



Sauk River Comprehensive Watershed Collaborative

Policy Committee meeting

May 15th, 2025 1-3 pm

Sauk River Watershed District Office

In attendance:

Policy Committee & Alternates: Bill Becker (SRWD), Randy Neumann (Todd Co), Tom Williamson (Todd SWCD), D. Gary Reents (Pope SWCD), Ken Rutten (Douglas SWCD), Paul Wildman (Pope Co), Jerry Rapp (Douglas Co), Steve Notch (Stearns Co), Tom Gregory (Stearns SWCD).

Implementation Team & EO Committee: Steve Zeece III (SRWD), Jason Weinerman (BWSR), Abi Parker (SRWD), Becky Schlorf (Stearns Cnty Env), Angela Beckman (Stearns Cnty Env) Kory Klebe (SRWD), Deja Anton(Todd Co/SWCD), .

Others: Nicky Blake- Bradley (MNDNR Area Hydro), Alli Schugel (SRWD), Brenna Moen (SRWD).

Meeting called to order by Chairman Notch at 1:00 pm

- Introductions were given by those in attendance.

Election of Officers for 2025

Chair- Steve Notch, Stearns County. (Motion to nominate by Reents, second by Rapp)

Vice Chair- Randy Neumann, Todd County. (Motion to nominate by Wildman, Second by Rapp)

Secretary- Bill Becker- SRWD. (Motion to nominate by Notch, second by Rapp)

Review of previous meeting minutes & agenda Additions:

- Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting by Wildman, second by Rapp
 - All in favor
- Motion to approve agenda by Williamson, second by Gregory.
 - All in favor

Quarterly Fiscal Agent report

- Angela Beckman, Stearns County, provided a fiscal report/update, detailing expenses and encumbrances from each of the 11 WBIF Grant Objectives.
- Becky Schlorf, Stearns County reported we have received the fy25 CRP grant agreement from BWSR
- Fiscal Agent Report approved upon motion by Wildman. Second by Reents. All in favor.
- Following are the budget summary pages from this meeting packet for both the FY2022 and FY 2024 WBIF grants



WATERSHED BASED IMPLEMENTATION FUNDS and SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS							As of March 31, 2025 - updated 4/11/2025			
Budget & Expense Report							FY22-23 Grant Required Match is 10%			
FY2022-2023							\$ 113,682.10			
This budget & expense report reflects allocations & encumbrances processed by the fiscal agent, as well as actual expenditures paid. See "Object7-11 Details" sheet for details on allocations & encumbrances. See "Expense Tracker" for more information.										
WBIF GRANT ACTIVITY	SOURCE	GRANT BUDGET	SUM OF ALLOCATIONS + ENCUMBRANCES	SUM OF ACTUAL EXPENDITURES PAID TO DATE	ALLOCATIONS/ ENCUMBRANCES + ACTUALS	BUDGET REMAINING	PERCENT SPENT & ENCUMBERED	BUDGETED WBIF MATCH	COMMITTED WBIF MATCH	ACTUAL WBIF MATCH TO DATE
Objective 1: Admin/Coord	WBIF State Grant	\$ 93,731.80		\$ 77,240.82		\$ 16,490.98	2%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 2: Project Development	WBIF State Grant	\$ 51,583.38		\$ 50,569.16		\$ 1,014.22	98%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 3: Supplies/Equipment	WBIF State Grant	\$ 16,000.00		\$ -		\$ 16,000.00	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 4: Planning/Assessment	WBIF State Grant	\$ 260,389.47		\$ 193,531.77		\$ 66,857.70	74%	\$ 175,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 5: Education/Information	WBIF State Grant	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 6,200.00	\$ 26,356.30	\$ 32,556.30	\$ 17,443.70	65%	\$ 3,808.53	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 4,865.58
Objective 6: Technical/Engineering	WBIF State Grant	\$ 117,997.74		\$ 28,562.39		\$ 89,435.35	24%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 7: Agricultural Practices	WBIF State Grant	\$ 195,810.08	\$ 74,468.50	\$ 8,887.00	\$ 83,155.50	\$ 112,654.58	42%	\$ 24,200.00	\$ 19,589.00	\$ 19,569.00
Objective 8: Conservation Drainage	WBIF State Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 9: Livestock Waste Management	WBIF State Grant	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	100%	\$ 6,250.00	\$ 7,375.00	\$ -
Objective 10: Non-Structural Management Practices	WBIF State Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 25,437.50	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 11: Streambank or Shoreland Protection	WBIF State Grant	\$ 316,308.53	\$ 88,323.25	\$ 111,498.53	\$ 199,821.78	\$ 116,486.75	63%	\$ 62,491.09	\$ 58,116.09	\$ 42,052.22
Objective 13: Urban Stormwater Management	WBIF State Grant	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	100%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL		\$ 1,136,821.00	\$ 178,991.75	\$ 521,445.97	\$ 700,437.72	\$ 436,383.28	62%	\$ 297,187.12	\$ 86,280.09	\$ 66,486.80
Interest Earned (not budgeted)		\$ 29,681.41								
								MATCH (actual)	\$ 66,486.80	
								DIFF (planned match)	\$ (230,700.32)	
								DIFF (required match)	\$ (47,195.30)	

As of April 11, 2025

FY24 Grant Required Match is 10%

\$ 121,286.50

WATERSHED BASED IMPLEMENTATION FUNDS

Budget & Expense Report

FY2024

This budget & expense report reflects allocations & encumbrances processed by the fiscal agent, as well as actual expenditures paid. See "Object7-11 Details" sheet for details on allocations & encumbrances. See "Expense Tracker" for more information.

WBIF GRANT ACTIVITY	SOURCE	GRANT BUDGET	SUM OF ALLOCATIONS + ENCUMBRANCES	SUM OF ACTUAL EXPENDITURES PAID TO DATE	ALLOCATIONS/ ENCUMBRANCES + ACTUALS	BUDGET REMAINING	PERCENT SPENT & ENCUMBERED	BUDGETED WBIF MATCH	COMMITTED WBIF MATCH	ACTUAL WBIF MATCH TO DATE
Objective 1: Admin/Coord	WBIF State Grant	\$ 52,190.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,190.00	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 2: Project Development	WBIF State Grant	\$ 80,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,244.61	\$ 76,755.39	4%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 3: Supplies/Equipment	WBIF State Grant	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,000.00	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 4: Planning/Assessment	WBIF State Grant	\$ 53,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,000.00	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 5: Education/Information	WBIF State Grant	\$ 80,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000.00	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 6: Technical/Engineering	WBIF State Grant	\$ 187,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 187,800.00	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 7: Agricultural Practices	WBIF State Grant	\$ 139,375.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 139,375.00	0%	\$ 34,843.75	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 9: Livestock Waste Management	WBIF State Grant	\$ 140,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 140,000.00	0%	\$ 35,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 10: Non-Structural Management Practices	WBIF State Grant	\$ 98,750.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 83,750.00	15%	\$ 24,687.50	\$ -	\$ -
Objective 11: Streambank or Shoreland Protection	WBIF State Grant	\$ 266,750.00	\$ 24,637.68	\$ -	\$ 24,637.68	\$ 242,112.32	9%	\$ 60,437.50	\$ 8,212.56	\$ -
Objective 12: Wetland Restoration	WBIF State Grant	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 17,550.00	\$ -	\$ 17,550.00	\$ 7,450.00	70%	\$ 6,250.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL		\$ 1,212,865.00	\$ 57,187.68	\$ -	\$ 60,432.29	\$ 1,152,432.71	5%	\$ 161,218.75	\$ 8,212.56	\$ -
Interest Earned (not budgeted)	\$ 24,727.09									
								MATCH (actual)	\$ -	
								DIFF (planned match)	\$ (161,218.75)	
								DIFF (required match)	\$ (121,286.50)	

Fy 2024 Workplan Revision/Rewrite

The Implementation Team informed to the Policy Committee of their intention to revise/rewrite the FY2024 workplan. This revision aims to expand its scope in order to minimize the need for reallocations and also open funding to areas that were not previously eligible under this workplan. Accompanying this meeting packet is a sample workplan from another WBIF-funded group for reference. According to the

table below from BWSR's Grants Administration Manual, any workplan revision involving amounts between \$50,000 and \$200,000 necessitates the approval of the BWSR Board Conservationist. For revisions exceeding \$200,000, a grant agreement amendment will be required, which must be signed by all Local Government Units (LGUs) that originally signed the agreement.

TABLE 1. Work Plan Budget Adjustments				
Action	Grants <\$50,000	Grants \$50,000 to \$500,000	Grants >\$500,000	Approval/Documentation Needed
Grantee Discretion	≤\$5,000	≤10% of the grant amount	≤\$50,000	Document change in eLINK grant reporting
Work Plan Revision	>\$5,000	>10% of the grant amount	>\$50,000	BC approval
Grant Agreement Amendment	≥\$20,000	≥40% of the grant amount	≥\$200,000	Executed grant agreement amendment

Headwaters of Vails Lake Feasibility Study

The SRWD on behalf of Stearns SWCD informed the policy committee of the Stearns SWCD's intent to reallocate funding in FY24 to support a feasibility study of the HSPF modeled sub-watershed A383 (Vails Lake) in Luxemburg Township of Stearns County and Forest Prairie Township of Meeker County. During heavy precipitation events flash flooding occurs at the crossings of County Road 164 and Luxemburg TWP Road 193rd Ave. Stearns SWCD anticipates reallocated funding would be sourced from the following objectives, all of which are currently allocated to Stearns SWCD.



- Objective 2 – Project Development: -\$2,000
- Objective 6 - Technical & Engineering: -\$9,000
- Objective 7 - Ag Practices: -\$10,000
- Objective 10 - Nonstructural: -\$37,250
- Objective 11 - Shoreland: -\$10,750
- Objective 12 - Wetland: -\$6,000
- **TOTAL \$75,000 to be reallocated to Objective 4 – Planning and Assessment**

Regulatory Review Update;

- With a copy of the Contractor's draft memorandum, SRWD's Zeece provided an update on the regulatory review.
- SRWD and/or contractor are following up with Todd County to ensure all necessary information has been acquired and interpretations of their ordinances are accurate and will update the draft memo that is included with this meeting packet, which will summarize all of the gaps and overlaps within the Sauk River Watershed.
- Following completion of task 1, the Contractor will utilize the information from the 1st task to assess the function of local regulations, and an in-person meeting with all local regulatory staff will be held to gather feedback on the report.

Project Highlight- Frericks Pit Closure- Deja Anton, Todd County & SWCD provided a detailed presentation on the importance of ag waste pit compliance and closures of noncompliant sites. Todd SWCD recently completed the Frerick's pit closure in Birchdale Township which is east adjacent to Big Sauk Lake. This site has hydrology (intermittent stream) connected with Big Sauk Lake.

Chris Frericks Pit Closure

Location Information		Project Information	
Parcel Number	03-0032500	Project Type	Engineered
Township Name	Birchdale	Practice Types	Waste Facility Closure
TWP, Range, Section	T127N R33W Sec 23	Project Codes	360
Major Watershed	Sauk River	Field Technicians	Tim Ebnet
Minor Watershed	16034 Sauk Lake	Engineering Assistance	Dylan Pratt

Resource Concern and Project Purpose Description

Intermittent Stream approx. 530' north and west of unused manure pit. Intermittent stream has connectivity to Sauk Lake. 5,500' flow distance to Sake Lake which is impaired for nutrients.

Funding Information

Low Bid		Cost Share	
\$29,500.00		75%	\$22,125.00
Final Invoice (s)	\$35,000.00	Cost Share Payment Amount	\$25,000.00
Funding Source	FY22 WBIF SRW		\$25,000.00

Final invoice came in higher than bid due to increased amount of solid manure/sludge in the bottom of the pit. This resulted in higher than anticipated excavation and application charges. The Sauk River 1W1P had \$25,000.00 set aside for this project. The project was not anticipated to use all this money, but due to the increase in project cost, an amendment is being pursued to obtain all \$25,000.00. This would result in a cost share payment of approx. 71%.

Reductions

Nitrogen	11mg/L
Fecal Coliform	2.38E+15 CFU
Phosphorus	7 mg/L

Reduction Notes

Reductions spreadsheet.



Chris Frericks Pit Closure, submitted by Tim Ebnet, 12/5/2023

Open Discussion-

- A member of the policy committee inquired about the status and next steps for the Lake Osakis Alternatives Analysis.
 - SRWD's Zeece stated the next step in the study will be the stakeholder workshop which is scheduled for 4 hours in the City of Osakis on July 8th. This meeting, facilitated by US Army Corp Staff area stakeholders, will involve incorporation up to 50 projects/practices into the lake response model to determine how the lake will react. These fifty will be ranked down by stakeholder to the top ten options

Closeout and Next Meeting

At 2:45 pm, Becker Motioned to Adjourn the meeting, with second from Williamson.

Next Meeting Date- 5/15/2025 1-3 pm