

Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
Request for County Board Action/Agenda Item Cover Sheet



To: Chairperson, Aitkin County Board of Commissioners Date: January 8, 2014

Via: Patrick Wussow, County Administrator

From: Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director

Title of Item:

Update on SSTS Ordinance

Requested Meeting Date: January 14, 2014 Estimated Presentation Time: 5 min

Presenter: Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director

Type of Action Requested (check all that apply)

- For info only, no action requested Approve under Consent Agenda
- For discussion only with possible future action Adopt Ordinance Revision
- Let/Award Bid or Quote (attach copy of basic bid/quote specs or summary of complex specs, each bid/quote received & bid/quote comparison)
- Approve/adopt proposal by motion Approve/adopt proposal by resolution (attach draft resolution)
- Authorize filling vacant staff position
- Request to schedule public hearing or sale Other (please list) _____
- Request by member of the public to be heard
- Item should be addressed in closed session under MN Statute _____

Fiscal Impact (check all that apply)

- Is this item in the current approved budget? Yes No (attach explanation)
- What type of expenditure is this? Operating Capital Other (attach explanation)
- Revenue line account # that funds this item is: _____
- Expenditure line account # for this item is: _____

Staffing Impact (Any yes answer requires a review by Human Resources Manager before going to the board)

- Duties of a department employee(s) may be materially affected. Yes No
- Applicable job description(s) may require revision. Yes No
- Item may impact a bargaining unit agreement or county work policy. Yes No
- Item may change the department's authorized staffing level. Yes No



Supporting Attachment(s)


- Memorandum Summary of Item
- Copy of applicable county policy and/or ordinance (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable state/federal statute/regulation (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable contract and/or agreement
- Original bid spec or quote request (excluding complex construction projects)
- Bids/quotes received (excluding complex construction projects, provide comparison worksheet)
- Bid/quote comparison worksheet
- Draft County Board resolution
- Plat approval check-list and supporting documents
- Copy of previous minutes related to this issue
- Other supporting document(s) (please list) _____

Provide (1) copy of supporting documentation NO LATER THAN Wednesday at Noon to make the Board's agenda for the following Tuesday. (If your packet contains colored copies, please provide (4) paper copies of supporting documentation as we do not have a color printer or copier.) Items WILL NOT be placed on the Board agenda unless complete documentation is provided for the Board packets.

Aitkin County Environmental Services Planning and Zoning
209 Second Street NW
Room 100
Aitkin, MN 56431
Phone: 218-927-7342
Fax: 218-927-4372



MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 8, 2014
TO: Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
Patrick Wussow, County Administrator
FROM: Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director 
RE: SSTS Ordinance Update

In 2008, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) adopted new Rules, MN Rules Chapter 7080-7083, that regulate septic systems within the state of Minnesota. Under these Rules all local governing units that regulate septic systems must adopt new ordinances that meet the new standards by February 4, 2012. Aitkin County was one of the counties that opposed the new rules and requested the MPCA allow the use of the existing rules, 2006 version of 7080, as alternative local standards. Due to many counties not adopting the new rules, in 2010, legislation was passed to extend the adoption date to February 4, 2014, and allow counties and the MPCA to come to a compromise.

In 2013, MN Statute 115.55, Subdivision 7 was amended to allow the use of alternative local standards for systems under 2500 gallons per day. The Association of Minnesota Counties and the Minnesota Association of County Planning and Zoning Administrators supported the amendment to the Statute, and felt it was a reasonable compromise to get most of the counties to adopt MN Rules Chapter 7080-7083.

At the January 14, 2014 Aitkin County Board meeting, I would like to discuss with the County Board the adoption of a new Onsite Sewage Treatment System Ordinance that will meet minimum state requirements and establish an ordinance committee to review a draft ordinance prior any public hearings.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 218-927-7342 or by e-mail at tneff@co.aitkin.mn.us.

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