

Lower Minnesota River West-Comprehensive Watershed Management Partnership	Policy Advisory Committee Meeting #7 – Minutes	Date: 8/7/2025
		Time: 10:00 AM – 10:36 AM
		Location: USDA Service Center Conference Room 112 5 th Street Gaylord, MN 55334

Attendees: **Committee Members:** Kevin Miller – HICWD, Doug Krueger – McLeod County, Charles Mathews – McLeod SWCD, Marie Dranttel – Nicollet County, Eric Annexstad – Nicollet SWCD, Steve Saxton – Sibley County, Keith Hennen – Sibley County, Paul Wiemann – Sibley SWCD

Others: Jack Bushman – Sibley SWCD, Joel Wurscher – Sibley SWCD, Tara O’Brien – Sibley SWCD, Hayley Thies – Sibley SWCD, Shane Bugeja – BWSR, Mark Hiles – BWSR

Agenda Items

Minutes:

1. Call to Order
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Committee Chair Wiemann.

2. Review Meeting Agenda, Agenda Additions & Cancellations
 - a. A motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Miller to accept the agenda as presented. Ayes- Annexstad, Dranttel, Hennen, Krueger, Mathews, Miller, Saxton, Wiemann. Motion carried

3. Approve Minutes from 3/13/2025
 - a. The committee reviewed the meeting minutes from the Policy Committee meeting on March 13, 2025. A motion was made by Annexstad and seconded by Mathews to approve the meeting minutes. Ayes- Annexstad, Dranttel, Hennen, Krueger, Mathews, Miller, Saxton, Wiemann. Motion carried.

4. WBIF Update
 - a. Wurscher provided an overview of the FY22/23 WBIF spending to the committee. Discussion was held regarding the reconciliation going well and the ongoing assurance measures. Final 10% of funding will be received after assurance measures are complete. Wurscher then presented the FY24/25 WBIF Budget to the committee. Discussion was held on expenditures to date and how EQIP is helping the current projects meet their required match in funds.

5. CCRP Incentives
 - a. Wurscher gave a refresher on the CCRP incentive policy originally passed by the PAC and proposed revisions to the priority zones and removal of the 30-day requirement. Discussion was held regarding the uncertainty with current federal funding and programs; both could be helped by the proposed changes. A motion was made by Annexstad and seconded by Krueger to approve the policy changes as presented. Ayes- Annexstad, Dranttel, Hennen, Krueger, Mathews, Miller, Saxton, Wiemann. Motion carried.

6. Education & Outreach Update
 - a. O’Brien informed the committee of the upcoming Soil Health event on August 20th and provided an update on this year’s County Fairs.

7. Adjourn & 2025 Meeting Schedule

- a. The next meeting will be held on November 6th.
- b. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Krueger to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 AM. Ayes-Annexstad, Dranttel, Hennen, Krueger, Mathews, Miller, Saxton, Wiemann. Motion carried.

Approved April 9th, 2026

Secretary: