

Thief River 1W1P

Planning Group/Advisory Committee/Policy Committee
September 13, 2017 - Meeting Notes

Policy Committee: Grant Nelson, Rolland Miller, Ray Hendrickson, Brad Berg, Tim Sumner

Planning Group: Drew Kessler, Matt Fischer, Myron Jesme, Josh Johnston, Darren Carslen

Advisory Committee: Brian Dwight, Loiell Dyrud, Bill Neuschwander, Lowell Smeby, Elroy Aune, Wayne Johnson, Jordan Young, Jeff Franson, James Counter, Mike Drangsvet, Curtis Hunt, Annette Drewes, Craig Mowry, Mike Flaagen, Randy McMillian, Ray Benson.

Drew Kessler reviewed the agenda, explaining the following action items: 1) Decide-recommendation to the Policy Committee; 2) Discussion-no decision made, discussion amongst the group; 3) Introduce-new information.

Kessler reviewed the revised Stakeholder Participation plan. The Planning Group recommended approval of the updated Stakeholder list. The Citizen Advisory members are welcome to participate in any meeting, some meetings will require input. Additions to Citizen Advisory members will not be allowed after the Kick-Off meeting is held.

Matt Fischer explained the initiative of the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) process.

It was the consensus of the group for the approval of the Participation Plan. Brian Dwight's contact information needed to be updated in the stakeholder group list.

Kessler reviewed the Revised Plan Outline, stating that a decision is needed to approve the Plan Outline to submit to the Policy Committee. Discussion was held on the plan content that is required.

The following changes were recommended:

- 5.1.1. data collection and monitoring deserve their own category
- 5.2.2.2. strike no areas outside of watershed
- 5.4 change to 6.0
- Local ordinances and local controls should go under 5
- 5.2.1 drainage change it to water management as it could include multiple things and not just drainage.
- Discussion on federal and state agencies operation of impoundments and the process of making changes to the operations of the impoundments.

Additions can be added to the Plan Outline as the process moves forward. Changes would require the approval of the Policy Committee.

It was the consensus of the group for the approval of the Plan Outline.

Kessler reviewed the Revised Issues Matrix. Information/feedback received from the 60 day notification process will be implemented into this matrix. Strike outs were determined not to be a priority for what we are doing. Items will be marked off the list if they do not receive input. Information was used from local waters plan and the WRAP's studies. The 60 day notification cut off is October 6th. Notice was sent to the plan review authorities which states the planning process, with a request for submittal of their concerns. There is a document on how to give guidance to give the comments back to this group, for this group to make consideration. Discussion was held on gathering and prioritizing the issues, setting goals, and defining actions that will address each goal. Kessler stated that the information will be reviewed prior to finalization. Advisory Committee members can make suggestions to the matrix. Agencies officials should gather recommendations and submit them in a written letter. Items documented in the plan will allow for future funding. Kessler stated that the greens lines area broad resource category in the watershed. Individuals will have input on the priorities for management, with these items be addressed at the public meetings. Advisory Committee will give advice throughout the process. Kessler reviewed the input on priority resource concerns and issues. Matt Fischer discussed moving forward on the feasibility to have land and water resource inventory draft by the October meeting. Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) will try to bump up the introduction of the land and water resource inventory for the next meeting. Information from the WRAPS and local water plans will help with this. The Planning Group will work through some of this. WRAPS studies just focus on water quality and this is a comprehensive plan. Loiell Dyrud addressed the red items. Add after quality and aquatic life (since most of the hydrology is altered). Curtis Hunt addressed the need to add aquatic invasive species. Comments can be submitted to Peterson Nelson. There is a document on the website that explains it. It was the consensus of the group, to send out Peter Nelsons contact information.

Discussion was held on the public kick-off meetings. Kessler stated that with the prioritization process completed by December we are falling a little behind. Kessler suggested December/January for kick-off meetings with a meeting held in Grygla and one in Thief River Falls. Advertising strategy was discussed by the group. The following suggestions were recommended: post flyers, Beltrami County quarterly newsletter, radio, and newspaper. Annette Drewes suggested having a guest speaker, and contact rotary clubs, social/community groups. Suggestion was to invite River Watch Schools. It was the consensus of the group that ideas should be submitted to Peterson Nelson prior to the October 11th meeting.

Discussion was held on Resource Station or alternatives. Kessler discussed an example resource of concern map. Discussion was held on having the resource, and then tie it back to the map. Kessler questioned the group if this is something we should draft out to get votes and input from the Advisory group. A digital survey could be completed. Kessler recommend hard maps at the public meeting to cast your vote. Limit the amount of stickers (vote) each individual can use. Broad categories can make a clutter map. Kessler recommended multiple maps. Include landmarks on the maps. It was the consensus of group to move forward with the Resource Maps. Drewes discussed a watershed flyover using google that follows the rivers if you need an orientation of the area. This will get worked into the public meeting on October 11th. Brian Dwight recommended having BWSR put together a display to help explain what this planning process is about and how it can be used locally. Kessler stated that this could be a lead-in explanation at the meeting. Kessler recommends an Open House start to the public meeting, with a set time for the presentation and then Open House format at the end to answer questions

and allow the public to vote. Food and beverages is a big draw. An evening meeting is recommended. The Planning Work Group will work through the details and budgeting.

Discussion was held on Planning Region Boundaries. Separate set of action plans for each of the units/region. Different areas can be given different considerations. Planning Work Group stuck with the first planned region boundaries, as it defined the boundaries. Kessler requested a decision to recommend to the Policy Committee if they want defined region boundaries. Discussion was held on merging County Ditch 20 and County Ditch 17. Matt Fischer stated that we will be using a tool to measure items, by combining them it will make the target portion on the tool more cumbersome. WRAPS is complete, relative to the layout where the boundaries are not combined. It was the recommendation from the group, to use the map where the boundaries are not combined.

Discussion was held on the Resource Concern Map and how they will look in the report. Kessler requested feedback on what the group would like to see on the maps. HEI will start drafting maps. Kessler presented the concept and asked for input on the data, category information for the issues impacting them and the different maps they may want made. Kessler recommend using maps at the resource concern level. It was the recommendation to make a distinct difference between rivers and landmarks. Jesme stated that township and range numbers should be included. Consideration will be given on how to incorporate landmarks. A draft map will be ready in October for review. Drewes discussed changes to the Fish and Wildlife map. Brian Dwight stated that the resource of concern is related to the land use you are experiencing. Maps that identify implementation strategy. Loiell Dyrud stated that he is concerned about the unnamed ditches on the maps, questioning that all ditches should have a name. The Planning Work Group will work on obtaining the correct ditch names. It was the consensus of the group to move forward with the drafting of the maps.

A Policy Committee meeting will be held in October. Kessler stated that there is some information that could presented to the Advisory Committee meeting in October or would wait until November to present them. Agenda will be sent out. It was the consensus of the group that the Planning Group will work through these items, with an agenda being sent out prior to the meeting date.