

Meeting of the Policy Committee for Root River, One Watershed One Plan

Monday, April 6, 2015, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Fillmore County Office Building

In attendance: Tim Gabrielson (Mower Co.), Glen Hahn (Dodge SWCD), Dana Kjome (Houston Co.), Jerry Mueller (Winona SWCD), Duane Bakke (Fillmore Co.), Leonard Leutink (Fillmore SWCD), Marcia Ward (Winona Co.), Bob Meirau (Crooked Creek WD), Richard Gehling (Mower SWCD), Matt Flynn (Olmsted Co.), Steve Connelly (Olmsted SWCD)

1. Open meeting: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chair Duane Bakke
2. Approve Agenda: Marcia Ward moved to approve the agenda with the addition of 5.c. Prioritization Discussion; seconded by Jerry Mueller; approved unanimously.
3. Approve minutes of the 3/2/15 meeting: Tim Gabrielson moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Dana Kjome; approved unanimously
4. Old Business
 - a. Action Item: approve the Advisory Committee list: The draft Advisory Committee list was reviewed. Suggested additions are MN County Planning and Zoning Association, County Feedlot Officers, SE MN Ag Alliance, ag retailers association, and Southern Minnesota Tourism Association. It was moved by Jerry Mueller to approve the Advisory Committee list with those additions; seconded by Leonard Leutink; approved unanimously. A letter or email will be drafted to be signed by Chair Bakke to be sent to the non-governmental organizations. A master email list will be developed for the Committee.
 - b. Discuss final details of the Public Kick-off Event:
 - i. It was decided to serve coffee, lemonade, water and cookies for the open house. Tom Gile from BWSR indicated that this would be an eligible grant expense.
 - ii. Chair Bakke will be the spokesperson to speak with the media.
 - iii. Signage outside the building would be helpful for people to find the location.
5. New Business
 - a. Action Item: Matt Flynn moved to approve payment of HEI Inc. invoice #0023875, dated March 5, 2015 for \$6,381.55; seconded by Jerry Mueller; approved unanimously. The Financial Report was provided by Winona SWCD. Jerry Mueller moved to approve the Financial Report; seconded by Dana Kjome; approved unanimously.
 - b. Discussion on the Draft Resources, Concerns and Issues table: Mark Deutschman, HEI, provided an overview of the priority concerns matrix which will be central to developing the watershed implementation plan. He reviewed the definitions of Resource, Potential Resource of Concern, and Issues emphasizing that there was a clear intention not to use judgmental statements in the Issues. The numbers in the table will be used to cross reference to the concerns in the agency letters and to make it easy to track the connections to other comments made by the public. A column will be added for ranking the concerns by the public, the Advisory Committee, the Policy Committee and the Planning Workgroup. Other columns will be added for Measurable Goals and Strategies to Achieve the Goals. The matrix is a working document and a draft until the final plan is developed. We need to start adding public input and other issues. All issues will be cataloged. The Root River plan is a Priority Concerns Plan; the priorities will rise to the top. The Policy Committee makes the final decisions.
 - c. Prioritization Discussion: The process for prioritization at the open house will be to place dots next to the Potential Resources of Concern that are most important. Different colors will be used for residents/landowners vs. non-residents of the watershed. Each person will be given two dots to indicate their priorities. The process used will be included in the response

letters to the agencies as well as using the matrix to reference that their concerns were included.

6. Next meeting:
 - a. Review dates for upcoming meetings: The dates are ok through August—May 4, June 3, July 6, and August 3.
 - b. Agenda items: no agenda items were discussed.
7. Adjourn: Moved by Matt Flynn to adjourn at 10:50 a.m.; seconded by Richard Gehling; approved unanimously.

Marcia Ward, Secretary