

# Minutes of the Cedar River 1W1P Policy Committee

Monday, March 27, 2017

Austin Public Library

**Policy Cmte. present:** Sue Olson, *CRWD* Dan Belshan, *Freeborn County* Paul Heers Jr., *Freeborn SWCD*  
Rhonda Toquam, *Dodge County* Jon Erichson, *Mower SWCD*

**Staff present:** Adam King, *Dodge SWCD* Dean Schrandt, *Dodge County* Tim Ruzek, *Mower SWCD*  
Nels Rasmussen, *City of Austin* Mark Schaetzke, *Freeborn SWCD* Dave Copeland, *BWSR*

Policy Committee Chair Sue Olson (*Cedar River Watershed District*) called to order at 1:03 PM the meeting of the Cedar River One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) Policy Committee. Introductions were made by the group.

Dan Belshan (*Freeborn County*) said he spoke with attorney John Kolb about Cedar River 1W1P and was advised by Kolb to make sure the Policy Committee votes to “advise” the fiscal agent, Mower SWCD, on fiscal decisions. Belshan said everything is “advise” because the Policy Committee does not make fiscal decisions.

## Meeting agenda

Olson reviewed the meeting agenda.

**ACTION:** Belshan made a motion to approve the agenda. Paul Heers Jr. (*Freeborn SWCD*) seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

## Minutes

Minutes for the March 2, 2017, meetings of the Cedar River 1W1P Planning Work Group (PWG) and Policy Committee were reviewed. PWG minutes will be information only. Policy Committee minutes require approval.

**ACTION:** Heers made a motion to approve the minutes. Rhonda Toquam (*Dodge County*) seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

## Old Business

### Grant work plan

PWG leader Adam King (*Dodge SWCD*) updated the committee on the Cedar River 1W1P grant work plan with changes made based on feedback from Policy members at the March 2 meeting and the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR). Dave Copeland (*BWSR*) said BWSR approved the Cedar River 1W1P work plan as presented, which was needed to start the grant-agreement process.

### Grant agreement

Olson reiterated that the Policy Committee needs to recommend approval by the fiscal agent Mower SWCD.

**ACTION:** Belshan made a motion to recommend that the fiscal agent, Mower SWCD, approve the grant agreement. Heers seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

### Consultant contract

King discussed the proposed consultant contract with Barr Engineering for creating the Cedar River 1W1P planning document. Staff will discuss with Barr Engineering two areas of concern expressed by Policy members about the contract: 1) language regarding copyright and use of the final plan; and 2) language regarding Barr’s liability for damages or mistakes through Cedar River 1W1P.

**ACTION:** Belshan made a motion to recommend that the fiscal agent, Mower SWCD, approve the consulting contract with Barr Engineering with the comments made for modifications to two sections of the contract. Heers seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

### Planning Work Group

Discussion on Cedar River 1W1P Planning Work Group, which needs to be appointed by the Policy Committee.

**ACTION:** Heers made a motion to approve the establishment of the Cedar River 1W1P Planning Work Group. Erichson seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

### **Advisory Committee**

Discussion of a proposed lineup for Cedar River 1W1P Advisory Committee to be appointed by the Policy Committee. Others can be appointed later. Suggestion made to add people who work with tiling and drainage.

**ACTION:** Erichson made a motion to approve the establishment of the Cedar River 1W1P Advisory Committee. Heers seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Public kickoff meeting**

King discussed the need for a Cedar River 1W1P public kickoff meeting. PWG proposed having the kickoff on Thursday, June 1, from 4 PM to 7 PM at Austin's Jay C. Hormel Nature Center. King said the kickoff would be mostly like an open house, with state agencies and local entities offering informational displays. There would be a few short presentations giving an overview on One Watershed, One Plan and the Cedar River Watershed.

#### **Structure for implementation**

Discussion on the need for selecting an implementation structure for the final Cedar River 1W1P plan. King asked Policy members to start thinking about options as they will need to choose one soon. He gave background on Root River 1W1P's process for selecting a structure.

#### **Next meeting**

The Policy Committee will meet at 1:00 PM on April 24 at Riverland Community College's west campus building in Austin. The preferred meeting site, Austin Public Library, is not available that date.

#### **Adjournment**

**ACTION:** Heers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve King (*City of Austin*) seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

Submitted by, *Tim Ruzek (Mower SWCD)*