



**Steering Committee Meeting
Zoom
Wednesday, March 27th, 2024
1:00PM**

Attending: Craig Mell – Chisago SWCD, Jessica Collin-Pilarski – Washington County, Emily Heinz – CLFLWD, Michelle Jordan – BWSR, Becca Oldenburg-Downing – WCD, Kyle Axtell – SWWD, Karen Kill – BCWD, Matt Oldenburg-Downing – MSCWMO, Jay Riggs – WCD, Jamie Schurbon – ACD, Barbara Heitkamp – EMWREP/LSC, John Hanson – VBWD, Susanna Wilson Witkowski – Chisago County, Paul Swanson – Pine SWCD

Call to Order – 1:00PM

Becca Oldenburg-Downing started the meeting at 1:04PM.

Approval of Minutes

No changes were made to the March 27th, 2024 minutes. Jay Riggs motioned to approve the March 27th minutes and Craig Mell seconded. The motion carried with all those voting in favor (ACD, BCWD, CSWCD, Chisago County, CLFLWD, MSCWMO, SWWD, WCD, and Washington County).

Administrative updates

Jay Riggs shared that the Agronomist position has been posted.

FY21 WBIF Review

100% of this grant has been encumbered, with 90% spent. The remainder is pending the completion of South Washington Watershed District's (SWWD) Trout Brook project. All other payments have been made.

FY23 WBIF Review

The FY23 grant will be 80% encumbered when the Washington County project is accounted for. This will change once the money is shifted from the A5 category due to having a vacancy in the agronomist position. After the \$100,000 is moved from the A5 category the grant will be 74% encumbered.

FY23 WBIF Grant

FY23 Work Plan & Budget Revision

Craig Mell shared that the Policy Committee unanimously accepted the Steering Committee's budget revision. Angie Hong sent out an email with a memo detailing that this change needs to go to LSC partner's boards for approval.

FY25 WBIF Grant

Metro Convening Group Meeting

Anoka Soil and Water Conservation District - Brown's Creek Watershed District - Chisago County
Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District - Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District - Isanti County - Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District
Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization - Pine County - Pine Soil and Water Conservation District
South Washington Watershed District - Valley Branch Watershed District - Washington County
Washington Conservation District

Kyle Axtell shared an update about the metro convening group meeting. The metro convening group allocated \$75,000 to the Sunrise River WMO for its Shoreline Stabilization and Stormwater BMP proposal, with the Anoka SWCD serving as fiscal agent, and allocated the remaining \$1,191,380 to the Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership for implementation of its 1W1P, with the Chisago SWCD serving as both funding recipient and fiscal agent.

Work Plan & Budget Development Timeline

The total FY25 Grant amount is now known with the metro convening group's allocation. How to allocate the budget and develop the work plan will be a topic at the May Steering Committee meeting.

Other

Tribal Relation Entity Training

Becca Oldenburg-Downing gave an update that the planned training for April 30th is canceled and will be rescheduled due to too many partners being unable to attend. Melissa King from BWSR will be offering some additional times for the training to be held. BWSR will also be holding a more general tribal relation entity training that is for everyone, not just the LSC WP. Craig Mell inquired how many people are attending this training and Becca responded that partner's staff are welcome to attend as long as the meeting space can accommodate a larger group.

Adjourn

Becca Oldenburg-Downing called to adjourn at 1:17PM.