

# Snake River Watershed – Steering Committee

## Meeting Minutes

October 7 2024, 2:00pm-4:00 pm



### Invitees:

Local SWCD & county staff, BWSR staff

### Attendance:

Siena, Susan, Mary, Jaren, Emily, Zach, Barb, Erin, Janette

KSWCD

BWSR

MLSWCD

PSWCD

ASWCD

### Location:

In-person meeting at Kanabec SWCD office: 2008 Mahogany St Ste 3 Mora MN 55051

**Video call link:** <http://meet.google.com/bam-qgik-hjw>

**Or dial:** (US) +1 502-667-4238 PIN: 479 537 515#

**More phone numbers:** <https://meet.google.com/tel/bam-qgik-hjw?pin=2761399208395&hs=1>

### Purpose:

	Topics	Assigned	Time
A	Approve Agenda/ Minutes	Mary	5 min
1	Budget Review- - Quarterly Invoicing	Erin	10 min
2	Upcoming Meeting Times (Holiday Schedule conflicts)	Mary	5 min
3	Project Submission Update: - Updated Templates - Submission Guidelines	Mary	10 min
4	Proposed Projects: 1. Manure Pit Closure	Emily	20 min
5	Current Projects Updates: - brief update on current SOW's	Jaren/ Paul	10 min
6	Member Check-in	Everyone	15 min

7	Outreach Planning- Ideas	Mary	tbd
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**AGENDA TOPICS:**

**1. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval**

- i. Minutes 9.3.2024 (attached) **No changes Noted**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tJ9M-IE-4OEXBkLLP3674jn9KquzhHoj?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tJ9M-IE-4OEXBkLLP3674jn9KquzhHoj?usp=drive_link)

**2. Approve Agenda**

[No additions to the agenda](#)

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PiYcl-moLgBQUYSsSARRWgA6Ls0ggqkw/edit?usp=drive\\_link&oid=115886762896760527439&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PiYcl-moLgBQUYSsSARRWgA6Ls0ggqkw/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=115886762896760527439&rtpof=true&sd=true)

**Packet Location:**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vW4kP7myJd2G8uvSPABU7\\_43Qbwkds8?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vW4kP7myJd2G8uvSPABU7_43Qbwkds8?usp=drive_link)

**3. Budget Review**

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fnOpuJTc2wN1F6r13ZXrwNdClnP0h8KuCvEfeHDpEDU/edit?usp=drive\\_link](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fnOpuJTc2wN1F6r13ZXrwNdClnP0h8KuCvEfeHDpEDU/edit?usp=drive_link)

- i. Q3 2024 (June 1-Sept 30 2024) invoices and payment reimbursement requests are due by 10/15/24
  - Submit to [erin.hoxsie@co.pine.mn.us](mailto:erin.hoxsie@co.pine.mn.us)
- ii. Reimbursement request to be a little simpler.

Erin presented the reimbursement request sheet to the group, noting that this was simpler going forward. Requested that Invoices be submitted by Oct 15 (or the end of the week) for June 1-Sept 30. Aitken and Pine county have already submitted. Billable rates were requested by BWSR?

**4. Review Upcoming Meeting Times**

Regular scheduled meetings Upcoming :

Steering – 1st Monday, 2:00-4:00 pm

Oct 7, 2024 2:00 PM

Nov 4, 2024 2:00 PM

Dec 2, 2024 2:00 PM-MASWCD annual meeting (12/9 3:00-430)

It was noted that December meeting time conflicted with MASWCD- changed to 12/09 3-430 pm (Note change in time slot as well as day)

TAC, as needed 1-2 times/yr. (2nd Thurs. 1:30-4:30 pm)

Nov 14, 2024 1:30 PM (Nov 18 10-11:30)

MPCA has news – development of TMDLs

Zach and Barb can help schedule

Barb reviewed calendars of TAC members and date was decided on for next TAC meeting. (Nov 18, 10-11:30am)

May 8 2025 1:30 PM Mary noted that this day was far in the future and can be changed closer to actual time.

Partnership Board – 4th Monday, 9:30 am if no SRWMB meeting, (10:30 am, if held after the SRWMB meeting)

Oct 28, 2024- Proposed discussion during the Partnership meeting for scheduling or not scheduling Nov/Dec dates

Nov 25, 2024- Thanksgiving Nov 28

December 23, 2024- (possible change to Dec 16)

## 5. Project Review-

Please Submit with Projects:

1. SOW/ funding request

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S2bv1Ba4Z1doP2\\_RM2pJchjxGEGcgHws/edit?usp=drive\\_link&oid=11586762896760527439&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S2bv1Ba4Z1doP2_RM2pJchjxGEGcgHws/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=11586762896760527439&rtpof=true&sd=true)

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/101w\\_5q-6i8HMQqMIkSuwMK91cEh882Jg/edit?usp=drive\\_link&oid=115886762896760527439&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/101w_5q-6i8HMQqMIkSuwMK91cEh882Jg/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=115886762896760527439&rtpof=true&sd=true)

Mary discussed new template for the SOW, updated formatting and location on the google drive TEMPLATES folder. Also discussed using the README file to assist in filling out the SOW. Walked through the SOW when Emily presented the Manure pit closure (next section)

2. Priority Area Map (SOW)
3. Project Description/Timeline (SOW)
4. Ranking Sheet

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sR6nwZQ9PZg2iDjLlgmd2dBAvi0leaK1/edit?usp=drive\\_link&oid=115886762896760527439&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sR6nwZQ9PZg2iDjLlgmd2dBAvi0leaK1/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=115886762896760527439&rtpof=true&sd=true)

Mary noted that the ranking sheet was also located in the Templates folder. Group requested that the link to the Google drive folder in general also be included when sending / posting links in agenda.

## Current Projects for Review

1. Manure Pit Closure (approved by steering committee for recommendation to the Partnership board for funding with corrections/ additions of : E Coli Reduction numbers, Changing from total P2O5 number to P2O5/year, and correcting GR-2 to GW-2 )

(Packet)

Emily presented the SOW, Ranking Sheet, Budget for Manure Pit Closure project. Discussion of the Project SOW template was also included to inform about how to fill out this form for future projects (see README SOW template). Pictures of the Manure pit clearly noted the risk to both Surface water contamination and groundwater contamination. Primary water quality benefit was discussed (and linked back to 10 year/2year plans) and linking the benefit more clearly to the overarching goal would be beneficial. Example SWQual-27 to reduction in E Coli.

Group Reviewed the ranking sheet and discussed information provided on the ranking sheet. Committee recommended to clarify ranking sheet to show the total pollution reduction numbers on a per year basis rather than a total basis. Mary will update ranking template to reflect that change. The group liked how impairments were easily identified on the ranking sheet. It was noted that inclusion of improvement in certain impairments like Ecoli was not currently considered in the ranking sheet, and it was recommended by committee members to include those numbers/data in the ranking consideration especially if the main goals are related to such impairment improvements.

Discussion of Restoration vs Protection in ranking sheet-It was noted that this section may need more clarity

**Current Project Updates**

- 1. Pine County SWCD- 2024-12-DF (Buckthorn Removal Proposal, Wildlife planting) -
  - a. Tabled- seeking alternative funding (timeline)

<a href="#">Kanabec SWCD, Fish Lake</a>
<a href="#">Kanabec SWCD, Rain Barrels</a>
<a href="#">Kanabec SWCD, Comp Nutrient Management Plan, Brunswick 20.02</a>
<a href="#">Kanabec SWCD, Cropland Conversion, Brunswick 14.03</a>
<a href="#">Kanabec SWCD, Cropland Conversion, Brunswick 14.03-Amend 1</a>
<a href="#">Kanabec SWCD, Low-Income Septic, Kanabec 9.04</a>

<a href="#">Pine SWCD, Pokegama SWA</a>
<a href="#">Pine SWCD, Cross Lake Buffer-Berg</a>
<a href="#">Pine SWCD, Project Scouting and Surficial Geologic History of Snake River Watershed CY2024-26</a>
<a href="#">Pine SWCD, Wetland Restoration 2024-15-SRWPP</a>

Jaren provided an update on Kanabec SWCD current projects. Discussion about Fish Lake funds and what these funds were allocated for. Determined that an allocation of funds was made specifically for the targeted area of shoreline around Fish lake.

Rain Barrels- 5 currently sold  
CNMP- in process by contractor  
Cropland Conversion- in process of completion amendment to HUA discussed with increasing pad size and design/approval  
Septic- In process contractor and landowner working together

Pine SWCD updates given by Erin.  
SWA- SWA is complete, have received final invoice from StanTec  
Cross Lake Buffer-project is complete, will be submitting for reimbursement  
Wetland project- current status unknown, but USFWS knows funds are available

Canoe trip Mary updated that Planning was in process with discussions with Carrie Jennings however probably trip would not be until next year. Susan mentioned that she had available a canoe and kayak that could be borrowed.

Jaren mentioned that NRCS was working through this years applications and may not be able to fund all of them. That it would be good to work with them to possibly determine if SWCD can contribute/ Watershed funding. Currently KSWCD is mapping projects to visualize and assess eligibility

**6. Members check-in:**

Staff Capacity (Site Visits, Meetings, Applications)

Siena - new staff MilleLacs- Welcome!

- outreach and project development

Jaren - posted Soil health conservationist - also has Linked In information for people interested in sharing

## 7. Outreach Events

1. Pokegama Lake Association - Nanobubbles
2. Master Gardeners Kanabec County
  - a. Meeting with Veterans Memorial Mora
3. Targeted Outreach - (Beacon Website)

Discussion of outreach noted that Rum had monthly outreach hours to discuss outreach ideas and review outreach (10/8 next meeting) Brief discussion of how to share information about outreach events in the community/ swcd's/ partners

## 8. Proposed Policy Updates:

No current policy updates

## 9. Agenda for the next Partnership Meetings – 10/28/24 10:30 am

Agenda items:

Consent agenda (Discussion Items)

- a. Approve Agenda, Consent Agenda (w/logo), progress update & Meeting Outcomes
- b. Financial Update- Erin
- c. Watershed Goals Update- Mary
- d. Presentation- Manure Pit Closures?
- e. Project Proposals -
- f. Policy Proposals-
- g. Contracts for Services??

Requested items for Board meeting agenda. Discussed possible guest speaker on Manure Pit Closures.

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## Current Projects Previously Discussed

Kanabec SWCD

1. Project for pipeline/watering facility as part of a rotational grazing operation in the Lower Groundhouse River, requesting \$5,342 (revised)

Pine SWCD

1. Wetland Restoration Proposal near Cross Lake, partnering with WSFWS. Requesting \$7,200