

Business Item

Joint Meeting of Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee
and Metropolitan Area Water Supply Technical Advisory Committee



Meeting Date: December 10, 2025

Business Item 2025-03

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Appointments

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.1565

Staff Prepared/Presented: Greg Johnson, Principal Engineer, 651-602-1016

Division/Department: Environmental Services

Proposed action

The TAC Appointment Working Group recommends MAWSAC appoint Ellen Considine, Evan Christianson, and Michelle LaGarde to the Technical Advisory Committee.

Background

This memorandum includes a summary of TAC responsibilities and membership requirements in statute, the current membership including vacancies, the applications reviewed by the TAC Appointment Working Group, and the proposed action from the TAC Appointment Working Group for MAWSAC to appoint additional members to TAC.

Minnesota Statutes 473.1565, Subdivision 2a

A Metropolitan Area Water Supply Technical Advisory Committee is established to inform the policy advisory committee's work by providing scientific and engineering expertise necessary to provide the region an adequate and sustainable water supply. The technical advisory committee consists of 15 members appointed by the policy advisory committee, with the majority of members representing single-city and multicity public water supply systems in the metropolitan area and including experts in:

- (1) water resources analysis and modeling;*
- (2) hydrology; and*
- (3) the engineering, planning, design, and construction of water systems or water systems finance.*

Current membership including vacancies

The TAC membership currently includes the following 12 technical experts:

1. Scott Anderson, Chair – City of Bloomington
2. Kristin Asher – City of Richfield
3. John Dustman – Summit Envirosolutions
4. Robert Ellis – City of Eden Prairie
5. Dale Folen – City of Minneapolis
6. Elizabeth Kaufenberg – MPCA

7. Karla Peterson – Department of Health
8. Matt Saam – City of Apple Valley
9. Jim Stark – LCC Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy (retired)
10. Seng Thongvanh – City of Savage
11. Tom Wesolowski – City of Shoreview
12. Jim Westerman – City of Woodbury

There are three vacancies.

Applications reviewed by the TAC Appointment Working Group

Five applications from the following individuals were reviewed by the TAC Appointment Working Group consisting of Wendy Wulff, Scott Anderson, Annika Bankston, Pooja Kanwar, and Erik Smith:

1. Ellen Considine – Hydrologist Supervisor for Groundwater Technical Analysis with DNR
2. John Chikkala – Environmental Engineer applying as a private citizen
3. Evan Christianson – Vice President and Senior Hydrogeologist with Barr Engineering
4. Michelle LaGarde – Project Scientist with Braun Intertec,
5. John Powell – Public Works Director and City Engineer with the City of Farmington