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| Lower St. CroixOne Watershed, One Plan | | Steering Team | | Sept. 24, 2020 | | |
| 9:30 PM to 11:30 AM | | |
| Online | | |
| Invitees: | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Anoka County | Sue Goepfert |  | | Chisago County | Susanna Wilson Witkowski | Present | | Chisago Lakes LID | Jerry Spetzman |  | | Isanti County | Darrick Wotachek | Present | | Pine County | Caleb Anderson | Present | | Ramsey County | Ted Schoenecker |  | | Washington County | Maureen Hoffman | Present | | Anoka SWCD | Jamie Schurbon | Present | | Chisago SWCD | Craig Mell | Present | | Isanti SWCD | Tiffany Determan | Present | | Pine SWCD | Twyla Hill | Present | | Ramsey SWCD | Ann WhiteEagle |  | | Washington SWCD | Jay Riggs | Present | | Brown's Creek WD | Karen Kill | Present | | Carnelian Marine St Croix WD | Mike Isensee | Present | | Comfort Lake Forest Lake WD | Mike Kinney, Emily Heinz | Present, Present | | South Washington WD | Matt Moore |  | | Valley Branch WD | John Hanson |  | | Middle St. Croix WMO | Matt Downing | Present | | Sunrise River JP WMO | Jamie Schurbon | Present | | Washington CD | Angie Hong | Present | | BWSR | Dan Fabian, Barb Peichel | Present, Present | | Linwood Twp | Ed Kramer |  | | Lake Elmo | Kristina Handt | Present | | | | | | |
| Pre-work: | Review: Revised JPA, Table of A level actions from LSC 1W1P | | | | | |
| Agenda Items | | | | | | |
| **Topic** | | | **Purpose** | | **Lead** | **Time** |
| * Updates * Status of 1W1P planning and approval process * Timeline and next steps * Update from BWSR staff | | | DISCUSS | | Angie Hong  Barb Peichel | 20 min. |
| * Updates needed to JPA | | | DISCUSS | | Craig Mell and Jaimie Schurbon | 10 min. |
| * Review and prioritize implementation actions for watershed-based implementation funding * Review budget and “A level” actions listed in the implementation plan * Consider options for allocating funding | | | DISCUSS/  DECIDE | | All | 60 min. |

### Meeting Notes

* Updates
  + Recap
    - Initially had a small budget because there are so many plans (TMDLs etc) in place, BWSR required group to essentially double budget and increase the amount of coordination/outreach in the planning process
    - 15 local government entities participating in Lower St. Croix (LSC) One Watershed One Plan (1W1P)
    - Goal of 1W1P – address gaps in watershed mgmt, avoid duplication, utilize funding
    - Timeline started in 2018, currently in the formal review process by Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), then before end of this year partners will adopt the plan
    - LSC interactive map: <https://maps.barr.com/LSCWD/1W1P/index.html>
  + Status of 1W1P planning and approval process
    - BWSR is currently performing its formal review of the 10-year plan (final 90-day review)
    - Comments from agencies – mostly positive, one comment regarding incorrect budget amount for external funds needed for targeting exercises
    - BWSR Central Region Committee meeting on October 13th – LSC will have representatives (Jay Riggs, Matt Moore and Washington County Commissioner Fran Miron are tentatively planning on attending) give a short presentation on priorities, work plan progress
    - BWSR Board to consider approving the 10-year plan on October 28th
  + Timeline and next steps
    - Steering Committee to develop annual plan and Watershed Based Implementation Funds (WBIF) grant work plan – still have a gap between available WBIFs ($1.2M) and top priorities actions we have budgeted in the 10-year plan ($1.8M)
    - Aiming to have partners adopt 10-year plan before end of this year, then Policy Committee approve annual plan and WBIF work plan, then BWSR approve WBIF work plan before end of March
  + Update from BWSR staff
    - Steering Committee (SC) with input from Advisory Committee (AC) will develop annual work plan to be recommended to Policy Committee (PC) for consideration.
    - The work plan will be used to develop a biennial budget request (FY20/21) for WBIF to BWSR (WBIF is a subset of everything we might want to do; some things in our plan may not be eligible for WBIF dollars)
      * Work plan must be from the implementation section of the plan (SC will review items from the implementation table during 9/24 mtg)
      * Site assessment work, project support (e.g. education and outreach), administration are all eligible expenses
      * Must have a primary benefit to groundwater and surface water quality (flood-related activities not eligible)
      * Level of detail required: BWSR will want to know what specific resource we’re targeting; identifying the subwatershed is enough; don’t need to know exact projects at this point; do need to have target pollutant removals; want to be specific enough so BWSR knows we’re following the plan; what types of ag BMPs is LSC planning to do? Can have eLINK work plan be less specific and include more specifics in an attachment.
      * Can we use previous WBIF work plans as a model for this? Depends on which of those we’re referring to. As long as you answer the questions that are in the policy, so BWSR knows what resource LSC is focusing on and types of BMPs being proposed, should be acceptable.
      * How does this apply to shared positions? Specifically what are requirements for "outcomes"? BWSR is fine with looking at outputs for these positions – what is that position doing (e.g. meet with up to X landowners) since there aren’t pollution reductions for this type of activity.
      * How to ensure we are prioritizing the most cost efficient outcomes? Follow criteria in [Appendix C](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b0dadc59772aeb1df30d0d8/t/5efe1fc69def0e51299138c5/1593712583135/App+C+Targeting+Criteria+and+Scoring_Rev+1.pdf)
      * BWSR preference is to have grant funds lumped under one fiscal agent, can make a case to BWSR if this doesn’t make sense for a certain project, can be flexible
      * Assurance measures – to discuss with BWSR at a future LSC meeting – make sure we’re making progress in the priority areas, on schedule/on budget, and leveraging other funds
      * Required match = 10%
    - Hard deadline: March 31, 2021 (must have work plan approved in eLINK or funds will be reallocated)
    - WBIF is ~3 years of funding. 2021-Dec 2023
    - Come back in two years to request FY22/23 WBIF – possible the funding will be reduced in the next round, hard to predict what will happen
    - For more info visit: <https://bwsr.state.mn.us/watershed-based-implementation-funding-program>
* Updates needed to JPA
  + Don’t have your boards consider signing/joining right now – wait until November (don’t take action yet or you’ll have to re-do it later)
  + Will be receiving a memo in the coming weeks with more information/instructions
  + What does adoption mean – can be a replacement of your current plan, or can be a supplement/guidance document – each partner board’s resolution should make that distinction clear
* Review and prioritize implementation actions for watershed-based implementation funding
  + Review budget and “A level” actions listed in the implementation plan
  + Consider options for allocating funding
  + See online polling exercise: <https://pollunit.com/polls/p8icbniivcilmxutlvz6jg>

**Next steps: Respond to doodle poll for next SC meeting to continue WBIF work plan discussion.**