



# MILLE LACS COUNTY

## LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*It is the mission of the Mille Lacs County Local Water Management Plan Advisory Committee to promote responsible stewardship of water resources through accountable use of land, forest and other natural assets by providing education, incentives, and collaboration with individuals, groups and government entities.*

**Frequently Used Acronyms:**

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| (BMP) Best Management Practices  | (RC&D) Resource Conservation & Development                       |
| (BWSR) Board of Water & Soil Resources   | (SCS) State Cost Share   |
| (CD/JD) County Ditch/Jurisdictional Ditch  | (SRWMB) Snake River Watershed Mgmt Board                         |
| (CLWMP) County Local Water Mgmt Plan   | (SSTS) Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems                       |
| (CWF) Clean Water Fund grant (BWSR)  | (SWAG) Surface Water Assessment Grant                            |
| (DWSMA) Drinking Water Safety Mgmt Area  | (SWCD) Soil & Water Conservation District                        |
| (MLBO DNRE) Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe -<br>Department of Natural Resources & Environment | (TMDL) Total Maximum Daily Load                                  |
| (MLWMG) Mille Lacs Watershed Mgmt Group  | (WCA) Wetland Conservation Act                                   |
| (NPDES) Nat. Pollution Discharge Elimination System                                      | (WRAPS) Watershed Restoration And Protection Project<br>Strategy |
| (NRCS) Natural Resources Conservation Service  | (1WIP) One Watershed - One Plan                                  |

### Minutes – Thursday, May 17, 2018

**Attendance** Members are eligible to vote when attending the third meeting within the past 24 months.

VOTING MEMBERS	NON-VOTING MEMBERS
<p><b>Mandatory Membership Present</b></p> <p>County Land Services Director - Michele McPherson, Chair</p> <p>SWCD Water Plan Coordinator - Susan Shaw Vice Chair</p> <p>County Commissioner - Genny Reynolds</p> <p>SWCD Supervisor – Kathy Stoeckel</p>	<p>Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group – Harmony Maslowski</p> <p>SWCD Administrative Assistant – Maggie Kuchenbaker</p>
<p><b>Optional Membership Present</b> (Any Mille Lacs County landowner, resident, local government unit rep. or a local interest group rep provided they are a Mille Lacs County landowner or resident)</p> <p><i>Members are eligible to vote when attending the third meeting within the past 24 months.</i></p>	
	<p>NRCS – Sean Johnson</p> <p>The Nature Conservancy – Leah Hall</p>

**Call to Order**

The meeting of the Water Management Plan Advisory Committee (WMAC) was called to order by Chair Michele McPherson, at 10:03AM at the Mille Lacs County Historic Courthouse.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion by Reynolds, second by Stoeckel to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Stoeckel, second by Reynolds to approve the March 15, 2018 minutes as written. The motion carried.**

### **County Local Water Management Plan**

McPherson handed out the schedule/timeline of the local water management plan. McPherson reported that the goal is to have a final draft of the plan prepared for review at the next meeting (June 21), reviewed by the Mille Lacs County Board in work session July 3, and again July 17 when the Mille Lacs County Board could notice a public hearing for August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

McPherson reported that the Mille Lacs County Board is scheduled to review the Other Watercourses Resolution, which is required by the buffer law to be incorporated into the Water Plan as an addendum.

McPherson requested feedback from the group on the draft water plan. Participants at the meeting reviewed the draft goals and objectives.

Shaw pointed out the goal “flooding and drainage” and asked for group feedback. Reynolds reported the Mille Lacs County Board’s discussion regarding County Ditch 1.

- Hall suggested that wetland protection or restoration be called out specifically. Shaw noted that citizen input while scoping priority concerns has influenced a desire to understand who is wet and where the water is coming from; second step would be possible wetland restoration projects. What we need to do in this document is provide a good description of what we want to identify as a problem and how the problem could be addressed (with good action items).
- McPherson suggested that section D under “flooding and drainage” be re-worded.
- Hall suggested that Rain Gardens be called out as a possible BMP.

McPherson requested feedback from the group regarding the first part of the water plan draft document.

- Johnson and Hall suggested priority concern 4 “Adverse impacts of detrimental surface and sub-surface water management practices on existing and future development” should be re-worded. Stoeckel suggested adding an example of drain tile.
- Hall suggested “surface and groundwater” goal 1 and goal 2, objective b found on page 11, be re-worded. McPherson suggested adding an appendix of the SFIA land.
- Stoeckel suggested adding a legend to the maps.
- McPherson suggested a sub-heading be added or reverse the order of the maps in reference of the narrative.

Shaw requested input from the members as soon as possible when the new drafts are added to their email inboxes.

### **One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) – Rum River Watershed**

McPherson reported that on Monday, May 14 a meeting between the possible 1W1P partners took place. At the meeting possible roles were discussed; Susan Shaw, Tiffany Determan, Isanti SWCD and Dan Cibulka, Sherburne SWCD Water Resource Specialist, will be drafting the application. The application is the first step, second step is submit it to all the participating County Boards and third step is submitting to BWSR. The deadline for the application is July 2, 2018.

### **County, District, State, Federal and Civic Partner updates**

McPherson reported that Dillon Hayes, Environmental Services Manager, has been managing required maintenance of three county ditches, and the septic system permitting is now handled by his office. McPherson reported that Household Hazardous Waste Collection day is May 31 and June 7.

Shaw reported that an apprentice will be starting May 30, one of the apprentice’s core projects will be stream sampling.

Maslowski reported that she is currently doing door to door outreach around the lake promoting the Compass program, one of her goals is to raise awareness about water quality.

Johnson reported that there will be more than 20 project contracts installed within Mille Lacs County this year.

**Agreements/Next Steps**

Shaw asked that the group to mark the water plan emails as high priority and respond to them as soon as possible, so she is able to add their input and suggestions into the final draft copy before the next meeting on June 21.

**Next Regular Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays**

The next Water Management Plan Advisory Committee Meeting will be Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 10:00 AM, at the Historic Courthouse.

**Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays

- June 21 (additional planning meeting) - Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 10:00 AM, at the Historic Courthouse.
- July 19 - last planned meeting to make changes to the draft Water Plan before the Public Hearing (tentatively planned for August 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- October 18
- Jan 17, 2019

**Meeting Evaluation**

Stoeckel – good review of materials

**Motion by Stoeckel and second by Reynolds to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Shaw, Water Plan Coordinator, Mille Lacs SWCD