

MN PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING – Minutes
TEAMS Video/Tele-conference
October 9, 2023, at 10:00 am

MEMBERS and DELEGATES PRESENT:

Matt Varilek, Chair, Department of Employment and Economic Development
Jennifer Hassemer, Minnesota Management and Budget
Tom Hogan, Department of Health
Dana Vanderbosch, Pollution Control Agency
Andrea Vaubel, Department of Agriculture
Samuel Brown, Department of Transportation

Also present:

Jeff Freeman, Executive Director
J. Adam Sorenson, Assistant Attorney General
Paula Rindels, MHFA
Chad Kolstad, MDH
Corey Mathisen, MDH
Todd R. Johnson, MDH
Bill Dunn, PCA
Gabe Posteuca, PCA
Randy Thorson, PCA
Matthew Schnackenberg, PFM
Nichole Ramalingam, Capitol Strategies, LLC
Dan Schueller, Met Council
Cory McCullough, Met Council
Kyle Colvin, Met Council
Steve Walter, PFA
Becky Sabie, PFA
Mary Jane Schultz, PFA
Anita Gallentine, PFA
Kathe Barrett, PFA
Peter Bradshaw, PFA
Jennie Brown, PFA
Melissa Ralph, PFA
Angela Berrens, PFA
Katelyn Kanuit, PFA
Drew Brooksbank, PFA
Amanda Sowada, PFA

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Matt Varilek called the meeting of the Public Facilities Authority to order on October 10, 2023, at 10:01am and stated: “I now call the meeting of the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority to order as Chair. As the Chair of the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority, I determined that an in-person meeting was not practical because of the ongoing health pandemic declared under Chapter 12 of Minnesota Statutes. As is permitted under the Open Meeting Law in these conditions, this meeting of the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority is being conducted over Audio Video Conferencing, and all

votes will be counted with roll call. I will ask Amanda Sowada to call roll after every agenda item including agenda, minutes, each resolution, and adjournment.”

Roll call taken; present: DEED; MMB; MDH; PCA; MDA; MNDOT
Absent: None

A quorum was established.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Varilek entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Motion made by Andrea Vaubel, seconded by Jenn Hassemer.

Roll call taken, voting yes: DEED; MMB; MDH; PCA; MDOT; MDA
Voting no: None
Absent: None

Approval of the agenda passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF JUNE 21, 2023, MINUTES

Chair Varilek entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2023, meeting. Motion made by Dana Vanderbosch, seconded by Tom Hogan.

Roll call taken, voting yes: DEED; MMB; MDH; PCA; MDOT; MDA
Voting no: none
Absent: None

Approval of the June 21, 2023, Meeting minutes passed unanimously.

IV. 2024 INTENDED USE PLAN – CLEAN WATER REVOLVING FUND

Jeff Freeman provided an overview of the draft 2024 Clean Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP) and the approval process.

Steve Walter talked briefly about the capacity model in terms of clean water lending.

Jen Hassemer asked about a comment Jeff made regarding Congress making reductions to federal capitalization grants to offset congressional earmarks for individual projects. She asked if Minnesota is still a beneficiary of some earmarks even though historically Minnesota has not always brought home the same amount of federal grants as some other states. Jeff acknowledged that some Minnesota communities have benefited, although not as much as some other states. However, the reduction in cap grants hurts the long-term lending capacity of the Fund.

Becky Sabie summarized the process of preparing the IUP and reviewed the draft 2024 IUP document.

Chair Varilek entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2023-07. Motion made by Dana Vanderbosch, seconded by Tom Hogan.

Roll call taken, voting yes: DEED; MMB; MDH; PCA; MDOT; MDA

Voting no: None

Absent: None

Approval of the Resolution 2023-07 passed unanimously.

V. 2024 INTENDED USE PLAN – DRINKING WATER REVOLVING FUND

Jeff gave a quick overview of the 2024 Drinking Water Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP) and the approval process. He added that a revised resolution has been requested by MDH that would make set-asides from the IJJA Supplemental Year 2 funds available as soon as the federal award is received rather than banking those funds for later use.

Steve Walter talked briefly about the capacity model in terms of drinking water lending.

Becky Sabie summarized the process of preparing the IUP and reviewed the draft 2024 IUP document.

Chair Varilek entertained a motion to approve the revised Resolution 2023-08. Motion made by Jen Hassemer, seconded by Tom Hogan.

Roll call taken, voting yes: DEED; MMB; MDH; PCA; MDOT; MDA

Voting no: None

Absent: None

Approval of the revised Resolution 2023-08 as amended passed unanimously.

VI. 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION PREPARATION

Jeff explained that 2024 is expected to be a bonding year and MPFA has submitted its bonding requests through MMB. Additionally, he has already submitted two proposed MPFA policy items for Governor's office consideration. The first proposal is to authorize use of federal principal forgiveness grants to incentivize cities to replace aging water infrastructure in disadvantaged communities. This proposal builds off ideas that were discussed last session. Also included are statute changes to authorize federal principal forgiveness for clean water emerging contaminant projects and for drinking water projects needed to comply with a maximum contaminant level under the Safe Drinking Water Act. A second MPFA policy proposal is to increase the maximum grant awards under the WIF and PSIG grant programs.

Roll call taken: DEED; MMB; MDH; PCA; MDOT; MDA

Absent: None

VII. NEXT MEETING

The next MPFA Board meeting is expected to be in mid-December where the agenda will include review of the PFA's 2023 independent audit report and the draft Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature, and WIF and PSIG grant needs report to the Legislature.

Roll call taken: DEED; MMB; MDH; PCA; MDOT; MDA

Absent: None

VIII. ADJOURN

Chair Varilek entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Tom Hogan, seconded by Andrea Vaubel.

Roll call taken: DEED; MMB; MDH; PCA; MDOT; MDA

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:59am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeff Freeman, Executive Director
Minnesota Public Facilities Authority