

CHIPPEWA RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Joint Powers Board Meeting– April 19, 2024

Pope County Courthouse Community Room **FIRST FLOOR** 9:15 to 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Mike Cleary, Rod Wenstrom, Keith Englund, Darin Hanson, Dale Anderson, Randy Mitteness, Matt Gilbertson, Norman Nissen, Donna Nissen, Andy Albertsen, Ken Johnson, Larry Mahoney, Robert Lahman, Mark Weimerskirch, Steve Friedlein, Stan Erdman, Tim Kannegger, Paul Gerde, Dennis Feuchtenberger, Brett Duncan, Jim Nelson, Brent Gulbrandson, Nicole Lundein, Reed Peterson, Zach Bothun, JoAnn Blomme, Ralph Hanson, Ron Staples, Ralph Peterson, and Rachel Olm

Agenda Item	Who	Action	Time
1. Welcome, Introductions, Open Public Hearing- Commissioner Staples called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Introductions were made of Joint Powers Board members and Technical Advisory Committee members in attendance.	Ron Staples Chair	-	5 min
2. Approval of Agenda- Keith Englund made a motion to approve the agenda and Mike Cleary seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.	Ron Staples Chair	Approval	1 min
3. Overview of One Watershed, One Plan-Commissioner Staples introduced Rachel Olm and turned over the meeting for her to give an overview. Rachel described the partnership and collaboration of the SWCDs and the Counties. She shared that this was not a watershed district and that this was a Joint Powers arrangement between the Counties and SWCDs that collaborated on this planning effort. She shared that the approving entity is the Joint Powers Board made up of elected Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors and County Commissioners from the 8 Counties. The group has been working on this plan since 2022. She shared some of the outreach efforts completed including the kickoff meeting which had over 90 people in attendance. She shared details about the bus tour, and pollinator-pints-and popcorn events held. She shared that there is a website now that has been created for the planning partnership. She then went into detail to describe the One Watershed One Plan program and the process that the group undertook. She explained that this is not a regulatory program but rather this will be funding available to focus on voluntary efforts. Rachel then described the types of projects and went into detail for a couple of the sections to explain how the plan prioritizes and targets implementation efforts.	Rachel Olm, HEI	5 min	
4. Overview of the Chippewa River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan	Rachel Olm, HEI		10 min
5. Summary of Formal Review Comments- She shared information about the comments received. She then provided context for the public comment portion of the meeting. Each person would have about 3 minutes to	Rachel Olm, HEI		2 min

speak about the plan and provide comments to the group.			
6. Invitation for Public Comment-There were no comments provided by the general public. The Joint Powers Board members asked several clarifying questions that Rachel and Holly Kovarik were able to answer regarding the plan and the next steps.	Rachel Olm, HEI Ron Staples, Chair		
7. Close Public Hearing-Commissioner Staples closed the public hearing and the board proceeded to complete the rest of their agenda items.	Ron Staples, Chair		
8. Approval of Minutes from March 15, 2024 JPB Meeting Rod Wenstrom made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Larry Mahoney seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.	Chair	Approval	1 min
9. Old Business-none			1 min
10. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Approve Chippewa River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan-Keith Englund made a motion to approve the plan and Mike Cleary seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. b. Review comments and resolutions from formal review and public hearing-there were no comments to respond to from the public hearing. c. Approve plan with revisions for BWSR Regional-Mark Weimerskirtch made a motion to approve the plan with revisions and authorized sending the plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for the next 120 review process. Rob Lehman seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. 			30 min
11. Treasurer Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Report March 2024-Matt Gilbertson made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented and Paul Gerde seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. b. No expenditures in March c. Approve Payments-Matt Gilbertson made a motion to authorize payments for Pope SWCD and Houston Engineering for 1st quarter when received and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. 	Holly K	Approval	15 min
12. Open Discussion/Agency Updates-Commissioner Staples provided some updates from the BWSR Board and the Drainage Workgroup meetings.	All	Discuss	5 min
13. Adjourn-The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. by Commissioner Staples.	Chair		