

Meeting Minutes
Bois de Sioux and Mustinka Watersheds
1W1P [Policy](#) Committee
May 2, 2019 at 1:00 pm

Member Organizations

Big Stone County
Big Stone SWCD
Grant County
Grant SWCD
Otter Tail County
West Otter Tail SWCD
Stevens County
Stevens SWCD
Traverse County
Traverse SWCD
Wilkin County
Wilkin SWCD
Bois de Sioux Watershed

Committee Representative

Commissioner Jay Backer **[Absent]**
Supervisor Dan Morrill
Commissioner Bill LaValley
Supervisor Randy Larson
Commissioner John Lindquist
Supervisor John Walkup **[Absent]**
Commissioner Ron Staples
Supervisor Greg Fynboh
Commissioner Tom Monson
Supervisor Chester Raguse
Commissioner Eric Klindt **[Absent]**
Supervisor Kyle Gowin
Manager Linda Vavra

Designated Alternate

Commissioner Doyle Sperr **[Absent]**
Sup. Odell Christenson **[Absent]**
Com. Lee Rogness **[Absent]**
Supervisor Richard Viger **[Absent]**
Commissioner Neil Wiese **[Absent]**
Supervisor Debbie Anderson **[Absent]**
Commissioner Kevin Leininger **[Absent]**
Supervisor Carol Johnson
Commissioner Dennis Larson **[Absent]**
Supervisor Josh Deal **[Absent]**
Manager Allen Wold **[Absent]**

Also Present

Pete Waller, BWSR
Julie Westerlund, BWSR
Jamie Beyer, BdSWD
Kris Guentzel, HEI
Matt Jacobson, HEI

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Introductions**
- 3. Approve Last Meeting's Minutes**

Upon motion by Lindquist, seconded by Vavra and carried unanimously, the Minutes of March 7, 2019 were approved.

- 4. Recommend for Approval Claims**

Upon motion by Monson, seconded by Vavra and carried unanimously, \$8,514.00 was recommended to BdSWD for payment. HEI has developed a monthly financial report that describes task completion and billing progress; figures through April 24, 2018 were presented.

- 5. Updates (Public Kickoff Meeting; 60-Day Notification)**

Guentzel presented HEI's analysis of the results of the Wendell and Wheaton Public Kick-Off meetings.

Big Takeaways (Issues and Issue Themes):

1. Issues related to drainage by far most important (46% of votes in both watersheds).

2. After Drainage, issues within Erosion and Sedimentation, Flooding, and Land Use Management issue themes had the next most votes.
3. Overall, less votes for issues related to Groundwater, Habitat, and Surface Water Quality issue themes.
4. Voting patterns were generally consistent across major watersheds.
5. Top 10 issues were related to Drainage, Erosion and Sedimentation, and Flooding:
 - 1 Drainage system inadequacy
 - 2 Sediment loading to surface waters
 - 3 Out of date benefit determinations
 - 4 Protect and improve agricultural land productivity
 - 5 Flood damage to farmland, homesteads, and public infrastructure surrounding farmland.
 - 6 Flood damage to communities and public infrastructure
 - 7 Drainage system records modernization and standardization
 - 8 Drainage system instability
 - 9 Inadequate funding for conservation practices
 - 10 Unstable river and stream channels

Collectively these 10 issues received nearly 90% of all votes cast by citizens.

6. Issue Prioritization by Planning Region & Process

Nearly a full Steering Committee attended the April 15th committee meeting to prioritize issues by planning region. Policy Committee re-reviewed each issue ranking and suggested changes. Next, the issues will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee and finalized by the Steering Committee in June.

7. Land and Water Resources Inventory

Committee members were presented with the first draft of the Land and Water Resources Inventory.

8. Plan Section 1: Introduction

Committee members reviewed the draft introduction.

9. Measurable Goals Process

Guentzel advised committee members to consider “short-term” as projects requiring 10 years or less; “long-term” require more than 10 years. Issues with a High or Medium ranking will later be assigned goals, and goals will need to be easily measurable. HEI provided an example fact sheet, which will be developed for each issue. The fact sheets will list measurable goals, background and history for each issue.

10. Bus Tour

Policy Committee members discussed the option of a district bus tour or a virtual tour. Committee members requested that the Steering Committee coordinate a physical tour, if the budget permits and time can be found at the end of August.

**NEXT POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING: JULY 15, 1 PM
AT THE BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED. A NOTICE WILL BE SENT BY EMAIL.**