Agriculture & Rural Development Advisory Committee  
Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center, Alexandria  
September 3, 2014

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Rick Anderson, Lyon County  
Garry Gamble, Cook County  
Paul Gerde, Pope County  
Luke Johnson, Pipestone County  
Thomas Kaase, Fillmore County  
Dan Kuhns, Waseca County  
Dennis Potter, Brown County  
Vance Stuehrenberg, Blue Earth County  
Tom Warmka, Faribault County

GUESTS:
Richard Anderson, Beltrami County  
Kay Mack, Beltrami County  
Jake Bauerly, Benton County  
Tim Gabrielson, Mower County  
Gerald Magnus, Murray County  
Blair Nelson, Waseca County  
Dave Holmgren, Watonwan County  
Scott Higgins, Watonwan County  
Doug Huebsch, Otter Tail County

I. CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Chair Bruce Kubicek called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Members said the Pledge of Allegiance and made introductions.

Approval of minutes- changes were made to the previous meeting minutes as follows: add Tom Warmka, Dan Kuntz, Gerald Magnus to attendance; Chair Bruce Kubicek adjourned the meeting.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as amended by Commissioner Dan Kuhns and Commissioner Luke Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

II. WIND AND SOLAR FARM TAX CREDITS
Lissa Pawlisch, U of M Clean Energy Resource Team (CERT) Director, presented to the committee on solar incentives vs wind incentives. Handouts were made available.

III. SOLAR CITING WORKGROUP
Deborah Pile, Minnesota Department of Commerce, presented to the committee on solar siting. Handouts were made available.

IV. BROADBAND SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE
Commissioner Rich Sve provided an update on the AMC Broadband Subcommittee work. He gave an overview of this new committee and summarized meeting activities to date. Discussion ensued.
V. **WATERS OF THE US UPDATE**
Al Forsberg, Blue Earth County Engineer, gave an overview of this federal program and implications regarding how the parameters of the waters of the United States are defined. He also described waters excluded from the legislation. NACo, AMC, and NACE will be submitting comments; EPA and Corps of Engineers will continue to meet on the issue via conference calls. Discussion ensued.

VI. **MN SENATE RURAL TASK FORCE COMMITTEE**
Matt Hilgart, AMC General Government Policy Analyst, described the new Rural Task Force. AMC testified at the first meeting as to AMC’s general legislative priorities for the upcoming session. Matt provided a handout including more information. The committee will meet again mid-September; Matt will attend on behalf of AMC.

VII. **ADJOURN**
Commissioner Vance Stuehrenberg moved to adjourn; Commissioner Dan Kuhns seconded. **Motion passed:** committee adjourned at 11:49 am.