

**Meeting of the Policy Committee for Root River One Watershed, One Plan**  
**Monday, December 19, 2016, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Chatfield City Hall meeting room**  
**21 Second Street SE, Chatfield MN, 55923**

In attendance: Duane Bakke (Fillmore County), Jerry Mueller (Winona SWCD), Leonard Leutink (Fillmore SWCD), Tim Gabrielson (Mower County), Rodney Peterson (Dodge County), Marcia Ward (Winona SWCD), Glenn Hahn (Dodge SWCD). Also present: Adam King (Dodge SWCD), Justin Hanson and Tim Ruzek (Mower SWCD), Sheila Harmes (Winona County), Daryl Buck (Winona SWCD), Skip Langer (Olmsted SWCD), Dave Walter and Bob Scanlan (Root River SWCD), Adam Beilke (BWSR), Jennifer Ronnenberg and Donna Rasmussen (Fillmore SWCD)

1. Open meeting: The meeting was called to order by Chair Bakke at 9:01 a.m.
2. Approve Agenda: Tim Gabrielson moved to approve the agenda as amended to include a report on the 1W1P presentations to the Clean Water Council and BWSR and BWSR action on the plan; Jerry Mueller seconded; motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve minutes of the 9/26/2016 meeting: Marcia Ward moved to approve the minutes; Glenn Hahn seconded; motion passed unanimously.
4. Old Business
  - a. Report on 1W1P presentations to Clean Water Council and BWSR and BWSR action on the plan. Jennifer and Donna, along with Adam Beilke from BWSR, traveled to New Ulm and presented the plan to the BWSR Southern Regional Committee on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The Committee voted to recommend approval of the plan to the entire BWSR Board.

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, Jennifer, Donna and Duane presented the plan to the Clean Water Council with an emphasis on our experience as a pilot project. Our presentation was followed by representatives from the Local Government Round Table, including Duane representing AMC and LeAnn Buck, MASWCD, and Ray Bohn, MAWD, speaking about the funding proposal to provide block grants to watersheds with approved plans. This would result in less competitive grants as more funds go into the block grants for implementing watershed plans that are completed. Duane commented that the Clean Water Council funding recommendation for 1W1P in the 2018-2019 biennium is \$12 million. AMC has passed a resolution submitted by him supporting this plan for funding watershed plans. A similar resolution submitted by the Fillmore SWCD was passed at the MASWCD convention.

Donna, Jennifer, Adam Beilke and Shaina Keseley from BWSR all attended the BWSR Board meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> where Donna and Jennifer gave almost the same presentation that was given on November 4<sup>th</sup> with some additional lessons learned from being a pilot. The Board had several questions about the budget and the amount of state funding we anticipate is needed to fund the plan. They then voted unanimously to be the first 1W1P in the state to be approved. Marcia commented about the wording in the BWSR approval letter that stated that the partners “must adopt and begin implementing the plan within 120 days” when there is no funding yet for implementation. It was noted that the Planning Work Group has a draft implementation plan for 2017 that is based on using existing resources. The 120-day timetable is the same as what has been required for county-based local water management plans. Duane commented that the discussion about how the regional organizations can improve collaboration could factor in to implementation activities in the watersheds.
  - b. Action item: Consider approval of Draft JPA: The Policy Committee reviewed the June 17, 2016 version of the JPA. Corrections requested at the Policy Committee are as follows:
    - i. Section 6.a.ii.a: Policy Committee Duties, Annual Report: changed wording from “The Policy Committee shall prepare an annual work plan....” to “ The Policy Committee shall review and approve an annual work plan.....”
    - ii. Section 6.b: The Technical Advisory Committee: changed wording from “The Technical Advisory Committee will meet quarterly or as needed”, to “The Technical Advisory Committee will meet annually or as needed.”
    - iii. Section 6.c.: The Planning Workgroup: Added the sentence “The Planning Workgroup shall prepare a draft annual work plan and budget consisting of an itemized statement of the One Watershed, One Plan Root River Watershed revenues and expenses for the ensuing calendar year which shall be presented to the Policy Committee for review and approval.”

Marcia Ward moved to approve the recommended language changes regarding committee duties; Tim Gabrielson seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Rodney Peterson moved to approve the amended JPA; Tim Gabrielson seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

c. Action item: Consider recommendation for adoption of Root River 1W1P by the participating member local governmental units. Duane suggested that SWCD staff from the Planning Work Group also attend the county board meetings when the plan is being presented for adoption. Leonard Leutink moved to recommend adoption of the plan by the participating member local governmental units; Jerry Mueller seconded; motion passed unanimously. Adam Beilke commented that a resolution template will be prepared by BWSR and sent to the Planning Work Group staff prior to the board meetings.

d. Discussion item: Consider report from PWG on Implementation Plan for Year 1: Jennifer reviewed the draft work plan for 2017. Validation of the PTMAp was discussed as very important to accurately measuring the effectiveness of BMPs on the landscape. The need for landowner engagement is another critical piece of the annual work plan. This activity created much interest from members of the audience at all the 1W1P presentations.

#### 5. New Business

- a. Action item: Approve HEI invoice # 0031793 dated October 6, 2016, in the amount of \$3,000.00: Leonard Leutink moved to approve payment; Tim Gabrielson seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- b. Action item: Approve HEI invoice # 0031818 dated October 6, 2016, in the amount of \$1,498.75: Jerry Mueller moved to approve payment; Glenn Hahn seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- c. Action item: approve payment of Winona SWCD invoice #2016-27 in the amount of \$1,120.00 dated December 15, 2016, for fiscal services: Jerry Mueller moved to approve payment; Rodney Peterson seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- d. Action item: approve payment of Fillmore SWCD invoice #9160 in the amount of \$4,777.39 dated December 12, 2016, for grant administration and coordination and reimbursement of public hearing advertising expenses: Rodney Peterson moved to approve payment; Jerry Mueller seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- e. Action item: approve December 15, 2016 Financial Reports showing a grant balance of \$4,373.65; Leonard Leutink moved to approve the Financial Reports; Jerry Mueller seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- f. Action item: approve costs for printing of the Root River implementation plan, appendices and maps up to a maximum amount: Rodney Peterson moved to approve printing the plan, appendices and maps up to \$4,373.65; Tim Gabrielson seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- g. Report from Policy Committee members re: feedback from their respective Boards: There has not been much to report recently as the plan moves through the approval process. Rodney Peterson commented that the 1W1P process is beginning in the Cedar River watershed. An educational meeting is being held with Freeborn County with BWSR to encourage participation. There is total support from the other LGUs.

#### 6. Next meeting

- a. Returning and new Policy Committee members for 2017: Leonard Leutink, Dana Kjome and Loren Lapham will not be returning to the Committee. Duane thanked them and all the rest of the committee and the staff for their work and dedication to successfully completing the watershed plan. New committee members should be appointed at the same meetings when the JPA and plan are acted upon.
- b. Review dates for upcoming meetings: The next meeting is set tentatively for Monday, March 20, 2017, in Preston.
- c. Agenda items will include setting the new meeting schedule and meeting locations, considering the bylaws, and approval of the work plan. Anyone attending legislative days for MASWCD and AMC are encouraged to advocate for the block grant funding recommendation.

7. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Rodney Peterson; seconded by Marcia Ward. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Ward, Secretary