

**MINUTES**  
**Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team**  
**Monday, May 13, 2019**

The Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 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), Mike Robinson (County Commissioner), and Kurt Schneider (Vice Chair, Chisago Environmental Services/Zoning).

Also present: Susanna Wilson Witkowski (Water Resource Manager) and Garrett Miller (Comfort Lake – Forest Lake Watershed District).

The Vice Chair, Kurt Schneider, called the business meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Robinson offered a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2019 Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team meetings. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Robinson, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Mold, Nowicki and Sandel.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Nelson offered a motion to approve the agenda, as amended. 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, Robinson, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Mold, Nowicki and Sandel.

**Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan**

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the One Watershed One Plan process and the Policy Committee extension request for the 1W1P planning grant timeline from December 31, 2019 to July 1, 2020.

**Aquatic Invasive Species Program Updates**

Miller with the Comfort Lake – Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD) introduced himself as the new Aquatic Invasive Species program coordinator.

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the 2019 Chisago County Aquatic Invasive Species program. This includes:

- Watercraft inspections, the decontamination unit, and the Chisago County and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources metrics reports,
- Hiring for the seasonal AIS Specialist Position,
- Prevention, Early Detection, Rapid Response Plan, including the
  - Zebra mussel calcium monitoring report,
  - Zebra mussel and starry stonewort risk assessments,
  - Zebra mussel veliger research,
  - Zebra Mussel Watch Program - monitoring plates, and

- Invasive phragmites updates.

The Policy Team discussed safety concerns for Watercraft Inspectors when working at the public water accesses and researching safety protocols developed by other Counties that implement aquatic invasive species prevention programs.

### **St. Croix Watershed Environmental Education Collaborative**

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the recently formed St. Croix Watershed Environmental Education Collaborative.

### **Lake Level Readings and Slow-No-Wake Ordinance Updates**

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the current lake level elevations and high water conditions for lakes in the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District and countywide. Wilson Witkowski also reviewed the county Slow-No-Wake ordinance.

### **Upcoming Workshops/Conferences**

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the upcoming Invasive Phragmites Webinar, Beetle Collection Workshop, Statewide Chloride Reduction Rally, and Smart Salting for Property Managers course.

### **St. Croix Summit Updates**

Eret and Nelson provided updates on the 2019 Water Summit, which they attended on May 10, 2019.

### **Agency Updates**

Miller, with the Comfort Lake – Forest Lake Watershed District, provided an update on hiring Watercraft Inspectors and providing herbicide treatment for curly-leaf pondweed for lakes located in the District. The CLFLWD is also drafting their 10-year Watershed Management Plan (WMP) update and holding planning meetings.

Schneider provided an update on hiring seasonal aquatic invasive species and watercraft inspection staff.

The next regular meeting of the Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team is scheduled for Monday, July 8, 2019.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:14 p.m. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Nelson and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Nelson, Robinson, and Schneider. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Mold, Nowicki and Sandel.