

YELLOW MEDICINE **ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN**  
JOINT POLICY AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES (PC & AC)  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 30, 2015  
Lyon County Government Center, Marshall MN

Members Present:

Galen Boerboom, Tim Buysse, Roger Dale, Joe Drietz, Tim Dritz, Mike Gunlogson, Tyler Knutson, Dennis Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Luke Johnson, Roy Marihart, Robert Olson, Glen Sorensen, Rodney Stensrud, Dale Sterzinger, Amanda Strommer, Hollis Weber and Lucas Youngsma.

Planning Work Group Members Present:

Jason Beckler, John Biren, Matt Drewitz, Mark Hiles, Jolene Johnson, LouAnn Nagel, Kerry Netzke, Pauline VanOverbeke and Terry Wittnebel.

Others Present:

Julie Blackburn, Emily Javens, Seth Kenner and Jason Love – RESPEC, Melissa Lewis – BWSR, John Boulton – YMRWD and Michelle Overholser – LQP SWCD.

Netzke explained that this meeting is a joint meeting of the Policy and Advisory Committees. The meeting will be conducted as a Policy Committee with the chairman calling the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Stensrud called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Agenda

Motion by Luke Johnson, seconded by Drietz, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Minutes

Motion by Jeff Johnson, seconded by Sorensen, to approve the August 5, 2015 Policy Committee meeting minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Netzke presented the Treasurer's Report for the months of August and September. Expenses for the period were \$12,591.12. Remaining funds are \$15,021.76. Bills for payment approval totaling \$26,601.98 include: RESPEC (*month of July*) \$11,227.50; RESPEC (*month of August*) \$12,915.00; Area II (*month of August services*) \$1,142.63; and Area II (*month of September services*) \$1,316.85. Netzke added that expenses are well within the budget. Motion by Luke Johnson, seconded by Joe Drietz, to approve the Treasurer's Report and bills for approval. Motion carried. Netzke added that the approved expenses will put overall expenses over the 50% of the grant amount which will enable Netzke to submit an Interim Report to BWSR and request the next 40% of the grant amount (\$76,644.00).

Netzke also presented a spreadsheet tabulating estimated local time and costs as submitted to BWSR. The total local in-kind contribution for the Yellow Medicine pilot watershed is \$37,989.99. Netzke added that this total is likely underestimated as the contributions from the YMRWD were estimated without staff assistance. Melissa Lewis, BWSR stated that all of the pilot projects are running about 20% for local contributions.

### Update on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS)

MPCA Project Manager Mike Weckwerth provided a written update:

The TMDL internal review was completed September 18 and revisions have been made to the document. The document is now moving up the MPCA ladder to EPA for preliminary review.

The internal MPCA review of the WRAPS was completed September 25. Revisions to that document are being considered. MPCA will respond to the EPA comments on both documents and then place both on public notice for 30 days.

### Advisory Committee Recommendations

The Advisory Committee has met and continued discussions on priority issues and 10-year targeting strategy. The goals include: 1) Mitigate altered hydrology and minimize flooding; 2) minimize the transport of excess sediment, nutrients, and bacteria; and 3) preserve groundwater quality and quantity. Utilizing four management zones (Coteau, Transitional Zone, Flat Lands, and MN River Valley), smaller subwatershed were targeted for implementation efforts.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Luke Johnson, to approve the Prioritization Goals developed by the Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

Motion by Buysse, seconded by Jeff Johnson, to approve the Targeting Strategy developed by the Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

### Scenario Application Manager (SAM) Interface Tool demonstration by RESPEC

Emily Javens and Julie Blackburn introduced Jason Love, a HSPF modeler with their Water & Natural Resources Division, and Seth Kenner, SAM software developer. Blackburn was excited to demonstrate the improved SAM tool to the 1W1P audience as the tool was presented to MPCA yesterday in St. Paul. Blackburn turned the presentation over to Kenner to explain SAM and its development.

Development is being done in 3 phases. Phase 1 included developing PATH (Process Application Translator for HSPF) which actually links SAM with the overarching HSPF model. SAM was developed with a flexible layout with enhanced mapping and analysis. The BMP database was expanded to include all NRCS practices except Saturated Buffers and Perennial Crops due to the lack of research on these practices. Cost of implementation and load reductions were incorporated on a subwatershed scale. Phases 2 and 3 will include extensive testing of Phase 1, additional scenario alternatives, HSPF validation utility, and comprehensive documentation and training.

Kenner continued to demonstrate the use of SAM and resulting maps, charts and tables. It was hoped to have SAM available to the audience today, however a compiler must be developed for the Matlab software (mapping tool) to allow individual use.

More detailed, one-on-one training will be scheduled at a later date.

### Discuss Work Plan Schedule/Deadlines

Javens presented a table detailing the task, start/end dates, and status of that task. The Planning Work Group has discussed Task 3.2.4, 3.2.5, and 3.3 and the possibility of extending those dates. The unanticipated delay in receiving the WRAPS information has slowed the progress. Discussion also involved whether the plan partners wish to review the draft Plan prior to the public comment period, or at the same time as the public comment period. Consensus of the Advisory and Policy Committees was to conduct concurrent reviews. It was also agreed that one public hearing on the Plan would be held.

A solid Plan is important to all of the involved parties. No change to the overall deadline is foreseen with the extension of these three tasks. Netzke is to provide written documentation and justification to extend the following tasks:

*Task 3.2.4: Develop targeted and measurable implementation plan and schedule*

**Previous date: October 31, 2015      New date: November 30, 2015**

*Task 3.2.5: Complete final draft document for review*

**Previous date: December 1, 2015      New date: December 31, 2015**

*Task 3.3: Reassess the formal agreement and modify as necessary.*

**Previous date: October 31, 2015      New date: December 15, 2015.**

Next Meeting

The next meeting for the Policy Committee will be scheduled for November.

The Advisory Committee will meet prior to the Policy Committee.

With no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Netzke, Executive Director  
Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, Inc.