

YELLOW MEDICINE **ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN** POLICY COMMITTEE (PC)  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 29, 2015  
Lyon County Government Center, Marshall MN

Members Present:

Rick Anderson, John Boulton, Tim Buysse, Gary Crowley, Joe Drietz, Gary Johnson, Jeff Johnson, and Luke Johnson.

Planning Work Group Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Emily Javens, PE and Julie Blackburn – RESPEC.

Kerry Netzke called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Introductions were made.

Minutes

Motion by Luke Johnson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the February 18, 2015 Policy Committee meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Netzke presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of February through April and Project-To-Date. Expenses for the 3-month period were \$15,429.99 which included administration by Area II, office supplies, Kick-Off Meetings and committee meeting expenses. Project-to-date expenses total \$17,096.72. Funds available are \$78,708.28. Bills for approval totaling \$37,424.74 include: RESPEC (*month of February*) \$18,377.50.00; RESPEC (*month of March*) \$11,150.00; Area II (*month of February*) \$1,295.00; Area II (*month of March*) \$3,000.66; Area II (*month of April*) \$2,057.87; and Henle Printing Company \$1,543.71.

Roy Marihart entered the meeting.

Netzke explained the need for the third Kick-Off meeting. As RSVPs for the first two meetings were received, it became evident that no one from Lincoln County had received the mailing intended for all residents of the watershed. The address database given to Netzke by the watershed district contained 1,704 addresses. Over 4,000 mailers were sent last fall as part of the WRAPS project to residents of the watershed. To correct this, a third meeting was necessary to provide the opportunity to those who were not notified of the first two meetings. The official comment period was extended to April 20, 2015. Netzke populated the address list with assistance from county assessors and GIS personnel, and plat book information for that portion of Lac qui Parle County. The second mailing reached 4,292 households within the watershed and explained the error. The same meeting format was used with DNR Hydrologists Lucas Youngsma and Garry Bennett facilitating the watershed game. Attendance at the April 13<sup>th</sup> Kick-Off meeting was 74, cookies and refreshments were served.

Motion by Jeff Johnson, seconded by Crowley, to approve the Treasurer’s Report and bills for approval as presented. Motion carried.

Community Readiness Survey Results

At the onset of the 1W1P project, the U of M Extension conducted a survey of primarily county and SWCD staff along with Area II and the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District. At that time, only 4 of the 5 pilots were operational. While the survey focused on six dimensions of readiness, the Yellow Medicine River Watershed had the highest overall readiness score. It scored particularly high and in comparison to the other pilot watersheds surveyed on two domains: program capacity and relationships among LGUs. Another survey will be conducted at the end of the project. Copies of the report were provided to the Committee and will be made available on the website.

Adopt Advisory Committee (Technical and Citizen Subcommittees)

The full Advisory Committee met this morning. An introduction to One Watershed, One Plan was made and roles and responsibilities were reviewed. Ground rules for discussing tough issues were established. Netzke feels this group will work together nicely to make recommendations to the Policy Committee. The Planning Work Group (PWG), along with a representative from each of the five State agencies (BWSR-Mark Hiles/Matt Drewitz, 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  
Robert Olson – Lincoln Environmental/Ditch  
Luke Olson – Lyon SWCD/Environmental/Ditch  
Dale Sterzinger – Lincoln SWCD  
Emma Volz – YMRWD  
Brian Zabel – Lac qui Parle SWCD

**Citizen Advisory Committee**

Gary Crowley, Lyon Water Task Force  
Mitch Kling, Yellow Medicine Water Task Force  
Dennis Klingbile, city government  
Rodney Stensrud, Lyon County Commissioner  
Jared Wagner, Upper Sioux Community  
Galen Boerboom, local sportsmens clubs  
Dick Pesek, livestock producers  
Doug Albin, Corn & Soybean Growers  
Mike Gunlogson, citizen at large  
Roger Dale, citizen at large  
David Werner, citizen at large  
Eugene Lloyd, citizen at large

Motion by Buysse, seconded by Marihart, to approve the Advisory Committee as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comments Received

Netzke provided a summary of the public comments received from each of the three Kick-Off Meetings plus comments received via email or phone. Additionally, comment letters from the State agencies were provided. Discussion followed. These comments, as well as meeting minutes for the Kick-Off meetings, have been posted on the Area II website – One Watershed, One Plan link.

Review Coordination with WRAPS

Javens informed the Committee of an ongoing effort that is coinciding with 1W1P. The Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) process is nearing conclusion. At the onset on 1W1P, WRAPS was to have been completed in 2014, however a 6-month delay occurred when resegmenting of

the HSPF model was issued by MPCA who manages the modeling effort. The resegmenting of the model essentially makes the model more accurate on a subwatershed level. It was hoped that the WRAPS document would have been completed prior to 1W1P as important information is contained in the document, such as stressor identification and scenarios. MPCA has scheduled two workshops in May (May 7 and May 21) to garner input from the local technical committee with the intent of a completed document by June. To allow time for the completion, 1W1P committees will not meet until June 10 to being the prioritization process. It was asked if the Policy Committee could be rescheduled due to a scheduling conflict of a member. Javens felt that postponing the Policy Committee one week until June 17 would be advantageous as the work done by the Advisory Committee on June 10 could be made available for the June 17 meeting. Consensus of the Committee was to change the meeting date.

Javens discussed the homework assigned to the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee members were given a 3-ring binder with a set of 11 maps (Soil Erodibility Index, Land Use, Environmental Benefits Index, Ownership, Impaired Waters, Groundwater Contamination Susceptability, Percent Slope, Wildlife Management Areas, Soil Flooding Frequency, FEMA-Flooding Analysis, and Restorable Wetlands) to study. Combining the map information with the public/agency comments, the prioritization of resource concerns should be less difficult on June 10. Matt Drewitz, BWSR Clean Water Specialist, narrated a brief PowerPoint presentation for the Advisory Committee addressing PTM – Prioritize, Target, and Measure. After some discussion, it was decided that each member of the Policy Committee should also receive this binder of information since the Policy Committee will act upon the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee. Maps were provided to the Policy Committee members present and RESPEC will provide the information for those absent. The maps are also to be made available on the website.

#### RESPEC Work Completed to Date

Javens summarized the work completed by RESPEC consisting of aggregating existing information from plans, presenting and facilitating the April 13 Kick-Off meeting, compiling the maps presented today, coordinating efforts with the Yellow Medicine WRAPS project led by MPCA, adjusting the calibration of the HSPF model and subsequent Quality Assurance/Quality Control.

#### Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at a location to be determined.

With no other business, Netzke declared the meeting adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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