



Sauk River CWMP

Implementation Team Meeting

MEETING INFORMATION

Date and Location: July 26th, 2023; Sauk River Watershed District

Time: 9AM to noon

Invitees: Dave Rush, Danielle Anderson, Jerome Haggemiller, Ralph Hanson, Holly Kovarik, Becky Schlorf, Cole Loewen, Dennis Fuchs, Stephanie Hatzenbihler, Deja Anton, Kyle Weimann, Lisa Vollbrecht, Kyle Blazek, Jon Roeschlein, Adam Ossefoort, Jason Weinerman, Brad Wozney, Adam Hjelm, Steve Zeece III

Attendees: **In person:** Jon Roeschlein, Jason Weinerman, Kyle Blazek, Adam Ossefoort, Lisa Vollbrecht, Danielle Anderson, Stephanie Hatzenbihler, Becky Schlorf, Adam Hjelm, Steve Zeece III

Online:

Meeting Notes

Previous meeting notes:

- No revisions to previous notes.

Other:

Review of submitted projects:

- Danielle Anderson, Douglas SWCD Provided an overview of the Osakis/Crooked Lake Bus Tour. This tour is an education effort targeted toward landowners but the invitation may be extended to the LSOHF Council & Staff, and LGU Staff. Tour is scheduled for Sept 7, 2023, from 9am-3pm.
- Crooked lake is a non-existent lake, drained by JD2 system. Within Osakis priority management area.

~~Next Biennial Workplan: Must be complete at least one week prior to Policy Committee on August 17th.~~

- We received notice the next biennium preliminary budget is \$1.212865 million, though unlikely, is subject to change at the next BWSR board meeting which occurs on August 24th, after the Policy Committee meeting.
- The group discussed and agreed the final DRAFT workplan will be delayed until the 4th quarter Policy Committee meeting in November.
- Discussion around adding in projects to the spreadsheet with the new preliminary budget amount of \$1.2.
 - Some concern over having to continue to make budget cuts, which this group has already spend considerable time doing.
 - Instead of adding projects, it was suggested by Stearns SWCD that we increase the project development amount to \$80k which is \$16k per Collaborative Member. The group agreed.
- Roeschlein suggested adding funds back into the City of St. Cloud Streetsweeper fund. The original request was \$150k, the group agreed to add \$75K back into this line item.



- Roeschlein asked the group to add notes into the table regarding which other projects they'd like added back into the workplan, how much they would cost, which will be discussed at next month's meeting.
- Group will add projects back into the spreadsheet at the August meeting to balance with the DRAFT budget amount.

[2022.05.20 - Sauk River CWMP Prioritization Scheme Spreadsheet for Biennial Workplan.xlsx](#)

MPCA Tableau Instructions:

- Pollutant reduction in MPCA Tableau is to be calculated from **HUC 12**. The following process was agreed to be followed in selecting the parameters for reduction estimates:
 - Standards for using MPCA's Watershed Pollutant Reduction Calculator (using Tableau software)
 - **Select a watershed** = Sauk
 - **Select a pollutant** = user decides
 - **Select pollutant delivery point** = Subwatershed Outlet (HUC12)
 - **In the map**, select the HUC12 subwatershed the activity will be located in.
 - **Enter acres of new BMPs below** = user decides
 - Note: User must enter the # of acres based on the number of acres treated by the activity, not the size of the activity.
- Pollutant reduction inputs and outputs should be screenshotted and saved in case BWSR identifies a significant outlier at the time of submittal.

Spreadsheet work continued

- Roeschlein reduced the Collaborative request from 10% of WBIF Allocation for each Citizen Norm Messaging and Initial Contact, Actions, and Activities with landowners, to 5%.
- Initial Contact, Actions, and Activities with landowners, it is expected the collaborators will focus efforts within the priority Management Units where possible. Each collaborator will have equal share of final allocated amount, to use for project development.
- No further work will be done on the activity's spreadsheet before the July meeting as there is potential that the WBIF Allocation could increase.

The group agreed to keep the existing targeting approach, the same as last biennium. The targeting approach can be referenced on the 3rd and 4th tabs of the [2022.05.20 - Sauk River CWMP Prioritization Scheme Spreadsheet for Biennial Workplan.xlsx](#).

General updates:

- Project Tracking Tool Progress
 - Stearns will begin development in late September.
- Outreach and Education
 - Preliminary report is complete. Final report is expected at the July meeting.
 - Discussion around extending survey(s) to residents that aren't landowners/ag producers, to gain information most representative of the population in the watershed in order to best allocate our E/O efforts.
- Crooked Lake/JD2
 - Finalizing agreement with USACE for Alternatives Analysis in the Crooked Lake area to identify specific project sites with the highest return on investment.



- We have met with USDA-NRCS Staff out of Fergus Falls to discuss expanding the project along Crooked lake site 3 along branch 6 (south of CR73) to include the NRCS easement north of 73 by moving the outlet structure north.
 - Next Steps are to meet with the Douglas co highway dept, the landowner, and OHC staff to determine funding eligibility for work within the ROW
- Getchell Creek
 - Landowner meetings were complete on July 21st. out of the 9 landowners along the lower portion of the creek, below Getchell Lake, 7 landowners are in support of the project to restore the habitat within the creek/ditch, which will incidentally provide stabilization through mimicking nature.
 - Next step is the determine a source a funding and strategy for easementing the land adjacent to the ditch. Stream re-meandering will expand the footprint of the ditch from roughly 70ft to 270 ft.
- CRP Incentives Pilot Program- BWSR program to encourage landowners to enroll in CRP.
 - Sauk has a 30k allocation available
 - Partnership would apply, with Stearns County ESD as fiscal agent. Would require amendment to the Fiscal Agent Agreement and/or Collaborative agreement to allow an organization other than Stearns ESD to manage the funds. Must be approved by Policy Committee on August 17th.
 - SRWD will coordinate a Joint TAC/PC meeting to discuss and take action on this.
 - Once CRP payment term ends, land is then permanently enrolled and protected by RIM easement, which would make it eligible for Outdoor Heritage Funding if used along Getchell Creek.
- Fiscal Updates
 - Fiscal agent referred the team to the share point site as the fiscal report is posted there. This report was provided to the Policy Committee at their last meeting.
- BSWR Update (From June meeting)
 - CWF grant programs are in the BWSR approval process. Once approved by the BWSR Board, the application period will be open until August 24, and awarded at the December BWSR Board meeting.
 - Competitive Grants Available: Project and Practices grants and Drinking Water Projects and Practices.
 - Match amount decreased from 25% to 10%.

Close out and next meeting (Aug 23rd, 2023)