

Thief River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) Policy Committee
March 13, 2019
11:00 a.m.

The Policy Committee was convened by Chairman Neil Peterson at 11:00 a.m., after the Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned. The following Policy Committee members (or their alternates) and Local Governmental Unit staff was present:

Policy Committee:

Ray Hendrickson, Beltrami SWCD-D	Grant Nelson, Pennington SWCD-D
Wally Byklum, Beltrami County-A	Brad Berg, Marshall SWCD-D
LeRoy Ose, RLWD-D	Don Jenson, Pennington County-A
Gary Kiesow, Marshall County-D	Neil Peterson, Pennington County-D

Local Governmental Unit Staff:

Myron Jesme, RLWD	Josh Johnston, Marshall County
Matt Fischer, BWSR	Peter Nelson, Penn. SWCD
Darren Carlson, Marshall SWCD	

The Policy Committee reviewed the agenda. Motion by Gary Kiesow, seconded by LeRoy Ose, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Wally Byklum, seconded by Ray Hendrickson, to approve the January 9, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting minutes. Motion Carried.

Myron Jesme and Arlene Novak reviewed the Financial Report as of February 28, 2019. Jesme reminded the Policy Committee that at the December 12, 2018 meeting, the Policy Committee approved transferring 100% of the contingency funds into the Work Plan, with 50% used for the cost overrun for the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) and Pennington SWCD. Novak reviewed each of the Local Governmental Unit (LGU) budget's, indicating the potential contingency payment of \$9,840 to the RLWD and \$1,737 to the Pennington SWCD for a total of \$11,577. Novak stated that the grant balance as of February 28, 2019 was \$44,611.64, with total bills received in the amount of \$23,982.31. Novak stated that this amount reflects the 50% of the contingency payment. Motion by Grant Nelson, seconded by LeRoy Ose, to approve the Financial Report ending February 28, 2019. Motion carried.

The Policy Committee reviewed the draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Discussion was held on how we move forward with the MOA. Myron Jesme stated that the MOA will assist the Policy Committee in implementation of the approved Final Plan and what role each LGU will have as we move forward. Attorney Delray Sparby stated if the Thief River 1W1P is adopted by all the entities involved, the entities are agreeing on how it will be implemented. The LGU that is identified as the Fiscal Agency will be responsible for the funds, and the LGU appointed as the Coordinator will be the lead for the organization duties concerning the implementation of the plan. Each LGU would still move forward with their respective project. Discussion was held on liability. Sparby stated that if someone is negligent, the LGU is liable, and they agree to indemnify the parties, it is a shared liability. Each LGU liability would be with their own

insurance carrier. Discussion was held creating a Joint Powers Agreement, where the liability would be on the Joint Powers Board, which would require a separate liability insurance policy. Matt Fischer stated that each LGU would still contract with landowners, with the Fiscal Agency writing the checks. Fischer noted that the Coordinator would take the lead on things, but all decisions would be made by the Policy Committee. Gary Kiesow suggested that the RLWD be the Financial Agency, with the Coordinator position be the responsibility of the County or SWCD. Sparby further noted that the MOA allows the LGU's to collaborate. Kiesow indicated a typo in the MOA under Item No. 4, where it is referenced the Red Lake River and should be the Thief River.

Wally Byklum questioned if the Joint Powers Board Engineer would be involved in future projects. Peter Nelson stated that the SWCD's are hoping to hire a Conservation Planner that could help with the Engineering of projects. Some of the projects will need to be designed by an Engineer. Each entity can hire their own Engineer and report back to the Policy Committee.

Myron Jesme stated that the Policy Committee would set the prioritization of the projects. A Work Plan will be set-up, which would identify the type of projects in the priority areas. Work Plans can be adjusted if there is a project that is ready for construction.

Discussion was held on the next Policy Committee meeting. Gary Kiesow requested the meeting be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the RLWD office.

Motion by Gary Kiesow, seconded by Ray Hendrickson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Brad Berg, Secretary