

Sauk River Watershed One Plan Policy Committee

Meeting #4 Notes

August 1, 2018; 9:00 AM; Business Center, MN National Bank, Sauk Center, MN

In attendance were:

Policy Committee:

Ken Rutten (Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District)
Cody Rogahn (Pope County Commissioner)
Gary Reents (Pope Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor)
Randy Neumann (Todd County Commissioner)
Tom Williamson (Todd Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor)
Chuck Uphoff (Stearns Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor)
Steve Notch (Stearns County Commissioner)
Tyler Carlson (Sauk River Watershed District Manager)

Steering Committee:

Scott Henderson (Sauk River Watershed District)
Ralph Hanson (Pope County Land and Resource Management)
Cole Loewen (Stearns County Environmental Services)
Tara Ostendorf (MN Board of Water and Soil Resources)

Chuck Uphoff facilitated the meeting. Scott Henderson was note taker.

Purpose of the meeting was to finalize the selection of the consulting firm to aid in the creation of the Sauk River 1W1P. The following consulting firms attended and performed mock stakeholder meetings and discussed the differences between the Sauk River WD Comprehensive Plan and the requirements of BWSR's 1W1P.

EOR as presented by Patrick Conrad and Camilla Correll

RESPEC as presented by Julie Blackburn

Prior to the mock stakeholder meetings, there was a discussion lead by Tara Ostendorf concerning what type of plan the committee wanted: a more technical plan or a plan that citizens could read and understand? The group as a whole wanted a plan that had usability but that still contained the technical aspects. The main plan is to be user friendly but that all of the technical information would be within appendices. A discussion concerning how to get public input was had with story maps and other visual aids being of importance to the group.

EOR conducted a mock stakeholder meeting and discussed how a public involvement / advisory committee input session would look and function. They also presented a poster looking at the differences between the SRWD Comp. Plan and 1W1P plan requirements. After the mock meeting and presentation, EOR fielded questions from the committee including how to get the public involved, how facilitation between different committees, balance of the plan, storage of finished products

RESPEC presented how they handle input and discussed at length the difference between the requirements of the 1W1P and the SRWD Comp Plan. After the presentation, Julie fielded questions concerning how do you frame the plan, how do we get public involvement, how do you approach outreach and how do you pool information.

After discussion from the policy committee on the pros and cons of each firm, Cody Rogahn made a motion to hire RESPEC as the consultant. Ken Rutten seconded the motion. All voted aye, no nays. Motion passed to hire RESPEC.

Scott Henderson will put out a Doodle Poll to schedule the next meeting (end of August) for grant work plan and budget approval.

Ken Rutten moved to adjourn. Tom Williamson seconded the motion. All voted aye to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.