

Meeting Notes

Implementation Planning Committee



Project Name: Mississippi River St. Cloud Comp Plan Implementation
Date: Wednesday, January 21st, 2026
Time: 12:00pm - 3:00pm
Location: Sherburne County History Center (10775 27th Ave SE Becker, MN)
Invitees: Implementation Planning Committee (primary and alternates), BWSR staff
Attendees: Alicia O'Hare, Joe Norman, John Maile, Stephanie Hatzenbihler, Dan Cibulka, Miranda Wagner, Mike McMillin, Siena Storm, Matt Danzl, Ben Ruley

DISCUSSION TOPICS

General Updates and Discussion

30 MINUTES

- Reminders:
 - Inform Dan of any JPB member changes in 2026
 - Send Stephanie copies of cost-share policies if updated for 2026
- Soil health goal update
- BEET planner tool and [MRSCWE Standards for Pollutant Reduction Calculation](#) update
- Follow up on hydro conditioned model – any updates from partners?
- Attorney services update
- JPB meetings – discuss an approach to share member's recent activities with board
- Work Plans (2026 annual, 2026 Party-funded, & FY27 WBIF)

Action Needed: *No action required, information and discussion only*

For any staff time expended in last quarter, invoice SCD ASAP so entries can be made into eLink.

Dan shared an overview of the UofM soil health project (website can be found here: <https://mosh.umn.edu/remote-sensing-soil-health-management>). The website includes links to a report that explains methodology, as well as links to the spatial data. Dan can share data received from UofM that splits the Sartell and St. Cloud watersheds – just send him an email if you'd like the spatial data.

Noteworthy items from Committee Discussion:

Clarification has been received on the BEET Planner tool from MPCA regarding ratio calculations. See the updated [MRSCWE Standards for Pollutant Reduction Calculation](#) guidance sheet for explanation.

Attorney services – no responses from 3 firms, 1 quote received. Kyle was to follow up with some other firms to see if we can get additional quotes.

Discussion on how best to share member updates with the JPB. Each member can provide 2-3 sentences about their activities, can highlight an individual progress as we start completing more work. "Member Spotlight". **Please send Dan a short summary (2-3 sentences) on recent activities.**

Dan shared an outline of the Planning documents we are required to provide to the JPE Board. They consist of an Annual Plan (what we intend to accomplish in the upcoming year), a Party-Funded Work

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Plan (overview of funding sources each party, or member, is utilizing to complete plan goals), and a Work Plan for the FY27 WBIF grant (internal draft plan that is converted to a BWSR Work Plan format later). Stephanie got a jump start on developing the Annual Plan and shared an outline of content which the group discussed. There was consensus that expending 50% of the FY25 WBIF grant this year was a good and reasonable goal to include in the plan. Roughly 50% of Outcomes in our FY25 Work Plan could likely be achieved with this. As our FY25 CRP Incentive grant expires at the end of the year, our goal is to spend all of these funds.

The 2026 Annual Plan will contain within it the Party-Funded Work Plan. **If possible, send your office's funding programs for 2026 to Dan (state grants, local funds, federal grant funds, etc.) to include in a Party-funded work plan. These would include other sources of funding your office is using to complete actions within the CWMP (BMPs installed, policy actions, feasibility studies or monitoring, etc.).**

Fiscal Agent Update

25 MINUTES

- Budget / reporting and encumbrance update
- Record Retention policy review

Action Needed: **Approve draft Record Retention policy for JPB consideration**

Noteworthy items from Committee Discussion: Kyle was unable to attend the meeting. He will send an email to the IPC with a budget update and Record Retention Policy. All IPC members please review and send any feedback to Kyle/Dan.

FY27 WBIF Draft Funding Request

60 MINUTES

- Review funding request [spreadsheet](#) and make adjustments as needed
- Approve draft budget and outcomes for inclusion into Draft FY27 WBIF Work Plan

Action Needed: **Approve draft FY27 WBIF budget / outcomes**

Noteworthy items from Committee Discussion:

- Benton SWCD proposing work on Mayhew Creek which is in Opportunity area. Work is highly supported locally with multiple partners and is directly on Mayhew Creek which drains to a CWMP Priority Lake. Group consensus is that the project is a great example of a project that should be considered within an Opportunity Zone and is supportive. Dollar amount (\$25k ask) is small relative to our \$1.27 million request.
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- Discussion about BSWCD potentially shifting ~\$30k from Ag Practices category to Urban Stormwater in FY25 grant. Would require an amendment for BSWCD's contract with JPE. Mike will keep IPC updated on this and IPC could discuss in May for June Board meeting.
- Sherburne SWCD discussed \$15k for a videographer to create educational videos for promotion. Olmstead SWCD has done a similar effort and had good response from their promotion. Others partners expressed interest. Sherburne SWCD will take lead on this and include \$15k within their Education request that will be earmarked for this effort.
- Discussion over allocation amounts and the requests. Some minor revisions made to the eLink Category of projects. Further discussion over what type of Outcomes are needed. Group decided to focus on two areas of outcomes: 1) Number of BMPS/Events/Projects and / or 2) Number of Acres of BMPs. Pollutant reductions are now unnecessary unless they are

necessary to show progress towards a goal. Group was a little unsure when this would apply but largely believes our approach with Outcomes should suffice. **Dan will have BWSR review our draft Outcomes and provide comment if any pollutant reductions are needed.**

- A small amount of funding was remaining of our available \$1.27 million. Group consensus was to provide \$3k to Mille Lacs SWCD for project development, and remaining funds (~\$6.5k) to Meeker SWCD for some shovel-ready ag structural projects they are anticipating for fall 2026.

Implementation Tracking Program

60 MINUTES

- Review and discuss tracking program

Action Needed: *No action required, information and discussion only*

Ben provided an overview of the tracking system he developed for the Sauk River Watershed including how to enter projects and how the system summarizes and displays the inputs. He anticipates completing something similar for the MRSC Watershed.

- Discussion regarding pros/cons of tracking the CWMP larger Goals and Objectives and the numerous Action IDs. The group believes this plan is outlined in a way that tracking Action IDs as well as the Goals/Objectives will be much easier – the numeric variables are well defined. Most of the Action IDs fit directly into the larger Goals/Objectives, such as IDs that include a measurable goal for BMPs installed. Others, primarily some of the Data/Studies/Monitoring actions and Education actions, do not relate directly to Plan Goals/Objectives but do contribute towards developing targeted BMP projects.
- Discussion over how BWSR will “grade” progress and achievements of the plan. BWSR Assurance Measures pertain to the WBIF grants, it is less clear and potentially still being determined how BWSR will measure how much of a CWMP has been completed at the end of 10 years. As we develop the tracking system we can get input from BWSR on what we are tracking and if any changes are needed. Reminder that BWSR is watching our progress but the JPE Board is also watching our progress as is the public to see good use of CWF funds.
- Ben has reviewed the CWMP and identified Goals and Action IDs that are very clear and easy to track (he has outlined in green), some that are less clear (outlined in yellow) and some that he needs input on the best way to track them (outlined in red). **Ben will connect with Dan/the IPC on which items he needs some input on.**

Noteworthy items from Committee Discussion:

Next Steps

5 MINUTES

- Identify follow-up assignments

Action Needed: *No action required, informational only*

Noteworthy items from Committee Discussion: Follow up items identified in red font.

Meeting Notes

Implementation Planning Committee



MRSCWE Tentative Schedule of Activities		
Month - Year	Joint Powers Board (1st Thursday of month, 11am - 1pm)	Implementation Planning Committee (Third Wednesday of month, 1pm-3pm)
Oct-25	<i>No meeting</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalize CRP Incentive Policy 2. Plan tracking tool proposal 3. Invoicing and match discussion 4. Soil Health Goal discussion
Nov-25	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve CRP Incentive policy 2. Approve MCIT paperwork 3. Consider 2026 meeting dates 5. Updates on Soil Health goal, attorney selection, current activities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updates / Reminders 2. Pollutant reduction calculators 3. Plan tracking tool discussion
Dec-25	<i>no meeting</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updates / Reminders 2. Pollutant Reduction Calculation Standards 3. Individual District Policies 4. FY27 WBIF funding request / budget
Jan-26	<i>no meeting</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updates / Reminders 2. Approve draft FY27 WBIF funding request and internal work plan 3. Fiscal Agent Updates (budget/reporting, record retention policy) 4. Implementation tracking update/discussion
Feb-26	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Election of Officers 2. Consider record retention policy? 3. 2026 Annual Plan 4. FY27 WBIF draft request 5. Updates (budget, member progress, tracking program, soil health?, attorney services, other?) 	<i>tbd</i>
Mar-26	<i>no meeting</i>	<i>tbd</i>
Apr-26	<i>no meeting</i>	<i>tbd</i>
May-26	<i>no meeting</i>	Approve final FY27 WBIF Funding Request for JPB consideration
Jun-26	Meeting	<i>tbd</i>

Parking Lot

The Parking Lot tracks that come up during meetings which will be discussed at a later date.

If and when to address miscalculations in the CWMP Implementation Tables.

Implementation Tracking (what to track, review/discuss proposed tracking approach).

Hydroconditioning – is there interest in this for developing PTMapp or for other purposes?

- *Low interest and low amount of time/funds when discussed in Jan 2026, revisit in later 2026 or into 2027.*

Future Board Meeting Informational Topics:

- Education and Outreach Committee plans and updates (and inputs!).
- Outline of a process for delisting a waterbody.
- Round-robin or one Member sharing updates on projects.
- Clean water council information.
- Overview of the cost of equipment for establishing cover crops or other practices.
- Discussion or workshop with board about internal loading, lake candidacy, etc.