

**MINUTES**  
**Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team**  
**Monday, May 9, 2016**

The Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2016 in the Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility Conference Room with the following Policy Team members present: Jodi Budde (Health and Human Services), John Eret (Citizen at Large), Diane Larkin (Citizen at Large), Mike Robinson (County Commissioner), Kurt Schneider (Vice Chair, Environmental Services/Zoning), Frank Storm (Chari, Citizen at Large), John Freitag (Department of Health), Craig Wills (Department of Natural Resources).

Also present: County Water Resource Manager Jerry Spetzman, County Water Resource Specialist Susanna Wilson, Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District Program Assistant Mike Sorensen

The Chair, Frank Storm, called the business meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Larkin offered a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2016 Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team meeting, as presented. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Larkin, Robinson, Schneider, and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Mold.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Storm offered a motion to approve the agenda for the Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team meeting, as presented. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Robinson and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Larkin, Robinson, Schneider, and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Mold.

**Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Watercraft Inspection Program**

County Water Resource Manager Jerry Spetzman reviewed the 2015 AIS Watercraft Inspection report highlighting the location of public water accesses, graphs and charts showing the number of inspection hours per lake access, number of citations issued and the potential spread of AIS from lake to lake. The program for 2016 will be similar to the 2015 program. The decontamination unit will rotate between the ten most heavily used public water accesses. Watercraft Inspectors will begin inspections after receiving training on May 10, 2016.

**Water Quality Monitoring**

County Water Resource Manager Jerry Spetzman reviewed the 2015 Water Quality Monitoring Report for 2015 including the ranking of the 21 lakes monitored, and the Trophic State Index and color classification of each lake. The program for 2016 will also include the regular monitoring of 21 lakes and a new Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring for small lakes and wetlands located in the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

**Rush Lake Iron Treatments**

County Water Resource Manager Jerry Spetzman reviewed the results of the Rush Lake Iron Treatment experiments conducted by the University of Minnesota to determine the reduction of phosphorus by adding iron to sediment samples of Rush Lake. The experiments included

changing the types and doses, or amounts, of iron to determine reductions in the levels of phosphorus. The study continues with additional experiments of Ann Lake in Carver County.

### **Invitations**

County Water Resource Manager Jerry Spetzman reminded the Water Policy Team of the upcoming PICKM Dinner Meeting on May 12, 2016 and the Chisago & Washington Lakes Meeting on May 19, 2016.

### **Chisago Lakes Water Trail Summit**

Water Plan Policy Team Member Schneider reviewed the Water Trail Summit held on May 7, 2016. Over 50 citizens attended with guest speakers from the National Park Service and The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR). The Water Trail project consists of connecting waterways in the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes and incorporating signage, tourist attractions and destination points to encourage visitors. The project is part of the America's Best Communities (ABC) Competition, of which the Chisago Lakes Area is a top eight finalist.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret spoke on potential water trails on the Sunrise River and connecting with local and state agencies to promote the trail.

### **Update - 2016 Ditch Buffer Law**

County Water Resource Manager Jerry Spetzman reviewed the amendments to the 2016 Ditch Buffer Law excluding private ditches. Chisago County Staff is currently reviewing County historical maps and inspecting all County ditches. The next step is to develop a written report, in which the Policy Team will review and bring recommendations to the Chisago County Board for final review and approval.

### **Chisago County Children's Water Festival**

County Water Resource Manager Jerry Spetzman updated the Policy Team on the upcoming Children's Water Festival on September 29, 2016 located at Wild Mountain. Planning for the festival will begin in June and the Planning Committee welcomes volunteers to assist.

### **Lead & Drinking Water**

Water Plan Policy Technical Team Member Freitag reviewed the Copper in Drinking Water document on the levels of protection and testing available for Minnesotans. The State of Minnesota is checking lead service lines to meet mandated Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lead and Copper requirements. A Point of Sale disclosure for known lead service lines and corrosion control with existing lead pipes will help protect residents from lead and other contaminants.

### **Agency Updates**

Water Plan Policy Technical Team Member Wills reviewed the groundwater thresholds and potential impacts, specifically in White Bear Lake and the Chisago Lakes Area, Minnesota. Trend analysis will determine the correlation of pumping groundwater and changes to surface water. The MN DNR reviews overall impacts during their permitting process.

Water Plan Policy Technical Team Member Wills reported the MN DNR received the permit for the CA-20 bridge project and will send plans to the Water Plan Policy Team for review.

Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD) Program Assistant Mike Sorensen introduced himself to the Policy Team and explained his role with the CLFLWD.

**Next Meeting**

The next Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team will be held on July 11, 2016.

Water Plan Policy Team Member Storm offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:01 p.m. Motion seconded by Water Plan Policy Team Member Eret and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Eret, Larkin, Robinson, Schneider, and Storm. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Mold.