

Meeting of the Policy Committee for Root River One Watershed One Plan
Monday, May 20th, 2024 at 9 AM
Room B of 102L, 101 Fillmore St W (Fillmore County Courthouse), Preston, MN w/ Zoom Option

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present (in Person): Paul Fruechte, Crooked Creek Watershed District; Duane Bakke, Fillmore County Commissioner; Kathy Tesmer, Fillmore SWCD Supervisor; Glenn Kruse, Root River SWCD Supervisor; Eric Johnson, Houston County Commissioner; Jim Kellogg, Mower SWCD Supervisor; Gregg Wright, Olmsted County Commissioner; Andy Hart, Olmsted SWCD Supervisor (entered meeting in person at 9:11am); Tom Scarponcini, Winona County SWCD Supervisor; Marcia Ward, Winona County Commissioner

Members Present (Zoom): Rodney Peterson, Dodge County Commissioner; Andy Hart, Olmsted SWCD Supervisor (attended via Zoom until 09:11am)

Members Absent: Glenn Hahn, Dodge SWCD Supervisor; Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner

Others Present (in Person): Dave Copeland, BWSR; Riley Buley, Fillmore SWCD; Nikki Wheeler, Fillmore SWCD; Dave Walter, Root River SWCD; Dan Wermager, Root River SWCD; Cody Fox, Mower SWCD; Skip Langer, Olmsted SWCD; Sheila Harmes, Winona County

Others Present (via Zoom): Jeremy Maul, BWSR; Adam King, Dodge SWCD; Caitlin Meyer, Olmsted SWCD; Wanda Anderson, Winona County SWCD; Amanda Gentry, Winona County SWCD; Chris Meyer, Winona County Commissioner

Open meeting at 09:07 am.

a. Meeting opened by Bakke.

Approval of Agenda:

- a. With additions: change date of meeting minutes from November 27th, 2023 to February 26th, 2024, motioned by Johnson, seconded by Ward, motion carried unanimously.
- a. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
 - b. Nays: None.

Secretary's Report:

- a. Approval of February 26th, 2024 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
- a. Without additions; moved by Ward, seconded by Kruse, carried unanimously.
 - i. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
 - ii. Nays: None.

- Wright entered meeting at 09:08 am. -

Financial Report(s):

- a. Acknowledge Root River 1W1P Financials
- a. Motion to acknowledge payables made by Kellogg, seconded by Ward, carried unanimously.
 - i. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Wright, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
 - ii. Nays: None.

- Hart entered meeting in person at 09:11 am. -

General Business:

- a. Consider use of Houston Engineering Inc to produce BEAST pollution load estimation spreadsheet, \$7,900
 - a. Discussion.
 - b. Motion to purchase BEAST Spreadsheet through HEI for the amount of \$7,900.00 moved by Kellogg, seconded by Hart, carried unanimously.
 - i. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Wright, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
 - ii. Nays: None
- b. Discuss CD rate for RR 1W1P 2024-2025 partial funds
 - a. Traditional CD, \$230,000 of RR1W1P 2024-2025 funds for 7 months at 5.05%.
 - b. Motion to enter \$230,000 of RR1W1P 2024-2025 funds into a traditional CD account for 7 months at the rate of 5.05% made by Wright, seconded by Johnson, carried unanimously.
 - i. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Wright, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
 - ii. Nays: None.

Reports:

- a. Project Updates:
 - a. Upper Iowa River Watershed Projects – Cody Fox, Mower SWCD
- Tesmer entered meeting at 09:48 am. -
- b. [Crooked Creek Structure Video – Dave Walter, Root River SWCD](#)
- a. Reports from Policy Committee Members:
 - a. Crooked Creek WD:
 - a. Paul complimented Dave on his YouTube stardom.
 - b. Dodge County & SWCD:
 - a. No updates given.
 - c. Fillmore County & SWCD:
 - a. RR 1W1P 2022-2023 first 50% of funds BWSR reconciliation underway.
 - d. Houston County & Root River SWCD:
 - a. Working on more waterways; addressing old structures/practices.
 - e. Mower County & SWCD:
 - a. Staff are staying busy, come on over for a tour of the flat country; soil health economic study.
 - f. Olmsted County & SWCD:
 - a. Cover crop program certs; awaiting to see if more funding will be awarded to cover crop program.
 - g. Winona County & SWCD:
 - a. Staff are busy, Farm Safety Day camp for Winona SWCD tomorrow; county zoning discussion regarding solar farms being built on prime farmland.

Next Meetings

- a. August 26th, 2024 @ 9:00am – Room 108, 902 Houston St NW, Preston, MN 55965 & Zoom
 - a. Kevin Kuehner – edge of field/nitrate data presentation/update
 - b. Riley Buley – Review CD, cash flow, etc.
 - c. Dave Copeland – Review RR1W1P funding sources, entities, legislative directive, etc.
- b. November 25th, 2024 @ 9:00am – Room 108, 902 Houston St NW, Preston, MN 55965 & Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 am.

- a. Meeting closed by Bakke.