



# Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

## 3A

Agenda Item #

**Requested Meeting Date:** May 25, 2021

**Title of Item:** Upper Miss. and Kettle 1W1P resolutions

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	<b>Action Requested:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <small><i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i></small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
<b>Submitted by:</b> Steve Hughes		<b>Department:</b> Aitkin County SWCD
<b>Presenter (Name and Title):</b> Steve Hughes SWCD District Manager		<b>Estimated Time Needed:</b> 15 minutes
<b>Summary of Issue:</b>  <p>I will present 2 resolutions to the County Board for their consideration. One would show County support for taking a technical but not leadership role in the Kettle River watershed "1 Watershed 1 Plan" (eastern edge of Aitkin County). The second would show County support to take a leadership role in the Upper Mississippi Brainerd section "1 Watershed 1 Plan". This includes almost half of Aitkin County starting at Palisade and going to the Crow Wing line. It also includes hundreds of lakes, miles of streams and rivers, and other water quality opportunities.</p> <p>These "1 Watershed 1 Plan" resolutions start the implementation portion of the watershed management efforts that started with Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS). They will generally complement our Local Water Plan and they will provide funding for the County and SWCD to implement water quality projects. The Aitkin County SWCD was the lead for the successful Upper Mississippi WRAPS (Brainerd) planning.</p> <p>We are mindful that these efforts require County Board and staff time commitments. The Upper Mississippi portion will require more policy and technical efforts and the Kettle River watershed will require relatively small technical and review commitments. State funding coming to Aitkin County for implementation will be the result of both watershed plans.</p>		
<b>Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:</b> Not participating is an option but would result in less revenue for water quality projects in the future.		
<b>Recommended Action/Motion:</b> I recommend adopting both resolutions.		
<b>Financial Impact:</b> Is there a cost associated with this request? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$ County Board and SWCD Board time serving on a Policy Committee Is this budgeted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i> Some additional County Commissioner, County staff, SWCD Board, and SWCD staff time.		

Legally binding agreements must have County Attorney approval prior to submission.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED May 25, 2021

By Commissioner: xxxx

20210525-xxx

**Resolution to support a Mississippi River - Brainerd Watershed**  
**One Watershed, One Plan**

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources has developed policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103C.331, subdivision 11, Comprehensive Plan, authorizes Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts to develop and implement a comprehensive plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the counties and soil and water conservation districts within the Mississippi River - Brainerd Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code 07010104), as delineated in the attached One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map, have interest in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan for this area.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Aitkin County recognizes and supports watershed-scale planning efforts consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, also known as One Watershed, One Plan; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Aitkin County welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties and soil and water conservation districts within the Mississippi River - Brainerd Watershed for watershed-scale planning efforts in the future; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Aitkin County supports an application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a planning grant to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan and anticipates entering into a Memorandum of Agreement with the counties and soil and water conservation districts, within the Mississippi River - Brainerd Watershed, to collaborate on this effort, pending selection as a recipient of a planning grant.

Commissioner xxxx moved for adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting

STATE OF MINNESOTA}  
COUNTY OF AITKIN}

I, Jessica Seibert, County Administrator, Aitkin County, Minnesota do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in the Administration Office of Aitkin County in Aitkin, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said Board on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021 and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Seibert  
County Administrator

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED May 25, 2021

By Commissioner: xxxx

20210525-xxx

**Resolution to Support the Kettle River & Upper St. Croix Watershed  
One Watershed, One Plan Project**

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources has developed policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103D.401, Watershed Management Plan, authorizes Minnesota Watershed Districts to develop and implement a watershed management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103C.331, subdivision 11, Comprehensive Plan, authorizes Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts to develop and implement a comprehensive plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts within the Kettle River & Upper St. Croix Watershed No. 07030003 & 07030001, as delineated in the attached Boundary Map, have interest in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan for this area.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Aitkin County supports watershed-scale planning efforts consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, also known as One Watershed, One Plan; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that that Aitkin County welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts within the Kettle River & Upper St. Croix Watershed River Watershed for watershed-scale planning efforts in the future; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Aitkin County Supports an application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a planning grant to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan. Aitkin County will participate in the Advisory Committee and not the Policy Committee of the planning process because the watershed is only 5% of the county's jurisdictional area.

Commissioner xxxx moved for adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

**FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT**

**All Members Voting**

STATE OF MINNESOTA}  
COUNTY OF AITKIN}

I, Jessica Seibert, County Administrator, Aitkin County, Minnesota do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in the Administration Office of Aitkin County in Aitkin, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said Board on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021 and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021

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Jessica Seibert  
County Administrator

