

**Meeting of the Policy Committee for Root River One Watershed, One Plan**  
**Monday, March 21, 2022, 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; Duane Bakke, Fillmore County Commissioner; Kathy Tesmer, Fillmore SWCD Supervisor; Jim Kellogg, Mower SWCD Supervisor; Matt Flynn, Olmsted County Commissioner; Steve Connelly, Olmsted SWCD Supervisor; Marcia Ward, Winona County Commissioner; Gerry Mueller, Winona County SWCD Supervisor

**Members Absent:** Glenn Hahn, Dodge SWCD Supervisor; Eric Johnson, Houston County Commissioner; Jeff Baldus, Mower County Commissioner; Glenn Kruse, Root River SWCD Supervisor

**Others Present:** Adam Beilke, BWSR; Anne Koliha, Fillmore SWCD; Nikki Wheeler, Fillmore SWCD; Jensen Bigelow, Mower SWCD; Paul Hunter, Mower SWCD; Skip Langer, Olmsted SWCD; Dan Wermager, Root River SWCD; Wanda Anderson, Winona County SWCD; Amanda Gentry, Winona County SWCD; Sheila Harmes, Winona County

**I. Open Meeting at 09:03 am.**

- a. Meeting opened by Anne Koliha.

**II. Approval of Agenda:**

- a. Without additions; moved by Kellogg, seconded by Peterson, carried unanimously.
  - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
  - ii. Nays: None.

**III. Election of Officers:**

- a. Nomination for Chair by Peterson for Bakke, seconded by Kellogg.
  - i. Motion to move for all nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Bakke for Chair moved by Kellogg, seconded by Peterson.
  - ii. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
  - iii. Nays: None.
- b. Nomination for Vice Chair by Peterson for Ward, seconded by Kellogg.
  - i. Motion to move for all nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Ward for Vice Chair moved by Kellogg, seconded by Peterson.
  - ii. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Mueller.
  - iii. Nays: None.

- c. Nomination for Secretary by Ward for Fruechte, seconded by Connelly.
  - i. Motion to move for all nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Fruechte for Secretary moved by Kellogg, seconded by Peterson.
  - ii. Ayes: Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
  - iii. Nays: None.

#### **IV. Introductions of meeting attendees**

#### **V. Secretary's Report:**

- 1. Approval of September 20, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes:
  - a. Without additions; moved by Mueller seconded by Flynn carried unanimously.
    - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
    - ii. Nays: None.
- 2. Acknowledge December 20, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting Notes:
  - a. Without additions; moved by Ward seconded by Mueller carried unanimously.
    - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
    - ii. Nays: None.

#### **VI. Financial Report:**

- 1. Acknowledge Root River 1W1P 2020-2021 WBIF Financials:
  - a. Motion to acknowledge payables made by Peterson, seconded by Mueller.
    - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
    - ii. Nays: None.
- 2. Acknowledge Independent Auditor's Report:
  - a. Motion to acknowledge Independent Auditor's Report made by Mueller, seconded by Kellogg.
    - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
    - ii. Nays: None.

#### **VII. Reports:**

- 1. RR 1W1P WBIF Cost-share Projects Report:
  - a. Matt Flynn wants a full breakdown of a completed project
- 2. Presentation of RR 1W1P WBIF project videos by Skip Langer – Olmsted SWCD:
  - a. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCk8ctA\\_GEtBN-bU3IkTv\\_hA/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCk8ctA_GEtBN-bU3IkTv_hA/videos)
  - b. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4Smq1wae4s>
  - c. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUCurowqs5Q>

3. Presentation of Annual Report by Jensen Bigelow – Mower SWCD:
  - a. Annual Report in paper copy passed around; highlights of projects and partners through RR 1W1P Funding.
  - b. Mower SWCD will send to legislators in the six-county area. Bring to County Board Meeting(s), county fairs, etc.
  - c. Could use Civic Engagement RR 1W1P funding to help with printing costs.
4. Report from Policy Committee members on Water level monitoring investigation:
  - a. Campground operators should speak with their County Emergency Management/Sheriff's Department to be sure they are on the early-warning system alerts for flooding, timing, etc.
  - b. Bakke will bring Fillmore County Sheriff & Emergency Management team in to next RR 1W1P PC meeting to give a report on their Emergency Management protocol.

**Break called by Chair at 10:30 am.**

**Meeting resumed by Chair at 10:43 am.**

**VIII. General Business:**

1. Consider amendment to the Bylaws of the Root River One Watershed One Plan Policy Committee:
  - a. Motion to consider amendment to the Bylaws of the Root River One Watershed One Plan Policy Committee made by Peterson, seconded by Tesmer.
    - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
    - ii. Nays: None.
2. Consider Fillmore SWCD as the day-to-day contact for the WBIF grant agreements:
  - a. Motion to consider Fillmore SWCD as the day-to-day contact for the RR 1W1P WBIF Grant Agreements made by Peterson, seconded by Flynn.
    - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
    - ii. Nays: None.
3. Consider Fillmore SWCD as the fiscal agent for the WBIF grant agreements:
  - a. Motion to consider Fillmore SWCD as the fiscal agent for the RR 1W1P WBIF Grant Agreements made by Flynn, seconded by Kellogg.
    - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
    - ii. Nays: None.

4. Workplan for RR 1W1P 2022-2023 WBIF grant:
  - a. Advisory Committee comments:
    - i. Friends of the Root River would like continued support of the RR 1W1P WBIF to continue outreach and education efforts.
  - b. Approval of RR 1W1P 2022-2023 WBIF Workplan:
    - i. Motion to approve RR 1W1P 2022-2023 WBIF Workplan made by Kellogg, seconded by Mueller.
    - ii. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
    - iii. Nays: None.
5. Civic Engagement: Friends of the Root River Events & Other Events:
  - a. Planning four 'Science Sunday' events; April (Fountain), May (Hokah), June (Stewartville), and July (Chatfield).
    - i. Once events are officially scheduled, fliers will be distributed to SWCD's to advertise on websites, Facebook pages, Chambers of Commerce, etc.
    - ii. Potential for HBC, KFIL, etc. to advertise.
6. Schedule next Policy Committee meeting date:
  - a. June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 9:00am in Fillmore County Building Room 108.

**IX. Adjournment:**

- a. Motion to adjourn meeting moved by Peterson, seconded by Kellogg.
  - i. Ayes: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Tesmer, Kellogg, Flynn, Connelly, Ward, Mueller.
  - ii. Nays: None.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 11:23 am.