

**Meeting of the Policy Committee for Root River One Watershed One Plan**  
**Monday, May 20th, 2024 at 9 AM**  
**Room B of 102L, 101 Fillmore St W (Fillmore County Courthouse), Preston, MN w/ Zoom Option**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present (in Person):** Paul Fruechte, Crooked Creek Watershed District; Duane Bakke, Fillmore County Commissioner; Kathy Tesmer, Fillmore SWCD Supervisor; Glenn Kruse, Root River SWCD Supervisor; Eric Johnson, Houston County Commissioner; Jim Kellogg, Mower SWCD Supervisor; Gregg Wright, Olmsted County Commissioner; Andy Hart, Olmsted SWCD Supervisor (entered meeting in person at 9:11am); Tom Scarponcini, Winona County SWCD Supervisor; Marcia Ward, Winona County Commissioner

**Members Present (Zoom):** Rodney Peterson, Dodge County Commissioner; Andy Hart, Olmsted SWCD Supervisor (attended via Zoom until 09:11am)

**Members Absent:** Glenn Hahn, Dodge SWCD Supervisor; Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner

**Others Present (in Person):** Dave Copeland, BWSR; Riley Buley, Fillmore SWCD; Nikki Wheeler, Fillmore SWCD; Dave Walter, Root River SWCD; Dan Wermager, Root River SWCD; Cody Fox, Mower SWCD; Skip Langer, Olmsted SWCD; Sheila Harmes, Winona County

**Others Present (via Zoom):** Jeremy Maul, BWSR; Adam King, Dodge SWCD; Caitlin Meyer, Olmsted SWCD; Wanda Anderson, Winona County SWCD; Amanda Gentry, Winona County SWCD; Chris Meyer, Winona County Commissioner

**Open meeting at 09:07 am.**

- a. Meeting opened by Bakke.

**Approval of Agenda:**

- a. With additions: change date of meeting minutes from November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, motioned by Johnson, seconded by Ward, motion carried unanimously.
  - a. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
  - b. Nays: None.

**Secretary's Report:**

- a. Approval of February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
  - a. Without additions; moved by Ward, seconded by Kruse, carried unanimously.
    - i. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
    - ii. Nays: None.

**- Wright entered meeting at 09:08 am. -**

**Financial Report(s):**

- a. Acknowledge Root River 1W1P Financials
  - a. Motion to acknowledge payables made by Kellogg, seconded by Ward, carried unanimously.
    - i. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Wright, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
    - ii. Nays: None.

**- Hart entered meeting in person at 09:11 am. -**

**General Business:**

- a. Consider use of Houston Engineering Inc to produce BEAST pollution load estimation spreadsheet, \$7,900
  - a. Discussion.
  - b. Motion to purchase BEAST Spreadsheet through HEI for the amount of \$7,900.00 moved by Kellogg, seconded by Hart, carried unanimously.
    - i. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Wright, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
    - ii. Nays: None
- b. Discuss CD rate for RR 1W1P 2024-2025 partial funds
  - a. Traditional CD, \$230,000 of RR1W1P 2024-2025 funds for 7 months at 5.05%.
  - b. Motion to enter \$230,000 of RR1W1P 2024-2025 funds into a traditional CD account for 7 months at the rate of 5.05% made by Wright, seconded by Johnson, carried unanimously.
    - i. Yays: Fruechte, Peterson, Bakke, Kruse, Johnson, Kellogg, Wright, Hart, Scarponcini, Ward
    - ii. Nays: None.

### Reports:

- a. Project Updates:
  - a. Upper Iowa River Watershed Projects – Cody Fox, Mower SWCD

### - Tesmer entered meeting at 09:48 am. -

- b. [Crooked Creek Structure Video – Dave Walter, Root River SWCD](#)
- a. Reports from Policy Committee Members:
  - a. Crooked Creek WD:
    - a. Paul complimented Dave on his YouTube stardom.
  - b. Dodge County & SWCD:
    - a. No updates given.
  - c. Fillmore County & SWCD:
    - a. RR 1W1P 2022-2023 first 50% of funds BWSR reconciliation underway.
  - d. Houston County & Root River SWCD:
    - a. Working on more waterways; addressing old structures/practices.
  - e. Mower County & SWCD:
    - a. Staff are staying busy, come on over for a tour of the flat country; soil health economic study.
  - f. Olmsted County & SWCD:
    - a. Cover crop program certs; awaiting to see if more funding will be awarded to cover crop program.
  - g. Winona County & SWCD:
    - a. Staff are busy, Farm Safety Day camp for Winona SWCD tomorrow; county zoning discussion regarding solar farms being built on prime farmland.

### Next Meetings

- a. August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 9:00am – Room 108, 902 Houston St NW, Preston, MN 55965 & Zoom
  - a. Kevin Kuehner – edge of field/nitrate data presentation/update
  - b. Riley Buley – Review CD, cash flow, etc.
  - c. Dave Copeland – Review RR1W1P funding sources, entities, legislative directive, etc.
- b. November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 9:00am – Room 108, 902 Houston St NW, Preston, MN 55965 & Zoom

### Meeting adjourned at 10:26 am.

- a. Meeting closed by Bakke.