



Type of Meeting: Shell Rock Winnebago One Watershed, One Plan Advisory Committee

Date: April 5, 2021

Time: 9:00- 11:00 AM

Location: Zoom call

Facilitator: Paul Marston, RESPEC

Attending: Dan Girolamo, DNR; Jennifer Ronnenberg, MDH; Emily Zanon, MCPA; Steven Jahnke, City of Albert Lea; Dave Copeland, BWSR; Shaina Keseley, BWSR; Holly Karsjens, CVB; Brenda Lageson, Freeborn SWCD; Chad Billet, Freeborn SWCD; Rachel Wehner, Freeborn County; Courtney Phillips, SRRWD; Andy Henschel, SRRWD; Dalton Syverson, City of Albert Lea

1. Introduction

- Courtney opened up the meeting and turned it over to Paul Marston, the Respec consultant.
- Paul started by going over the agenda and what he would like to accomplish for the meeting

2. Issue statement framework document

- Paul sent out the materials last week, the document included comments from the advisory committee that were highlighted and the responses by the steering team followed.
 - i. First was Goal 1 under issues statement A1. The second was under A2. Paul provided the background and no additional comments came up as a result. Under comment 3 and 4, Emily asked for more detail in using that approach to address the nitrogen. It might be a fairly easy goal to address because specific nitrogen reductions are listed in projects. She didn't think it would take a high level of effort to report nitrogen reductions and stated the draft report calls out a specific nitrate level that one could consider using.
 - ii. Dan commented on comment 7. He addressed the geomorphology of streambank restorations and offered to provide recommendations to the District for their stated streambank projects which is 2 miles roughly. DNR is proposing other BMPs outside of the riprap world. Courtney stated it was the streambank AMA, WPA projects as well as Bancroft Creek and an area in Schoff creek were the projects listed.

- iii. Dave commented on the groundwater quantity and quality. Comments came in stating that the DNR would not be able to turn down permits. The goal was to be aware of withdrawal rates and currently its well below the permitted levels so the best action was to remove the goal all together. DNR thought it was a wise move, they promote conservation but in this watershed we have enough ground water and so it could be removed.
- iv. Paul discussed the atlas plan and asked Rachel about the process of that. Rachel has started the well locating and that takes about 2 years. Then the U of M will get started on that portion in 2023 and it is about 3 to 4 years for them and 3 to 4 years for DNR. So in about 4 years we might have something.
- v. Dan G asked to look at Goal 1, regarding the big wake boats. The State is not going to be in charge of the wakeboarding. DNR does not have any regulatory authority over it and they ask the local county sheriff to help address the issues if they support it. Local ordinance would be the answer and the sheriff and deputies would have to enforce it. Conservation officers could not be as responsive to enforce the actions.

3. Implementation Table

- Then Paul gave an overview of the table including the action, measurable output and years, and funding level.
- Emily liked the layout of the table; Emily asked about the N/A for the projects and wanted some clarification. The steering team can tease out the NA or continued efforts or have a different name for the continuous efforts.

4. Next steps

- The group is able to review the implementation table and provide comments back by Friday April 9th, 2021. Emily asked if we are realistic in the acreage amounts that are listed. Courtney listed that the acres started out higher and we wanted to make it more realistic acreage amount. The limiting factor is funding amount currently and not staff time.
- Dan commented on lake drawdowns, that there is a hang-up, and a requirement for a management plan. Dan said somehow between the district and Jeanine to talk about those management plans and have them drafted and ready to go. The plan is needed for the permit, but he recommended getting those plans up to date so start them earlier than later. Emily asked who indicated those plans, they are normally are done by DNR. Maybe a 3rd party could draft one up or the watershed District could do it will the DNR, has to have historical plans, basic characteristics, what are the goals of the project.