an Articulate presentation with voiceover narration prior to being turned into a video.
- Each module may include text, photos, videos, graphics, charts and other engaging visuals.
- Audience:
 - Primary: hazardous waste operators/management.
 - Secondary: hazardous waste facility employees.
- Hennepin County has made their English-language training script and raw data file available as a starting point for this project.
- Washington County has a Department of Public Health and the Environment employee with Spanish-language fluency who would be able to proof paid translation to ensure industry specific language is captured.
- Project will be completed using Frederickson Learning as they were the contractor that completed Hennepin County's training so have full access to previous production files
- Voiceover should be personable, relatable and approachable.

Budget:

- Internal resources – staff time
- Financial – Funding from PWE

Roles and responsibilities:

SUBJECT: Hazardous Waste Online Training

- Ramsey County shall:
 - Fully scope project.
 - Modify script to accommodate all county-specific references.
 - Create their own “Step 2-Licensing module”
 - Work with vendor to brand modules with PWE
 - Prepare contracts for training module.
 - Prepare workplan and assign roles.
- Hennepin County shall:
 - Review and approve script with branding changes (not necessarily content changes).
 - Provide staff resources to support project.
- Washington County shall:
 - Review and approve script with branding changes
 - Provide staff resources to support project.
 - Create their own “Step 2-Licensing module”
 - Provide staff to review Spanish translation
- Contractor shall:
 - Use Hennepin County’s existing online training as a template and modify it to meet all three counties needs/regulations (i.e. differences in program rules/terms)
 - Rebrand the training with PWE branding
 - Provide voice talent for training if needed
 - Provide closed captioning for English version
 - Create a “Step 2-Licensing module” specific to Ramsey County
 - Create a “Step 2-Licensing module” specific to Washington County
 - Provide voice talent for Ramsey and Washington County “Step 2-Licensing module”
 - Translate the PWE branded English version of the training into Spanish-including Ramsey, Hennepin and Washington County specific “Step 2-Licensing module”
 - Provide closed captioning for Spanish version
 - Provide voice talent for Spanish version

Timeline:

When	What
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval from board for budget • Submit scope to contractor for bid and secure contractor • Ramsey County review Hennepin County training and notate where Ramsey County specifics need to be noted • Washington County review Hennepin County training and notate where Washington County specifics need to be noted
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramsey County create “Step-2” • Washington County create “Step-2” • Review draft modifications and PWE branding of training
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize PWE branded English Training

SUBJECT: *Hazardous Waste Online Training*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Begin translation of English training to Spanish
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review and approve Spanish translations.
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post English and Spanish versions of training on respective websites