

Root River 1W1P Planning Work Group Meeting Notes  
June 11, 2018 following the Policy Committee meeting (~11:00)

In attendance: Caleb Fischer, Jeff Hastings, Dan Wermager, Daryl Buck, Sheila Harmes, Adam Beilke, Skip Langer, Donna Rasmussen

Jeff Hastings said that TU is looking for 2019 projects now. The Lessard Sams (LSOH) application has been funded, and RCPP is available. However, technical and engineering assistance are lacking to complete projects. If there is public access, LSOH funds can be used for engineering to pay 100%. If not, JPB engineers were planning to do some work, but they are shorthanded until Pete Fryer returns from medical leave. The new NRCS State Conservationist, Troy Daniel, starts July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Jeff will contact him about getting JAA at the local level similar to the Wisconsin model. Minnesota and Wisconsin staff could meet to discuss the Wisconsin model. A good suggestion would be to include streambank JAA for staff on the new Conservation Delivery Teams.

Nick Proux, DNR, attended the SE SWCD managers' meeting so follow up is needed with him. Jeff could attend that meeting. DNR habitat staff should also be involved to discuss their next steps and how to coordinate with them. From a bank stabilization standpoint, warm water streams need work too, and not all counties have many coldwater streams.

Jeff has held contractors' meetings with presentations by contractors experienced with streambank work, such as Dennis Barth. Something similar could be held in our area to generate interest in these types of projects among contractors.

TU has funds in a Contribution Agreement for technical assistance which could be used to complete steps 1-7 of planning a project.

The next Planning Work Group meeting will be August 29<sup>th</sup> (wait until after Winona SWCD's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on August 14th). Agenda items include

- RCPP, which should be finalized by then (Local Work Group needed to finalize criteria)
- MPCA response to letter of interest
- Progress on projects