

# **SUBCOMMITTEE ON MINNESOTA WATER POLICY**

**OCTOBER 20, 2021**

**9:30 AM: VIRTUAL MEETING**

**Co-Chairs:**

**Sen. Chris Eaton (presiding)**

**Rep. John Poston**

**Jim Stark, Director**

**Subcommittee Support: Sandy Most**

# AGENDA

- **Call to order/approval of minutes: August 18 and September 22**
- **Presentation: Mr. Dave Schulenberg, Mr. David Henrich: MN Water Well Association**
- **Subcommittee Legislative Progress Update: Jim Stark**
- **Presentation: Dr. Keith Olander, Dean of Agriculture Studies, Central Lakes College**
- **Presentation and Comments: Mr. Mike Tauber, Northern Water Alliance**
- **Comments: Dr. Keith Olander**
- **Testifiers:**
  - **Mr. Jake Wildman, President- Irrigator's Association of MN**
  - **Ms. Anna Bregier, Vice President –Irrigator's Association of MN**
- **Announcement: Supreme Court Decision—public waters**
- **Adjourn**

# **PRESENTATION**

- **Mr. Dave Schulenberg, Mr. David Henrich—MN  
Water Well Association**

# Legislative Process

- **Fifty + recommendations have been reviewed and evaluated**
- **Surveys: Subcommittee Members and Stakeholders**
- **Three stakeholder meetings**
- **Currently, 11 topics**
- **Second short survey to Members, asking for level of support**

# **Legislative Priorities-1**

- **Establish sustainable water limits using technological advances– A pilot in a one-water/one-plan watershed (UM sustainability report)**
- **Improving water quality: UM allocation for research and outreach for precision agriculture**
- **Tax credit for private riparian buffer lands**

## **Legislative Priorities-2**

- **Safe drinking water: MDH support of private well safety water testing clinics by a non-profit (UM report)**
- **Ensure safety of private wells—identify vulnerable aquifers-- coordinate and supplement agency monitoring**
- **Water safety plans for cities: Appropriation for a plan and pilot (UM/ MDH recommendation)**
- **State soil-health action plan including research, implementation, and outreach (UM allocation)**

## **Legislative Priorities-3**

- **Reactivation of the LWC and the Water/ Wastewater Advisory Council**
- **Complete land preservation targets to preserve high-valued lakes in the Upper Mississippi—plan to reach the goal**
- **Environmental Justice: Ensure that ALL have drinking water free from lead: focus on children, private wells, and rental properties**
- **Policy and appropriation to encourage gw recharge ,where needed, with restrictions**

# **PRESENTATION**

**Dr. Keith Olander**

**Dean of Agriculture Studies, Central Lakes College**



# **PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS**

**Mr. Keith Tauber**

**Northern Water Alliance**

# **COMMENTS**

**Dr. Keith Olander,  
Dean of Agriculture Studies, Central Lakes College**

# TESTIFIERS

- **Mr. Jake Wildman, President- Irrigator's Association of MN**
- **Ms. Anna Bregier, Vice President –Irrigator's Association of MN**

# NEXT STEPS

- **Survey Subcommittee Members**
- **Prepare bills**
- **Consensus from subcommittee**
- **Willing authors**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURN

- **Supreme Court ruling: Public Waters**
- **Expect short survey**
- **Adjourn**