

**HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE & SENATE ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE,  
AND LEGACY COMMITTEE**

Joint Hearing on Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Efforts in Minnesota

Representative Hansen, Chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy Committee, called the meeting of the joint committees to order at 3:31 P.M. on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in Room 10 of the State Office Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

House Members Present:

HANSEN, Rick (Chair)  
JORDAN, Sydney (Vice Chair)  
HEINTZEMAN, Josh (GOP Lead)  
BRAND, Jeff  
BURKEL, John  
EDELSON, Heather  
FINKE, Leigh  
FISCHER, Peter  
GILLMAN, Dawn  
JACOB, Steven  
LEE, Fue  
LISLEGARD, Dave  
PURSELL, Kristi  
SCHULTZ, Isaac  
SKRABA, Roger  
VANG, Samantha

Senate Members Present:

HAWJ, Fong (Chair)  
MCEWEN, Jennifer (Vice-Chair)  
EICHORN, Justin (GOP Lead)  
GREEN, Steve  
HAUSCHILD, Grant  
HOFFMAN, John  
KUNESH, Mary  
LANG, Andrew  
MORRISON, Kelly  
WESENBERG, Nathan

A quorum was present.

Emerald Ash Borer overview from Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Presenting:

- Mark Abrahamson, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Valerie McClannahan, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Dave Benke, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Presentation from Minnesota Shade Tree Advisory Committee and League of Minnesota Cities.

Presenting:

- Karen Zumach, President, Minnesota Shade Tree Advisory Committee
- Craig Johnson, League of Minnesota Cities

Emerald Ash Borer research presentation from the University of Minnesota MN Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center.

Presenting:

- Robert Venette, USDA Forest Service & Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center

Presentation on wood waste and biomass energy challenges and opportunities

Presenting:

- Ken Smith, St. Paul District Energy
- Rick Evans, Xcel Energy
- Al Krug, Xcel Energy

Representative Hansen adjourned the meeting at 4:39 P.M.

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Representative Rick Hansen, Chair

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Samuel O'Neill, Committee Legislative Assistant