



LOWER ST. CROIX WATERSHED
PARTNERSHIP

4-22-24 Policy Committee meeting

St. Croix River at Lake St. Croix Beach

4-22-24 Policy Committee Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approve 4-22-24 agenda
3. Approve 1-22-24 Policy Committee minutes
4. 2023 Annual Report
5. Updates on 2024 Lower St. Croix Watershed Plan Implementation
 1. WBIF Financial Report (FY21 & 23)
 2. FY23 WBIF Supplemental Grant Funds work plan amendment approved
 3. CWF Soil Health Grant
 4. Program updates
 5. Welcome Jessica Sahu-Teli – new watershed educator
6. Hiring update for agronomy outreach specialist
7. Project Funding Request: Washington County - St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park
8. Update on LSC Metro WBIF Convene Process
9. Possible updates needed for the LSC Comprehensive Watershed Plan
10. Remote participation in Policy Committee meetings
11. Adjourn

2023 Activities Report



2023 Activities Report

2023 TOTAL funding spent in priority areas in the LSC: \$3,360,522

WBIF: \$672,472 Non-WBIF Funds: \$2,688,050

Total amount of phosphorus reduced in priority waterbodies in 2023: 6,152 lbs/yr

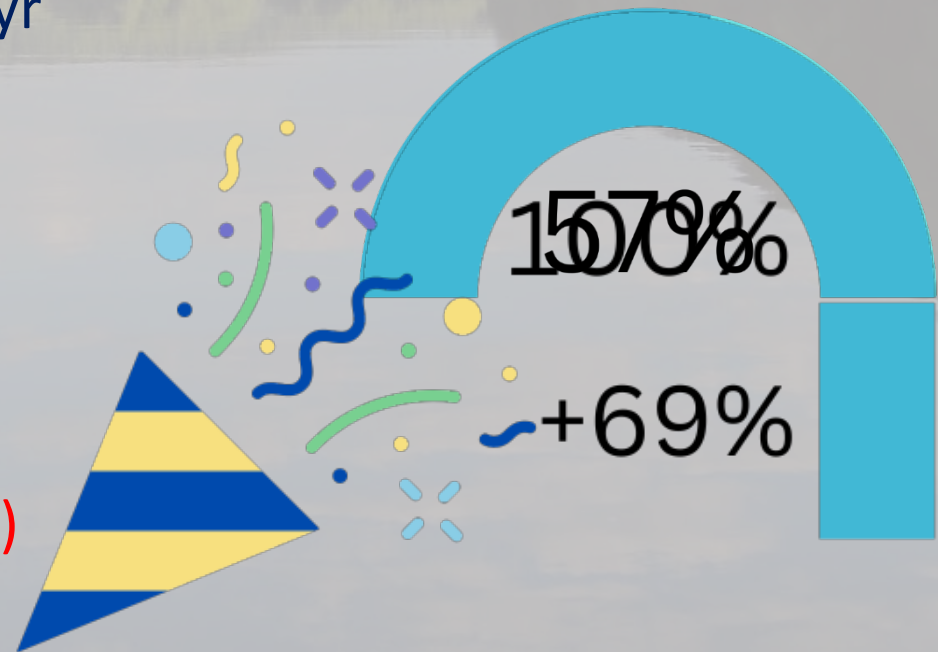
10-year phosphorus reduction goal: 5,503 lbs/yr

2021: 1,493.77 lbs/year phosphorus reduction

2022: 1,660.5 lbs/year phosphorus reduction

2023: 6,152 lbs/year phosphorus reduction

Phosphorus reduction to date: **9,306 lbs/yr (!!!)**





LAKE ST. CROIX NUTRIENT TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD

May 2012

Prepared in Partnership
by
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

With
St. Croix Basin Water Resources Planning Team
Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station
Barr Engineering Company

Context is important...

Table 21. Lake St. Croix TMDL Phosphorus Load Reductions - State of Minnesota

Component	Existing (1990s)	TMDL	Reduction	Percent Reduction
Non-Regulated Loads (LAs)				
Watershed Land Use†	148.876	114.271	34.605	23%
Wasteloads (WLAs)				
MS4 Permittees†	10.014	6.562	3.452	34%
Wastewater Facilities	26.496	18.556	7.940	30%
Construction Stormwater Runoff	0.159	0.121	0.038	24%
Industrial Stormwater Runoff	0.159	0.121	0.038	24%

9,306 lbs/yr = 4.22 metric tons/yr

Still over 66,000 lbs/yr to go!

But let's keep looking at more great 2023 data...

Leveraged Funds

More than \$2,680,000 in “non-WBIF funds” were utilized to implement activities throughout the Lower St. Croix River Watershed including funds directly from each of the LSC Partners. Additional sources include:

- Multiple LSC Cities
- Landowners
- Lake Associations
- MN Association of Conservation District Employees
- BWSR Clean Water Fund Grants
- DNR AIS Prevention Grants
- Minnesota Land Trust
- Metro Big Rivers State Funding
- MPCA Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) Funding
- Section 319 Small Watershed Focus Grant
- Environment & Natural Resource Trust Fund
- Natural Resources Block Grant
- USDA EQIP Funds
- Local donations

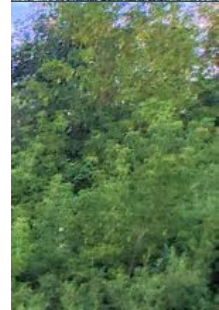
Collaboration! Organization! Follow through!

2023 Activity	WBIF funding utilized	WBIF phosphorus reduction (lbs/yr)	Non-WBIF funding utilized	Non-WBIF phosphorus reduction (lbs/yr)	TOTAL Funding Utilized	TOTAL Pollution Reduction	Cost/lb of phosphorus
Structural Ag	\$5,597	20	\$135,645	601	\$141,242	621	\$227
Structural Urban	\$55,000	3	\$546,200	141	\$601,200	144	\$4,175
Non Structural Ag/Urban	\$87,540	1,300	\$662,392	3,998	\$749,932	5,298	\$141
Wetland Restoration	\$300,449	89	\$8,664	1	\$309,113	90	\$3,435

And the award goes to....Non-structural Ag/Urban Implementation!



- 334 acres of cover crops for multiple producers in Chisago, Washington and Isanti Counties: Cramaur, May, Swanson, Swanson, Keene, Stamm (includes second year of 3-year contracts for some)
- 1,000 ac of conservation tillage for multiple producers in Washington County: Herman, Herman, Radke
- 300 acres of strip tillage for one producer in Chisago County: May
- 1,936 acres of conservation and soil health practices: pasture and hayland planting, native prairie planting, cover crops, and no-till/strip-tillage planting



FY21 WBIF - Lower St. Croix Watershed Partners Grant - April 11, 2024

A		B	C	D	E	F	G	H
ACTIVITY		WBIF BALANCE	MATCH BALANCE	AMOUNT WBIF's ENCUMBERED (Sub-Agreements)	AMOUNT WBIF's SPENT	PERCENT WBIF's ENCUMBERED	PERCENT WBIF's SPENT	AMOUNT OF MATCH FUNDS RECEIVED
A1	Basin Ag Outreach Program	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 185,305.92	100%	93%	\$ -
A2	Structural Ag BMP Implementation	\$ 107,174.00	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 103,582.39	\$ 103,582.39	97%	97%	\$ 86,822.00
A3	Shared Services Educator	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 149,983.85	100%	120%	\$ 86,240.50
A4	Non-Structural BMPs	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 97,540.00	100%	98%	\$ -
A5	Structural Urban BMP Implementation	\$ 360,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 360,000.00	\$ 233,547.00	100%	65%	\$ -
A6	Wetland Restoration Implementation	\$ 105,857.00	\$ -	\$ 105,843.07	\$ 105,843.07	100%	100%	\$ -
A7	Internal Analyses	\$ 16,500.00	\$ -	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 16,500.00	100%	100%	\$ 15,852.26
A8	Targeting Analyses	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -	\$ 146,413.40	\$ 136,231.03	98%	91%	\$ 26,549.19
A9	Technical/Engineering	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			\$ 189.77
A10	Administration/Coordination	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ 107,192.14	\$ 109,544.74	107%	110%	\$ 712.17
PROJECT BALANCE:		\$ 1,264,531.00	\$ 129,800.00	\$ 1,264,531.00	\$ 1,138,078.00	100%	90%	\$ 216,365.89

Grant Agreement BWSR Approved: 3/31/21

Grant Agreement Expires: 12/31/2024

Grant Total: \$1,264,531

FY23 WBIF - Lower St. Croix Watershed Partners Grant - April 11, 2024

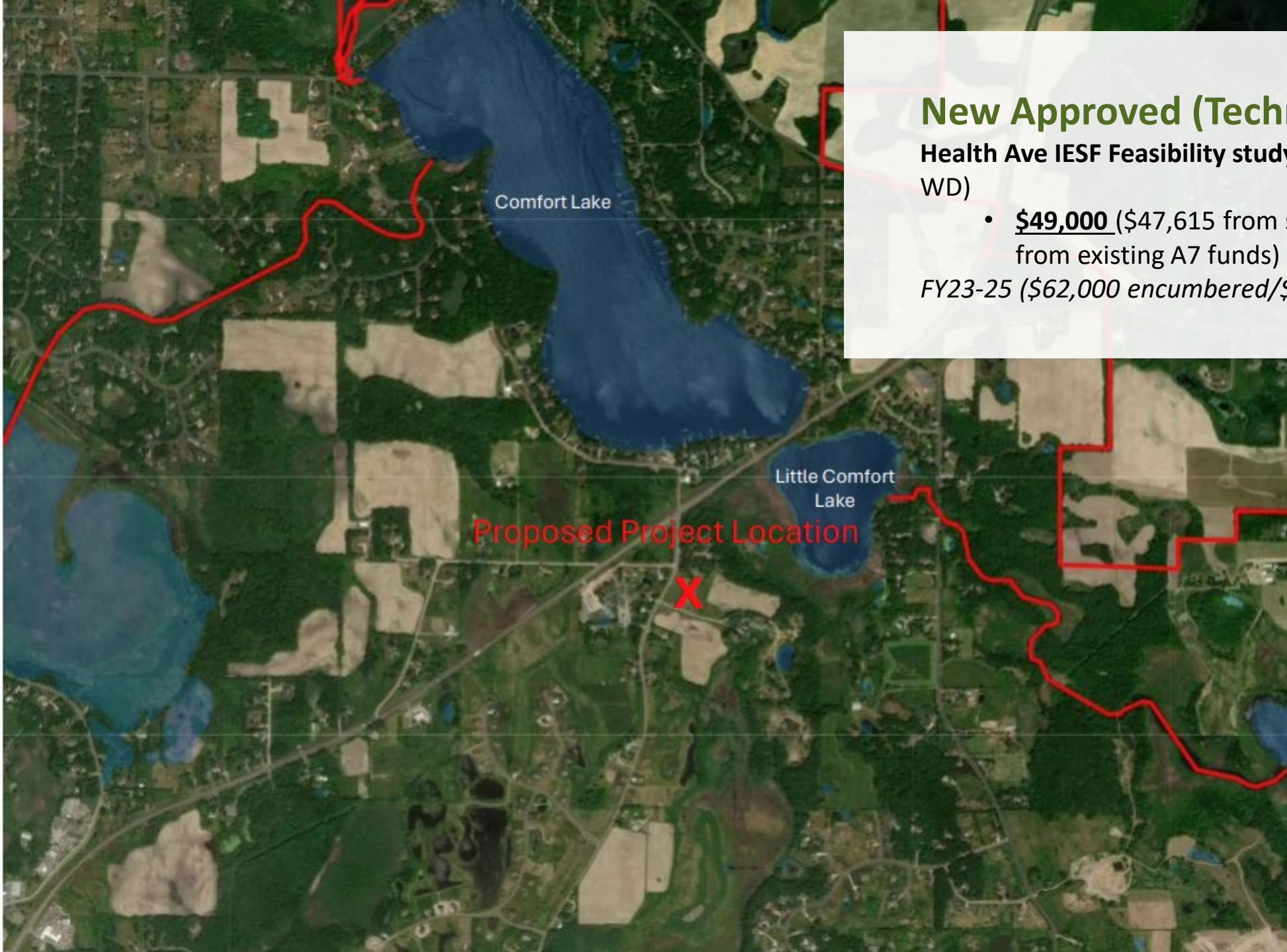
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
ACTIVITY	WBIF BALANCE	MATCH BALANCE	AMOUNT WBIF's ENCUMBERED (Sub-Agreements)	AMOUNT WBIF's SPENT	PERCENT WBIF's ENCUMBERED	PERCENT WBIF's SPENT	AMOUNT OF MATCH FUNDS RECEIVED	WBIF BALANCE REMAINING
A1 Structural Ag BMP Implementation	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 49,500.00	\$ 62,410.00	\$ -	24%	0%	\$ -	\$ 197,590.00
A2 Structural Urban BMP Implementation	\$ 118,054.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	38%	38%	\$ 5,757.56	\$ 73,054.00
A3 Non-Structural Ag/Urban BMP Implementa	\$ 122,025.00	\$ -	\$ 122,025.00	\$ 15,910.00	100%	13%	\$ 8,675.00	\$ -
A4 Wetland Restoration Implementation	\$ 220,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 220,000.00	\$ 220,000.00	100%	100%	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
A5 Agronomy Outreach Specialist	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -	100%	0%	\$ -	\$ -
A6 Shared Services Educator	\$ 270,500.00	\$ 2,857.90	\$ 227,840.00	\$ 44,523.31	84%	16%	\$ 33,445.06	\$ 42,660.00
A7 Technical/Engineering	\$ 87,615.00	\$ 4,762.00	\$ 62,000.00	\$ -	71%	0%	\$ 15,981.89	\$ 25,615.00
A8 Internal Analyses	\$ 18,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00
A9 Targeting Analyses	\$ 45,000.00	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	\$ -	27%	0%	\$ -	\$ 33,000.00
A10 Administration/Coordination	\$ 80,000.00	\$ -	\$ 67,312.50	\$ 29,774.35	84%	37%	\$ -	\$ 12,687.50
PROJECT BALANCE:	\$ 1,446,194.00	\$ 144,619.90	\$ 1,043,587.50	\$ 355,207.66	72%	25%	\$ 113,859.51	\$ 402,606.50

Minimum Match Amount: \$ 144,619.40

Grant Agreement BWSR Approved: 11/9/2022

Supplemental Grant Agreement BWSR approved : 04/04/2024

Grant Agreement Expires: 12/31/2025



New Approved (Technical / Engineering)

Health Ave IESF Feasibility study (Comfort Lake – Forest Lake WD)

- **\$49,000** (\$47,615 from supplemental funds + \$1,385 from existing A7 funds)

FY23-25 (\$62,000 encumbered/\$87,615 available)



In-progress (>\$50K)

- **Trout Brook Stream Restoration** (South Washington Watershed District)
 - 177lb/yr phosphorus reduction to Trout Brook and St. Croix River
 - \$350,000 from FY21

Completed (>\$50K)

- **Sunrise River Wetland** (Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District)
 - 89lb/yr phosphorus reduction to Sunrise River
 - \$300,500 (\$80,000 from FY21, \$220,000 from FY23)



In-progress (Agricultural)

FY23-25 Grant

- **Danson Ag BMPs**
 - \$20,000 (Chisago SWCD)
- **Lucht Gully Erosion Project**
 - \$42,410 (Pine SWCD)

Total = \$62,410 of \$140,000 available

Completed (Agricultural)

FY21-23 Grant

- **Hinze Cattle Exclusion: Rock Lake**
 - \$4,580 (Pine SWCD)
- **Hinze Water and Sediment Control Basin**
 - \$8,476 (Pine SWCD)
- **McQuade Ravine Stabilization**
 - \$93,000 (South Washington Watershed)

Total = \$106,056



In-progress (Urban)

FY23-25 Urban Non-Structural

- **Street sweeping plan implementation**
 - Linwood Twp. (\$3630)
 - Wyoming (\$15,000)
 - North Branch (\$15,000)
 - Afton (\$13,395)
 - MSCWMO – 8 cities combined (\$45,000)

Total = \$92,025

Completed (Urban)

FY21-23 Grant

- **Big Marine Boat Launch Sediment Plume Reduction**
 - \$10,000 (Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed)
- **Oak street bioretention basins - completed**
 - \$45,000 (Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed)
- **May Twp. stormwater retrofit engineering/tech**
 - \$10,000 (Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed)

Total = \$65,000



Targeting and Prioritization + Internal Analyses

FY23-25 In-Progress

- **Goose Creek SWA** (Chisago SWCD)
 - \$12,000 (FY23)

FY23-25 (\$12,000 encumbered of \$45,000 available)

FY21-23 Completed

- **Rock Lake SWA** (Pine Co)
 - \$12,541 (FY21)
- **Forest Lake Internal Loading Analysis** (Comfort Lake – Forest Lake WD)
 - \$16,500 (FY21)
- **Northeastern Washington Co St. Croix and Spring Streams** (Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD)
 - \$20,000 (FY21)
- **Sunrise River Pollutant Delivery Assessment** (Anoka Co)
 - \$27,200 (FY21)
- **Updated urban and rural subwatershed prioritization (SWA) protocols**
 - \$8000 (FY21)
- **Delineation and prioritization of contributing subcatchments - Pine County and Sunrise River**
 - \$26,772 (FY21)
- **Tree canopy assessment protocol for enhanced street sweeping**
 - \$8,500 (FY21)
- **Street sweeping studies – 16 cities**
 - \$40,000 (FY21)

FY21-23 (A7: \$16,500 spent of \$16,500 available)(A8: \$136,231 spent of \$150,000 available)



Completed (Wetland)

FY21-23 Grant

- **Jones Wetland**
 - \$5100 (Pine SWCD)
- **Jahnz Wetland**
 - \$10,308 (Pine SWCD)
- **Goose Lake Wetland**
 - \$10,000 (Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed)

Total = \$25,408 (+Sunrise River wetland project)

FY21-23 (\$105,843 spent/available)

FY23-25 (\$220,000 spent/available)

Welcome Jessica Sahu Teli!

New watershed educator

2024 Education: Off and running!

- Shoreline Realtor on-demand workshop – currently under review at the MN Dept of Commerce
- Shoreline Contractor workshop in February – 25 participants
- Completed Lakeshore Landowner survey on Goose Lake in Chisago County
- Helping support partner ag staff – help with coordinating events as needed; soil health survey to large acreage producers in Chisago County
- Water testing clinics in Forest Lake on May 21 (Washington) and Nessel Township (Chisago) on June 14th
- We are Water kickoffs in Chisago County – June 20th
- When Development Comes to Town – video promotion and assessing needs of municipalities
- St. Croix River Workshops on the Water (1 boat ride, one conservation tour, one land workshop)
- Workshops/events for the public – check events on www.lsc1w1p.org
- Hiring new Agronomy Outreach Specialist + Watershed Educator

1-22-24 Policy Committee Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approve 1-2—24 agenda
3. Election of officers
4. Approve 10-23-23 Policy Committee minutes
5. Public Hearing for VBWD amendment request
6. Updates on 2024 Lower St. Croix Watershed Plan Implementation
 - WBIF Financial Report (FY21 & 23)
 - CWF Soil Health Grant
 - Program updates
 - Hiring update for agronomy outreach specialist
7. Project highlight:
 - Randy Hinze – 2023 Minnesota Outstanding Conservationist
8. Update on FY23 supplemental funding request
9. Minor correction of plan language to clarify St. Croix River as a priority water body
10. Set 2024 meeting calendar
11. Adjourn

4-22-24 Policy Committee Agenda

- ~~1. Welcome and introductions~~
- ~~2. Approve 4-22-24 agenda~~
- ~~3. Approve 1-22-24 Policy Committee minutes~~
- ~~4. 2023 Annual Report~~
- ~~5. Updates on 2024 Lower St. Croix Watershed Plan Implementation~~
 - ~~1. WBIF Financial Report (FY21 & 23)~~
 - ~~2. FY23 WBIF Supplemental Grant Funds work plan amendment approved~~
 - ~~3. CWF Soil Health Grant~~
 - ~~4. Program updates~~
 - ~~5. Welcome Jessica Sahu Teli – new watershed educator~~
6. Hiring update for agronomy outreach specialist
7. Project Funding Request: Washington County - St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park
8. Update on LSC Metro WBIF Convene Process
9. Possible updates needed for the LSC Comprehensive Watershed Plan
10. Remote participation in Policy Committee meetings
11. Adjourn