

<h1>Rainy Headwaters-Vermilion River</h1> <h2>One Watershed, One Plan</h2> <h3>Policy Committee Meeting Minutes</h3>	Date: Monday, May 16, 2022
	Time: 10 am-12 pm
	Location: Ely City Hall 209 E Chapman St Ely, MN 55731 and via zoom link

Policy Committee Attendees:	Chuck Bainter (North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board Supervisor), Beth Hippert (Lake SWCD Board Supervisor), Ann Sullivan (Cook County Commissioner), Rich Sve (Lake County Commissioner), Stan Tull (Cook SWCD Board Supervisor) Paul McDonald (St Louis County Commissioner) was absent
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Other Attendees:	Becca Reiss (NSL SWCD), Anita Provinzino (NSL SWCD), Erin Loeffler (MN Board of Water and Soil Resources), Jenny Bourbonais (St. Louis County planning) attended in person. Ilena Hansel (Cook SWCD), Tara Solem (Lake SWCD), Jeremy Hurd, Lake County alternate, and Matt Gouin, Koochiching County attended via zoom. Microphones at the Ely City Hall were not working properly and zoom participants may not have been able to hear the meeting in full.
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Agenda Items

Topic	Purpose	Presenter
Introductions	Learning	Becca Reiss (N St Louis SWCD)
Approval of agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion-Tull, Support-Bainter to adopt agenda amended to move election of Policy Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary immediately after approval of agenda. All in favor. None oppose. Motion carried. 	Motion	Becca
Elect Policy Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reiss asked for nominations for Chair. Sullivan nominated Sve as Chair. Sve nominated McDonald. Bainter, Sullivan, and Tull in favor of Sve as Chair. Sve opposed. Sve elected as Chair of Policy Committee Motion carried. Sve called for nominations for Vice Chair. Sullivan nominated McDonald as Vice Chair. All in favor. None oppose. McDonald elected as Vice Chair. Motion carried. Sve called for nominations for Secretary. Sve nominated Bainter as Secretary. All in favor. None oppose. Bainter elected as Secretary. Motion carried. 	Motion	Becca
1W1P Orientation by MN BWSR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loeffler presented on the One Watershed, One Plan process including the roles of the different committees and purpose of the planning effort. North St. Louis is the fiscal agent for the planning grant from BWSR. 	Informative	Erin Loeffler (MN BWSR)
Overview of the Watersheds (<i>map attached p 2</i>)	Informative	Ilena Hansel (Cook SWCD)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hansel shared an overview of the watersheds including map of the planning area, general characteristics, and water quality concerns in the watersheds. 		
<p>Review of the Workplan, Budget, and Timeline (<i>attached p 3</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reiss shared the workplan, budget, and timeline explaining the collaborate effort between the SWCDs and counties. Loeffler expressed possibility of the process ending sooner than expected because of the protection focus 	Informative	Becca
<p>Review of RFQ for consultant (<i>attached p 23</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provinzino shared details on the request for qualifications that has been sent out to prospective consultants. Proposals are due May 26, interviews with consultants will be on June 1, with intent to approve contract on June 8. The policy committee was invited to sit in on the consultant interviews. 	Informative/ Discussion	Anita Provinzino (N St. Louis SWCD)
<p>Review and Approve By-laws (<i>attached p 29</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reiss shared by-laws developed from BWSR provided template. By-laws require in person meetings and at least 5 days' notice on agenda and meeting notices. Hippert made motion to adopt by-laws knowing they can be amended if needed. Tull supported. All in favor. None oppose. Motion carried. 	Discuss/ Motion	Becca
<p>Review and approve Notification of Intent to Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sve shared experience with 1W1P for Lake Superior North and suggested providing a definition of what protection means in the context of water planning. Discussion on inviting stakeholders to participate in different capacities. A newsletter or occasional update meetings for stakeholders not on the advisory committee was suggested. Question: Who will the notification letter be sent to? Required to send to state agencies. Plan to also send to municipalities, townships, and identified stakeholder groups. Hippert made motion to adopt notification letter amended to include a request of confirmation of receipt. Sullivan seconded. All in favor. None oppose. Motion carried. 	Discuss/ Motion	Becca
<p>Review Advisory Committee Potential Appointments (<i>attached</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solem shared details of the draft Advisory Committee Invite List and citizens groups to keep updated, but not serve on Advisory Committee and asked for additions/deletions. Provinzino and Bourbonais noted unintended omission of representatives from Koochiching County and SWCD, St. Louis 	Discuss	Tara

<p>County and North St. Louis SWCD, all who have signed the Memorandum of Agreement to Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestions of additional Citizen Groups/Stakeholders include: Gunflint Trail Scenic Byway, MN Deer Hunters Association, Ducks Unlimited, Farmers Union, Twin Metals, Polymet, Iron Mining Association, and other local quarries, unions, agricultural and wildlife groups. • Loeffler suggested a motion should be made to adopt the Advisory Committee List Invitees so that invitations can be sent out and a list prepared for approval. • Bainter moved to approve the Advisory Committee Invitee List with the addition of representatives from Koochiching County Land Department, Koochiching SWCD, St. Louis County Land Department, St. Louis County Planning, and North St. Louis SWCD. Sullivan seconded the motion. All in favor. None oppose. Motion carried. 		
<p>Next meeting dates/times/location</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed need for Policy Committee meeting on June 2nd or 3rd if committee wishes to discuss consultant interviews and make a recommendation before the North St. Louis SWCD board meeting on June 8th. • Discussed dates, possibility of rotating meeting locations and practice of canceling a regular meeting if not needed. • Hippert made motion to hold Policy Committee Meetings on the first Friday of the month from 10 am-12 pm with the June 3rd meeting taking place in Two Harbors. Tull seconded. All in favor. None oppose. Motion carried. • Sve indicated he will find a location to meet in Two Harbors that has electronic capabilities for a virtual connection. • Adjourn: Bainter moved, Sullivan seconded. All in favor. None oppose. Motion carried. 	<p>Discuss/Motion</p>	<p>Becca</p>