

**MINUTES**  
**Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team**  
**Monday, July 8, 2019**

The Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, July 8, 2019 in the Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility Conference Room with the following Policy Team members present: John Eret (Citizen at Large), Craig Mold (Soil and Water Conservation District), Larry Nelson (Citizen at Large), Mike Robinson (Chisago County Commissioner), Brian Sandel (Citizen at Large), Frank Storm (Citizen at Large), and Kurt Schneider (Vice Chair, Chisago Environmental Services/Zoning).

Also present: Susanna Wilson Witkowski (Water Resource Manager), Julia Narow (Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist), Craig Mell (Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District), and Garrett Miller (Comfort Lake – Forest Lake Watershed District).

John Eret, serving as acting Chair, called the business meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Nelson offered a motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2019 Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team meeting. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Sandel and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mold, Nelson, Robinson, Sandel and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Nowicki and Schneider.

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

**Frank Storm – Team Member Reappointment**

Wilson Witkowski informed the Policy Team that the Chisago County Board of Commissioners appointed Frank Storm as a Citizen at Large member of the Policy Team. The term for Frank Storm is January 1, 2019 to January 1, 2022.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Kurt Schneider arrived.

**Elect Chair and Vice Chair**

The Policy Team discussed electing a Chair and Vice Chair.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Nelson offered a motion to nominate Frank Storm to serve as Chair and John Eret to serve as Vice Chair for the Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team member Mold and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF: IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mold, Nelson, Robinson, Sandel, Schneider and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Nowicki

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

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Policy Committee Meeting held on May 28, 2019 and the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) process and progression for completing the 1W1P Implementation Strategies and Final Plan.

### **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.

### **Department of Natural Resources Hinckley Area Fisheries Newsletter**

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Spring 2019 Hinckley Area Fisheries Newsletter for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and their spring trap netting, lake, river and stream surveys.

### **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program Updates**

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

- a. Watercraft Inspections and Safety and Policy Procedures. Watercraft Inspectors received the new policy and procedures at their training on June 19, 2019,
- b. Zebra Mussel Watch Program – Monitoring Plates,
- c. Early Detection Monitoring for AIS at Public Water Accesses,
- d. Chisago Lakes Phragmites Project Meeting (August 7, 2019),
- e. Starry Trek (August 17, 2019), and
- f. Wildlife Forever Cabin Cast Initiative.

Miller with the Comfort Lake – Forest Lake Watershed District provided an update on the recent treatment of suspected zebra mussels on Bone Lake in Washington County.

### **Chisago County Children’s Water Festival**

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on volunteers needed for the upcoming Chisago County Children’s Water Festival on September 19, 2019.

### **Upcoming Workshops/Conferences**

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the upcoming Aquatic Plant Identification Workshop on July 25, 2019.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret offered a motion to provide funds from the Water Plan budget for the cost of registration and mileage for up to three (3) Citizen at Large members to participate in the Aquatic Plant Identification Workshop on July 25, 2019. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team member Schneider and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mold, Nelson, Robinson, Sandel, Schneider and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Nowicki

### **Agency Updates**

Mell provided an update on the recent groundwater audit for the Rush City School District. The Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District office has received numerous calls from residents with concerns of high water in lakes and wetland areas countywide. Agricultural producers are planting less acres of cropland this year due to high water conditions.

Schneider provided an update on the three new Environmental Services/Zoning Department staff. The Fish Lake County Park had a recent issue with their potable water and waste from geese continues to be a concern at the Park.

The next regular meeting of the Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team is scheduled for Monday, September 9, 2019.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Robinson offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:04 p.m. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mold, Nelson, Robinson, Sandel, Schneider and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Nowicki