MEMBERS PRESENT:
Richard Androli, Waseca County
Tom Appel, Cottonwood County
Duane Bakke, Fillmore County
Steve Bauer, Rice County
Mike Beard, Scott County
James Berg, Brown County
Drew Campbell, Blue Earth County
Jim Dahlvang, Chippewa County
MaryBeth Davidson, Hennepin County
David Erickson, Dodge County
Joe Fox, Swift County
Tim Gabrielson, Mower County
Garry Gamble, Cook County
Paul Gerde, Pope County
John Glynn, Steele County
Richard Hall, Wabasha County
David Henkels, Jackson County
Peter Hoff, Grant County
Roger Imdieke, Kandiyohi County
James Ische, Carver County
Steve Jacobson, Norman County
Luke Johnson, Pipestone County
Todd Johnson, Traverse County
Gary Kiesow, Marshall County
Glen Kluis, Murray County
Gary Kneisl, Todd County
Jim Kordiak, Anoka County
Randy Kramer, Renville County
Doug Krueger, McLeod County
Joan Lee, Polk County
John Lindquist, Ottertail County
Tom Loveall, Faribault County
Vern Massie, Hubbard County
Kevin Maurer, Morrison County
Scott McCollum, Mahnomen County
Michelle McPherson, Mille Lacs County
Todd Miller, Roseau County
Joshua Mohr, Pine County
Jenny Mongeau, Clay County
Brian Napstand, Aitkin County
Barry Nelson, Becker County
Steve Notch, Stearns County
Leon Olson, Kittson County
Wade Pavleck, Koochiching County
Gary Peterson, Carlton County
Neil Peterson, Pennington County
Edward Popp, Benton County
Steve Rohlfing, Le Sueur County
Pat Sawatzke, Wright County
Kathy Smith, Martin County
Ron Staples, Stevens County
Rodney Stensrud, Lyon County
James Stratton, Douglas County
Rich Sve, Lake County
Jim Swanson, Sibley County
Paul Thiede, Crow Wing County
Joe Vene, Beltrami County
Marvin Zylstra, Nobles County

GUESTS:
Bill Pratt, Aitkin County Commissioner-Elect
Jed Nordin, Hubbard Co. Solid Waste Admin.
Chelle Benson, Stearns Co. Environmental Services Director
Tim Nelson, Cook Co. Planning/Zoning Admin.
Jean Christoffels, Murray County Planning/Zoning Admin.
Terry Neff, Aitkin Co. Environmental Services Director
I. **Call to Order**
Chair Barry Nelson called the Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee meeting to order at 8:01 AM and welcomed members and guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Commissioner Luke Johnson made a motion to approve the September 15-16, 2016 minutes. Commissioner Randy Kramer seconded the motion. The motion prevailed and the minutes were adopted.

II. **Election of Committee Vice Chair**
Commissioner Duane Bakke made a motion to nominate Commissioner Randy Kramer as Vice Chair. Commissioner Roger Imdieke seconded the motion. Chair Nelson called three times for other nominations. Commissioner Rich Sve made a motion for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Randy Kramer. Commissioner Drew Campbell seconded the motion and it was adopted. Commissioner Randy Kramer was elected to Committee Vice Chair.

III. **MN Drainage Law Manual And Drainage Records Database Updates**
Al Kean, Board of Water and Soil Resources Chief Engineer, provided an update on the new MN Drainage Law Manual, which is now in a wiki format. He also gave an update on the Drainage Records Database project and answered questions. The committee had an impromptu discussion on One Watershed One Plan during this agenda item. Bob Meier, Assistant Commissioner at the Department of Natural Resources, was also present at the meeting and gave a short presentation on county PILT payments and the need for updated land values from counties to ensure the PILT payments are accurate.

IV. **Final Platform Review and Approval**
Chair Nelson and Jennifer Berquam, AMC Policy Analyst, led the process for final platform review and approval. The Committee reviewed and took action on the following policies:

- **Land Use Planning and Regulation, Environmental Review** - Commissioner Brian Napstad made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Drew Campbell, to remove the following policy from the platform: *AMC supports a legislature authorized feasibility study of State assumption of the Federal Section 404 permit program*. Motion adopted.

- **Land Use Planning and Regulation, Environmental Review** – Commissioner Garry Gamble made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Tom Loveall, to adopt the following policy language: *AMC supports requiring project/site specific meetings for the purpose of gathering public testimony be held in the project/site county or within sixty miles of the project/site location*. Motion adopted.
• Land Use Planning and Regulation, Noxious and Invasive Species Management – Commissioner Roger Imdieke made a motion, seconded by Marybeth Davidson, to adopt the following policy language: AMC supports legislation providing state funding to aid counties for planning and response to the loss of trees due to Emerald Ash Borer and other invasive pests and pathogens. Motion adopted.

• Land Use Planning and Regulation, Public Land Management – Commissioner Todd Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Drew Campbell, to adopt the following policy language: AMC supports more effective laws to reduce the frequency and severity of accidental dog trapping incidents. Motion adopted.

• Solid Waste Management – Commissioner Wade Pavleck made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Todd Miller, to adopt the following policy language under a new heading: Permitting of Demolition Land Disposal Facilities – AMC supports requiring the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to issue, and/or reissue, all demolition land disposal facility permits in accordance with the MPCA’s 2005 Guidance Document until such guidelines are otherwise modified by new Rule or Statute. Motion adopted.

• Solid Waste Management – Commissioner Luke Johnson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joe Fox, to adopt the following policy language under a new heading: Recycling Definition – Glass – AMC supports the use of crushed glass in the construction of roads and in the construction and operation of MSW landfills; this use is considered recycling and included in SCORE goals.

• Water, Aquatic Invasive Species – Commissioner James Stratton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Maurer, to adopt the following policy language: AMC supports increased financial and technical support from the State in response to newly identified infestations and continuing management of all known infestations to reduce the risk of spread. Motion adopted.

• Water, Aquatic Invasive Species – Commissioner Roger Imdieke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Androli, to adopt the following policy language: AMC supports increased State enforcement and/or increased funding for local enforcement of State Laws to prevent spread of AIS. Motion adopted.

• Water, Aquatic Invasive Species – Commissioner Drew Campbell made a motion, seconded by John Lindquist, to adopt the following policy language: AMC supports regional cooperation and partnerships in prevention and management of AIS. Motion adopted.

• Water – Commissioner Neil Peterson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Randy Kramer, to adopt the following policy language and add a new heading: Buffer Law Implementation – AMC supports lands within required buffer areas be allowed to enroll and reenroll in federal and state conservation programs such as CRP and CCRP or others. Motion adopted.
• Water – Commissioner Randy Kramer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Todd Miller, to adopt the following policy language under the newly created Buffer Law Implementation heading: *AMC supports ongoing state funding for counties that affirm jurisdiction of the Minnesota Buffer program.* Motion adopted.

• Water – Commissioner Duane Bakke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Luke Johnson, to adopt the following policy language and add a new heading: *One Watershed One Plan Implementation—AMC supports funding from the Clean Water Fund for implementation grants to local governments who have collaborated and completed a comprehensive water plan through the One Watershed One Plan process.* Motion adopted.

V. Policy Discussions
Jennifer Berquam led a policy discussion on Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) being added as a special taxing district in the 2016 Omnibus Tax Bill (the bill was vetoed and will not become law, unless a Special Session takes place before December 31, 2016). In general, committee members seemed uncomfortable with this language. A discussion on taxing authority for SWCDs also took place and some members expressed opposition to that policy.

The Committee previously discussed One Watershed One Plan and did not add much more to this topic, except to express support for funding the comprehensive water management plans once they are created through the One Watershed One Plan process.

Jennifer also led a discussion on buffer aid strategy and shared three draft model resolutions counties may consider when deciding whether to opt in or out of buffer implementation/enforcement (one resolution for opting out, a second for opting in, and a third for opting in contingent upon state funding). Chair Nelson also asked county commissioners/boards to consider only accepting buffer implementation/enforcement duties if the state provides funding; otherwise, counties will be taking on another unfunded mandate.

VI. Adjourn
There was a motion and second to adjourn the meeting. The Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee adjourned at 9:59 AM.