



Agenda

All sessions take place in the Minnewaska Room, unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, June 5

10:00 a.m. MACPZA Board Meeting - *All MACPZA members are welcome to attend!*

Osakis Room

12:00 p.m. Registration Open

Conference Center Lower Level Hallway

1:00 p.m. Welcome and Introductions

Minnewaska Room

*Dave Rush, Land & Resource Management Director | Douglas County
MACPZA Professional Development Committee Chair*

1:10 p.m. Legal Case Study Review and Open Q & A (Stump the Expert)

The session will include a case law review and time for questions.

Jason Kuboushek, Partner | Iverson Reuvers

Jason is a Partner at Iverson Reuvers and has been with the firm since its inception. His practice involves helping clients throughout Minnesota, including cities, counties, townships, individuals, and businesses. He has handled numerous trials and appeals involving individual owners, contractors, subcontractors, and design professionals. Jason enjoys working with companies and entrepreneurs with a broad range of business-related services and advises clients on business law, start-up assistance relating to the formation of an entity, the protection of a trademark or license agreement and assist with buying or selling a business and estate planning.

1:55 p.m. Findings of Fact: Legal Guidance and Practical Examples

Planning Commissions regularly make decisions on conditional use permit, and less often on Environmental Review (EAWs), based on findings developed by staff. This session will provide some legal guidance on establishing solid findings to support decisions, as well as real-world examples drafted by seasoned ZAs.

[Jason Kuboushek, Partner | Iverson Reuvers](#)

[Chris Pence, Environmental Services Manager | Crow Wing County](#)

Chris has worked in planning zoning for over 18 years primarily in Cass and Crow Wing County. Chris also manages the Solid Waste Program and Public Land Management.

[Angela Lipelt, Environmental Services Supervisor | Mower County](#)

Angela has been employed by Mower County for the past 17 years but has worked in the Environmental Services field for nearly 30. Her past employment includes 10 years with Waseca County and a shorter stint with both Rice County and in a temporary capacity with City of Faribault.

She has been a MACPZA member for 26 years and has served as a board member for the past 17 years in various capacities. Angela graduated from the University Minnesota Mankato with honors; where she majored in Urban and Regional Studies and minored in Geography with emphasis in Cartography and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

2:40 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. Uncommon Subdivisions & Tools for Development Governance

Most ZAs are familiar with Administrative Splits and plats, but do you know what a CIC is and when it's commonly implemented, or the ins and outs of HOAs, restrictive covenants, deed restrictions, and other ownership controls. If not, here's your chance to learn something new and see how it could benefit County Zoning with various types of developments.

[Brit Brouillard, Owner & President | Johnson & Brouillard, P.A.](#)

Brit is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in History. He then earned a law degree from the Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, New York, in May 2021. Later that year he joined the Johnston Law Office, P.A. in Alexandria, where in January of this year, he succeeded Scott Johnston as the principal owner. The firm is now known as Johnston & Brouillard, P.A. Brit has experience practicing in real estate, business, banking and estate planning. He frequently works on real estate development, subdivisions, residential and commercial transactions, real estate litigation and other real estate related matters.

4:00 p.m. AMC Update

Update on the 2025 Legislative Session and possible Special Session.

[Brian Martinson, Environment & Natural Resources Policy Analyst | AMC](#)

As Environment & Natural Resources Policy Analyst for the Association of Minnesota Counties, Brian also serves as government relations staff for the Minnesota Solid Waste Administrators Association (SWAA), Minnesota Association of County Planning & Zoning Administrators (MACPZA), Minnesota Association of County Feedlot Officers (MACFO) and the Minnesota Association of County Agricultural Inspectors (MACAI). Brian has a strong background in state legislative and policy work with 16 years as a Minnesota Senate staff member and two years as Director of State Government Affairs for an agriculture cooperative.

4:30 p.m. Adjourn for the Day

Dinner on Your Own

Friday, June 6

7:00 a.m. Registration Open

Breakfast Buffet

Osakis Room

7:55 a.m. Welcome

Minnewaska Room

[Dave Rush, Land & Resource Management Director | Douglas County](#)
[MACPZA Professional Development Committee Chair](#)

8:00 a.m. Cannabis: Regulatory Update and an Inside Look at the Business

[Merone Melekin, Outreach Director | MN Office of Cannabis Management](#)

[Sophie Leininger, Government Relations Director | MN Office of Cannabis Management](#)

[Aaron Boshart, Chief Compliance Officer | Iowa Cannabis Company](#)

Aaron Boshart is an industry leader with nearly a decade of experience overseeing cultivation, processing, and retail operations in the cannabis sector. As COO of Iowa Cannabis Company, Aaron has managed complex buildouts, including a 125,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility dedicated to cultivation, processing, and distribution. His hands-on expertise spans odor mitigation, waste disposal strategies, and infrastructure planning, including the utility demands of large-scale cannabis operations.

9:30 a.m. Data Centers: Evolving Technology and Permitting Considerations

The introduction of and rapid advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) have spurred growth in the development of Data Centers. Industry representatives will provide an overview of these centers that house computer networking and processing equipment used to process data, along with infrastructure requirements and potential impacts. The City of Chaska Planner will provide some insight into permitting considerations for these facilities, issues that may arise with an application, and discuss a first-hand application experience.

[Jeff St. Onge, Senior Operations Manager | Revolve Labs](#)

Jeff graduated Cum Laude from the University of Houston and brings over 12 years of leadership experience across operations, customer support, analytics, and inventory management—including a pivotal role in guiding a privately held company through its IPO. At Revolve Labs, Jeff leads several core functions, including site development and design, the AI pilot program, information security, and enterprise compliance. His strengths in project management, technical analysis, and lean process development are central to the company's ongoing innovation and growth.

[Shaun Plotnik, Site Supervisor | Revolve Labs](#)

With over 20 years of experience in operations, technical support, and training, Shaun has been instrumental in the success of Revolve Labs' flagship site in Glencoe, Minnesota, where he has led operations for the past four years. He has also been deployed on multiple client assignments to optimize site performance and implement operational improvements. Shaun's deep expertise in site management, process enhancements, and energy monitoring continues to drive efficiency and reliability across our infrastructure.

[Ryan Kohls, Technician | Revolve Labs](#)

Ryan Kohls is one of our most recent strategic hires for our flagship site in Glencoe, Minnesota. His contributions involve site maintenance, technical repairs, and reporting. Although his experience in this specific field was limited before his onboarding, he has quickly learned and excelled at his role. He can provide insight from his transition into the crypto mining and data center industry.

[Liz Hanson, City Planner | City of Chaska](#)

Liz graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2012, majoring in Architecture and Urban Studies. She has been working as the City Planner for the City of Chaska since 2014. And collectively, she has over 13 years of experience working in municipal planning. Liz lives in the Twin Cities metro and enjoys traveling, photography, and playing volleyball.

10:30 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Environmental Review: Updates and New Digital Tools

EQB staff share the latest updates to Minnesota's environmental review program including new guidance, resources, tools, and a tutorial on using the Climate Calculator (launching later this summer). The Climate Calculator will help estimate emissions for many different types of projects. It also includes suggested mitigation and adaptation strategies. The calculator is meant to provide a defensible answer to the EAW form's climate question, but can also be used as a planning tool.

Jesse Krzenski, Environmental Review Program Administrator | MN Environmental Quality Board

Jesse Krzenski is the environmental review program administrator at the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board with two years helping environmental review practitioners with interpreting the rules of environmental review. He specializes in environmental review rules and uses that experience to provide technical assistance to program users.

Steph Aho, Greenhouse Gas Data Analyst | MN Environmental Quality Board

Steph Aho is the greenhouse gas data analyst at the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board. For the past 16 months she has been managing the construction of EQB's climate calculator, a tool designed to make the Environmental Assessment Worksheet process more efficient for project proposers. With the completion of the climate calculator this month, Steph's work will transition to training and supporting calculator users as they begin navigating this new tool.

Jim Drake, Natural Heritage Review Specialist | MN Department of Natural Resources

Jim Drake works for the DNR as a Natural Heritage Review Specialist. In that position, he reviews proposed projects for potential impacts to rare natural features and provides measures to avoid or minimize those impacts. Prior to his time at the DNR, Jim worked for NatureServe, an environmental non-profit, mapping and classifying vegetation. This included being part of a team mapping vegetation at over 60 national parks across the US. Jim has a B.S. in Biology and a Master's in Conservation Biology. He has lived in Minnesota for most of his life and enjoys bird hunting and coaching youth sports.

12:30 p.m. Adjourn