

Sand Hill River 1W1P
Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 9th, 2023
Sand Hill River Watershed District, Fertile, MN

Policy Committee Members: Don Andringa (SHRWD), Pete Revier (Mahnomens SWCD), Eric Rockstad (Norman SWCD), Chris Cournia (West Polk SWCD), and Joan Lee (Polk County Commissioner)

Staff: Nicole Bernd (West Polk SWCD), Rachel Klein (East Polk SWCD), Aaron Neubert (Mahnomens SWCD), and April Swenby (SHRWD)

BWSR Staff: Henry Van Offelen & Brett Arne

Consultant: Moriya Rufer (Houston Engineering)

Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Andringa: 3:02pm

Section 4: Measurable Goals. Approve the plan section. Motion by Pete Revier, Second by Joan Lee. Motion carried unanimously.

Implementation Structure Discussion:

Brett presented on the implementation of the 1W1P and the difference between agreement vs Joint Powers entity. Ping Pong Ball Example.

3 Basic Implementation for 1W1P

- Individual Grant Agreements
 - o The grant dollars are divided amongst all entities. All entities have our own grant agreement and workplan with BWSR. Money cannot be shared or is difficult to do so.
 - o Not recommended by BWSR and no other watershed has done it.
- MOA for Implementation (Collaboration)
 - o Very similar to how we are operating now. We work as a group on the work plan. We need a policy committee, fiscal agent, and coordinator. We work together, money can be moved around as needed with work plan revision.
 - o This is how majority of the plans operate and is how it was intended to be.
- Joint Powers Board
 - o New entity/level of government. Only as strong as your weakest link, in this case, SWCD's have the most restrictive operations, i.e., no tax authority. A delegate from each individual board is selected and this delegate has decision making power on this new board. The JPB board has final say. Individual boards would have no say.
 - o Must have its own bank account and insurance.

Next Steps:

- Internal review: comments received and handled. Usually lots of comments
- 60-day formal review: too all state and federal agencies
- 14 days after the formal review you are required to hold a public hearing, hopefully for November.

- After the hearing all entities will go to their boards to approve supporting the plan.

Next Meeting June 13th at 3pm

Motion to adjourn at 3:55pm by Joan Lee, Second by Chris Cournia. Motion carried unanimously.

David Andringa 11-20-23
Secretary *Chair* Date