

YELLOW MEDICINE **ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN** POLICY COMMITTEE (PC)  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 18, 2015  
Lyon County Government Center, Marshall MN

Members Present:

Tim Buysse, Gary Crowley, Joe Drietz, Jeff Johnson, Luke Johnson, Roy Marihart, Glen Sorensen, Rodney Stensrud and Hollis Weber.

Planning Committee Members Present:

John Biren, Mark Hiles, Lou Ann Nagel, Kerry Netzke, Cindy Potz, David Sill, Pauline VanOverbeke and Terry Wittnebel.

Others Present:

Emily Javens, PE – RESPEC.

Chairman Rodney Stensrud called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Introductions were made.

Motion by Jeff Johnson, seconded by Luke Johnson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Sorensen, seconded by Crowley, to approve the January 14, 2015 Policy Committee meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Netzke presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of January and project-to-date. To date, \$95,805.00 (50%) has been received as income from the grant. January expenses of \$1,566.73 included administration by Area II, office supplies, and meeting expenses. Project-to-date expenses total \$1,666.73 which includes \$100.00 Kick-Off meeting facility rental deposit paid in December 2014. Funds available are \$94,138.27. Bills for approval include: RESPEC (month of December) \$885.00; RESPEC (month of January) \$3,580.00; Area II (month of January) \$1,529.30; and Henle Printing Company \$928.57. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Jeff Johnson, to approve the Treasurer's Report and bills for approval as presented. Motion carried. Netzke added that the Area II Board of Directors has approved the December RESPEC invoice, however the January RESPEC and Henle Printing invoices will be approved March 6, 2015 for payment.

Advisory Committee (Technical and Citizen Subcommittees)

The Advisory Committee is the equivalent of a county water planning task force and consists of LGU staff, stakeholder groups, citizens and agency staff. The purpose of this committee is to make recommendations to the Policy Committee regarding the Plan content. The Planning Work Group (PWG), along with a representative from each of the five State agencies (BWSR-David Sill/Mark Hiles, DNR-Lucas Youngsma, MPCA- Mike Weckwerth, MDA-Spencer Herbert, MDH-Amanda Strommer) are included on the Advisory Committee along with the subcommittees listed below:

**Technical Advisory Committee**

Chris Balfany – Yellow Medicine Environmental /Ditch  
Jenny Breberg – Lac qui Parle Environmental/Ditch  
Dennis Johnson – NRCS (Lincoln)  
Tyler Knutson – Yellow Medicine SWCD

**Citizen Advisory Committee**

Gary Crowley, Lyon Water Task Force  
Mitch Kling, Yellow Medicine Water Task Force  
Dennis Klingbile, Lincoln Water Task Force  
Rodney Stensrud, YMRWD Advisory Committee

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**Technical Advisory Committee**

Robert Olson – Lincoln Environmental Office/Ditch  
Luke Olson – Lyon SWCD/Environmental/Ditch  
Dale Sterzinger – Lincoln SWCD  
Emma Volz – YMRWD  
Brian Zabel – Lac qui Parle SWCD

**Citizen Advisory Committee**

Jared Wagner, Upper Sioux Community  
A representative from LQP Water Task Force  
A representative from a city government  
Nick Simonson - local sportsmens clubs  
A representative from livestock producers  
A representative from Corn & Soybean Growers  
Mike Gunlogson, citizen at large  
3 additional citizen at large members

Discussion was had on individuals to fill the open seats on the Citizen Advisory Committee. Consensus of the Committee was to consider this list as a work-in-progress. Potential members may be discovered at the Kick-Off Meeting.

**Kick-off Meeting Update**

**Plan to Gain Public Input:** Efforts include the Notice to Stakeholders letter which initiated the 60-day comment period on January 26, 2015; Public Legal Notice of the Kick-Off Meeting to be printed in the four official county newspapers this week (*Canby News, Madison Western Guard, Ivanhoe Times, and Marshall Independent*); Landowner Letter to be bulk mailed to 1,700 households this week; news release to all newspapers within the watershed; and website posting to the Area II website on February 9, 2015. ([www.area2.org](http://www.area2.org)) Sill added that the committee has gone above and beyond BWSR's expectations to solicit public comment.

**Dates and Location:** Tuesday, March 3 at 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday, March 4 at 8:30 a.m. at the Southwest Sportsmens Club in Minneota, MN. Snow dates are March 10 and March 11 if needed. RSVPs are required to plan for the meals. Be sure to call or email Netzke with the meeting that you will be attending. Assistance will be needed to help set up and take down tables and chairs for the meeting. Several members volunteered to assist with this.

**Caterers:** Netzke contacted the four caterers recommended at the January meeting. Only one was able to provide services: Old Time Café from Ivanhoe. Estimated cost per person is \$6-\$7. The evening menu will be soup/sandwich/bar/juice/coffee. The morning menu will be hashbrown egg bake with meat/assorted muffins and breads/juice/coffee.

**Other Items:** Netzke will consult with U of M Extension to see if the Watershed Game will require special table arrangements. Name tags will be ordered. Biren added that the facilitators will need to be prepared to handle comments regarding the push to establish buffers from those who are not in favor of it. He feels the Kick-Off meeting could become a place to vent their frustrations which could overwhelm the discussion. The facilitators will need to be prepared to handle the issue if it arises. Netzke will contact Doug Malchow, U of M Extension regarding this.

**Emily Javens, PE -- RESPEC**

Javens introduced herself to the Committee. Javens personally met and interviewed each partner of the Yellow Medicine One Watershed, One Plan Partnership in early February. She was very impressed by all and stated "they have got it together". Overall, she felt that the partners are all on the same page, asked similar questions, and have similar priorities well defined in their plans. Javens summarized a print out which identified these common denominators as: flooding; water quality/erosion; groundwater; education; habitat; and lakes. Javens further explained these six areas of concern.

Mark Hiles added that the committees should not be afraid to use the resources available from the State, i.e. bringing in expertise on drainage issues, fisheries or other topics as needed. This may be very important as the Measurable Goals and Implementation Plan are developed.

Netzke added that a WebX meeting with RESPEC was held last week to discuss the work plan timeline. In order to keep the project on track, some meeting dates were established as follows:

**Planning Work Group: March 25 (via WebX)**  
**Advisory Committee: April 8, May 27, June 24**  
**Policy Committee: April 22**

The Committee members appreciated having these dates in advance for planning purposes. Netzke also added that we will try not to schedule Policy Committee meetings for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month as this is a conflict for the Yellow Medicine County Commissioners and the BWSR Conference Room.

A 1/2-hour teleconference between RESPEC, Malchow and Netzke was held last week to discuss agenda, presentations, and handouts for the Kick-Off meeting. Attendees will be given information how to provide comments if they choose not to comment at the meetings. Javens discussed other handouts to be provided.

Next Meeting Date

No March meeting will be necessary as the 60-day comment period does not end until March 31<sup>st</sup>. The next Policy Committee meeting will be Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the BWSR Conference Room (unless unavailable).

With no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glen Sorensen, Secretary