

Meeting Minutes
Bois de Sioux and Mustinka Watersheds
1W1P [Policy](#) Committee
December 3, 2020 at 1:00 pm
PHONE CONFERENCE CALL & ONLINE SCREENSHARE & IN PERSON

<u>Member Organizations</u>	<u>Committee Representative</u>	<u>Designated Alternate</u>
Big Stone County	Commissioner Jay Backer [Absent]	
Big Stone SWCD	Supervisor Dan Morrill	
Grant County	Commissioner Bill LaValley	Commissioner Doyle Sperr
Grant SWCD	Supervisor Randy Larson	Sup. Odell Christenson [Absent]
Otter Tail County	Commissioner John Lindquist	Com. Lee Rogness [Absent]
West Otter Tail SWCD	Supervisor John Walkup	Supervisor Richard Viger
Stevens County	Commissioner Ron Staples	Commissioner Neil Wiese [Absent]
Stevens SWCD	Supervisor Greg Fynboh	Supervisor Debbie Anderson [Absent]
Traverse County	Commissioner Tom Monson	Commissioner Kevin Leininger [Absent]
Traverse SWCD	Supervisor Chester Raguse [Absent]	Supervisor Carol Johnson [Absent]
Wilkin County	Commissioner Eric Klindt	Commissioner Dennis Larson [Absent]
Wilkin SWCD	Supervisor Kyle Gowin	Supervisor Josh Deal [Absent]
Bois de Sioux Watershed	Manager Linda Vavra	Manager Allen Wold [Absent]

Also Present

Henry Van Offelen, BWSR

Pete Waller, BWSR

Ben Underhill, EOT SWCD **[Absent]**

Brad Mergens, WOT SWCD

Greg Lillemon, Grant County **[Absent]**

Jared House, Grant County SWCD **[Absent]**

Lynn Siegel, Traverse County **[Absent]**

Rachel Olm, HEI **[Absent]**

Jeremiah Jazdzewski, HEI **[Absent]**

Jamie Beyer, BdSWD* -> I have forgotten to include myself on all Policy Committee meeting minutes since April 23, 2018?!

1. Call to order

2. Approve Last Meeting's Minutes & Claims

Walkup motioned, seconded by Klindt, to approve the November 19, 2020 minutes. Motion carried. Lindquist motioned, seconded by Morrill, to approve the claim from HEI for \$2,852.25. Motion carried.

3. Approve Agenda

LaValley motioned, seconded by Vavra, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

4. Review Public Hearing Comments

Hearings were held in Graceville, Campbell, and on Zoom. No public comments were submitted.

5. Approve Plan Submission to BWSR, Conditional Upon LGU Approval & Update on LGU Resolutions

Policy Committee members reviewed the anticipated dates of LGU plan approval. Two SWCD's have already granted approval; the remaining LGU's are scheduled to take board action in December, prior to December 23rd. No changes were made to the plan following the public comment hearings. Klindt motioned, seconded by LaValley to approve the plan for state submission, contingent upon LGU approval. LaValley asked if cash would need to be advanced prior to receiving grant funds. Waller explained that, after a grant agreement is signed, 50% of the grant is disbursed. When that has been expended, 40% is disbursed. The final 10% is disbursed once the project is closed. The SWCD's are very familiar with restrictions associated with BWSR grants (such as not expending funds until after the grant agreement is signed and dated). Vavra relayed that the Bois de Sioux Watershed District will serve as fiscal host if no other LGU's are interested. Roll call vote: Morrill – aye; LaValley – aye; Larson – aye; Lindquist – aye; Walkup – aye; Staples – aye; Fynboh – aye; Monson – aye; Klindt – aye; Gowin – aye; Vavra – aye. Motion carried.

6. Implementation Progress

Waller stated that, in order to ensure that we protect our best chance at receiving watershed-based implementation funds under anticipated state cuts, before February 26, 2021 we need:

- To present the plan to the BWSR NW Region Committee on January 6, 2021
- LGU's to approve resolutions to adopt and implement the plan
- LGU's to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for implementation
- Steering Committee to prepare a Biennial Workplan, for approval by the Policy Committee

The adoption/implementation resolutions must be passed in Jan/Feb. The MOA must be signed by LGU's in Jan/Feb. The Policy will approve the Biennial Workplan in February. The Steering Committee has assembled subcommittees to create a presentation for BWSR, review the MOA and coordinate any county attorney changes, and to organize LGU requests for grant funds.

Policy Committee members will be notified of the online January 6th meeting with the BWSR NW Regional Committee; attendance is highly encouraged. Policy Committee members will be notified of when the MOA draft is forwarded to county attorneys – we will have a tight turnaround for changes. The Biennial Workplan will be forwarded to the Policy Committee once it is finalized.

After March 1st, there will be a number of formal documents to review and approve, but the above are absolutely necessary to protect our watershed-based implementation funding allocation.

NEXT POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING: January 7th at 1:00 PM