

# Cannon River 1W1P

## Technical Advisory Group

### Meeting #1 Notes

August 16, 2017

9:00am – 12:00pm

Rice County Government Center  
320 Third St NW, Faribault, MN 55021

---

**Technical Advisory Group:** Spencer Herbert (*MDA*), Cole Johnson (*City of Northfield*), Shaina Keseley (*BWSR*), Melissa King (*City of Faribault*), Todd Piepho (*DNR*), Kristi Pursell (*CRWP*), Bradley Rademacher (*City of Owatonna*), Jennifer Ronnenberg (*MDH*), Bob Stark (*City of Red Wing*), Justin Watkins (*MPCA*)

**Planning Work Group:** Brad Becker (*Dakota County*), Brad Behrens (*Rice County*), Ashley Gallagher (*Dakota SWCD*), Scott Golberg (*Steele County*), Eric Gulbransen (*Steele SWCD*), Kelly Hunt (*Waseca County*), Beau Kennedy (*Goodhue SWCD*), Josh Mankowski (*LeSueur County*), Steve Pahs (*Rice SWCD*), Glen Roberson (*Goodhue SWCD*), Brian Watson (*Dakota SWCD*).

**BWSR Advisory Staff:** Jenny Mocol-Johnson

**EOR Consulting Staff:** Meghan Funke

**Other:** Paul Radomski (*DNR*)

#### ❖ Introductions, Roles and Etiquette

- Roles: A handout was provided that listed participants and roles of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), Planning Work Group (PWG), Advisory Work Group (AWG) and the Policy Committee.
- Etiquette: Rules of etiquette were posted and agreed upon by the group.

#### ❖ Review Draft Priority Concerns

- Review Concerns & Issues Table: Draft table was presented by EOR. This document will change throughout the planning process, right now we are looking for input on the three broad categories, and if any potential issues or concerns are missing. List of comments includes:
  - Broad category of “Landscape” could also be “Landuse”
    - ◆ Sub-categories of rural and urban environmental health could stay or go. This is language Root River used. Many priority concerns under these sub-categories could fall into both urban and rural. Could combine into one large “Landuse” category.
    - ◆ “Septics” are a priority concern that crosses both urban and rural landuse.
    - ◆ Could use term “Developed” instead of “Urban”.
    - ◆ “Drainage” sub-category also falls into “Rural Environmental Health” as a priority concern.
    - ◆ The “Agricultural Runoff” priority concern is quite broad and needs further definition. Does this include sub-surface groundwater leaching? Add “Leaching Loss” to “Rural”.
    - ◆ Does “Forest Conservation” address “Fragmentation”, “Wildlife Pathways” and small scale forestry practices? If not this should be added. The Nature Conservancy Plan should be reviewed and incorporated if it has not already been done. Follow-up with Nature Conservancy should occur regarding the status of the Landscape Stewardship Plan for the Cannon River Watershed.
  - Does “Stream Stressors” concern include “In-stream channel and bank erosion”? If not, add this to the “Stream, Lakes and Rivers” sub-category.
  - If addressing “Aquatic Invasive Species” we should also add “Terrestrial Invasive Species”
  - How do we get to a watershed scale? Need to address the “what” first, then the models will help us get to the “where”. Next Water Conversations in September will begin to address the “where”. The

results will come back to the TAG/PWG for approval in October before going to the Policy Committee.

- The group participated in an exercise to begin gauging priorities. Each member was given three dots to place on their top three priorities. It was stressed that nothing drops out of the plan, we keep everything, it is just that some rise to the top in what we prioritize and think we can accomplish in a ten year timeframe. EOR will revise the table based on the discussion and exercise and it will be sent out for further review.
- Water Conversations Summary: Summary was presented by EOR. This summary will be posted online and shared with all Water Conversation participants.
- Written Survey Summary: Number of surveys submitted is low. The survey will be open and available through the end of August. The survey has been a good opportunity for participation, but even if we don't receive a higher number of surveys, the information received at the Water Conversations meetings has been the most useful.

### ❖ Modeling Tools

- Zonation: Paul Radomski presented on Zonation, the results from the PWG and Policy Committee surveys and comparison to the Zonation results from the WRAPS.
  - A few data sets have improved since the Zonation was completed in WRAPS and have now been updated (sediment maps, SPI, and Runoff). The new area in Goodhue has been hydroconditioned and added to data layers.
  - Three hotspots were identified in each county. They include lower portions of the watershed due to terrain and resources, lakes area, and around cities. Agriculture runoff came out in discussion earlier as a high priority but this is not reflected in Zonation results. Steele is 85% cropland but not a hotspot. Could be due to focus on near resources or multiple benefits. This can also be addressed with other tools.
  - How do you prioritize nitrogen? Is there a way to make a sub-prioritization based on a few select layers? Radomski thinks that layering use concerns would be a viable approach.
  - Layers and PDFs will be made available to the TAG/PWG for further review.
- Terrain Analysis: EOR presented a series of maps from HSPF (Phosphorus, Nitrogen and TSS) as well as PTMapp maps.
  - For pollutants of concern maps can be used individually or stacked.
  - PTMapp maps are not great for broad scale prioritization.
  - There were concerns over the cropland management inputs used/assumed for RUSLE2 factors. This would not be the same across the watershed as management practices can vary greatly.
  - It was stressed that it is good to know each models strengths and weaknesses so that we can layer and best utilize the tools.

### ❖ Next Steps

- Homework: EOR will revise documents. Gallagher will send material to TAG and PWG. Members will review and submit any changes or ideas to Gallagher.
- Next PWG and TAG meeting: October 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am
- Water Conversations: September 19<sup>th</sup> in Cannon Falls, September 26<sup>th</sup> in Waterville. Both events will have a 5:00-6:00pm open house followed by a 6:00-8:00pm mapping and prioritization exercise.