



Sauk River CWMP

Implementation Team Meeting

MEETING INFORMATION

Date and Location: August 23rd, 2023; Sauk River Watershed District

Time: 9AM to noon

Invitees: Dave Rush, Danielle Anderson, Jerome Haggemiller, Ralph Hanson, Holly Kovarik, Becky Schlorf, 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, Danielle Anderson, Stephanie Hatzenbihler, Adam Hjelm, Steve Zeece III, Jon Roeschlein, Deja Anton

Online: Brad Wozney

Meeting Notes

Previous meeting notes:

- No revisions to previous notes.

Other: Discussion around 2011 landslide event on the Sauk River Chain of lakes.

Review of submitted projects:

- Friedrich's Shoreline Project:
 - The group reviewed and approved the project request.
 - Fiscal Agent can now encumber the funds.
 - Coordinator (SRWD) will formally approve in the SharePoint site.
 - 90 days to expend funds. If that is not possible an extension can be requested.
 - Discussion around adjacent landowners' buffer project and/or lack thereof.

Next Biennial Workplan: Must be complete at least one week prior to Policy Committee on November.

- We received notice the next biennium budget is \$1.212865 million.
- 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.

[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
 - Final report is complete
- Crooked Lake/JD2
 - Agreements are complete with the United States Army Corp of Engineers for the PAS Study. Kick-off meeting scheduled for middle September.
 - 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.
 - Met with the Douglas co highway dept and discussed work within the Road ROW.
 - Next steps are meeting 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 to determine a source of funding and strategy to easement the land adjacent to the river. Stream re-meandering will expand the footprint of the ditch from roughly 70ft to 270 ft.
 - Public hearing for proposed funding source (Outdoor Heritage Fund) scheduled for 8/30/2023 at the Capitol in St. Paul.
- 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.

Close out and next meeting (September 27th, 2023)