CHAPTER 6--H.F.No. 1058

An act relating to local government; modifying composition of North Koochiching sanitary sewer board; amending Laws 1981, chapter 291, sections 1, subdivision 14; 2, as amended; 4, subdivision 1, as amended; 23; repealing Laws 1981, chapter 291, section 1, subdivision 3.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Laws 1981, chapter 291, section 1, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Municipality.** "Municipality" means any home rule charter or statutory city or town located in whole or in part in the district, including but not limited to International Falls~~, South International Falls~~ and Ranier.

Sec. 2. Laws 1981, chapter 291, section 2, as amended by Laws 1982, chapter 509, section 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **District.** The North Koochiching area sanitary district is the International Falls~~, South International Falls~~ and Ranier municipalities and the East Koochiching county sewer district ~~and the Papermakers sewer district~~, except that if the conditions in subdivision 10 as added by section 4 of this act are not met, after December 31, 1985, the north Koochiching area sanitary district shall then be the area served by the district disposal system on that date.

Sec. 3. Laws 1981, chapter 291, section 2, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 1982, chapter 509, section 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Members and selections.** The board members shall be appointed by each of their governmental units in the following numbers:

International Falls ~~4~~ 3

~~South International Falls 2~~

East Koochiching county sewer district ~~1~~ 2

~~Papermakers sewer district 1~~

Ranier 1

At-large 1

The East Koochiching ~~and Papermakers sewer districts shall each~~ county sewer district shall appoint ~~their member~~ members on the board and designate the term of the ~~member~~ members in accordance with subdivision 5, by a majority vote. If the conditions in subdivision 10 as added by section 4 of this act are not met, after December 31, 1985 the composition of the board shall be changed, with each local government unit remaining in the district appointing one board member. The at-large member shall be appointed by the board and the board will designate the term of the member in accordance with subdivision 5, by majority vote.

Sec. 4. Laws 1981, chapter 291, section 2, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Certificate of selection; oath of office.** A certificate of selection of every board member selected under subdivision 2 stating the term for which he was selected, shall be prepared by the city clerks or, in the case of the East Koochiching county sewer district ~~and Papermakers sewer district~~, by the county auditor. The certificates shall be filed with the secretary of state. Copies shall be furnished to the board member and the secretary of the board. Each member shall qualify by taking and subscribing the oath of office prescribed by the constitution, article V, section 8. The oath, certified by the official administering it, shall be filed with the secretary of the board.

Sec. 5. Laws 1981, chapter 291, section 4, subdivision 1, as amended by Laws 1982, chapter 509, section 5, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Board plan and program.** The board shall adopt as its first comprehensive plan for the collection, treatment and disposal of waste water in the district for the period the board deems proper the comprehensive plan adopted by the joint powers board previously established for the cities of International Falls~~, South International Falls,~~ and Ranier and the county of Koochiching by agreement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.59. The board shall prepare and adopt subsequent comprehensive plans for the collection, treatment and disposal of waste water in the district for each succeeding designated period the board deems proper. The first plan, as modified by the board, and any subsequent plan, shall provide that no treatment facilities shall be constructed which would allow a discharge above the water intake used to supply drinking water to residents of the district, and shall take into account the preservation and best and most economic use of water and other natural resources in the area; the preservation, uses and potential for use of lands adjoining waters of the state to be used for the disposal of waste water; and the impact the disposal system will have on present and future land use in the area affected. Plans shall include the general location of needed interceptors and treatment works, a description of the area that is to be served by the various interceptors and treatment works, a long range capital improvements program and other details the board deems appropriate. Plans shall specifically identify those interceptors and treatment works which are critical to the integrity of the district. In developing the plans, the board shall consult with persons designated for the purpose by the governing body of any municipal and public corporation or governmental or political subdivision or agency within the district. It shall consider the data, resources, and suggestions offered to the board by the entities and any planning agency acting on behalf of one or more of them. Each plan, when adopted, shall be followed in the district and may be revised as often as the board deems necessary.

Sec. 6. Laws 1981, chapter 291, section 23, is amended to read:

Sec. 23. **AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS.**

This act applies to Koochiching county and the cities of International Falls~~, South International Falls,~~ and Ranier.

Sec. 7. **CRANE LAKE WATER AND SANITARY DISTRICT; BOARD OF MANAGERS.**

(a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 442A.14, subdivision 1, upon approval by the related governing body, the board of managers of the Crane Lake Water and Sanitary District may be reduced from five members to three members, as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c).

(b) Upon approval pursuant to paragraph (a), and notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Minnesota Statutes, section 442A.14, vacancies on the board of managers shall not be filled until the number of current

board members has been reduced to three. Once the board of managers has three members, vacancies on the board shall be filled as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 442A.14, as necessary to maintain a three-member board of managers.

(c) Once the board of managers has three members as provided in paragraph (b), the related governing body shall assign newly elected board members to one of the groups under Minnesota Statutes, section 442A.14, subdivision 2, clauses (1) to (3), as necessary to ensure, to the extent practical, that no two board members have terms that expire in the same year. Thereafter, board members shall be elected successively for regular terms beginning upon expiration of the preceding terms and expiring on the first business day in January of the third calendar year thereafter. Each board member serves until a successor is elected and has qualified.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day after the governing body of the Crane Lake Water and Sanitary District and its chief clerical officer comply with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Sec. 8. **REPEALER.**

Laws 1981, chapter 291, section 1, subdivision 3, is repealed.

Sec. 9. **EFFECTIVE DATE; LOCAL APPROVAL.**

This act is effective the day after the governing body of the North Koochiching sanitary sewer board and its chief clerical officer comply with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Presented to the governor April 29, 2025

Signed by the governor April 30, 2025, 12:25 p.m.