

YELLOW MEDICINE **ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN** PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
August 1, 2016
Southwest Sportsmen's Club, Minneota MN

Registration began at 6:30 pm with refreshments provided.

Policy Committee Members Present: Rick Anderson (alt), John Boulton (alt), Tim Buysse, Joe Drietz, Tim Dritz (alt), Jeff Johnson, Luke Johnson, Roy Marihart, Jerry Nelson, and Rodney Stensrud.

Planning Work Group Members Present: Jason Beckler, BWSR; John Biren, Emily Javens, Jolene Johnson, LouAnn Nagel, Kerry Netzke and Pauline VanOverbeke.

Others Present: Julie Blackburn, RESPEC; Lucas Youngsma, DNR; James Kraus, YMRWD; Joy Bruns, Larry DeSmet, and Ed Laleman.

Roy Marihart, Policy Committee Vice Chairman, welcomed everyone and called the public hearing to order at 7:02 pm. There were 23 people in attendance. Marihart introduced members of the Policy Committee and Planning Work Group.

Kerry Netzke, Coordinator of the Yellow Medicine One Watershed One Plan, presented the work plan and associated timeline for the Plan development.

Emily Javens, Administrator of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District (YMRWD), narrated her PowerPoint presentation which summarized the Prioritize-Target-Measure (PTM) approach and how this was achieved in the Plan. A summary of the priority subwatersheds, targeted implementation plan, and measurable goals was presented and handouts distributed.

During the 60-day public comment period (May 15, 2016 to July 15, 2016), six comment letters were received from the following reviewers:

- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Lower Minnesota River Watershed District.

Netzke distributed a response spreadsheet which listed the reviewer, the comment received, response to the comment as to how it was or was not addressed, and where to locate the response in the Plan (if applicable). A total of 60 comments were tabulated as approved by the Policy Committee on July 27, 2016. Netzke reviewed the received comments with the audience.

Marihart invited any comments from the floor.

Ed Laleman, a farmer within the watershed, introduced himself and presented photos of the streambank destruction occurring on his property. He feels that streambank stabilizations should be

more of a priority. Additionally, he feels that tiling is out of control and largely unregulated by a watershed district that fails to turn down anyone who requests a permit. He is frustrated with the lack of response from the DNR concerning his streambank destruction problem.

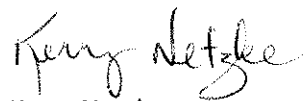
Pauline VanOverbeke, Lincoln SWCD Manager and Planning Work Group Member, introduced herself and stated that she likes the Plan. She feels that it includes all that is necessary to begin implementation on watershed-basis, rather than a county-boundary basis. Much time and effort was put into the Plan development by all the committee and work group members.

Julie Blackburn, RESPEC Project Manager, introduced herself and is thoroughly impressed with Planning Work Group, Policy Committee, and the State agencies with the cooperation that has occurred between them all. Even during meetings where some very tough topics and decisions were to be made, everyone showed overwhelming respect to the others and could speak freely to tackle the issues at hand. RESPEC has enjoyed this experience with the pilot project for the Yellow Medicine watershed.

With no other comments from the floor, Netzke reiterated what the next steps are in the approval process. It is anticipated to deliver a final Plan document to BWSR no later than September 1, 2016 to initiate the 90-day review.

With no further business, the Vice Chairman declared the public hearing was adjourned at 8:07 pm. A brief meeting of the Policy Committee followed adjournment to address the comments received.

Respectfully submitted,



Kerry Netzke

Yellow Medicine One Watershed One Plan Coordinator