



Joint Powers Entity

Board Meeting Minutes

Proceedings of the Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed Entity Joint Powers Board held on April 3, 2025. Watershed Coordinator Dan Cibulka called the meeting to order at 11:00am

Date / Time:	April 3, 2025 11:00am – 1:00pm
Location:	Sherburne History Center – 10775 27 th Ave SE, Becker MN 55308 Remote option available through Microsoft Teams
Officers:	Chair: Tina Diedrick, Vice Chair: Scott Johnson (Benton County)
Note Taker:	Griffen Northrop
1w1p Website:	https://www.millelacsswcd.org/mississippi-river-st-cloud-watershed/
Voting Representatives Present:	Benton County – Scott Johnson, Benton SWCD – Wade Bastian, Meeker SWCD – Bob Schiefelbein, Mille Lacs SWCD – Dan Campbell*, Sherburne County – Andrew Hulse, Sherburne SWCD – Shelly Binsfeld, Stearns County – Tarryl Clark, Stearns SWCD – Arlyn Lawrenz, Wright County – Tina Diedrick
Voting Representatives Absent:	Stearns SWCD – Tom Gregory, Wright SWCD – Chris Uecker, Meeker County – Steve Schmitt
Alternate Representatives Present:	Meeker County – Darren Sombke
Partners and Staff Present:	Benton SWCD – Emily Forbord Mille Lacs SWCD - Susan Shaw* Sherburne SWCD – Dan Cibulka, Francine Larson*, Miranda Wagner* Stearns County – Becky Schlorf*, Angela Beckman* Stearns SWCD – Stephanie Hatzenbihler Wright SWCD – Alicia O’Hare* BWSR – Zach Guttormson

**Indicates virtual attendance*



Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Introductions

1. Name and LGU shared by attendees. Northrop recorded attendance.

Agenda Item #2: Review and Approve Agenda

1. **Approve Meeting agenda.**
 - a. **Motion by Lawrenz** to approve meeting agenda; **second by Bastian.**
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #3: Elect Office Positions

1. **Nomination for Chair** - Cibulka invited nominations for Chair.
 - a. **Motion by Binsfeld** to nominate Diedrick for Chair, Diedrick accepted the nomination; No other nominations. Nominations closed.
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.
2. **Nomination for Vice Chair** - Diedrick invited nominations for Vice Chair.
 - a. **Motion by Clark** to nominate Bastian for Vice Chair. Bastian decline the nomination. Motion by Clark to nominate Johnson for Vice Chair, Johnson accepted the nomination; No other nominations. Nominations closed.
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #4: Review and Approve December 5, 2024 Iwlp Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

1. Discussion:
 - a. Small grammatical and stylistic errors were discussed from the previous meeting in December. Corrections were made to December minutes by Cibulka.
2. **Approve meeting minutes with edits** proposed by Johnson.
 - a. **Motion by Diedrick** to approve meeting minutes as presented; **second by Hulse.**
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5: JPE Board Bylaws

1. Discussion:
 - a. Cibulka brought up changes to several references to Exhibit A and Exhibit B in the MRSCWE Joint Powers Board Bylaws document.
 - i. Stearns County attorney reviewed the document and stated that there is no need for a reference to either Exhibit A or Exhibit B.
 - ii. Change that was proposed was replace Exhibit A and B to "by direction of the board" or something similar.

- iii. Some concern regarding which county's attorneys were able to review changes to the document. Additionally, discussion was had on whether meeting can go forward without bylaws approved.
 - b. Separate discussion held on the length and consecutive nature of officer terms.
 - i. Concerns addressed making sure each county is represented, taking into account turnover from county elections, etc.
 - ii. Binsfeld brought forward the proposal for discussion of no more than two consecutive two-year terms. One of the main arguments for this setup was to encourage new leadership.
 - c. Discussion regarding "Article VI - Voting" of the MRSCWE Joint Power Board Bylaws document.
 - d. Discussion regarding limitations for changing officer term length after reviewing the Joint Powers Agreement "Terms and Conditions", list #3. "Powers and Formation of the Governing Board", letter "c) officers."
 - e. Discussion returned regarding whether county attorneys need to review the Bylaws document.
2. **Approve JPE Board bylaws.**
- a. **Motion by Binsfeld** to approve *the Joint Powers Entity Bylaws document with edits proposed by multiple board members; second by Hulse.*
 - i. **No roll call vote taken. Motion withdrawn by Binsfeld.**
 1. Proposed Edits:
 - a. Replace references to "Exhibit A" and Exhibit B" in the MRSCWE Joint Power Board Bylaws to "by direction of the board."
 - b. Rewrite "Article IV: Officers", list #5, sentence one to read "The Board may select the same officers to no more than two consecutive two-year terms."
 - b. **Motion by Hulse** to approve *the Joint Powers Entity Bylaws document with edits proposed by Hulse; second by Johnson.*
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.
 1. Approved Edits:
 - a. Remove references to "Exhibit A" and Exhibit B" in the MRSCWE Joint Power Board Bylaws.
 - b. Rewrite "Article IV: Officers", list #5, sentence one to read "The Board may select the same officers to no more than four consecutive one-year terms."
 - c. Direct staff to compare the Joint Powers Agreement to the Board Bylaws document for any inconsistencies or other issues.

Agenda Item #6: Project Update - Timeline and Activities

1. Discussion:
 - a. Planning timeline shared by Cibulka
 - i. Was noted that the City of St. Cloud adopted the Watershed Plan but did not join the JPE.
 - ii. SWCD staff has started preparing their funding requests to the Board of Soil & Water Resources (BWSR).
 - iii. Deadline of April 30th
 - iv. SWCD staff prepared and reviewed a work plan for review by the board.



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- b. Conversation regarding fund/application timelines and deadline expectations.
 - i. BWSR representative discussed anticipated stability in Clean Water Funds at the state budget level.

Agenda Item #7: Joint Powers Entity Fiscal Agent

1. Discussion:
 - a. Cibulka shared information regarding bank accounts, signatories, and other fiscal concerns.
 - i. Discussion around who's signatures are needed for these matters.
2. **Approve Fiscal Agent role.**
 - a. **Motion by Clark** to approve Stearns Conservation District as the Fiscal Agent host for the MRSCWE; **second by Johnson.**
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #8: Joint Powers Entity Watershed Coordinator

1. Discussion:
 - a. Cibulka shared Sherburne SWCD's current role and anticipated role, particularly when it comes to coordination of meetings, committees, etc.
2. **Approve JPE Watershed Coordinator.**
 - a. **Motion by Schiefelbein** to approve Sherburne SWCD as the Watershed Coordinator host for the MRSCWE; **second by Johnson.**
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #9: FY25 WBIF Work Plan

1. Discussion:
 - a. Cibulka shared outline of the FY25 WBIF work plan
 - i. Anticipations that project budgets are subject to change.
 - ii. Going to be need to leverage WBIF funds to get outside dollars (local, state, federal) invested; financial need much greater than the \$1.27 million currently allocated to the watershed.
 - iii. BWSR representative emphasized this is an internal work plan thus it has flexibility to change.
 - b. Discussion about who leads projects and where the projects are located.
 - i. Response from Cibulka regarding how this will be tracked.
 - c. Binsfeld discussed need for public transparency in regards to project updates.
 - i. Concerns brought forth regarding landowner privacy.
 - d. Hulse started dialogue regarding categorization of projects and approval process.
 - i. Cibulka discussed anticipated process expectations.
 - ii. BWSR representative discussed grant reporting process through elink.
 - e. Bastian brought up the idea of touring some of these practices installed and approved.
 - i. Can allow for better buy in for board and for public.
2. **Approve FY25 WBIF Work Plan.**



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- a. **Motion by Johnson** to approve FY25 WBIF Work Plan and authorize the Fiscal Agent and/or Watershed Coordinator to submit to the Board of Water and Soil Resources; **second by Sombke**.
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.
3. **Authorize Fiscal Agent and/or Watershed Coordinator Role.**
 - a. **Motion by Hulse** to authorize the Fiscal Agent and/or Watershed Coordinator to execute the WBIF Grant Agreement on the MRSCWE's behalf when received; **second by Binsfeld**.
 - i. **By roll call vote**, Affirmative: Binsfeld, Hulse, Johnson, Diedrick, Sombke, Schiefelbein, Bastian, Lawrenz, Clark, Campbell. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #10: Adjourn

Chair Diedrick adjourned the meeting at 12:28 PM.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes approved by the MRSCWE JPE Board.

Daniel A Cibulka

Watershed Coordinator

Signature & Title

May 1, 2025

Date

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Griffen Northrop, Sherburne SWCD District Technician on behalf of the Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed Entity.