## Policy Committee Meeting North Fork Crow River

One Watershed One Plan

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 9:00 am – 11:00 am Location: Zoom Mtg

Facilitator: L. Johnson

Invitees: Policy Committee Members (all meetings are open to the public)

Attendees: Robert Hodapp, John Hanson, Randy Pederson, Chuck Uphoff, Doug Hanson, Jeff Mergen, John Haffley, Larry Lindor, Mary Wetter, Roger Imdieke, & Doug Krueger

TAC: Dennis Fuchs, Cris Skonard, Cole Loewen, Holly Kovarik, Ryan Peterson, Andy Johnson, Luke Johnson, Margaret Johnson

## **NOTES**

TOPIC			
Review Agenda	Jeff Burns started the meeting at 9:02 a.m.  Motion made by Chuck Uphoff to approve the agenda as presented. Second by John Hanson.  Discussion: Doug Kruger and Chuck Uphoff would like to not complete a roll call vote to save time. Motion carries.		
Introduction of New Members	Luke Johnson asked all members to introduce themselves.  Mary Wetter is the new County Commissioner and was a prior Wright SWCD Board member.		
Election of Officers Chair Vice-Chair Secretary	Bob Hodapp would like to nominate Jeff Burns for Chair. Second by John Hanson. Discussion: Jeff Burns would ask moving the engagement to another County. Jeff Burns would like to nominate Roger Imdieke as the Chair. Second by Larry Lindor for Roger Imdieke nomination. Discussion: Doug Krueger would like to remind folks that the Chair be interested. Roger could serve with the understanding if the communication remains open. Roger Imdieke withdraws his nomination. Jeff Burns would accept the nomination. Roger Imdieke moved that we close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jeff Burns as Chair. Second by Doug Kruger. Motion passes unanimous. Election the Vice Chair: Jeff Burns took nominations. Doug Krueger nominated Roger Imdieke. Second by John Hanson. Larry Lindor moved that nomination be closed and cast a unanimous ballot. Second by Doug Hanson. Motion passes unanimous. Jeff Burns added Secretary to the Election of Officers. Election of a Secretary: Jeff Burns took nominations for Secretary. John Hanson nominates Bob Hodapp for the Secretary position. Second by Chuck Uphoff. Doug Krueger moved that we close nomination and cast a unanimous ballot. Second by Doug Hanson. Motion passes unanimous.		
Overview of the History of 1W1P	Margaret Johnson made a presentation about the history of 1W1P. Chuck Uphoff asked about well-sealing. Luke J. follow up about the prioritization of funding.		
Introduction of Moore as Plan Consultant	Luke Johnson made a presentation to introduce Moore.		
Review FY18-19 WBIF annual report	Luke Johnson presented major activities were Structural Activities for the FY18 funding. All the items in the FY18 were presented: 34 water and sediment control basins, 29 grade stabilization structures, 116 acres cover crops, 2 grassed waterways, 1 sediment basin. 986 pounds of sediment and 957 pounds nutrient reduction.		

	55% Grant, 22% leverage, and 24% match.	
	There are a few projects left before the grant is permitted to be closed.	
Review FY20-21 WBIF biennial work plan.	The FY20 Work Plan includes: Drinking water protection, Agricultural BMPs, Agricultural Nonstructural BMPs, Project Development, Data Gaps, Educational Activities, Grant Management. So far, no project monies have been encumbered.	
ofenniai work plan.	Luke Johnson showed the targeted priorities areas and how the staff will get the work	
Overview of the work plan, roles, anticipated	done.  Luke Johnson also presented the anticipated challenges that will face the group,	
actions Discuss PC role in	including the "assurance and evaluation" for the pilot watershed.  Bob Hodapp asked about the role and where the fit is with the future of the Policy	
annual review process	Committee. How often is necessary to be meeting? Discussion took place regarding an extra layer of government.	
Meeting Schedule	Jeff Burns requested the group not make changes to the by-laws right now and shifted focus to the actual accomplishments of the plan. He recommended after this year, consider making changes to the Policy Committee.	
	Larry Lindor stated the final decision of the money should be with the Policy Committee.	
	Doug Krueger would like the Policy Committee to give the final say on where the dollars are spent.	
	Bob Hodapp all the projects are approved by local government entities anyway. It is not like there isn't already oversight on the dispersal of the funds.	
	Jeff Burns said, if we represent the public, we need to reach out to the public. The Policy Committee should continue with the Quarterly meetings and leave everything in place for this follow year.	
	Margaret Johnson and Luke Johnson brought up the issue of timing for effective and efficient spending on projects.	
	Jeff Burns noted time can be a significant factor in the projects being built. Once the COVID-19 state of emergency expires, then we will be able to meet again in person.	
	Chuck Uphoff suggested any project of \$50,000, or anything under a certain number established by this group, that the chair and the vice chair can sign off on and then the PC can talk about the project at the Quarterly meetings.	
	Roger Imdieke asked if this issue could be fixed and authorize using a resolution.	
	Larry Lindor would like BWSR to weigh in on the governance of the Policy Committee.	
	Jeff Burns offered to explore the PC and TAC efficiencies with BWSR.	
	Chuck Uphoff would like to ask the TAC.	
	Cole Loewen – The TAC discussed the \$50,000 review and discussed the need to change to make things less cumbersome. The project approval by the PC creates a timeline issue with project implementation and raises questions of redundancy. The local boards are authorizing as well as the Fiscal Agent of the grant, in this case Wright SWCD. The current way is not achieving the purposes. The TAC said it could be stricken, best case scenario or raise the threshold—which is also somewhat arbitrary. TAC has concerns that this is causing timing issues to make the funding round in April.	

Jeff Burns: Let us start with a call to BWSR. And adding an approval committee to have a group meet as a subcommittee by phone might help things along if the project approval remained intact. Jeff Burns will work with BWSR to see what they suggest.

Jeff Mergen suggested an emergency meeting for project approval when there is a project timeline issue.

Bob Hodapp asked why \$50,000 was set in the first place.

Margaret Johnson reminded the PC originally the PC wanted to approve all projects, but for the smaller projects the staff felt comfortable enough moving forward with projects. Now that 2 years of successful implementation have proven an issue with timeline of efficient implementation.

Chuck Uphoff – All of these projects are coming from the WD and SWCD, they are being approved by their local board already.

Doug Krueger – understands the argument however, the County Commissioners are the founders of this money. The County is the conduit to the money. The County is the founder of the plan and the money. Doug Krueger wouldn't be willing to relinquish an oversite on these boards [committees], because that's where it started from, it started from County commissioners and that's where it should stay. Doug Kreuger said Government isn't supposed to be streamlined.

Prior to the next meeting Jeff Burns will explore what other watersheds have done and what BWSR would favor. And will address the \$50,000.

The next meeting would be June 2, 2021.

Motion made by Chuck Uphoff and second by Bob Hodapp to set the Policy committee meetings for the following dates: June 2, 2021, September 1, 2021, and December 1, 2021. Motion carries.

Additional Items

No additional items were presented.

Jeff Burns adjourns the meeting 10:32 a.m.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

POLICY COMMITTEE	TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Policy committee meetings will be held: June 2, 2021	Standing meetings will be scheduled for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, from 9 am-12 pm.
September 1, 2021 December 1, 2021	Meetings will be cancelled if no discussion/decisions are needed.
	March 18, 2021 August 19, 2021
	April 15, 2021 September 16, 2021
	May 20, 2021 October 21, 2021
	June 17, 2021 November 18, 2021
	July 15, 2021 December 16, 2021