

Thief River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) Policy Committee
April 17, 2019
9:00 a.m.

The Policy Committee was convened by Chairman Neil Peterson at 9:00 a.m. 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	Gary Kiesow, Marshall County-D
Neil Peterson, Pennington County-D	Tim Sumner, Beltrami County-D
Rolland Miller, Marshall SWCD-A	

Local Governmental Unit Staff:

Myron Jesme, RLWD	Josh Johnston, Marshall County
Matt Fischer, BWSR	Peter Nelson, Penn. SWCD
Darren Carlson, Marshall SWCD	Zach Gutknecht, Beltrami SWCD
Bryan Malone, Penn. SWCD	

The Policy Committee reviewed the agenda. Motion by Ray Hendrickson, seconded by Brad Berg, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Gary Kiesow, seconded by Wally Byklum, to approve the March 13, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting minutes. Motion Carried.

Arlene Novak reviewed the Financial Report as of March 31, 2019. Novak stated that the grant balance as of March 31, 2019 is \$38,942.34, with total bills received in the amount of \$5,669.30. Motion by Grant Nelson, seconded by LeRoy Ose, to approve the Financial Report ending March 31, 2019. Motion carried.

Matt Jacobson, Houston Engineering, Inc. discussed the revisions made to Plan Section 4. Peter Nelson discussed alignment of the funding narrative, and changes to the narrative on BMP's.

Wally Byklum requested to include the review of the Moose River and Mud River Operating Plans. Discussion was held on fish kill. It was noted, that included in the plan is to look at the flows in the Moose River.

Gary Kiesow stated that the Moose River and Mud River should be referenced as Judicial Ditch 11 and Judicial Ditch 21. Matt Jacobson stated that he will reference both systems in the introduction of the plan.

Gary Kiesow stated that he has a problem with any action on Plan Section 4, without addressing agenda Item 6-Marshall County/Marshall SWCD Plan Content request. Matt Fischer distributed notes he had taken from a meeting he attended with Policy Committee members representing

Marshall and Beltrami County as well as Marshall County SWCD, regarding items in the plan. Several of the policy committee members had previously met with some advisory members regarding their concerns. Neil Peterson referenced the handout, referring to no new impoundments being added to the narrative in the plan. Wally Byklum stated that they met with the Beltrami SWCD, stating that they have the similar recommendations.

Matt Fischer stated that he discussed these items with the Planning Work Group (PWG), further recommending that the LGU's put together a list of acceptable practices. It was noted that there are a few examples of practices in Section 5.1

Neil Peterson asked if they wish to limit any practices for landowners.

Brian Dwight discussed promoting on farmed storage being a priority. Along with the plan, comes Clean Water funding which is above and beyond base funding which could be used as cost share. Neil Peterson stated that with farming practices, we would attempt to reach a goal using small farmed practices.

Gary Kiesow stated that this is all voluntary, when we talked with our groups maybe your neighbors don't want it, then it comes down to condemnation. Wally Byklum stated that the watershed has the power to do it. Myron Jesme stated this is a guidance document for volunteer practices which should assist the Policy Committee as they move forward with the planning process.

Tony Nordby discussed the drainage area of the Thief River, referencing the coefficient as it relates to acre feet of water over the entire watershed.

Discussion was held on Zonation and the request by some of the Policy Committee members to remove the term entirely from the plan. Grant Nelson asked if we remove zonation, does that mean each LGU will not be able to use zonation? Peter Nelson stated that zonation data is a tool that is already completed available for use. Brad Berg stated that we had members of the Advisory Committee step away because zonation is in there, due to the association with the MnDNR. Peter Nelson stated that Zonation is an existing data set open to the public, it was a local decision as to what to include in the zonation. Zach Gutknecht stated that the use of zonation helps us get the most bang for our buck. Brad Berg stated that the Red Lake 1W1P does not include zonation. Myron Jesme stated that we did not realize the information was available for the Red Lake River 1W1P. Discussion was held on BWSR's Buffer Strip policy and landowner's not having trust in the government. Neil Peterson stated that we have the data available for each LGU to use if they want, it does not need to be referenced in the plan. Peter Nelson stated that the MnDNR is not offering the tool any longer, it was meant to be an assistance tool to what area could offer more benefits. Brad Berg stated he wants Zonation removed from the plan. Neil Peterson stated that we will keep the data set for use by the LGU's, but the consensus was that it will be removed from the plan

Matt Fischer suggested we recap the decision that were made:

1. Add it to the narrative that this plan does not call for any new impoundments.

2. 2 and 4 dropping it to a 1/8" but add using any new or current farm practices to reach those goals.
3. Remove zonation.

Gary Kiesow stated that he would like to see a revision of Section 4 before the Policy Committee approves it. Matt Jacobson stated that once the plan is put together, it may be helpful to see it in its entirety as there is some interrelations. The Policy Committee can still make changes. The Executive Summary will spell out what's in the plan and the purpose of the plan.

Matt Fischer stated that the plan is to have one round of review with the Advisory Committee, prior to sending out for review and the 60-day comment period.

Motion by Grant Nelson, to approve inserting Plan Section 4, with the recommended revisions, into the full plan, to include the Executive Summary, with further review by the Policy Committee. The motion died for a lack of a second.

It was the consensus of the Policy Committee to make the recommended changes and present to the Policy Committee for approval. A draft Plan Section 4 will be available for review by April 26th, with review of the Policy Committee on Friday, May 3, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the RLWD office.

Tony Nordby asked the Policy Committee if a sediment basin storing three acres is considered an impoundment. Myron Jesme asked where do you draw the line on what you can allow landowners to do with their own property? Darrold Rodahl discussed management of tile, and when tile pumps are allowed to run. Neil Peterson questioned if it is the size of impoundment they are concerned with? Gary Kiesow stated that the concern was for FDR impoundments. Tony Nordby referenced the RLWD impoundments that are operated differently than what Thief Lake and Agassiz NWR.

Neil Peterson adjourned the meeting.

Brad Berg, Secretary