



**Mississippi Headwaters Board
Meeting Agenda
Cass County Courthouse
Walker, MN
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87881444640>
February 27, 2026
9:00 am**

9:00 AM

- **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Officer Election- 2025 Officers:** Chair Ted Van Kempen (Hubbard), Vice Chair Craig Gaasvig (Beltrami), Sec./Treasurer Steve Barrows (Crow Wing)

9:05 AM Approve/Amend

- Agenda
- Consent Agenda – December 2025 & January 2026 Expenses & Minutes

Correspondence

- January & February Press Release
- Conservation Easement praise from John Jaschke
- Litter On the Ice video

Planning and Zoning (Actions)

- None

Action / Discussion Items:

- Legislative letters- update
- Forming budget committee- approve
- Outdoor & Public Spaces Committee- request direction and involvement
- We Are Water- request direction and involvement
- Mighty Mississippi River Clean up- Morrison & Beltrami- update
- MHB TENTATIVE Schedule of Events- informative
- Executive Directors report-discussion

Closed Meeting for Executive Director's Annual Performance Evaluation

- Performance Review Summary Discussion with supporting documentation (New Pay Plan, Performance review template)
- Resolution 2026-01 (Enclosed in Packet)

Misc: Legislature Update (if any), County Updates

Meeting Adjourned - Thank you

Mtgs: March 27, 2026 9:00 AM- MHB BOARD MEETING- Walker MN.

Mississippi Headwaters Board
December 19, 2025
Cass County Courthouse, Walker, MN
Optional interactive technology: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89730243253>

MEETING
MINUTES

Members present: Ted Van Kempen (Hubbard), Scott Bruns (Cass), Craig Gaasvig (Beltrami), Bobby Kasper (Morrison), Michael Kearney (Aitkin interactive), Brian Ramsrud (Clearwater), Steve Barrows (Crow Wing interactive), Cory Smith (Itasca interactive), and Tim Terrill (Executive Director).

Video Interactive Reasons: Commissioners attending interactively is due to scheduling differences.

Others Present: Amy Kowalzek (Morrison Planning and Zoning), Drew Hatzenbihler (Morrison Public Works), Steve Henry (Cass County AIS Coordinator).

Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Ted VanKempen asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Tim stated that he would like to add a We Are Water agenda item after MN Traditions social media. **M/S (Gaasvig/Bruns) to approve of the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.**

M/S (Barrows/Kasper) to approve of the Consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence/Outreach

1. Tim provided the December news release informing the public about the topics presented at the MHB biennial conference.

Planning and Zoning

M12a25- Morrison County Amy Kowalzek presented the variance request to install retaining walls visible from the water as part of a handicap accessibility project replacing dilapidated stairways. She stated that this is something that the MHB is silent on in their Comprehensive Plan, but requires a variance because of Morrison County's zoning ordinance. Comm. Kasper stated that he supported the variance and Comm. Gaasvig said that the project will enhance the recreational focus of the Mississippi River. **M/S (Kasper/Ramsrud) to approve of the Variance. Motion carried unanimously.**

Action/Discussion:

1. **Audit Follow-up-** Tim stated that the audit threshold for next year will be raised to \$1 million dollars so it is unlikely that MHB will meet that threshold and need an audit next year. He presented the management representation letter that needs to be signed before receiving the audit. Discussion

ensued about what the letter is stating and Comm. Barrows stated that he has worked before with this audit firm and stated they are a reputable firm. **M/S (Barrows/Ramsrud) to approve of the Chair signing the letter. Motion carried unanimously.**

2. **Legislative Effort to Raise MHB Base Funding-** Tim provided the board with a strategy given to him by the Shaelong Yang who will be the Environmental and Natural Resource Finance Committee Legislative Assistant and is Rep. Heintzeman's legislative assistant. He explained the process which focuses on working with the co-chairs of the committee and provided the letters for the board to review. Discussion ensued and Comm. Barrows felt that a letter should be sent to everyone to the ENRFC members as well. After much discussion, the board provided guidance to send official letters to all the ENRFC members; a specific letter to co-chairs Heintzeman and Fischer asking to draft a bill, and email MHB board members a paragraph explaining why the MHB is requesting additional funding so that they can send out an email to the MHB Senators and Representatives in the eight county area about the Board's intention. The board felt this would be respectful to members and lay the groundwork with everyone.
3. **MN Social Media-** Tim provided the board with a power point which explained where it is located in the Comprehensive Plan, and explained the campaign focuses on behavioral change regarding AIS prevention. AIS Cass County Coordinator followed up and provided information how the program helps with the prevention message and how it satisfies an education component in AIS messaging. Discussion ensued and board members discussed potential reduction in AIS funding from counties in the future, possibly by 50% in 2027. They also discussed two options: to hire a marketing company for around \$35,000 to do the work, or have Tim manage and carry out the program by himself. Comm. Gaasvig stated that it seems like we have the followers and content, all we really need is for someone to grow and post relevant content. The pros and cons were discussed by all the members and Comm. Kasper made a motion to give Tim an opportunity to manage it for a year and see how it works. **M/S (Kasper/Bruns) to approve of Tim running the 2026 AIS campaign this year.** Comm. Gaasvig asked if the board should set a boosting limit for the campaign and the board thought that \$6,400 was an adequate amount for the campaign year. **Motion carried unanimously.** The board also discussed other opportunities to utilize MN Traditions, and through consensus, decided it was still okay for Tim to continue use and promote MHB events, recreational opportunities, and economic development with respect to the Mississippi River.
4. **We Are Water Initiative-** Tim explained the We Are Water Initiative to the board and said that this is the 100 year anniversary of the first water quality sample on the Mississippi River and stated that the program would like cities on the Mississippi to apply for the program. He stated that Little Falls has received a grant for it. Tim asked the board if he should pursue the opportunity and the board requested Tim gather more information about the We Are Water initiative and report back at the next meeting.

Executive Directors Report

1. Tim reported a \$367,000 increase to the ML26 Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Easement and Acquisition Program due to favorable economic forecasts.
2. Tim announced he will be moving from the county's internal internet to Wi-Fi in January for security reasons.
3. Tim provided an update on the Boswell solar construction project meeting, noting good erosion control measures but potential zoning issues. He stated that the MHB corridor makes up a very small portion of the entire project. Tim mentioned that he talked with them about impervious surface, setbacks, planning and zoning policies, and discussion with the tribe about the project. Comm. Gaasvig along

with Comm. Smith talked about energy demands on the system and mentioned bipartisan support from counties to lift nuclear moratoriums and restrictions.

County Updates-

- Comm. Gaasvig: Mentioned Beltrami County hired a lobbying firm to address unfunded mandates. He also discussed that the City of Bemidji and Northern Township are waiting on a court to decide if Northern Township could become a city or Bemidji would annex Northern Township into the city. Tim then provided the annexation process that the board would need to go through if a new city was created, and/or Bemidji annexed more land.
- Comm. Ramsrud: Discussed union negotiations resulting in a wage increase requiring a levy increase.
- Comm. Kasper: Reported Morrison County lost a lawsuit against Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe regarding 3,200 acres.

M/S (Barrows/Bruns) to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair

Executive Director Tim Terrill



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M/S (Barrows/Bruns) to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair

Executive Director Tim Terrill

December and January SFY'26 Budget Summary

			YTD spending/rei mbursement	Projected Budget	% of budget spent	
Revenues:	Jan Mont. Amount	Dec. Monthly Amount				Notes
Governor's DNR grant (53290)	\$ 50,083.89		\$ 119,836.29	\$ 124,000.00	96.64%	non competitive quarterly reimbursement
LSOHC grant (53290)	\$ 1,616.64		\$ 6,309.12	\$ 7,800.00	80.89%	LSOHC reimbursement
Guidebook sales (58400)			\$ 242.84	\$ 100.00	242.84%	reimbursment for Guidebook sales
Enbridge program (58300)	\$ 2,703.10	\$ 6,273.20	\$ 8,976.30	\$ 8,000.00	112.20%	enbridge signage and resourcetainment reambu
Miscell. Other revenue (58300)		\$ 2,361.60	\$ 3,361.60	\$ 6,000.00	56.03%	AIS admin revenue
MCIT Dividend (58300)			\$ 14.00	\$ 200.00	7.00%	MCIT refund
County Support (52990)	\$ 6,000.00		\$ 6,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	50.00%	8 county support- Hubbard, Aitkin, CW, Beltram
Total	\$ 60,403.63	\$ 8,634.80	\$ 144,740.15	\$ 34,100.00		

		Monthly Amount				Notes
Expenses:						
Salaries/Benefits FICA/Med/PERA/LIFE/LTD/Hlth/ WC(61000)	\$ 9,821.67	\$ 9,408.32	\$ 69,993.35	\$ 123,307.00	56.76%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
MCIT insurance/work comp/liability (61500)		\$ 2,570.00	\$ 2,570.00	\$ 3,000.00	85.67%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
MHB board Per Diem (62680)		\$ 250.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 3,000.00	36.67%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
Hotel/Meals/travel exp. (63340)	\$ 174.06	\$ 12.33	\$ 351.62	\$ 500.00	70.32%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
Commissioner Mileage (62720)		\$ 292.60	\$ 1,683.60	\$ 3,500.00	48.10%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
Employee Mileage (63320)	\$ 282.80	\$ 197.40	\$ 2,862.86	\$ 5,500.00	52.05%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
Professional Services (62990)	\$ 5,525.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 27,761.15	\$ 35,000.00	79.32%	CW financial services, Audit
Office supplies/operations (64090)	\$ 60.86	\$ 115.17	\$ 1,476.34	\$ 3,000.00	49.21%	telephone, Dec.-printer ink
Training & Registration Fees (63380)			\$ 450.00	\$ 800.00	56.25%	
Total	\$ 15,864.39	\$ 13,370.82	\$ 108,248.92	\$ 177,607.00		

Governor's DNR grant is always \$124K every year

LSOHC grant is around \$6K to \$8K every year

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2025 12 TO 2025 12

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
74830	58300		Miscellaneous Other Revenue							
										REVISIED BUDGET .00
						PER 01		-17,750.00	-17,750.00	
						PER 02		-32,700.00	-50,450.00	
						PER 03		-13,000.00	-63,450.00	
						PER 04		-350.00	-63,800.00	
						PER 05		-1,000.00	-64,800.00	
						PER 07		-1,000.00	-65,800.00	
						PER 10		-3,500.00	-69,300.00	
						PER 11		-14.00	-69,314.00	
25/12	607	12/10/25	GNI 864306	Britny.MCC 61432				-500.00	-69,814.00	
	iNovah		POPE CNTY AIS SUPPORT							
25/12	1555	12/26/25	GNI 866096	Britny.MCC 61614				-2,000.00	-71,814.00	
	iNovah		Freeborn AIS							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		.00			CREDITS: -71,814.00	NET: -71,814.00	
74830	61000		Salaries & Wages - Regular							
										REVISIED BUDGET .00
						PER 01		6,215.61	6,215.61	
						PER 02		6,625.85	12,841.46	
						PER 03		6,464.23	19,305.69	
						PER 04		6,464.23	25,769.92	
						PER 05		11,312.42	37,082.34	
						PER 06		6,464.24	43,546.58	
						PER 07		6,464.24	50,010.82	
						PER 08		6,464.24	56,475.06	
						PER 09		6,464.24	62,939.30	
						PER 10		9,696.36	72,635.66	
						PER 11		6,464.24	79,099.90	
25/12	714	12/12/25	PRJ PR1212	1251212	1251212	1251		3,232.12	82,332.02	
			PAY121225	WARRANT=251212	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL					
25/12	1351	12/23/25	PRJ PR1223	1251223	1251223	1251		3,232.12	85,564.14	
			PAY122325	WARRANT=251223	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL					
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		85,564.14			CREDITS: .00	NET: 85,564.14	
74830	61200		Active Insurance							
										REVISIED BUDGET .00
						PER 01		2,034.70	2,034.70	
						PER 02		2,034.70	4,069.40	
						PER 03		2,034.70	6,104.10	
						PER 04		2,037.30	8,141.40	
						PER 05		2,035.35	10,176.75	
						PER 06		2,035.35	12,212.10	

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2025 12 TO 2025 12

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
						PER 07		2,035.35	14,247.45	
						PER 08		2,035.35	16,282.80	
						PER 09		2,035.35	18,318.15	
						PER 10		2,035.35	20,353.50	
						PER 11		2,035.35	22,388.85	
25/12	714	12/12/25	PRJ PR1212	1251212	1251212	1251		1,006.02	23,394.87	
			PAY121225 WARRANT=251212 RUN=1 BI-WEEKL							
25/12	1351	12/23/25	PRJ PR1223	1251223	1251223	1251		1,029.33	24,424.20	
			PAY122325 WARRANT=251223 RUN=1 BI-WEEKL							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		24,424.20		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	24,424.20
74830	61300		Employee Pension & FICA				REVISED BUDGET			.00
						PER 01		871.06	871.06	
						PER 02		933.21	1,804.27	
						PER 03		908.73	2,713.00	
						PER 04		908.73	3,621.73	
						PER 05		1,522.02	5,143.75	
						PER 06		908.73	6,052.48	
						PER 07		908.72	6,961.20	
						PER 08		908.73	7,869.93	
						PER 09		908.72	8,778.65	
						PER 10		1,398.39	10,177.04	
						PER 11		908.73	11,085.77	
25/12	714	12/12/25	PRJ PR1212	1251212	1251212	1251		454.37	11,540.14	
			PAY121225 WARRANT=251212 RUN=1 BI-WEEKL							
25/12	1351	12/23/25	PRJ PR1223	1251223	1251223	1251		454.36	11,994.50	
			PAY122325 WARRANT=251223 RUN=1 BI-WEEKL							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		11,994.50		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	11,994.50
74830	61500		Worker's Compensation				REVISED BUDGET			.00
						PER 01		2,795.00	2,795.00	
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 101939		250578	1968969		2,570.00	5,365.00	
			W A122325 MCIT PC & WC RENEWAL							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		5,365.00		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	5,365.00

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ORG YR/PR	OBJECT PROJ JNL EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
74830	62720	Non-Employee Mileage							
									REVISIED BUDGET
									.00
					PER 01		285.60	285.60	
					PER 03		555.80	841.40	
					PER 04		92.40	933.80	
					PER 05		488.60	1,422.40	
					PER 06		325.90	1,748.30	
					PER 08		285.60	2,033.90	
					PER 09		348.60	2,382.50	
					PER 11		988.40	3,370.90	
25/12	1415 12/23/25	API 008091		250508	1968968		81.20	3,452.10	
	W A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE		BRYAN RAMSRUD					
25/12	1415 12/23/25	API 003257		250511	43296		71.40	3,523.50	
	W A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE		GAASVIG, CRAIG					
25/12	1415 12/23/25	API 006980		250515	43311		121.80	3,645.30	
	W A122325	MHB MILEAGE		ROBERT F. KASPER					
25/12	1415 12/23/25	API 003356		250576	43297		18.20	3,663.50	
	W A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE		HUBBARD COUNTY TREAS					
		LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		3,663.50	CREDITS:		.00	NET:	3,663.50
74830	62990	Prof. & Tech. Fee - Other							
									REVISIED BUDGET
									6,300.00
					PER 01		9,735.32	9,735.32	
					PER 02		525.00	10,260.32	
					PER 03		525.00	10,785.32	
					PER 04		66,827.50	77,612.82	
					PER 05		525.00	78,137.82	
					PER 06		17,825.00	95,962.82	
					PER 07		7,375.00	103,337.82	
					PER 08		525.00	103,862.82	
					PER 09		525.00	104,387.82	
					PER 10		21,212.00	125,599.82	
					PER 11		7,715.35	133,315.17	
25/12	2131 12/31/25	GEN					525.00	133,840.17	
	RECURRING	FINANCIAL SERVICE							
		LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		133,840.17	CREDITS:		.00	NET:	133,840.17
74830	63320	Employee Mileage							
									REVISIED BUDGET
									.00
					PER 01		248.97	248.97	
					PER 02		408.10	657.07	
					PER 03		159.11	816.18	

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25 Records printed

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Matthew Donley **

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74830	52990		Local Grant							
								REVISED BUDGET		.00
26/01	297	01/15/26	GNI 867714	Britny.McC 61839				-1,500.00	-1,500.00	
	iNovah		HUBBARD AIS SUPPORT							
26/01	741	01/22/26	GNI 868135	Britny.McC 61917				-1,500.00	-3,000.00	
	iNovah		AITKIN CO SUPPORT							
26/01	827	01/23/26	GEN					-1,500.00	-4,500.00	
	TRANSFER		2026 MHB APPROPRIATIONS							
26/01	1284	01/30/26	GNI 868712	Britny.McC 62007				-1,500.00	-6,000.00	
	iNovah		26 APPROP BELTRAMI AIS SUPPORT							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		.00		CREDITS:	-6,000.00	NET:	-6,000.00
74830	53290		Natural Resources							
								REVISED BUDGET		.00
26/01	695	01/21/26	GNI					-11,510.65	-11,510.65	
	ST OF MN		DNR OMB 2-3000262121							
26/01	1254	01/29/26	GNI					-50,083.89	-61,594.54	
	ST OF MN		DNR2Q-26							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		.00		CREDITS:	-61,594.54	NET:	-61,594.54
74830	58300		Miscellaneous Other Revenue							
								REVISED BUDGET		.00
26/01	62	01/05/26	GNI 866845	Britny.McC 61704				-1,000.00	-1,000.00	
	iNovah		Sibley AIS							
26/01	219	01/13/26	GNI 867541	Britny.McC 61807				-5,000.00	-6,000.00	
	iNovah		Jackson AIS support							
26/01	860	01/23/26	GNI 868186	Britny.McC 61929				-2,000.00	-8,000.00	
	iNovah		Sherburne AIS support							
26/01	1284	01/30/26	GNI 868712	Britny.McC 62007				-2,000.00	-10,000.00	
	iNovah		26 APPROP BELTRAMI AIS SUPPORT							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		.00		CREDITS:	-10,000.00	NET:	-10,000.00

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2026 01 TO 2026 01

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE	
74830	61000	Salaries & Wages - Regular									
										REVISED BUDGET .00	
26/01	132	01/09/26	PRJ PR0109	1260109	1260109	1260		3,232.12	3,232.12		
			PAY010926	WARRANT=260109	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
26/01	700	01/23/26	PRJ PR0123	1260123	1260123	1260		3,232.12	6,464.24		
			PAY012326	WARRANT=260123	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:	6,464.24		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	6,464.24		
74830	61200	Active Insurance									
										REVISED BUDGET .00	
26/01	132	01/09/26	PRJ PR0109	1260109	1260109	1260		1,228.12	1,228.12		
			PAY010926	WARRANT=260109	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
26/01	700	01/23/26	PRJ PR0123	1260123	1260123	1260		1,220.40	2,448.52		
			PAY012326	WARRANT=260123	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:	2,448.52		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	2,448.52		
74830	61300	Employee Pension & FICA									
										REVISED BUDGET .00	
26/01	132	01/09/26	PRJ PR0109	1260109	1260109	1260		454.46	454.46		
			PAY010926	WARRANT=260109	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
26/01	700	01/23/26	PRJ PR0123	1260123	1260123	1260		454.45	908.91		
			PAY012326	WARRANT=260123	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:	908.91		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	908.91		
74830	62100	Telephone									
										REVISED BUDGET .00	
26/01	274	01/20/26	API 006205		252010	43476		5.86	5.86		
			W C012026	COUNTY WIDE BILL	CONSOLIDATED TELECOM						
26/01	700	01/23/26	PRJ PR0123	1260123	1260123	1260		55.00	60.86		
			PAY012326	WARRANT=260123	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:	60.86		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	60.86		

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2026 01 TO 2026 01

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
74830	62990		Prof. & Tech. Fee - Other							
										REVISED BUDGET .00
26/01	64	01/06/26	API 101649		251424	1969164		6,175.00	6,175.00	
	W A010626		WEST INVOICE # 2							
26/01	64	01/06/26	API 008466		251425	43391		5,000.00	11,175.00	
	W A010626		PETERSON AUDIT							
26/01	211	01/13/26	API 007203		251877	43449		3,719.01	14,894.01	
	W A011326		HUBBARD SWCD							
26/01	1476	01/30/26	GEN					525.00	15,419.01	
			RECURRING FINANCIAL SERVICE							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		15,419.01	CREDITS:		.00	NET:	15,419.01
74830	63320		Employee Mileage							
										REVISED BUDGET .00
26/01	738	01/27/26	API 007742		252631	1969681		282.80	282.80	
	W OOP1225		DECEMBER MILEAGE							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		282.80	CREDITS:		.00	NET:	282.80
74830	63340		Hotel & Meals Travel Expense							
										REVISED BUDGET .00
26/01	1274	01/30/26	GNI					154.31	154.31	
	BREM PCARD		AMC conference hotel							
			TIM TERRILL-DOUBLE TREE BLOOMINGTO-AMC conference hotel							
26/01	1274	01/30/26	GNI					19.75	174.06	
	BREM PCARD		AMC conference meal							
			TIM TERRILL-TACO LIBRE-AMC conference meal							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		174.06	CREDITS:		.00	NET:	174.06
			GRAND TOTAL --- DEBITS:		25,758.40	CREDITS:		-77,594.54	NET:	-51,836.14

25 Records printed

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Matthew Donley **



PROTECTING THE FIRST 400 MILES

IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE 1/1/26

Media Contact

Tim Terrill

218-824-1189

timt@mississippiheadwaters.org

www.mississippiheadwaters.org

326 Laurel St.

Brainerd, MN 56401

Mississippi Headwaters Board Holds Discussion about Large Solar Project

The Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) discussed at their last meeting a 177,675 solar panel project being proposed and planned near Grand Rapids, MN. The Public Utilities Commission has issued a draft site and route permit for an 85-megawatt photovoltaic solar generation facility in Cohasset Minnesota with the condition to consult with the MN Dept. of Natural Resources and the Mississippi Headwaters Board regarding potential impacts to the Mississippi River. Executive Director Tim Terrill asked the board what topics they should discuss with Minnesota Power, and they wanted him to address zoning requirements, pre and post site erosion concerns, site setbacks, and if the project site is within the reservation boundary of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Terrill will report back to the board at the January board meeting.



PROTECTING THE FIRST 400 MILES

IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE 2/3/26

Media Contact

Tim Terrill

218-824-1189

timt@mississippiheadwaters.org

www.mississippiheadwaters.org

326 Laurel St.

Brainerd, MN 56401

Mississippi Headwaters Board Adds Value to Existing Social Media Program

The Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) met and discussed how to continue and add value to the existing Minnesota Traditions social media program. The campaign focuses mostly on aquatic invasive species and the board determined that the prevention messaging helps satisfy an educational component in Minnesota counties. The board also chose to increase the reach of the program and authorized a \$6,400 budget for boosting posts and reels. The board felt that this would satisfy the mission of the MHB while still protecting the Mississippi river and our natural resource waters.

Re: DU article on Importance of Conservation Easements



Jaschke, John (BWSR) <john.jaschke@state.mn.us>

To jschneider

Cc Troy Daniell - NRCS (troy.daniell@mn.usda.gov); leann.buck; Todd Holman; Jayne Hager Dee; Kris Larson; Tim Terrill; Annie Knight; Paula West; ACUB Josh Pennington; Shannon Wettstein; Sheila Vanney; **+8 others**



Sat 1/24/2026 9:28 AM

Jon: thanks much for sharing that DU piece. It is the best assessment I have read on this increasingly important conservation mechanism. In MN we are leading the way in understanding how to use that tool to accomplish long lasting public benefits...and there will be reasons and opportunities ahead to build on existing MN innovations, including:

- protection of drinking water supply areas and wild rice beds,
- sustaining the viability of military preparedness and enhancing farmland and natural resources habitat in and around Camp Ripley,
- preserving the headwaters of the nation's premier river system - the Mississippi,
- protecting some of our most sensitive and pristine plant communities and shorelines from land use changes,
- and as many of us are part of, a long-term effort to restore some of the lost wetlands and grasslands in the prairie-pothole region to re-establish habitat and water quality over that large agricultural landscape (and which also serves as a platform to increase hunting access via the Walk-In Access program).

Including some others via cc – beyond your BWSR/USFWS shares – as it likely has relevance to their partnership work in MN too.

Hope to see you sometime soon!

(Bcc BWSR staff)

John Jaschke

MN BWSR Executive Director

612-202-3815 mobile



Mississippi Headwaters Board

Crow Wing County Historic Courthouse - 326 Laurel St. Brainerd, MN 56401

Web Site: www.mississippiheadwaters.org

1/29/26

Representative Josh Heintzeman
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Honorable Representative Heintzeman;

The Mississippi Headwaters Board (**MHB**) is an eight-county (Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Itasca, and Morrison) joint-powers board formed in 1980 with the signing of a Joint-Powers Agreement. In 1981, the Minnesota legislature duly authorized MHB to preserve and protect the outstanding and unique natural, scientific, historical, recreational, and cultural values of the first four hundred miles of the Mississippi River. (See Minn. Stat. § 103F.361, Subd. (1) and (2); Minn. Stat. § 103F.361-377). The board is comprised of eight local county commissioners from eight separate counties, and the legislature and eight member counties agreed that local control through consistent zoning and common administration in the MHB jurisdictional area is essential to managing the Mississippi River.

The MHB County Commissioners have a responsibility as elected officials to protect the Mississippi River and Headwaters Lakes in an efficient and fiscally accountable manner. That being stated, the MHB will exceed their financial allocation from the state and request that you write and pass a bill to increase our funding from \$248,000 per biennium to \$350,000 per biennium to help MHB fulfill their statutory obligation and continue to allow for local control to protect the habitat, drinking water, and vibrant recreational economy in our area. Some of the goals we have or will accomplish in the next biennium is to enforce the MHB Comprehensive Plan which provides consistent zoning administration on the first four hundred miles of the Mississippi River. We also will submit comment to the Public Utilities Commission for a potential 85-megawatt solar array near the Mississippi River in Itasca County. Finally, we will approve timber harvests plans conducted by MHB counties, which will help to protect the current and downstream drinking water of the Mississippi River to other communities. The eight member MHB counties have discussed increasing their local, annual, county support as well. Through the oversight of County Commissioners, it has been almost ten years since the MHB requested an increase. Passing a bill in 2026 to increase our allocation will help support the regulatory and voluntary efforts of the MHB Comprehensive Plan to protect the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River.

Our Executive Director, Tim Terrill, can be reached at 218-824-1189 or at timt@mississippiheadwaters.org, to discuss this issue at your convenience. The board thanks you in advance for your commitment to protecting the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

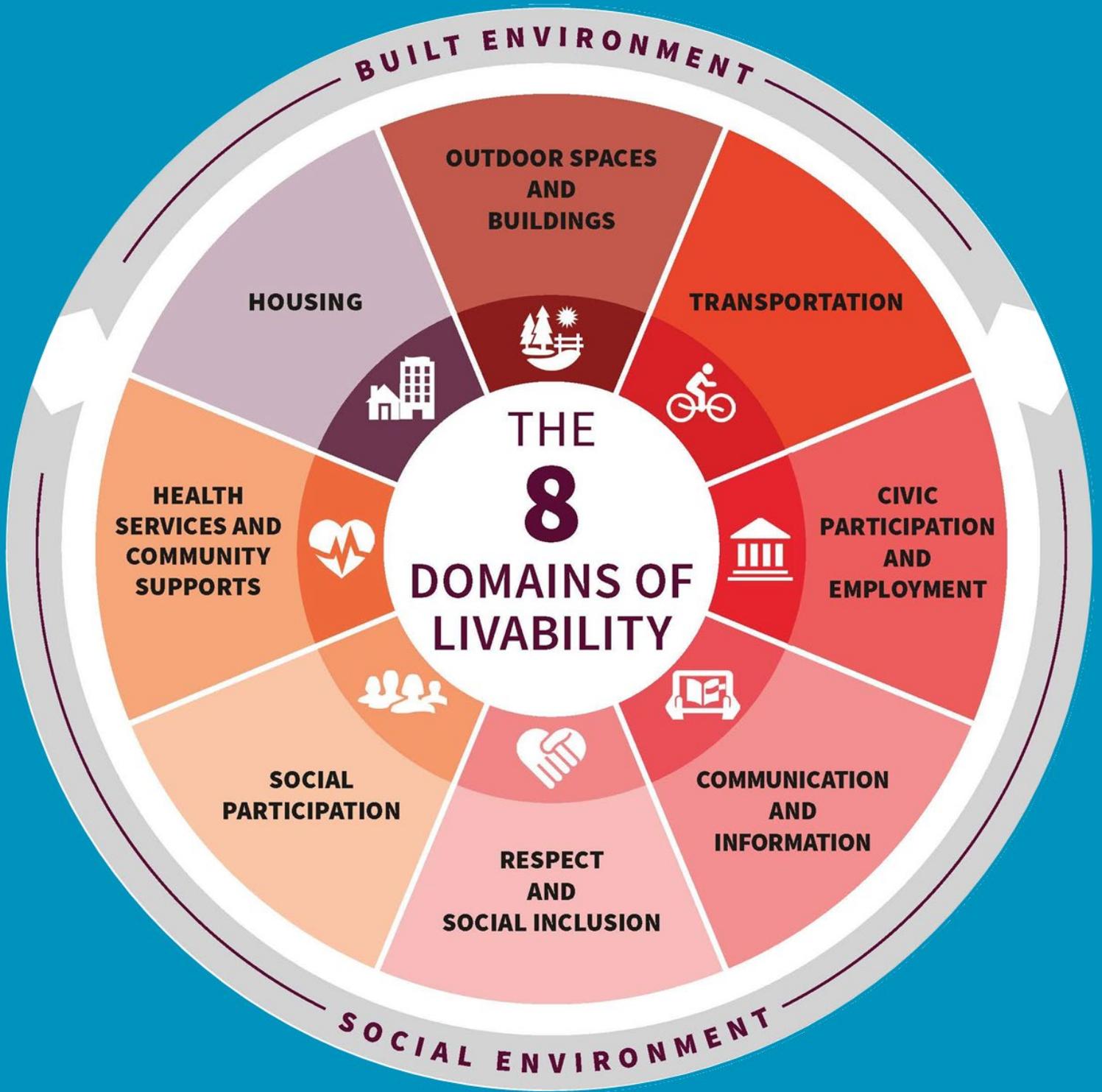
Ted Van Kempen
Mississippi Headwaters Board Chairman

The Age-Friendly Guidebook

Helping You Navigate the
Age-Friendly Process



**Age-Friendly Communities
Are Livable for
People of All Ages**
aarp.org/livable



Domain: Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

People need public places to gather — indoors and out. Green spaces, seating and accessible buildings (elevators, zero-step entrances, staircases with railings) can be used and enjoyed by people of all ages

Nearly three-quarters of adults (73%) say it is important to have safe, well-lit parks that give residents places to gather and interact with friends.

Source: AARP Home and Community preferences Survey 11/21

Resources:

[Creating Parks and Public Spaces](#)
[The Pop-up Placemaking Toolkit](#)
[The Walk Audit Toolkit](#)
[Creating Community Gardens for People of All Ages](#)



Domain: Housing

We spend more time in our homes than anywhere else, so housing costs, choices, and accessibility are critical. Great communities provide housing opportunities for people of all ages, incomes, and abilities.

More than three-quarters of adults ages 50 and older want to stay in their homes (77%) and communities (79%) as they age.

Source: AARP Home and Community preferences Survey 11/21

Resources:

[Making Room for 'Making Room'](#)
[The ABCs of ADUs](#)
[AARP HomeFit Guide](#)
[Discovering and Developing Missing Middle Housing](#)
[Roadmap to Livability: Housing Workbook](#)



We Are Water Exhibit



Traveling Exhibit

The traveling exhibit examines water issues statewide and in local communities through personal stories, histories, and scientific information. It strengthens Minnesotans' relationships with water, exposes visitors to new perspectives, and increases participation in water stewardship activities.

[Find Exhibits](#)

2026 Schedule of Events

(Goal: These events will be promoted by MN Traditions with potential other partners social media)

May ?- Morrison Belle Prairie Park Clean up?- SWCD

May 9th- Beltrami Paul Bunyan Park Clean up- SWCD

May 19th- Miller Black Bear ATV trail content production and post (Visit Brainerd)

June 20th- Aitkin Paddle Your Glass Off- Visit Aitkin

June ?- Great River Road Influencer Post?

July 11th- Paddle & Pint- Cohasset Park & Rec.

August 8th- Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival- Scott

August 15th- History Paddle (We Are Water Promoted) Visit Brainerd

August ?- Itasca State Park Paddle

September 5th- Minnesota Canoe Championships

Executive Director Report

December 2025 – January 2026

Personnel, Budget, Administration, Information & Education, Correspondence

1. Reviewed monthly budget.
2. Prepared monthly agenda packet.
3. Sent in monthly expense report.
4. Sent press release to newspapers.
5. Reviewed monthly variances as they are brought forward by counties.
6. Reviewed Boswell Solar Notes from meeting.
7. Updated website with an adobe professional PDF so that it is a word searchable document that the public can use.
8. Called MHB high schools to try to schedule appointments to talk with classes about careers in conservation for this year.
9. Sent in DNR Quarterly reimbursement.
10. Set up meeting with the MN Parkway Commission discussing the possibility of partnering on some social media promotion of the Great River Road in our MHB Counties.
11. Submitted LSOHC Status Reports for ML 21, 22, 24, and 25.
12. Completed template AIS report for MN Traditions. This will go out monthly to AIS coordinators when the season begins. This is teaching me a new skill on how to organize a report from social media.
13. Reviewed the updated Cass County Land Use Ordinance and sent comments to ESD noting that they mention the MHB Comprehensive Plan as a resource document, and also state that when there are conflicting regulations that the ordinance containing more restrictive requirements shall govern. This provides written reassurance that MHB is part of the Land Use Ordinance and will be included in the decision-making process where applicable. I also stated that this plan will need to come before the MHB board because ordinance changes are required by statute to be certified by the board.
14. Reviewed two Crow Wing forestry timber sales and approved of them because they met the MN Forest Resource Council handbook guidelines.
15. Emailed Klobuchar's office to see if they have a strategy yet for passing HR197 on the Senate floor.
16. Created improved Gantt chart to track programs that and allow for board to know what occurred and not just when it occurred.

Meetings & Networking

12/15 Sent email to Klobuchar's office to find out when a Land's bill is typically presented and passed by the Congress. We already have a Stauber House bill, and we passed the bill through the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry committee; so we just need it to pass through the Senate in a traditional Land's bill procedure.

12/23 Began calling cities to collaborate on Natural Resource tourism that is on the Mississippi River.

12/30 Talked with Karl Ludeman about potential research project through a farmer fund grant. He said that he appreciated the follow up but has taken on more responsibility and won't be able to make that deadline. He may still want to apply for an RSDP project in January, but will need to check on his schedule in the new year.

1/02 Talked with Andrew George, the new MRPC executive director, and discussed with him the possibility of MHB and the Great River Road doing a social media partnership where we promote the Mississippi River and sites along the Great River Road. This would be a pilot project with one influencer post being created and collaborated with the GRR social media platform to see how many views could be gained and see where it leads.

1/06 Talked with Kristi Coughlon about clean ice campaign and found out videos will be shot tomorrow on Lake Minnetonka.

1/08 Met with Cass Lake Alternative Learning Center and gave presentation to school about the MHB and career opportunities.

1/14 Talked with Visit Brainerd and they agreed to promote the 2026 Miss. River History Paddle along with a natural resource influencer video. I also talked with Tom Strack from Crow Wing County, and he is interested in helping provide information to help with content.

1/14 Attended virtual Updated Study Report for Sylvan, Pillager, and Little Falls dam. The purpose was to describe the overall process and describe the data collected on recreational and cultural resource studies done on the project.

1/15 Met with Paula West to discuss a 10 year strategic plan for the MHHCP program. This is something that needs to be done to prioritize where we want to work in each county so we can present it to the LSOHC council for funding.

1/23 Talked with Drew Hatzenbihler from Morrison County and discussed a partnership between Morrison County and MHB for a Mighty Mississippi Clean up at Belle Prairie Park. Their biggest concern is affording safety vests/gloves/trash bags for the clean up. I told them to determine a cost, and I would talk with the board about this and see what opportunities are available to partner with them.

1/23 Set up meeting with Beltrami County and discussed a Mighty Mississippi Clean up and how the MHB could partner on this event in 2026. We set a date for May 9th for a clean up and I will help with promotion and clean up.

1/23 Posted a FB and IG reels that DNR created for their Litter On The Ice campaign. My part in this was reviewing video scripts and "un-institutionalizing" them. Four videos were professionally created by the DNR, and we are working cooperatively together by using our social media in tandem to bring about awareness of stewardship on our Headwaters lakes. This will help provide us with relevant content for a very small portion of the winter season, and fulfills the MHB Comprehensive Plan Recreational Goal C.4 to Facilitate and maintain new and existing partnerships with stakeholders to promote, develop, and protect the recreational opportunities that complement the Mississippi River. The videos are done in a public service message way and not in an enforcement theme.

1/28- Completed 5 year budget snapshot that looks at previous years and looks for patterns. I will present it to the budget committee.

1/28 Received contact information from Comm. Ramsrud about a consulting engineer named Claire Connelly who wants to know if MHB has authority in Itasca State Park for a project being done there. They want to do a road construction and trails that aren't by the Miss. river. They will be getting a permit from Clearwater county to do this work, and I told Clarie to look at section O for road standards and trails in the MHB Comprehensive Plan.

2/3 Provided comment on the Cass County Land Use Ordinance which is subject to repeal and being replaced by the Cass County, Minnesota Land Use Ordinance #2026-01. The plan references the MHB comprehensive plan and notes a process to follow the more restrictive ordinance should a conflict arise. I noted that once approved, it needs to be certified by the MHB board.

2/4 Held Meeting with DNR NW Regional Manager Ben Bergey and Itasca State Park Supervisory Aaron Wunrow to discuss concepts for a paddle event at ISP. The concept was expanded from a paddle with social hour to a bike & paddle with social, and other ideas as well. We discussed a paddle, 10 minute interpretive talk, and paddle back as well. The thought of naming it a Woods & Waters event was also discussed. DNR stated that they can't host the event, but ISP could be the place to hold it, and Friends of ISP along with the coordinator Heather could help with logistics and convening and coordinating the different groups together. A follow up meeting and contacts will be shared so we can move this to the concept stage to implementation stage.

2/5 Sent emails to City of Little Falls, Aitkin, Itasca, and Bemidji SWCD's to find out which stormwater retrofit practices have been implemented according to an MHB stormwater Retrofit Analysis done over 10 years ago. Baxter (whiskey creek), Bemidji (Lake Irving), and Grand Rapids (basin) have completed some Best Management Practices, and I am curious if there is a process or desire to move forward with some more practices that will protect the water quality of the Mississippi River.

2/5 Talked with Andy from Itasca SWCD and he will bring the LaPrairie study before the 1W1P committee and see if this is something they want to pursue. Andy told me that 1W1P needs to spend funds, so he will ask them if these are viable projects for them to consider and if the landowner wants to do it.

2/10 Talked with Hennepin County to see if MN Traditions could use their LakePledge videos to educate and bring awareness about AIS. AIS Coordinator Tony Brough said it would be okay.

2/11 Attended Miss. River Sartel 1W1P advisory committee meeting and discussed comments made from the group about priority areas, 10 year goals, measurable goals, and future conditions. This would include nutrient and sediment reduction goals involving Best Management Practices; chloride reduction using smart salting management training programs; bacteria reduction addressing septic and animal waste systems; Groundwater Quality including irrigation and nutrient timing; and surface water quantity, and immerging issues like data centers.

2/11 Had email conversation with Brainerd city engineer about a 2020 stormwater retrofit analysis and opportunities to implement BMP's. The engineer was thankful that I brought this to his attention as he was looking for that study but noted with the HWY 317 and 210 project being implemented in 2028 will utilize the capacity of his department. I thanked him and placed it on my calendar to call him on February 3rd, 2029.

2/11 Talked with Purva from Little Falls Chamber of Commerce and they are in the process of restructuring and can't take on any new opportunities like natural resource amenities. We also talked about her role in promotion of We Are Water, and she has a general role, but not sure on the details and what exactly she will promote. I put it on my calendar to call her back in April.

2/11 Attended MPCA Intensive Watershed Monitoring meeting in which they discussed water monitoring, partnerships, and collaboration. They are moving from condition based to trend monitoring. The number of sites has been reduced due to funding issues but will leverage other programs like WPLMN monitoring to get a complete assessment (biology, chemistry). All data collected will be used for delisting of waters and fill in data gaps.

2/13 Sent email to Morrison SWCD asking if they had any funding for a Stormwater Retrofit Analysis (SRA) for Little Falls. Shannon replied that she is just starting the budgeting process for 1W1P and to ask Greg Kimman from the city of Little Falls to see if he wants to do an SRA. If he does, than he will need to provide an estimate for her to put into the plan.

2/13 Held MHHCP strategic planning session with Paula, BWSR, and TPL. We discussed the LSOHC council's request to everyone to come up with a 10 year plan of what our goals are and when we have met those goals? The group discussed our current geography and goals, and Paula presented a powerpoint showing the 75% watershed protection standard and where we are meeting it in the Mississippi MHB area. Discussion ensued, and TPL pointed out that this is a water quality metric but what is the correlation to habitat. The group agreed that Paula should talk with former DNR fisheries employee Peter Jacobson and discuss a contract to show the link between 75% water quality and how it relates to habitat. They also agreed to work with GIS person Mitch Brinks to look at the large watersheds that are 75% protected and focus on minor watersheds that haven't reached that goal yet. The partners will reconvene and look at the maps to see what it produces. I proposed a hybrid approach with targeting minor watersheds that don't meet the 75% standard in large watersheds, and provide number of acres in large watersheds that are 40-60% protected.

2/17 Talked With Chris Andree, Crow Wing SWCD watershed coordinator about potential partnership with A Surface Waters Assessment Grant from the MPCA. I proposed the idea that if the CWSWCD wanted to do the water monitoring, than MHB could help with the administration of the grant. Chris said he would bring up the idea at a staff meeting. This is something similar we did almost 10 years ago with Widseth Smith Nolting.

2/19 Talked with Rep. Heintzeman with Chairman VanKempen on bill to raise our base.

2/20 Gave presentation to Miss. River Parkway Commission to see if there was any interest in raising their awareness of the Great River Road through our social media program.

December and January SFY'26 Budget Summary

			YTD spending/rei mbursement	Projected Budget	% of budget spent	
Revenues:	Jan Mont. Amount	Dec. Monthly Amount				Notes
Governor's DNR grant (53290)	\$ 50,083.89		\$ 119,836.29	\$ 124,000.00	96.64%	non competitive quarterly reimbursement
LSOHC grant (53290)	\$ 1,616.64		\$ 6,309.12	\$ 7,800.00	80.89%	LSOHC reimbursement
Guidebook sales (58400)			\$ 242.84	\$ 100.00	242.84%	reimbursment for Guidebook sales
Enbridge program (58300)	\$ 2,703.10	\$ 6,273.20	\$ 8,976.30	\$ 8,000.00	112.20%	enbridge signage and resourcetainment reambu
Miscell. Other revenue (58300)		\$ 2,361.60	\$ 3,361.60	\$ 6,000.00	56.03%	AIS admin revenue
MCIT Dividend (58300)			\$ 14.00	\$ 200.00	7.00%	MCIT refund
County Support (52990)	\$ 6,000.00		\$ 6,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	50.00%	8 county support- Hubbard, Aitkin, CW, Beltram
Total	\$ 60,403.63	\$ 8,634.80	\$ 144,740.15	\$ 34,100.00		
Expenses:		Monthly Amount				Notes
Salaries/Benefits FICA/Med/PERA/LIFE/LTD/Hlth/ WC(61000)	\$ 9,821.67	\$ 9,408.32	\$ 69,993.35	\$ 123,307.00	56.76%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
MCIT insurance/work comp/liability (61500)		\$ 2,570.00	\$ 2,570.00	\$ 3,000.00	85.67%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
MHB board Per Diem (62680)		\$ 250.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 3,000.00	36.67%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
Hotel/Meals/travel exp. (63340)	\$ 174.06	\$ 12.33	\$ 351.62	\$ 500.00	70.32%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
Commissioner Mileage (62720)		\$ 292.60	\$ 1,683.60	\$ 3,500.00	48.10%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
Employee Mileage (63320)	\$ 282.80	\$ 197.40	\$ 2,862.86	\$ 5,500.00	52.05%	reimbursed by Gov. DNR grant
Professional Services (62990)	\$ 5,525.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 27,761.15	\$ 35,000.00	79.32%	CW financial services, Audit
Office supplies/operations (64090)	\$ 60.86	\$ 115.17	\$ 1,476.34	\$ 3,000.00	49.21%	telephone, Dec.-printer ink
Training & Registration Fees (63380)			\$ 450.00	\$ 800.00	56.25%	
Total	\$ 15,864.39	\$ 13,370.82	\$ 108,248.92	\$ 177,607.00		

Governor's DNR grant is always \$124K every year

LSOHC grant is around \$6K to \$8K every year

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2025 12 TO 2025 12

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
74830	58300		Miscellaneous Other Revenue							
										REVISIED BUDGET .00
						PER 01		-17,750.00	-17,750.00	
						PER 02		-32,700.00	-50,450.00	
						PER 03		-13,000.00	-63,450.00	
						PER 04		-350.00	-63,800.00	
						PER 05		-1,000.00	-64,800.00	
						PER 07		-1,000.00	-65,800.00	
						PER 10		-3,500.00	-69,300.00	
						PER 11		-14.00	-69,314.00	
25/12	607	12/10/25	GNI 864306	Britny.MCC 61432				-500.00	-69,814.00	
	iNovah		POPE CNTY AIS SUPPORT							
25/12	1555	12/26/25	GNI 866096	Britny.MCC 61614				-2,000.00	-71,814.00	
	iNovah		Freeborn AIS							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		.00			CREDITS: -71,814.00	NET: -71,814.00	
74830	61000		Salaries & Wages - Regular							
										REVISIED BUDGET .00
						PER 01		6,215.61	6,215.61	
						PER 02		6,625.85	12,841.46	
						PER 03		6,464.23	19,305.69	
						PER 04		6,464.23	25,769.92	
						PER 05		11,312.42	37,082.34	
						PER 06		6,464.24	43,546.58	
						PER 07		6,464.24	50,010.82	
						PER 08		6,464.24	56,475.06	
						PER 09		6,464.24	62,939.30	
						PER 10		9,696.36	72,635.66	
						PER 11		6,464.24	79,099.90	
25/12	714	12/12/25	PRJ PR1212	1251212	1251212	1251		3,232.12	82,332.02	
			PAY121225	WARRANT=251212	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL					
25/12	1351	12/23/25	PRJ PR1223	1251223	1251223	1251		3,232.12	85,564.14	
			PAY122325	WARRANT=251223	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL					
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		85,564.14			CREDITS: .00	NET: 85,564.14	
74830	61200		Active Insurance							
										REVISIED BUDGET .00
						PER 01		2,034.70	2,034.70	
						PER 02		2,034.70	4,069.40	
						PER 03		2,034.70	6,104.10	
						PER 04		2,037.30	8,141.40	
						PER 05		2,035.35	10,176.75	
						PER 06		2,035.35	12,212.10	

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2025 12 TO 2025 12

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
						PER 07		2,035.35	14,247.45	
						PER 08		2,035.35	16,282.80	
						PER 09		2,035.35	18,318.15	
						PER 10		2,035.35	20,353.50	
						PER 11		2,035.35	22,388.85	
25/12	714	12/12/25	PRJ PR1212	1251212	1251212	1251		1,006.02	23,394.87	
			PAY121225 WARRANT=251212 RUN=1 BI-WEEKL							
25/12	1351	12/23/25	PRJ PR1223	1251223	1251223	1251		1,029.33	24,424.20	
			PAY122325 WARRANT=251223 RUN=1 BI-WEEKL							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		24,424.20		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	24,424.20
74830	61300		Employee Pension & FICA				REVISED BUDGET			.00
						PER 01		871.06	871.06	
						PER 02		933.21	1,804.27	
						PER 03		908.73	2,713.00	
						PER 04		908.73	3,621.73	
						PER 05		1,522.02	5,143.75	
						PER 06		908.73	6,052.48	
						PER 07		908.72	6,961.20	
						PER 08		908.73	7,869.93	
						PER 09		908.72	8,778.65	
						PER 10		1,398.39	10,177.04	
						PER 11		908.73	11,085.77	
25/12	714	12/12/25	PRJ PR1212	1251212	1251212	1251		454.37	11,540.14	
			PAY121225 WARRANT=251212 RUN=1 BI-WEEKL							
25/12	1351	12/23/25	PRJ PR1223	1251223	1251223	1251		454.36	11,994.50	
			PAY122325 WARRANT=251223 RUN=1 BI-WEEKL							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		11,994.50		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	11,994.50
74830	61500		Worker's Compensation				REVISED BUDGET			.00
						PER 01		2,795.00	2,795.00	
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 101939		250578	1968969		2,570.00	5,365.00	
			W A122325 MCIT PC & WC RENEWAL							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		5,365.00		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	5,365.00

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2025 12 TO 2025 12

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
74830	62100		Telephone							
										REVISED BUDGET .00
						PER 01		61.53	61.53	
						PER 02		61.80	123.33	
						PER 03		61.46	184.79	
						PER 04		61.66	246.45	
						PER 05		61.30	307.75	
						PER 06		61.23	368.98	
						PER 07		61.21	430.19	
						PER 08		60.85	491.04	
						PER 09		60.87	551.91	
						PER 10		62.08	613.99	
						PER 11		61.09	675.08	
25/12	1161	12/23/25	API 006205		250180		43250	5.85	680.93	
	W	C122325	COUNTY WIDE BILL				CONSOLIDATED TELECOM			
25/12	1351	12/23/25	PRJ PR1223	1251223	1251223	1251		55.00	735.93	
			PAY122325	WARRANT=251223			RUN=1 BI-WEEKL			
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		735.93		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	735.93
74830	62680		Non-Employee Per Diems							REVISED BUDGET .00
						PER 01		200.00	200.00	
						PER 03		500.00	700.00	
						PER 04		150.00	850.00	
						PER 05		250.00	1,100.00	
						PER 06		200.00	1,300.00	
						PER 08		200.00	1,500.00	
						PER 09		200.00	1,700.00	
						PER 11		500.00	2,200.00	
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 008091		250508		1968968	50.00	2,250.00	
	W	A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE				BRYAN RAMSRUD			
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 003257		250511		43296	50.00	2,300.00	
	W	A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE				GAASVIG, CRAIG			
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 006952		250513		43299	50.00	2,350.00	
	W	A122325	MHB MEETING				MICHAEL KEARNEY			
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 003356		250576		43297	50.00	2,400.00	
	W	A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE				HUBBARD COUNTY TREAS			
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 100532		250577		1968970	50.00	2,450.00	
	W	A122325	MHB MEETING PER DEIM				MORRISON COUNTY AUDI			
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		2,450.00		CREDITS:	.00	NET:	2,450.00

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2025 12 TO 2025 12

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
74830	62720		Non-Employee Mileage							
										REVISED BUDGET
										.00
						PER 01		285.60	285.60	
						PER 03		555.80	841.40	
						PER 04		92.40	933.80	
						PER 05		488.60	1,422.40	
						PER 06		325.90	1,748.30	
						PER 08		285.60	2,033.90	
						PER 09		348.60	2,382.50	
						PER 11		988.40	3,370.90	
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 008091		250508	1968968		81.20	3,452.10	
	W	A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE		BRYAN RAMSRUD					
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 003257		250511	43296		71.40	3,523.50	
	W	A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE		GAASVIG, CRAIG					
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 006980		250515	43311		121.80	3,645.30	
	W	A122325	MHB MILEAGE		ROBERT F. KASPER					
25/12	1415	12/23/25	API 003356		250576	43297		18.20	3,663.50	
	W	A122325	MHB MEETING & MILEAGE		HUBBARD COUNTY TREAS					
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		3,663.50	CREDITS:		.00	NET:	3,663.50
74830	62990		Prof. & Tech. Fee - Other							
										REVISED BUDGET
										6,300.00
						PER 01		9,735.32	9,735.32	
						PER 02		525.00	10,260.32	
						PER 03		525.00	10,785.32	
						PER 04		66,827.50	77,612.82	
						PER 05		525.00	78,137.82	
						PER 06		17,825.00	95,962.82	
						PER 07		7,375.00	103,337.82	
						PER 08		525.00	103,862.82	
						PER 09		525.00	104,387.82	
						PER 10		21,212.00	125,599.82	
						PER 11		7,715.35	133,315.17	
25/12	2131	12/31/25	GEN					525.00	133,840.17	
			RECURRING FINANCIAL SERVICE							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		133,840.17	CREDITS:		.00	NET:	133,840.17
74830	63320		Employee Mileage							
										REVISED BUDGET
										.00
						PER 01		248.97	248.97	
						PER 02		408.10	657.07	
						PER 03		159.11	816.18	

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2025 12 TO 2025 12

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC	REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
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25 Records printed

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Matthew Donley **

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2026 01 TO 2026 01

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE
74830	52990		Local Grant							
								REVISED BUDGET		.00
26/01	297	01/15/26	GNI 867714	Britny.McC 61839				-1,500.00	-1,500.00	
	iNovah		HUBBARD AIS SUPPORT							
26/01	741	01/22/26	GNI 868135	Britny.McC 61917				-1,500.00	-3,000.00	
	iNovah		AITKIN CO SUPPORT							
26/01	827	01/23/26	GEN					-1,500.00	-4,500.00	
	TRANSFER		2026 MHB APPROPRIATIONS							
26/01	1284	01/30/26	GNI 868712	Britny.McC 62007				-1,500.00	-6,000.00	
	iNovah		26 APPROP BELTRAMI AIS SUPPORT							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		.00		CREDITS:	-6,000.00	NET:	-6,000.00
74830	53290		Natural Resources							
								REVISED BUDGET		.00
26/01	695	01/21/26	GNI					-11,510.65	-11,510.65	
	ST OF MN		DNR OMB 2-3000262121							
26/01	1254	01/29/26	GNI					-50,083.89	-61,594.54	
	ST OF MN		DNR2Q-26							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		.00		CREDITS:	-61,594.54	NET:	-61,594.54
74830	58300		Miscellaneous Other Revenue							
								REVISED BUDGET		.00
26/01	62	01/05/26	GNI 866845	Britny.McC 61704				-1,000.00	-1,000.00	
	iNovah		Sibley AIS							
26/01	219	01/13/26	GNI 867541	Britny.McC 61807				-5,000.00	-6,000.00	
	iNovah		Jackson AIS support							
26/01	860	01/23/26	GNI 868186	Britny.McC 61929				-2,000.00	-8,000.00	
	iNovah		Sherburne AIS support							
26/01	1284	01/30/26	GNI 868712	Britny.McC 62007				-2,000.00	-10,000.00	
	iNovah		26 APPROP BELTRAMI AIS SUPPORT							
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:		.00		CREDITS:	-10,000.00	NET:	-10,000.00

ACCOUNT DETAIL HISTORY FOR 2026 01 TO 2026 01

ORG YR/PR	OBJECT JNL	PROJ EFF DATE	SRC REF1	REF2	REF3	CHECK #	OB	AMOUNT	NET LEDGER BALANCE	NET BUDGET BALANCE	
74830	61000	Salaries & Wages - Regular									
								REVISED BUDGET		.00	
26/01	132	01/09/26	PRJ PR0109	1260109	1260109	1260		3,232.12	3,232.12		
			PAY010926	WARRANT=260109	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
26/01	700	01/23/26	PRJ PR0123	1260123	1260123	1260		3,232.12	6,464.24		
			PAY012326	WARRANT=260123	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:	6,464.24				CREDITS:	.00	NET: 6,464.24	
74830	61200	Active Insurance									
								REVISED BUDGET		.00	
26/01	132	01/09/26	PRJ PR0109	1260109	1260109	1260		1,228.12	1,228.12		
			PAY010926	WARRANT=260109	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
26/01	700	01/23/26	PRJ PR0123	1260123	1260123	1260		1,220.40	2,448.52		
			PAY012326	WARRANT=260123	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:	2,448.52				CREDITS:	.00	NET: 2,448.52	
74830	61300	Employee Pension & FICA									
								REVISED BUDGET		.00	
26/01	132	01/09/26	PRJ PR0109	1260109	1260109	1260		454.46	454.46		
			PAY010926	WARRANT=260109	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
26/01	700	01/23/26	PRJ PR0123	1260123	1260123	1260		454.45	908.91		
			PAY012326	WARRANT=260123	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:	908.91				CREDITS:	.00	NET: 908.91	
74830	62100	Telephone									
								REVISED BUDGET		.00	
26/01	274	01/20/26	API 006205		252010		43476	5.86	5.86		
			W C012026	COUNTY WIDE BILL	CONSOLIDATED TELECOM						
26/01	700	01/23/26	PRJ PR0123	1260123	1260123	1260		55.00	60.86		
			PAY012326	WARRANT=260123	RUN=1 BI-WEEKL						
			LEDGER BALANCES --- DEBITS:	60.86				CREDITS:	.00	NET: 60.86	



PROTECTING THE FIRST 400 MILES

IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE 1/1/26

Media Contact

Tim Terrill

218-824-1189

timt@mississippiheadwaters.org

www.mississippiheadwaters.org

326 Laurel St.

Brainerd, MN 56401

Mississippi Headwaters Board Holds Discussion about Large Solar Project

The Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) discussed at their last meeting a 177,675 solar panel project being proposed and planned near Grand Rapids, MN. The Public Utilities Commission has issued a draft site and route permit for an 85-megawatt photovoltaic solar generation facility in Cohasset Minnesota with the condition to consult with the MN Dept. of Natural Resources and the Mississippi Headwaters Board regarding potential impacts to the Mississippi River. Executive Director Tim Terrill asked the board what topics they should discuss with Minnesota Power, and they wanted him to address zoning requirements, pre and post site erosion concerns, site setbacks, and if the project site is within the reservation boundary of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Terrill will report back to the board at the January board meeting.



PROTECTING THE FIRST 400 MILES

IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE 2/3/26

Media Contact

Tim Terrill

218-824-1189

timt@mississippiheadwaters.org

www.mississippiheadwaters.org

326 Laurel St.

Brainerd, MN 56401

Mississippi Headwaters Board Adds Value to Existing Social Media Program

The Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) met and discussed how to continue and add value to the existing Minnesota Traditions social media program. The campaign focuses mostly on aquatic invasive species and the board determined that the prevention messaging helps satisfy an educational component in Minnesota counties. The board also chose to increase the reach of the program and authorized a \$6,400 budget for boosting posts and reels. The board felt that this would satisfy the mission of the MHB while still protecting the Mississippi river and our natural resource waters.

Re: DU article on Importance of Conservation Easements



Jaschke, John (BWSR) <john.jaschke@state.mn.us>

To jschneider

Cc Troy Daniell - NRCS (troy.daniell@mn.usda.gov); leann.buck; Todd Holman; Jayne Hager Dee; Kris Larson; Tim Terrill; Annie Knight; Paula West; ACUB Josh Pennington; Shannon Wettstein; Sheila Vanney; **+8 others**



Sat 1/24/2026 9:28 AM

Jon: thanks much for sharing that DU piece. It is the best assessment I have read on this increasingly important conservation mechanism. In MN we are leading the way in understanding how to use that tool to accomplish long lasting public benefits...and there will be reasons and opportunities ahead to build on existing MN innovations, including:

- protection of drinking water supply areas and wild rice beds,
- sustaining the viability of military preparedness and enhancing farmland and natural resources habitat in and around Camp Ripley,
- preserving the headwaters of the nation's premier river system - the Mississippi,
- protecting some of our most sensitive and pristine plant communities and shorelines from land use changes,
- and as many of us are part of, a long-term effort to restore some of the lost wetlands and grasslands in the prairie-pothole region to re-establish habitat and water quality over that large agricultural landscape (and which also serves as a platform to increase hunting access via the Walk-In Access program).

Including some others via cc – beyond your BWSR/USFWS shares – as it likely has relevance to their partnership work in MN too.

Hope to see you sometime soon!

(Bcc BWSR staff)

John Jaschke

MN BWSR Executive Director

612-202-3815 mobile



Mississippi Headwaters Board

Crow Wing County Historic Courthouse - 326 Laurel St. Brainerd, MN 56401

Web Site: www.mississippiheadwaters.org

1/29/26

Representative Josh Heintzeman
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Honorable Representative Heintzeman;

The Mississippi Headwaters Board (**MHB**) is an eight-county (Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Itasca, and Morrison) joint-powers board formed in 1980 with the signing of a Joint-Powers Agreement. In 1981, the Minnesota legislature duly authorized MHB to preserve and protect the outstanding and unique natural, scientific, historical, recreational, and cultural values of the first four hundred miles of the Mississippi River. (See Minn. Stat. § 103F.361, Subd. (1) and (2); Minn. Stat. § 103F.361-377). The board is comprised of eight local county commissioners from eight separate counties, and the legislature and eight member counties agreed that local control through consistent zoning and common administration in the MHB jurisdictional area is essential to managing the Mississippi River.

The MHB County Commissioners have a responsibility as elected officials to protect the Mississippi River and Headwaters Lakes in an efficient and fiscally accountable manner. That being stated, the MHB will exceed their financial allocation from the state and request that you write and pass a bill to increase our funding from \$248,000 per biennium to \$350,000 per biennium to help MHB fulfill their statutory obligation and continue to allow for local control to protect the habitat, drinking water, and vibrant recreational economy in our area. Some of the goals we have or will accomplish in the next biennium is to enforce the MHB Comprehensive Plan which provides consistent zoning administration on the first four hundred miles of the Mississippi River. We also will submit comment to the Public Utilities Commission for a potential 85-megawatt solar array near the Mississippi River in Itasca County. Finally, we will approve timber harvests plans conducted by MHB counties, which will help to protect the current and downstream drinking water of the Mississippi River to other communities. The eight member MHB counties have discussed increasing their local, annual, county support as well. Through the oversight of County Commissioners, it has been almost ten years since the MHB requested an increase. Passing a bill in 2026 to increase our allocation will help support the regulatory and voluntary efforts of the MHB Comprehensive Plan to protect the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River.

Our Executive Director, Tim Terrill, can be reached at 218-824-1189 or at timt@mississippiheadwaters.org, to discuss this issue at your convenience. The board thanks you in advance for your commitment to protecting the Mississippi River.

Sincerely,

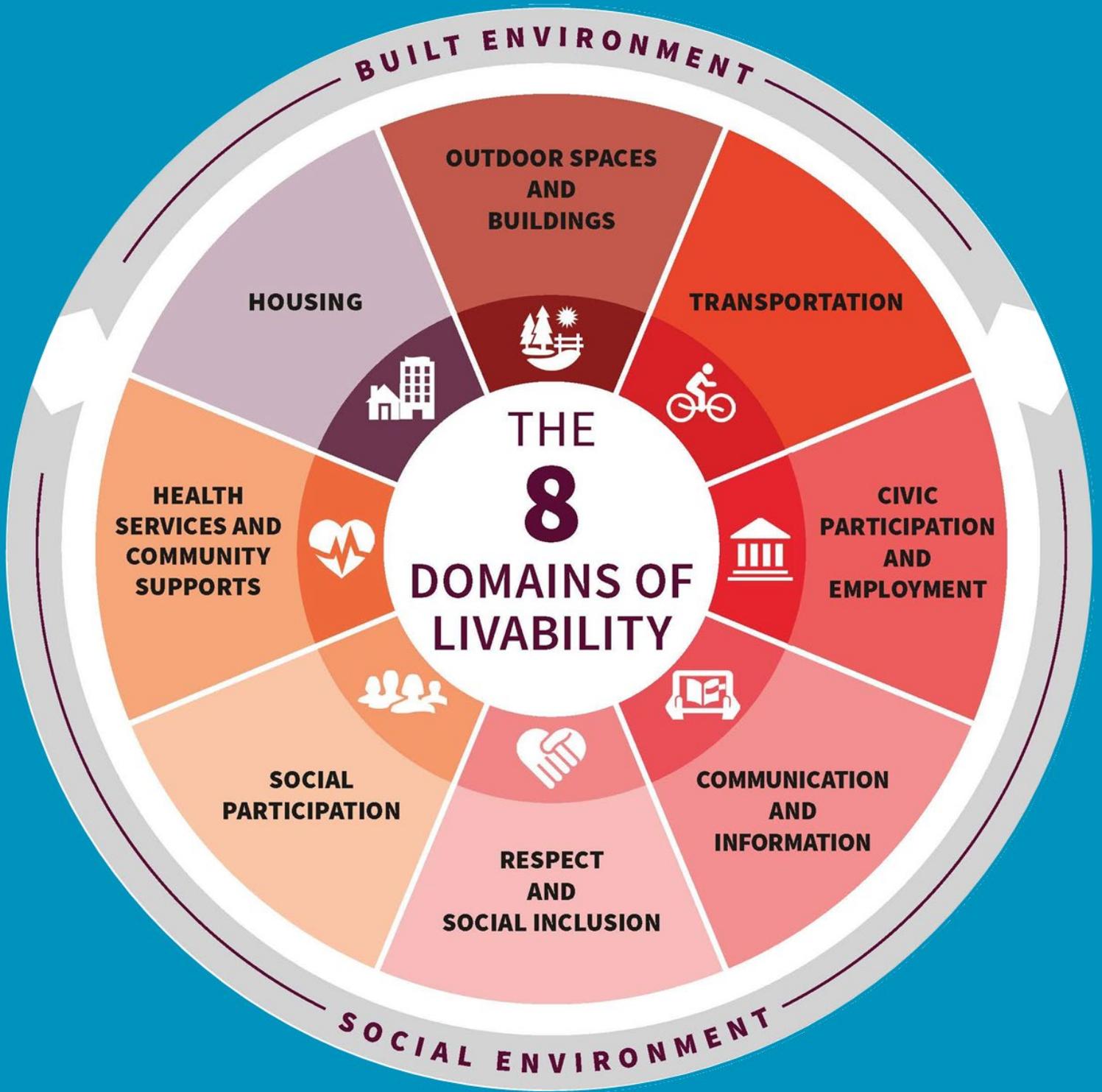
Ted Van Kempen
Mississippi Headwaters Board Chairman

The Age-Friendly Guidebook

Helping You Navigate the
Age-Friendly Process



**Age-Friendly Communities
Are Livable for
People of All Ages**
aarp.org/livable



Domain: Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

People need public places to gather — indoors and out. Green spaces, seating and accessible buildings (elevators, zero-step entrances, staircases with railings) can be used and enjoyed by people of all ages

Nearly three-quarters of adults (73%) say it is important to have safe, well-lit parks that give residents places to gather and interact with friends.

Source: AARP Home and Community preferences Survey 11/21

Resources:

[Creating Parks and Public Spaces](#)
[The Pop-up Placemaking Toolkit](#)
[The Walk Audit Toolkit](#)
[Creating Community Gardens for People of All Ages](#)



Domain: Housing

We spend more time in our homes than anywhere else, so housing costs, choices, and accessibility are critical. Great communities provide housing opportunities for people of all ages, incomes, and abilities.

More than three-quarters of adults ages 50 and older want to stay in their homes (77%) and communities (79%) as they age.

Source: AARP Home and Community preferences Survey 11/21

Resources:

[Making Room for 'Making Room'](#)
[The ABCs of ADUs](#)
[AARP HomeFit Guide](#)
[Discovering and Developing Missing Middle Housing](#)
[Roadmap to Livability: Housing Workbook](#)



We Are Water Exhibit



Traveling Exhibit

The traveling exhibit examines water issues statewide and in local communities through personal stories, histories, and scientific information. It strengthens Minnesotans' relationships with water, exposes visitors to new perspectives, and increases participation in water stewardship activities.

[Find Exhibits](#)

2026 Schedule of Events

(Goal: These events will be promoted by MN Traditions with potential other partners social media)

May ?- Morrison Belle Prairie Park Clean up?- SWCD

May 9th- Beltrami Paul Bunyan Park Clean up- SWCD

May 19th- Miller Black Bear ATV trail content production and post (Visit Brainerd)

June 20th- Aitkin Paddle Your Glass Off- Visit Aitkin

June ?- Great River Road Influencer Post?

July 11th- Paddle & Pint- Cohasset Park & Rec.

August 8th- Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival- Scott

August 15th- History Paddle (We Are Water Promoted) Visit Brainerd

August ?- Itasca State Park Paddle

September 5th- Minnesota Canoe Championships

Executive Director Report

December 2025 – February 2026

Personnel, Budget, Administration, Information & Education, Correspondence

1. Reviewed monthly budget.
2. Prepared monthly agenda packet.
3. Sent in monthly expense report.
4. Sent press release to newspapers.
5. Reviewed monthly variances as they are brought forward by counties.
6. Reviewed Boswell Solar Notes from meeting.
7. Updated website with an adobe professional PDF so that it is a word searchable document that the public can use.
8. Called MHB high schools to try to schedule appointments to talk with classes about careers in conservation for this year.
9. Sent in DNR Quarterly reimbursement.
10. Set up meeting with the MN Parkway Commission discussing the possibility of partnering on some social media promotion of the Great River Road in our MHB Counties.
11. Submitted LSOHC Status Reports for ML 21, 22, 24, and 25.
12. Completed template AIS report for MN Traditions. This will go out monthly to AIS coordinators when the season begins. This is teaching me a new skill on how to organize a report from social media.
13. Reviewed the updated Cass County Land Use Ordinance and sent comments to ESD noting that they mention the MHB Comprehensive Plan as a resource document, and also state that when there are conflicting regulations that the ordinance containing more restrictive requirements shall govern. This provides written reassurance that MHB is part of the Land Use Ordinance and will be included in the decision-making process where applicable. I also stated that this plan will need to come before the MHB board because ordinance changes are required by statute to be certified by the board.
14. Reviewed two Crow Wing forestry timber sales and approved of them because they met the MN Forest Resource Council handbook guidelines.
15. Emailed Klobuchar's office to see if they have a strategy yet for passing HR197 on the Senate floor.
16. Created improved Gantt chart to track programs that and allow for board to know what occurred and not just when it occurred.

Meetings & Networking

12/15 Sent email to Klobuchar's office to find out when a Land's bill is typically presented and passed by the Congress. We already have a Stauber House bill, and we passed the bill through the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry committee; so we just need it to pass through the Senate in a traditional Land's bill procedure.

12/23 Began calling cities to collaborate on Natural Resource tourism that is on the Mississippi River.

12/30 Talked with Karl Ludeman about potential research project through a farmer fund grant. He said that he appreciated the follow up but has taken on more responsibility and won't be able to make that deadline. He may still want to apply for an RSDP project in January, but will need to check on his schedule in the new year.

1/02 Talked with Andrew George, the new MRPC executive director, and discussed with him the possibility of MHB and the Great River Road doing a social media partnership where we promote the Mississippi River and sites along the Great River Road. This would be a pilot project with one influencer post being created and collaborated with the GRR social media platform to see how many views could be gained and see where it leads.

1/06 Talked with Kristi Coughlon about clean ice campaign and found out videos will be shot tomorrow on Lake Minnetonka.

1/08 Met with Cass Lake Alternative Learning Center and gave presentation to school about the MHB and career opportunities.

1/14 Talked with Visit Brainerd and they agreed to promote the 2026 Miss. River History Paddle along with a natural resource influencer video. I also talked with Tom Strack from Crow Wing County, and he is interested in helping provide information to help with content.

1/14 Attended virtual Updated Study Report for Sylvan, Pillager, and Little Falls dam. The purpose was to describe the overall process and describe the data collected on recreational and cultural resource studies done on the project.

1/15 Met with Paula West to discuss a 10 year strategic plan for the MHHCP program. This is something that needs to be done to prioritize where we want to work in each county so we can present it to the LSOHC council for funding.

1/23 Talked with Drew Hatzenbihler from Morrison County and discussed a partnership between Morrison County and MHB for a Mighty Mississippi Clean up at Belle Prairie Park. Their biggest concern is affording safety vests/gloves/trash bags for the clean up. I told them to determine a cost, and I would talk with the board about this and see what opportunities are available to partner with them.

1/23 Set up meeting with Beltrami County and discussed a Mighty Mississippi Clean up and how the MHB could partner on this event in 2026. We set a date for May 9th for a clean up and I will help with promotion and clean up.

1/23 Posted a FB and IG reels that DNR created for their Litter On The Ice campaign. My part in this was reviewing video scripts and "un-institutionalizing" them. Four videos were professionally created by the DNR, and we are working cooperatively together by using our social media in tandem to bring about awareness of stewardship on our Headwaters lakes. This will help provide us with relevant content for a very small portion of the winter season, and fulfills the MHB Comprehensive Plan Recreational Goal C.4 to Facilitate and maintain new and existing partnerships with stakeholders to promote, develop, and protect the recreational opportunities that complement the Mississippi River. The videos are done in a public service message way and not in an enforcement theme.

1/28- Completed 5 year budget snapshot that looks at previous years and looks for patterns. I will present it to the budget committee.

1/28 Received contact information from Comm. Ramsrud about a consulting engineer named Claire Connelly who wants to know if MHB has authority in Itasca State Park for a project being done there. They want to do a road construction and trails that aren't by the Miss. river. They will be getting a permit from Clearwater county to do this work, and I told Clarie to look at section O for road standards and trails in the MHB Comprehensive Plan.

2/3 Provided comment on the Cass County Land Use Ordinance which is subject to repeal and being replaced by the Cass County, Minnesota Land Use Ordinance #2026-01. The plan references the MHB comprehensive plan and notes a process to follow the more restrictive ordinance should a conflict arise. I noted that once approved, it needs to be certified by the MHB board.

2/4 Held Meeting with DNR NW Regional Manager Ben Bergey and Itasca State Park Supervisory Aaron Wunrow to discuss concepts for a paddle event at ISP. The concept was expanded from a paddle with social hour to a bike & paddle with social, and other ideas as well. We discussed a paddle, 10 minute interpretive talk, and paddle back as well. The thought of naming it a Woods & Waters event was also discussed. DNR stated that they can't host the event, but ISP could be the place to hold it, and Friends of ISP along with the coordinator Heather could help with logistics and convening and coordinating the different groups together. A follow up meeting and contacts will be shared so we can move this to the concept stage to implementation stage.

2/5 Sent emails to City of Little Falls, Aitkin, Itasca, and Bemidji SWCD's to find out which stormwater retrofit practices have been implemented according to an MHB stormwater Retrofit Analysis done over 10 years ago. Baxter (whiskey creek), Bemidji (Lake Irving), and Grand Rapids (basin) have completed some Best Management Practices, and I am curious if there is a process or desire to move forward with some more practices that will protect the water quality of the Mississippi River.

2/5 Talked with Andy from Itasca SWCD and he will bring the LaPrairie study before the 1W1P committee and see if this is something they want to pursue. Andy told me that 1W1P needs to spend funds, so he will ask them if these are viable projects for them to consider and if the landowner wants to do it.

2/10 Talked with Hennepin County to see if MN Traditions could use their LakePledge videos to educate and bring awareness about AIS. AIS Coordinator Tony Brough said it would be okay.

2/11 Attended Miss. River Sartel 1W1P advisory committee meeting and discussed comments made from the group about priority areas, 10 year goals, measurable goals, and future conditions. This would include nutrient and sediment reduction goals involving Best Management Practices; chloride reduction using smart salting management training programs; bacteria reduction addressing septic and animal waste systems; Groundwater Quality including irrigation and nutrient timing; and surface water quantity, and immerging issues like data centers.

2/11 Had email conversation with Brainerd city engineer about a 2020 stormwater retrofit analysis and opportunities to implement BMP's. The engineer was thankful that I brought this to his attention as he was looking for that study but noted with the HWY 317 and 210 project being implemented in 2028 will utilize the capacity of his department. I thanked him and placed it on my calendar to call him on February 3rd, 2029.

2/11 Talked with Purva from Little Falls Chamber of Commerce and they are in the process of restructuring and can't take on any new opportunities like natural resource amenities. We also talked about her role in promotion of We Are Water, and she has a general role, but not sure on the details and what exactly she will promote. I put it on my calendar to call her back in April.

2/11 Attended MPCA Intensive Watershed Monitoring meeting in which they discussed water monitoring, partnerships, and collaboration. They are moving from condition based to trend monitoring. The number of sites has been reduced due to funding issues but will leverage other programs like WPLMN monitoring to get a complete assessment (biology, chemistry). All data collected will be used for delisting of waters and fill in data gaps.

2/13 Sent email to Morrison SWCD asking if they had any funding for a Stormwater Retrofit Analysis (SRA) for Little Falls. Shannon replied that she is just starting the budgeting process for 1W1P and to ask Greg Kimman from the city of Little Falls to see if he wants to do an SRA. If he does, than he will need to provide an estimate for her to put into the plan.

2/13 Held MHHCP strategic planning session with Paula, BWSR, and TPL. We discussed the LSOHC council's request to everyone to come up with a 10 year plan of what our goals are and when we have met those goals? The group discussed our current geography and goals, and Paula presented a powerpoint showing the 75% watershed protection standard and where we are meeting it in the Mississippi MHB area. Discussion ensued, and TPL pointed out that this is a water quality metric but what is the correlation to habitat. The group agreed that Paula should talk with former DNR fisheries employee Peter Jacobson and discuss a contract to show the link between 75% water quality and how it relates to habitat. They also agreed to work with GIS person Mitch Brinks to look at the large watersheds that are 75% protected and focus on minor watersheds that haven't reached that goal yet. The partners will reconvene and look at the maps to see what it produces. I proposed a hybrid approach with targeting minor watersheds that don't meet the 75% standard in large watersheds, and provide number of acres in large watersheds that are 40-60% protected.

2/17 Talked With Chris Andree, Crow Wing SWCD watershed coordinator about potential partnership with A Surface Waters Assessment Grant from the MPCA. I proposed the idea that if the CWSWCD wanted to do the water monitoring, than MHB could help with the administration of the grant. Chris said he would bring up the idea at a staff meeting. This is something similar we did almost 10 years ago with Widseth Smith Nolting.

2/19 Talked with Rep. Heintzeman with Chairman VanKempen on bill to raise our base.

2/20 Gave presentation to Miss. River Parkway Commission to see if there was any interest in raising their awareness of the Great River Road through our social media program.