

CHAPTER 110B

COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT ACT

110B.02 Definitions.

110B.35 Board of water and soil resources.

110B.02 DEFINITIONS.*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1986]*Subd. 2. **Board.** "Board" means the board of water and soil resources.*[For text of subs 3 to 10, see M.S.1986]***History:** 1987 c 358 s 102**110B.35 BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES.**

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** The board of water and soil resources is composed of 12 voting members knowledgeable of water and soil problems and conditions within the state and four ex officio nonvoting members.

Subd. 2. **Voting members.** (a) The voting members are:

- (1) three county commissioners;
- (2) three soil and water conservation district supervisors;
- (3) three watershed district or watershed management organization representatives; and
- (4) three citizens who are not employed by, or the appointed or elected official of, any governmental office, board, or agency.

(b) Voting members must be distributed across the state with at least three members but not more than five members from the metropolitan area, as defined by section 473.121, subdivision 2; and one from each of the current soil and water conservation administrative regions.

(c) Voting members are appointed by the governor. In making the appointments, the governor may consider persons recommended by the association of Minnesota counties, the Minnesota association of soil and water conservation districts, and the Minnesota association of watershed districts. The list submitted by an association must contain at least three nominees for each position to be filled.

(d) The membership terms, compensation, removal of members and filling of vacancies on the board for voting members are as provided in section 15.0575.

Subd. 3. **Ex officio nonvoting members.** The following agencies shall each provide one nonvoting member to the board:

- (1) department of agriculture;
- (2) department of health;
- (3) department of natural resources; and
- (4) pollution control agency.

Subd. 4. **Employees.** The board may employ an executive director in the unclassified service and other permanent and temporary employees in accordance with chapter 43A. The board may prescribe the powers and duties of its officers and employees and may authorize its employees and members of the board to act on behalf of the board.

Subd. 5. **Officers; quorum; records; audit.** The governor shall appoint a chair from among the voting members of the board with the advice and consent of the senate. The board shall elect a vice-chair and any other officers that it considers necessary from its membership. A majority of the board is a quorum. The board may hold public hearings and adopt rules necessary to execute its duties.

Subd. 6. **Administrative services.** The commissioner of administration shall provide and make available within the department of agriculture suitable and adequate office facilities and space for the board. The commissioner of agriculture shall provide and make available administrative services required by the board in the administration of its functions.

Subd. 7. **Powers and duties.** In addition to the powers and duties prescribed elsewhere, the board has the following powers and duties:

(a) It shall coordinate the water and soil resources planning activities of counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, and any other local units of government through its various authorities for approval of local plans, administration of state grants, and by other means as may be appropriate.

(b) It shall facilitate communication and coordination among state agencies in cooperation with the environmental quality board, and between state and local units of government, in order to make the expertise and resources of state agencies involved in water and soil resources management available to the local units of government to the greatest extent possible.

(c) It shall coordinate state and local interests with respect to the study in southwestern Minnesota under United States Code, title 16, section 1009.

(d) It shall develop information and education programs designed to increase awareness of local water and soil resources problems and awareness of opportunities for local government involvement in preventing or solving them.

(e) It shall provide a forum for the discussion of local issues and opportunities relating to water and soil resources management.

(f) It shall adopt an annual budget and work program that integrate the various functions and responsibilities assigned to it by law.

(g) It shall report to the governor and the legislature by October 15 of each even-numbered year with an assessment of board programs and recommendations for any program changes and board membership changes necessary to improve state and local efforts in water and soil resources management.

Subd. 8. **Committee for dispute resolution.** A committee of the board is established to hear and resolve disputes, appeals, and interventions under sections 105.72 to 105.79, 110B.25, 112.801, and 473.878, subdivision 7. The committee consists of the three citizen members specified in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (4), and two additional members appointed by the board chair.

History: 1987 c 358 s 103