

**Rum River "One Watershed, One Plan"**

<b>Policy Committee Outcomes Meeting #4</b>		<p><b>Coming together</b> to identify shared goals.  <b>Planning together</b> to leverage unique capacity.  <b>Working together</b> to achieve results.</p>
<p><b>November 20, 2019</b>  <b>5:00-8:00 PM</b></p>		
<p>Mille Lacs County Historic Courthouse,  lower level, conf. rm D, 635 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  SE, Milaca MN 56353</p>		
<b>Facilitator:</b>	<b>Note taker:</b> Maggie Kuchenbaker, Mille Lacs SWCD	
<b>Voting Members Present:</b>	<p>Steve Laitinen – Anoka SWCD  Wade Bastian – Benton SWCD  Warren Peschl – Benton County  Greg Anderson – Isanti County  Al Koczur – Isanti SWCD  Dennis McNally – Kanabec County  Todd Haas – Lower Rum River WMO  Genny Reynolds – Mille Lacs County  Jake Janski – Mille Lacs SWCD  Barbara Burandt – Sherburne County  Kerry Saxton – Sherburne SWCD  Matt Downing – Upper Rum River WMO</p>	
<b>Alternates Present:</b>	<p>Jerry Schaubach – Isanti SWCD  Terry Turnquist – Isanti County</p>	
<b>Partners and Staff Present:</b>	<p>Barb Peichel – BWSR  Dan Cibulka – Sherburne SWCD  Susan Shaw – Mille Lacs SWCD  Tiffany Determan – Isanti SWCD;  Jamie Schurbon- Anoka CD  Dillon Hayes – Mille Lacs County  Jen Kader – Fresh Water Society</p>	
<b>Voting Members Absent:</b>	<p>Laurie Westerlund – Aitkin County  Bob Janzen – Aitkin SWCD  Bill Brekken – Crow Wing County  Diane Jacobson – Crow Wing SWCD  Kevin Belkholm – Kanabec SWCD  Dale Scholl – Morrison SWCD</p>	

Approve agenda:

Downing called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

**Motion by Warren Peschel approved the agenda as presented**, Greg Anderson second.

Affirmative: All. Opposed: none. **The Motion Carried.**

Minutes:

**Motion by Al Koczur to approve the August 22, 2019 outcomes as amended**; second by

Steve Laitinen. Affirmative: All. Opposed: none. **The Motion Carried.**

Project Updates:

Budget: Cibulka presented an updated financial report to the committee.

Project Progression: Determan presented an update and highlighted the Technical Advisory Committee is starting to finalize the draft issues statements.

Outreach: Shaw reported the implementation advisory committee is formed. The website is being updated and feedback is welcomed.

Technical Advisory Committee: Matt Downing reported on behalf of Lisa Fobbe that the committee is working well together and draft issue statements are being formed.

Membership Provisions: Article II Item 5:

Determan reviewed the by-laws regarding policy committee attendance and that four LGUs have missed two or more meetings. Staff reached out to the partners and drafted a letter to send to the LGUs that have been absent. Steve Laitinen reported the by-laws were passed at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, so only one meeting has been missed since passing the by-laws. Discussion.

General agreement that staff will reach out to the LGU's via phone or email, but the letter will not be sent out at this time per the by-laws.

Land and Water Resource Inventory Presentation:

Hayes presented the narrative, which is available on the website. The maps, data and trends were reviewed.

Draft Issue Statements:

Kader presented the ten draft issues statements and asked the policy committee to list their likes, dislikes and/or what is missing from the issue statements. Kader reported the issue statements define issues within the watershed, which will assist with creating goals and next steps on how to address the issues.

Discussion of possible changes:

- Preservation of prime farmland
- Lakeshore/streambank erosion
- Adjacent lakeshore properties
- Add all aquatic species/life
- Accounting for climate change
- Prioritizing areas that can mediate extreme weather events
- Statements seem too broad

Kader will review the feedback and create a compilation of the ideas presented.

Vision Statement:

Kader requested the committee work together and start forming a vision statement that will

define a desired future condition of the watershed.

Outcomes:

- Clear set of issues
- Purpose driven common goals
- Finding measurable improvements
- Hold water on the landscape
- Reduce impaired waters
- Enhance recreation
- Foster healthy working relationships
- Clean ground water
- Healthy wildlife population
- Define manmade impacts
- Clearing ice/snow impacts
- Reducing nitrates and phosphorus
- Septic compliance
- Tillage options
- Limit horsepower on boats in small and/or shallow lakes

Kader will review the feedback and create a compilation of the ideas presented.

Implementation Advisory Committee:

Shaw presented the implementation advisory committee members list and the possibility of adding another farmer. Discussion regarding adding an irrigation and/or dairy farmer. **Motion by Greg Anderson to approve inviting another farmer to the implementation advisory committee;** second by Wade Bastian. Affirmative: All. Opposed: none. **The Motion Carried.**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00pm at Mille Lacs County Historic Courthouse, Conf. Rm D

**Motion by Steve Laitinen to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm;** second by Al Koczur. Affirmative: All. Opposed: none. **The Motion Carried.**