

Committee Summary

Origin

Established in March 1960 (Watershed Act, Chapter 112) "to carry out conservation of natural resources through land utilization, flood control and other needs upon sound scientific principles for the protection of the public health and welfare and the provident use of the natural resources." The Watershed District is composed primarily of the area between the North and South bluffs of the Minnesota River, extending from the confluence of the Mississippi River at Pke Island, Fort Snelling, upstream to and included Carver.

Composition

5 members; Carver, Scott & Dakota Counties each appoint one member. Hennepin County appoints two.

Duties/Responsibilities

The development and adoption of an Overall Plan is one of the most important responsibilities of the Watershed District. The Plan is a comprehensive statement of management philosophy, policies and programs for the watershed pursuant to objectives stated in the enabling legislation. The Plan is reviewed at regular intervals and updated. Additionally, the board is charged with the responsibility of providing sites on which spoil from dredging of the river channel is dumped in a 9' deep x 100' wide channel and is maintained for commerce from the confluence with the Mississippi to approximately mile 14 which is a point just west of the Continental Grain Company in Savage. Other responsibilities are in the areas of the protection and preservation of the waters within its boundaries by way of Local Government (land development and drainage in areas adjacent to public waters), stream and lake crossings, dredging in or related to water areas, Municipal Drainage Plan, land use and soil characteristics, withdrawal of waters, placement of structures on lots Riparian to Public waters, erosion and sediment control.

Term

3 years-staggered basis

Meetings

Held at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, Board of Commissioners Room, Scott County Government Center, 200 4th Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379. Special meetings may be held from time to time, as well as field trips to view development requests, etc. Members are required to be able to give approximately 4-6 hours each month.

Eligibility Requirements

Members may not be a public officer of the county, state or federal government and must be a resident of the district. Must have a keen interest in the preservation of water resources, with particular emphasis on maintaining water quality standards and reducing adverse water level fluctuations. The District includes portions of Bloomington and Eden Prairie.

Compensation

\$50 per meeting day

Reimbursement

Traveling & other expenses

Other Information

Because of the nature of the Board, it is helpful to have members who have a background in water conservation, farming, development, law, engineering, environment, administration, etc. Minnesota Statutes, which governs the establishment and operation of watershed districts, allows affected municipalities within watershed districts to nominate persons to serve on the watershed districts. If the watershed district is located wholly within the metropolitan area, the local townships and municipalities within the district, either jointly or individually, may nominate persons to serve on the watershed district. These nominees must be submitted to the County Board at least 60 days prior to the expiration of term of office of that particular manager. If the townships or municipalities within the district do not submit a list of nominees within 60 days prior to the expiration of term, the County Board of Commissioners may then select the eligible individuals from within the district.

Contact Information

Department Liaison	Committee Contact
Karen Galles	John Evans
Hennepin County Environment and Energy 701 4th Avenue South, Suite 700 Minneapolis, MN, 55415	Hennepin County Environment and Energy 701 4th Avenue South, Suite 700 Minneapolis, MN 55415
(612) 348-8596	(612) 348-4046
karen.galles@hennepin.us	john.evans@hennepin.us