

Meeting of the Policy Committee for Root River One Watershed, One Plan
Monday, September 26, 2016, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Room 108, Fillmore County Office Building, 902 Houston Street NW, Preston, MN

In attendance: Rodney Peterson (Dodge County), Glenn Hahn (Dodge SWCD), Matt Flynn (Olmsted County), Marcia Ward (Winona County), Jerry Mueller (Winona SWCD), Dana Kjome (Houston County), Loren Lapham (Root River SWCD), Duane Bakke (Fillmore County), Tim Gabrielson (Mower County), Jim Kellogg (Mower SWCD). Also in attendance: Jennifer Ronnenberg (Fillmore SWCD), Donna Rasmussen (Fillmore SWCD), David Johnson (BWSR), Adam Beilke (BWSR), Rachel Olm (Houston Engineering), Tim Ruzek (Mower SWCD), Adam King (Dodge SWCD), Sheila Harmes (Winona County), Daryl Buck (Winona SWCD), Skip Langer (Olmsted SWCD).

1. Open meeting: The meeting was called to order by Chair Bakke at 9:05 am.
2. Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda by Marcia Ward; second by Jim Kellogg; motion carried unanimously.
3. Approve minutes of the 6/13/2016 meeting: Motion to approve the June 13, 2016 minutes by Tim Gabrielson; second by Dana Kjome; motion carried unanimously.
4. Approve minutes of 9/7/2016 Root River 1W1P Public Hearing in Stewartville: Motion to approve the September 7, 2016 minutes by Matt Flynn; second by Jim Kellogg; motion carried unanimously.
5. Approve minutes of 9/8/2016 Root River 1W1P Public Hearing in Caledonia: Motion to approve the September 8, 2016 minutes by Marcia Ward; second by Jerry Mueller; motion carried unanimously.
6. Old Business
 - a. Action item: Consider state agency and public comments and responses: All state agency comments were reviewed individually. Recommended changes included:
 - i. Include “over 10-yr lifespan of the plan” or equivalent text in the description of the \$1 million needed for technical support to implement practices (BWSR Discretionary 3)
 - ii. Spell out NPFP in the plan and in the comment/response table (BWSR Discretionary 8)
 - iii. Change “Biennial Evaluation” to “Biennial Budget Request” (BWSR Discretionary 13)
 - iv. Search text for spelling/ grammar
 - v. Spell out One Watershed, One Plan in the plan wherever 1W1P is used

Other comments that generated discussion:

- What is the difference between BWSR mandatory comments and the others? Mandatory changes are needed to meet BWSR’s plan content requirements.
- There were several comments from the agencies about PTMApp indicating a lack of understanding about what the application does and how data was used to develop it. There are differences of opinions about the reliability of the data and the calculations used in PTMApp. Three of the five pilots tested PTMApp which still needs to be groundtruthed.
- The Belmont study refers to the Root River Sediment Budget completed by Patrick Belmont and others to determine sediment sources in the Root River.
- It is very important to develop an easy to understand summary document for the general public.
- BWSR Mandatory 12 comment seems critical of the Crooked Creek Watershed District. There are watershed district plan requirements that must be included in 1W1P in order for the watershed district to adopt 1W1P as their plan.
- MN DNR comment 14 does not support the use of downsized culverts for water storage. The action actually states that hydrologic studies would be used to develop the best design, which may or may not result in downsizing culverts.
- MDA comment 2 regarding Advisory Committee participation; there is a need to improve how the Advisory Committee is involved.

- MDA comment 8 regarding quantifiable goals for phosphorus encourage setting a lower goal; however, the phosphorus goal is tied to the sediment goal which is still a 45% reduction goal by 2025.

Each agency will receive a copy of the comments and responses with their comment response letter.

Public hearing comments and responses were also reviewed. Commenters will receive copies of the comments and responses.

Motion to approve the state agency and public hearing comments and responses with the changes above was made by Rodney Peterson; seconded by Glenn Hahn; motion carried unanimously.

- Action item: Consider draft state agency comment response letters: Motion to approve the state agency comment response letters by Jim Kellogg; seconded by Tim Gabrielson; motion carried unanimously.
- Action item: Consider submission of final draft of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan Implementation Plan to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources for approval: Motion to approve submitting the final draft to the MN BWSR by Dana Kjome; second by Tim Gabrielson; motion carried unanimously.

The timeline for the final approval of the plan involves the 90-day review by BWSR, which includes 30 days for the state agencies to determine if our responses to their comments are adequate. On November 4th, BWSR's Southern Region Planning Committee will vote to recommend the plan to the full BWSR Board. This meeting will involve staff to present information about the plan. The BWSR Board will consider approval of the plan at their December 14th meeting. This meeting will also involve a presentation by staff.

7. New Business

- Action item: Approve HEI invoice #30603 dated July 7, 2016, in the amount of \$2,384.00: Motion by Jim Kellogg to approve HEI invoice #30603; second by Matt Flynn; motion carried unanimously.
- Action Item: approve payment of Fillmore SWCD invoice #9107 dated September 19, 2016, in the amount of \$3,293.97: Motion by Tim Gabrielson to approve Fillmore SWCD invoice #9107; second by Glenn Hahn; motion carried unanimously.
- Action item: approve September 19, 2016 Financial Reports: Motion by Marcia Ward to approve the September 19, 2016 Financial Reports; second by Jerry Mueller; motion carried unanimously.
- Report from Policy Committee members re: feedback from their respective Boards: None. Chair Bakke noted that it was good to see other County and SWCD Board members at the public hearings.

8. Next meeting

- Review dates for upcoming meetings: The next meeting will be Monday, December 19, 2016, in Room 108 of the Fillmore County Office Building.
- Agenda items: Final approval of the Joint Powers Agreement, pay last bills to close out the planning grant, discuss details about governance, and hear a report from the Planning Work Group perspective about how to move forward to make this work.

- Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Matt Flynn at 11:33 am; second by Jim Kellogg; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Ward, Secretary