



**MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
ST. CLOUD  
WATERSHED**

# Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

## Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Proceedings of the Mississippi River St. Cloud 1 W1P Policy Committee Meeting held on April 4, 2024. Chair, Tarryl Clark called the meeting to order at 11:00am.

<b>Date / Time:</b>	<i>April 4, 2024 11:00am - 1:00pm</i>
<b>Location:</b>	<i>In-Person: Palmer Township Hall 4180 105th Ave Clear Lake, MN 55319 Remote option available, use MS Teams Calendar Invite link</i>
<b>Note Taker:</b>	<i>Stephanie Hatzenbihler, Stearns SWCD</i>
<b>1w1p Website:</b>	<i><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></i>
<b>Voting Members Present:</b>	Benton County– Scott Johnson, Benton SWCD Wade Bastian, Meeker County– Danny Schiefelbein, , Sherburne County Andrew Hulse, Sherburne SWCD Shelly Binsfeld, Stearns County Tarryl Clark, Stearns SWCD- Tom Gregory, Wright County Tina Diedrick,
<b>Non-voting Members Present:</b>	Mille Lacs SWCD- Dan Campbell* ( <i>unable to vote due to remote location not being noticed</i> )
<b>Alternate Voting Members Present:</b>	Meeker SWCD- John Haffley
<b>Alternative Nonvoting members present:</b>	
<b>Voting Members Absent:</b>	Meeker SWCD- Bob Schiefelbein, Wright SWCD Chris Uecker
<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, Sarah BosefSG, Zach Guttormson- BWSR staff, *Becky Schlorf Stearns County staff, *Francine Larson– Sherburne SWCD staff, *Marc Schneider Sherburne County Staff, *Miranda Wagner- Sherburne SWCD staff, *Jon Rosechlein - Sauk River Watershed District staff, *Steve Zeece H Sauk River Watershed District staff, *Kyle Weimann - Stearns SWCD staff

\*Individuals joined via Zoom virtually.

### Welcome and Introductions.

1. Name, LGU Attendance was taken by Hatzenbihler.
  - a. Chris Uecker has replaced Jeff Burns for Wright SWCD representative.

### Review and Approve Agenda.

1. Approve Meeting agenda **Motion by Johnson to approve meeting agenda amended to start with item 6 and 7; second by Gregory** Affirmative: Clark, Binsfeld, Diedrick, Johnson, Haffley, Hulse, Gregory Opposed: None **Motion carried.**

### Review and approve 0104-2024 meeting minutes.

1. Approve meeting minutes **Motion by Gregory to approve meeting minutes as presented second by Binsfeld** Affirmative: Clark, Binsfeld, Diedrick, Johnson, Haffley, Hulse, Gregory. Opposed: None **Motion carried.**

### JPE Name (Cibulka)

- Cibulka presented the naming options and the survey results from partner staff. **Motion by Johnson to approve the JPE name as Mississippi River St. Cloud Partners; second by Diedrick.** Affirmative: Clark, Binsfeld, Diedrick, Johnson, Haffley, Hulse, Gregory. Opposed: None. **Motion carried.**

*Wade Bastian, Benton SWCD. and Danny Schiefelbein, Meeker County, joined the meeting at 11:10am*

### Plan Content Update and Approval (Boser/Cibulka)

- Multiple Benefit Analysis
  - Boser presented an overview of the Multiple Benefit Analysis approach and the resulting map which is planned to be used as priority areas in the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.
  - O'Hare asked ISG to check the 1000 foot buffer area along the Mississippi River that is in opportunity areas.
- Measurable Goals Framework
  - Boser presented the updated measurable goals framework. Discussion on how the partnership would respond to a situation that impacts the measurable goal: no new nutrient impairments on priority protection waterbodies. Discussion on how achieving the measurable goals in priority areas is dependent on willing landowners. Discussion on how the numbers of BMPs were calculated and how we plan to track BMP projects to be able to show how measurable goals are met.
- Implementation Table
  - Boser provided an overview of the Implementation Tables for BMPs, Education and Outreach, Policy and Regulation, and Data/ Studies/ Monitoring. Binsfeld recommended adding clarity to the title of the table "Policy and Regulation," while still being able to meet BWSR's plan requirements.

**Motion by Hulse to approve the draft MBA, Measurable Goals Framework, Implementation Table with the Policy and Regulation title change; second by Bastian** Affirmative: Clark, Binsfeld, Diedrick, Johnson, Haffley, Hulse, Gregory, Bastian, Schiefelbein. Opposed: None. **Motion carried.**

*Tarryl Clark, Stearns County, left the meeting at 11:47am, Shelly Binsfeld, Sherburne SWCD, began chairing the meeting.*

### Project Update (Cibulka)

1. **Timeline & Activities (Cibulka)** Cibulka presented the project timeline step and associated activities. The draft plan is being written, then once drafted will be available for internal review by partners, Technical Advisory Committee, and Citizen Advisory Committee. Review forms will be provided to the Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee. The Citizen Advisory Committee will be invited to attend office hours with Cibulka and Hatzenbihler. The Technical Advisory Committee will meet in May and June to discuss and address comments. The Policy Committee will meet on July 8 to review the draft plan and approve for a 60-day comment period. The Policy Committee will hold a public hearing in November or December and then submit the final draft plan to BWSR. Anticipate BWSR Board review and approving the plan in March 2025, following BWSR Board approval, partners have 120 days to adopt the Plan and join the JPE. Anticipate accessing FY26 Watershed Based Implementation Funds in July 2025.
2. **Financial Report (Cibulka)** Cibulka presented the financial report through February 2024.
3. **TAC Liaison Report (TAC Liaisons)** TAC Liaisons for meetings since the previous Policy Committee Meeting.

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

- Hatzenbihler and Cibulka presented the outcome of the Sauk River Watershed Collaborative Policy Committee meeting and the decision to maintain the HUC 8 watershed boundary. Discussion on ensuring Sauk Watershed District involvement.

*Binsfeld adjourned the meeting at 12:06 PM.*

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