

MINUTES
Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team
Monday, January 14, 2019

The Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2019 in the Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility Conference Room with the following Policy Team members present: John Eret (Citizen at Large), Larry Nelson (Citizen at Large), Donna Nowicki (Citizen at Large), Mike Robinson (County Commissioner), Brian Sandel (Citizen at Large), and Kurt Schneider (Vice Chair, Chisago Environmental Services/Zoning).

Also present: Susanna Wilson Witkowski (Water Resource Manager), Jerry Spetzman (Administrator, Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District), and Craig Mell (Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District).

The Vice Chair, Kurt Schneider, called the business meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret offered a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2018 Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team meeting. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Nowicki and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Nowicki, Robinson, Sandel, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Larkin, Mold.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Mell offered a motion to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team member Eret and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF: IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Nowicki, Robinson, Sandel, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Larkin, Mold.

Wilson Witkowski informed the Policy Team that former member and chair Tom McKenzie passed away. Tom was a Policy Team member from 1988 – 2013 and chair from 2002 – 2013.

Wilson Witkowski introduced new Policy Team members Larry Nelson and Paul (Brian) Sandel.

Citizen At-Large Term Expirations

The Policy Team discussed Citizen At-Large term beginning and expiration dates and amending the current schedule with term expirations that more closely align with other Chisago County commissions.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Robinson offered a motion to recommend to the Chisago County Board of Commissioners that Chisago County amend the current Policy Team Citizen At-Large term appointment schedule to a staggered term schedule with term expirations that more closely align with other Chisago County commissions. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team member Mell and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF: IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Nowicki, Robinson, Sandel, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Larkin, Mold.

Elect Chair and Vice Chair

Schneider will continue as Vice Chair for the Water Plan Policy Team. The open Chair position will be filled in early spring.

2019 Clean Water Grants

Mell provided an update on successfully obtaining multiple 2019 Clean Water Fund grants.

2019 Activities

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the plan for 2019 activities, which include:

- a. Aquatic Invasive Species prevention,
- b. Children's Water Festival (September 19, 2019),
- c. Water Quality Monitoring,
- d. Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District program coordination, and
- e. Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan.

Snake River One Watershed One Plan

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on Chisago County participation in the Snake River One Watershed One Plan process. Only a small fraction (approximately .2%) of the northwest corner of Chisago County is within the watershed.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret offered a motion to recommend to the Chisago County Board of Commissioners that Chisago County not participate in the Snake River One Watershed, One Plan planning process. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team member Mell and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF: IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Nowicki, Robinson, Sandel, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Larkin, Mold.

Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan process. This includes the need for the Chisago County Board of Commissioners to approve a resolution and request a waiver from the Board of Water and Soil Resources from the five-year plan amendment to the Chisago County Local Water Management Plan 2013-2023.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Mell offered a motion to recommend to the Chisago County Board of Commissioners to approve a resolution to waive the five-year amendment requirement to the Chisago County Local Water Management Plan 2013-2023. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team member Eret and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF: IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Nowicki, Robinson, Sandel, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Larkin, Mold.

Mell and Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Rural Lands Workshop, which will be held on February 2, 2019.

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the need to review the objectives in the Chisago County Local Water Management Plan 2013-2023 to assist in the One Watershed One Plan process.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret offered a motion to add a February 11, 2019 Water Plan Policy Team meeting for the purpose of reviewing the objectives in the Chisago County Local Water Management Plan 2013-2023. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team member Sandel and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF: IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Nowicki, Robinson, Sandel, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Larkin, Mold.

Agency Updates

Spetzman provided an update on the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District North Center/North Lindstrom Channel Maintenance and the cutting of invasive phragmites located near the Chisago County Government Center. Mell provided an update on the Clean Water Fund grant activities.

The next regular meeting of the Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team is scheduled for Monday, March 11, 2019.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:24 p.m. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Mell and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF: IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Nowicki, Robinson, Sandel, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Larkin, Mold.