



**MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
ST. CLOUD  
WATERSHED**

# Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

## Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Proceedings of the Mississippi River – St. Cloud 1W1P Policy Committee Meeting held on January 4, 2024. Chair, Tarryl Clark called the meeting to order at 11:03am.

<b>Date / Time:</b>	January 4, 2024 11:00am - 1:00pm
<b>Location:</b>	<i>In-Person: Sherburne History Center, 10775 27th Ave SE, Becker, MN 55308 Remote option available, use MS Teams Calendar Invite link</i>
<b>Note Taker:</b>	Stephanie Hatzenbihler, Stearns SWCD
<b>1w1p Website:</b>	<a href="https://www.millelacsswcd.org/1w1p/mississippi-river-st-cloud-watershed-plan/">https://www.millelacsswcd.org/1w1p/mississippi-river-st-cloud-watershed-plan/</a>
<b>Voting Members Present:</b>	Benton County – Scott Johnson*, Benton SWCD – Wade Bastian, Meeker County – Danny Schiefelbein, Mille Lacs SWCD – Dan Campbell, Sherburne County – Andrew Hulse*, Sherburne SWCD – Shelly Binsfeld, Stearns County – Tarryl Clark, Stearns SWCD – Tom Gregory, Wright County – Tina Diedrick,
<b>Alternate Voting Members Present:</b>	Meeker SWCD - John Haffley
<b>Alternative Non-voting members present:</b>	Sherburne County - Raeanne Danielowski
<b>Voting Members Absent:</b>	Meeker SWCD – Bob Schiefelbein
<b>Partners and Staff Present:</b>	Stephanie Hatzenbihler – Stearns SWCD staff, Gerry Maciej – Benton SWCD staff, Dan Cibulka – Sherburne SWCD staff, Kyle Blazek– Stearns County staff, Alicia O’Hare – Wright SWCD staff, Becky Schlorf - Stearns County staff, *Sarah Boser- ISG, *Francine Larson – Sherburne SWCD staff, *Dennis Fuchs - Stearns SWCD Staff, *Zach Guttormson - BWSR staff, *Marc Schneider - Sherburne County Staff, *Brad Wozney - BWSR staff

\*Individuals joined via Zoom virtually.

### Welcome and Introductions.

1. **Name, LGU.** Attendance was taken by Hatzenbihler.

### Review and Approve Agenda.

1. Approve Meeting agenda. **Motion by Gregory to approve meeting agenda with the addition of BWSR presented; second by Campbell. By roll call vote,** Affirmative: Johnson, Bastian, Schiefelbein, Campbell, Hulse, Binsfeld, Clark, Gregory, Diedrick, Haffley. Opposed: None. **Motion carried.**

### Election of Officers

1. Chair - Cibulka invited nominations for Chair. **Motion by Gregory to nominate Tarryl Clark for Chair, Clark accepted the nomination; Campbell seconded the nomination. No other nominations.** By roll call vote, Affirmative: Johnson, Bastian, Schiefelbein, Campbell, Hulse, Binsfeld, Clark, Gregory, Diedrick, Haffley. Opposed: None. **Motion carried.**
2. Vice Chair - Clark invited nominations for Vice Chair. **Motion by Gregory to nominate Shelly Binsfeld for Vice Chair, Binsfeld accepted the nomination; Bastian seconded the nomination. No other nominations.** By roll call vote, Affirmative: Johnson, Bastian, Schiefelbein, Campbell, Hulse, Binsfeld, Clark, Gregory, Diedrick, Haffley. Opposed: None. **Motion carried.**
3. Secretary - Clark invited nominations for Secretary. **Motion by Bastian to nominate Tina Diedrick for Secretary, Diedrick accepted the nomination; Gregory seconded the nomination. No other nominations.** By roll call vote, Affirmative: Johnson, Bastian, Schiefelbein, Campbell, Hulse, Binsfeld, Clark, Gregory, Diedrick, Haffley. Opposed: None. **Motion carried.**

### Review and approve 12-07-2023 meeting minutes.

1. Approve meeting minutes. **Motion by Gregory to approve meeting minutes as presented; second by Schiefelbein.** By roll call vote, Affirmative: Johnson, Bastian, Schiefelbein, Campbell, Hulse, Binsfeld, Clark, Gregory, Diedrick, Haffley. Opposed: None. **Motion carried.**

### Project Update (Cibulka)

1. **Timeline & Activities (Cibulka)** Cibulka presented on the current step in the planning process and shared that we are on schedule to meet our timeline goals for plan reviews near the end of the planning. Cibulka reviewed the 2024 detailed project schedule.
  - a. Policy Committee Date Change needed for July 4 meeting
  - b. Reschedule for Monday, July 8 11am - 1pm. **Motion by Binsfeld to set the July 2024 meeting on July 8 at 11am - 1pm; second by Gregory.** By roll call vote, Affirmative: Johnson, Bastian, Schiefelbein, Campbell, Hulse, Binsfeld, Clark, Gregory, Diedrick, Haffley. Opposed: None. **Motion carried.**
2. **Financial Report (Cibulka)** Cibulka presented the financial report. Maciej shared that November's ISG invoice was paid in December, as well as December's ISG invoice.
3. **TAC Liaison Report (TAC Liaisons)** Clark shared that the TAC discussed layers of the multiple benefit analysis.

### City of St. Cloud/ Watershed Boundary (Hatzenbihler)

- Hatzenbihler and Cibulka presented a series of maps reviewing the boundary between the Sauk and MR-St. Cloud watershed and the nuisances with drainage and planning boundaries. Policy Committee members discussed the boundary, Clark and Gregory shared that their preference is to leave the planning boundary as it is at the HUC 8 boundary. Clarifications were provided on the Sauk River Watershed District political boundary and the drainage pathways.

### Draft JPE Discussion (Cibulka)

- Page 1 - Campbell pointed out that in recitals third paragraph, Mille Lacs was not listed, but

needs to be included.

- Page 2 - Diedrick pointed out the staff question: does projects also include programs?
- Page 3 - Binsfeld in item 2c. "Upon receipt of such evidence..." may prevent someone from being able to join the entity and vote. Can the signature be done between meetings or does it need to be at a meeting. Cibulka pointed out the legal entity name provided by the attorneys "Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed Partnership." Clark shared that Stearns' attorney recommends changing "partnership" to Joint Powers.
- Page 4 - Dietrich supports having fiscal agent duties explained. Approval of yearly budget questions and needed 75% of the quorum, Bastian proposing to change to 70% of the board, Binsfeld is concerned that if board and not quorum then people can not show and hold up the process. Hulse pointed out that for board it would be 9 votes and for quorum it would need to be 5 votes. Hulse is in favor of leaving it as written, assuming quorum of a simple majority - Schiefelbein supports, Haffley also supports.
- Page 5 - Binsfeld H.II. why is coordinator called out but not the other pieces that may be paid for by grants - legal, fiscal agent, administrative. Clark asked about the committees and noted that PC can inform names of the committees. Binsfeld requested that the staff committee votes have clarification on the threshold to pass such as the majority of those present
- Page 6 - Cibulka pointed out that the JPE board will not be able to hire their own staff, but can contract out to a third party or a member organization.
- Page 7 - Cibulka pointed out the 5 year review of the agreement. No PC comments.
- Page 8 - Binsfeld pointed out that amendments take 75% of all parties
- Page 9 - no PC comments

#### **BWSR Presentation on Transitioning to Implementation and Watershed Based Implementation Funding (Wozney)**

- Brad Wozney, Clean Water Specialist, Board of Water and Soil Resources presented an overview of Watershed Based Implementation Funding and important items to explore as MR-St. Cloud transitions from planning to implementation of the CWMP.
- Binsfeld asked about how SWCDs around the state are addressing the staffing challenge. Wozney shared that some are sharing staff between partners, some are being paid for through grant funding.
- Binsfeld asked if other 1W1Ps have been able to spend funds within the first two years of WBIF grant period, Wozney shared that most watersheds take 3 years to spend grant funds. Gregory asked if grant funds are returned to BWSR after 3 years, Wozney said extensions may be considered, but otherwise yes funds are returned.
- Danielowski requested a copy of the PowerPoint. Clark agreed. Wozney will share a pdf of PowerPoint.

*Clark adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Hatzenbihler, Stearns County SWCD, Water Plan Coordinator on behalf of Tina Diedrick, Wright County, County Commissioner.