

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

Monday, September 20th, 2021, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Room 108, Fillmore County Office Building, 902 Houston Street NW, Preston, MN

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Paul Fruechte, Crooked Creek Watershed District; Rodney Peterson, Dodge County Commissioner; Glenn Hahn, Dodge SWCD Supervisor; Duane Bakke, Fillmore County Commissioner; Tim Gossman, Fillmore SWCD Supervisor; Eric Johnson, Houston County Commissioner; Jim Kellogg, Mower SWCD Supervisor; Matt Flynn, Olmsted County Commissioner; Marcia Ward, Winona County Commissioner; Gerry Mueller, Winona SWCD Supervisor

Members Absent: Glenn Kruse, Root River SWCD Supervisor; Jeff Baldus, Mower County Commissioner; Steve Connelly, Olmsted SWCD Supervisor

Others Present: Adam Beilke, BWSR; Shaina Keseley, BWSR; Adam King, Dodge SWCD; Laura Christensen, Fillmore SWCD; Nikki Wheeler, Fillmore SWCD; Dave Walter, Root River SWCD; Dan Wermager, Root River SWCD; Justin Hanson, Mower SWCD; Jensen Bigelow, Mower SWCD; Skip Langer, Olmsted SWCD; Caitlin Brady, Olmsted SWCD; Sheila Harnes, Winona County; Wanda Anderson, Winona County SWCD

1) Open meeting @ 09:02 a.m.

- a) Meeting opened by Bakke.

2) Approval of Agenda:

- a) Without additions; moved by Kellogg, seconded by Flynn, carried unanimously.
 - i) Yays: Bakke, Flynn, Fruechte, Gossman, Hahn, Johnson, Kellogg, Mueller, Peterson, Ward.
 - ii) Nays: None.

3) Roll Call:

- a) Jim Kellogg, Duane Bakke, Matt Flynn, Eric Johnson, Gerry Mueller, Rodney Peterson, Marcia Ward, Paul Fruechte, Tim Gossman, Glenn Hahn.

4) Approval of June 21st, 2021 Policy Committee meeting minutes:

- a) Without additions; moved by Ward seconded by Peterson carried unanimously.
 - i) Yays: Bakke, Flynn, Fruechte, Gossman, Hahn, Johnson, Kellogg, Mueller, Peterson, Ward.
 - ii) Nays: None.

5) New Business:

- a) Report from Policy Committee members re: feedback from their respective Boards:
 - i) Dodge County:
 - (1) None Reported.
 - ii) Fillmore County:
 - (1) None Reported.
 - iii) Houston County:
 - (1) None Reported.
 - iv) Mower County:
 - (1) None Reported.
 - v) Olmsted County:
 - (1) None Reported.
 - vi) Winona County:
 - (1) WinLaC 1W1P has their open house public kickoff meeting tonight (09/20/2021) from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., with presentations at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

(a) Open house meeting; formal introduction to the public that the 1W1P process is being initiated.

(i) An email with virtual meeting link and in-person meeting information will be sent to the group following the Root River 1W1P Policy Committee meeting.

vii) Crooked Creek Watershed District:

(1) None Reported.

b) BWSR update – Adam Beilke:

i) The most recent legislative session on watershed-based implementation funding procured the following; RR 1W1P is on 2nd round of funding, the legislature approved a 3rd round, totaling \$43.5 million total dollars, whereas the last cycle was \$27 million. More funding total due to more watersheds across the state with approved plans. RR 1W1P will expect same amount as the previous round. The group will need to go to the BWSR board at their next meeting to approve grants. Process: Workplan -> budget -> receive funds.

(1) 11 more watersheds across the state have been approved by BWSR to begin the 1W1P planning process; well over half of the state has either an approved plan or are in the process of having a plan approved; well on the way to reaching the goal of having the whole state covered by 2025.

c) Root River 1W1P 2018-19 Watershed Based Funding Grant:

i) Acknowledge Financials:

(1) Motion to acknowledge payables made by Mueller, seconded by Kellogg.

(a) Yays: Bakke, Flynn, Fruechte, Gossman, Hahn, Johnson, Kellogg, Mueller, Peterson, Ward.

(b) Nays: None.

ii) Project updates:

(1) Pictures shown of recent projects completed in Winona County using RR 1W1P funds.

iii) Acknowledge Budget:

(1) \$40,000 left to spend by the end of the year; on track to do so.

(a) Motion to acknowledge budget made by Mueller, seconded by Flynn.

(i) Yays: Bakke, Flynn, Fruechte, Gossman, Hahn, Johnson, Kellogg, Mueller, Peterson, Ward.

(ii) Nays: None.

d) Root River 1W1P 2020-21 Watershed Based Funding Grant:

i) Acknowledge Financials:

(1) Motion to acknowledge payables made by Johnson, seconded by Mueller.

(a) Yays: Bakke, Flynn, Fruechte, Gossman, Hahn, Johnson, Kellogg, Mueller, Peterson, Ward.

(b) Nays: None.

ii) Project updates – Crooked Creek:

(1) Given by Dave Walter & Dan Wermager of Root River SWCD.

iii) Acknowledge Budget:

(1) Motion to acknowledge budget made by Kellogg, seconded by Mueller.

(a) Yays: Bakke, Flynn, Fruechte, Gossman, Hahn, Johnson, Kellogg, Mueller, Peterson, Ward.

(b) Nays: None.

6) Next meeting:

a) Review plans for upcoming meetings:

i) Discussed.

b) Set next date for Policy Committee meeting:

i) Monday, December 20th, 2021; 9am-12pm in County Room 108.

c) Agenda items:

i) Each Policy Committee member communicate with their respective county Emergency Management office to discuss river level/flooding early warning systems.

ii) Update from Jensen Bigelow, Mower SWCD GreenCorps Member.

7) Adjourn @ 10:14 a.m.

a) Meeting adjourned by Bakke.