

MINUTES
Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team
Monday, November 8, 2021

The Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team met for their bi-monthly meeting at 3:00 p.m. Monday, November 8, 2021 via an in-person meeting held at the Chisago County Government Center, Conference Room 150B in Center City, MN and a virtual Meeting with the following Policy Team members present: John Eret (Acting Chair), Craig Mell (Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District), Larry Nelson (Citizen at Large), Kurt Schneider (Environmental Services), Frank Storm (Citizen at Large), and Dawn White (Citizen at Large). **ABSENT:** Chris DuBose (County Commissioner), Brian Sandel (Citizen at Large), and Betty-Jo Thorsten (Public Health).

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02, Water Plan Policy Team member Craig Mell attended the Policy Team meeting on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 3:00 pm via Microsoft Teams. Policy Team member Mell was seen and heard via electronic means and will participate from the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District office, 38814 Third Avenue, North Branch, MN 55056, a location open and accessible to the public. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02, Subd. 3, persons interested in monitoring the meeting electronically from a remote location may view the meeting through the Microsoft Teams meeting link below.

Also present: Eric Alms (MN Pollution Control Agency), Jerry Spetzman (Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District), Susanna Wilson Witkowski (Water Resource Manager), and Camden Droppo (Chisago County Aquatic Invasive Species).

Each Policy Team member, and others present, attended the meeting in person or at a location of their choice through a personal device (e.g. laptop, tablet, cell phone or personal computer). Each Policy Team member, and others present, could view documents presented during the virtual Meeting via their devices and to participate in discussion through microphones located in their devices.

Acting Chair, John Eret, called the business meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. It was determined that a quorum of members was present.

Water Plan Policy Team Member _____ offered a motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2021 Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team meeting. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member _____ and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mell, Nelson, Schneider, Storm and White. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** DuBose, Sandel and Thorsten.

Water Plan Policy Team Member _____ offered a motion to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team member _____ and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mell, Nelson, Schneider, Storm and White. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** DuBose, Sandel and Thorsten.

Hybrid Meetings

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on Chisago County policy for holding hybrid Water Plan Policy Team meetings. Policy Team members who chose to participate remotely will need to provide in advance the location where they will be participating in the meeting. This location will be included with the meeting agenda.

Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership. This included:

- a. Watershed Based Implementation Funding Work Plan and Budget 2021-2022 updates
 - a. Activity 7: Internal Analyses Call for Projects
- b. Policy Committee meeting updates (September and October 2021)
 - a. 2021 Virtual Project Tour <http://www.lsc1w1p.org/virtual-project-tour>
- c. Changing framework for Water Plan Policy Team Subcommittee meeting update (October 8, 2021). The Policy Team and Subcommittee will continue to revise the current Policy Team Purpose and Mission and develop a strategic type plan outlining the Team role, actions and expectations of Team members.
- d. Review interactive map – future meeting

EMWREP

Wilson Witkowski and Spetzman provided an update on the East Metro Water Resource Education Partnership (EMWREP).

MAISRC

Policy Team Member Eret provided an update on the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) Research and Management Showcase (September 22, 2021).

Phragmites Treatment

Spetzman provided an update on recently completed invasive Phragmites roadside treatment within the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District.

2021 AIS Program Updates

Wilson Witkowski and Droppo provided an update on the aquatic invasive species (AIS) and watercraft inspection program. This included:

- a. Watercraft Inspections and Decontaminations
- b. Water Access Monitoring Program
- c. Zebra Mussel Watch Program – Monitoring Plates
- d. AIS Specialist/Lead Watercraft Inspector Role

Children's Water Festival

Wilson Witkowski provided an update on the Chisago County Children's Virtual Water Festival (September 23, 2021). The Children's Water Festival planning committee will soon start preparing for the 2022 Festival, which hopefully, will be held outdoors as it was prior to COVID-19.

Agency Updates:

Alms provided an update on water quality grants available through the MN Pollution Control Agency.

The next meeting of the Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team is tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 10, 2022 at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be hybrid in-person and virtual.

Water Plan Policy Team Member _____ offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member _____ and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion carries as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Mell, Nelson, Schneider, Storm and White. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** DuBose, Sandel and Thorsten.