

## Minutes

# Rum River Watershed Comprehensive Management Plan – Implementation Planning Committee Meeting

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Date: February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Time: 12:30-2:30 PM

Location: Virtual, Zoom

Meeting called by: Planning Partners

Type of meeting: Work Planning Meeting

Facilitator: Lydia Godfrey, Isanti SWCD

Note taker: Molly Clyne, Mille Lacs SWCD

### Attendees:

#### Voting members:

Danielle Holder, Anoka CD Supervisor  
Jamie Schurbon, Anoka CD  
Emily Forbord, Benton SWCD  
Scott Soderman, Isanti County  
Lydia Godfrey, Isanti SWCD  
Jaren Peplinski, Kanabec SWCD  
Perry Bunting, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe  
Robert Wall, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe  
Molly Clyne, Mille Lacs SWCD  
Lynn Gallice, Mille Lacs SWCD  
Siena Storm, Mille Lacs SWCD  
Susan Shaw, Mille Lacs SWCD  
Ellie Joing, Aitkin SWCD  
Sam Seybold, Aitkin SWCD  
Matt Danzl, Sherburne County  
Dan Cibulka, Sherburne SWCD

#### Advisory Members:

Barb Peichel, BWSR  
Zach Guttormson, BWSR

#### Other:

Jake Janski, Mille Lacs SWCD Supervisor

## Meeting Minutes

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Led by Lydia Godfrey, Isanti SWCD.

### 2. Planning Team Updates (Information)

#### a. Administration

- **Budget Update (Schurbon):**
  - **FY23:** Expires at the end of this year; 100% encumbered, 42% spent. Match funds are more than sufficient.
  - **FY25:** 15.2% encumbered; first-quarter requests can be submitted. Deadline: February 24th.
- **JPE Meeting Updates:**
  - The JPE Board met at the end of January and confirmed the meeting schedule for the next year: Quarterly, on the fourth Thursday of the month. Calendar invites have been sent—keep your board informed and prepared.
  - Future meetings will include short, deep-dive presentations on WBIF-funded projects. Aitkin SWCD will present on their Mille Lacs drone survey at the next meeting in March. Consider showcasing your projects in future meetings.
  - New members should be onboarded using available resources: a **story map** and an **orientation sheet**.

#### b. Outreach

- **Type A Outreach:**
  - **Tree Selection Webinar (Feb 27, 6:00-7:30 PM):** Covers tree characteristics, considerations for planting, and climate-adapted species. Registration is available on the Isanti SWCD website. The session will be recorded.
  - **Nitrate Well Screening Clinic (April 7-11):** Partners thus far: Sherburne, Isanti, Mille Lacs, and Benton SWCDs. Additional offices interested in participating should reach out.
  - **Outreach Office Hour (Feb 11):** Reviewing project sign designs.
  - **Groundwater Workshop:** In planning for staff.
- **Type B Outreach:**
  - **Next Ag Tech Team Meeting:** February 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Local Forestry Team Meeting:** February 27th.
  - Type B outreach report was sent via email and discussed at

the last JPE meeting.

### 3. Implementation Tracking

- **Cibulka' Update:**

- A new entry form was emailed to track both WBIF-funded and non-WBIF activities.
- This is separate from E-Link; it helps track progress toward comprehensive plan goals.
- Cibulka provided a walkthrough of the form.
- Ensure latitude/longitude accuracy; incorrect entries default to (0,0), placing the project in the ocean. If needed, use your office's coordinates.

#### Discussion:

- **Who should enter outreach activities?** If led solely by your office, you should enter it. If it involved a watershed-wide team effort, Godfrey or Clyne will handle it. Guidelines are being developed.
- **Action ID Sorting:** A table was created last year to assist.
- **Tracking Dashboard:**
  - The dashboard compiles and displays entered data while protecting sensitive information.
  - The homepage and dashboard will be publicly accessible to highlight progress.
  - If errors occur, contact Cibulka (as edits cannot be made directly due to Sherburne SWCD's account restrictions).
  - **Entry Deadline:** February 14th (to complete the annual JPE summary and prepare for the Day at the Capital on March 5th).

### 4. FY23 Grant Usage (Schurbon)

- If encumbered funds will not be fully used, notify the team as soon as possible.
- If an extension is required, BWSR must be informed **six months in advance (by June)**. Note that extensions are **not guaranteed**.
- Review remaining funds and project estimated spending for the year.

### 5. Agenda Addition: Mille Lacs Statement of Work

- **Onamia Stormwater Gully Project (Lynn Gallice):**
  - The county is repurposing a building within **500 ft of the Rum River**. The site is currently **100% impervious**.

- Plan: Implement an **inline conveyance system** under the parking area with 2-3 catch basins to capture sediment and debris before stormwater reaches a rain garden.
- The initial scope was **350 ft**, now expanded to **400 ft**.
- If paperwork proceeds smoothly, the project could begin by **May**.
- No change in allocated funds; just shifting to a different project type.
- The City of Onamia supports the project.
- **Vote:** Approved!

## 6. Member Updates & Information Sharing

- **Board Contact Sheet:** Ensure board member contact information is up to date.
- **Funding Requests:**
  - **Scenario 1:** If walk-in landowners aren't accounted for in the work plan, request **FY25 partnership funds** proactively.
  - **Scenario 2:** If a landowner approaches, a plan can be developed first, followed by a funding request. However, funding is **not guaranteed** and may take a few months to secure.

## 7. Wrap-up & Next Meeting

- **Next IPC Meeting: March 10th** (typically in-person in March).
- **Location:** Mille Lacs Courthouse (room booked).
- **Hybrid Option:** Available but primarily for remote listening.
- **Food:** Possible use of interest money to order pizza.

## 8. Adjournment