

MINUTES
Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team
Monday, July 13, 2020

The Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2020 via a virtual Meeting with the following Policy Team members present: John Eret (Vice Chair, Citizen at Large), Craig Mell (Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District - SWCD standing in for Policy Team member Craig Mold), Larry Nelson (Citizen at Large), Mike Robinson (County Commissioner), Brian Sandel (Citizen at Large), Kurt Schneider (Chisago County Environmental Services/Zoning) and Frank Storm (Chair, Citizen at Large).

Each Water Plan Policy Team Member, and others present, attended the meeting at a location of their choice through a personal device (e.g. laptop, tablet, cell phone or personal computer). Each Water Plan Policy Team Member and others present were allowed to view documents presented during the virtual Meeting via their devices and to participate in discussion through microphones located in their devices.

Also present: Susanna Wilson Witkowski (Water Resource Manager).

The Chair, Frank Storm, called the business meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. It was determined that a quorum of members were present.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Storm offered a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2020 Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team meetings. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mell, Nelson, Robinson, Sandel, Schneider and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Mold and Thorsten.

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

Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan

Wilson Witkowski and Mell provided an update on the Lower St. Croix One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) process. This included:

- a. Policy Committee Meeting Updates (March 30 and June 29, 2020),
- b. Chisago County Public Hearing for the Draft Plan (June 17, 2020),
- c. Policy Committee Public Hearing for the Draft Plan (June 29, 2020),
- d. Timeline for the 90-Day Review of the Full Draft Plan by State Agencies, and
- e. Review of the Revised Chisago County Appendix to the 1W1P.

Lake Level Readings and Slow-No-Wake Ordinance

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.

Environmental Connections Newsletter

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Chisago County Environmental Connections newsletter articles on snowmelt, spring lake level conditions and preventing shoreline damage from high lake level elevations.

Water Talk Newsletter

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Water Talk Newsletter and Water Levels Factsheet.

Hydrologic Conditions Report

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Minnesota DNR's Hydrologic Conditions Report for May of 2020.

Hinckley Area Fisheries Newsletter

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Minnesota DNR's Hinckley Area Fisheries Newsletter for the spring of 2020.

Water Quality Monitoring Program

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the water quality monitoring of lakes located in the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District and countywide for 2020.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program Updates

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program activities for 2020. This included:

- a. Watercraft Inspections,
- b. Decontamination Unit,
- c. AIS Specialist Position,
- d. Prevention, Early Detection, Rapid Response Plan
 - i. Zebra Mussel Watch Program - Monitoring Plates
 - ii. Zebra Mussel Veliger and Spiny Waterflea Monitoring
 - iii. Water Access Monitoring Program
 - iv. Starry Trek (August 15, 2020),
- e. Northern Lakes Point-Intercept Surveys on Little Horseshoe, Mandall, Pioneer, Rabour and School Lakes,
- f. Invasive Species Workshop, and
- g. AIS Detector training sponsored by the University of Minnesota (Cancelled for May 2020).

Chisago County Children's Water Festival

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Planning Committee's cancellation of the festival for September of 2020 and tentative rescheduling of the festival for May 20, 2021.

Agency Updates

Mell provided an update on the installation and maintenance of summer and fall best management practices (BMP's) projects. The Chisago SWCD office is currently closed and staff is working remotely while also completing fieldwork activities.

The next meeting of the Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2020.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Storm offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 p.m. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mell, Nelson, Robinson, Sandel, Schneider and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Mold and Thorsten.