

Benton County

Priority Concerns Scoping Document

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1. Introduction

The Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) identifies and summarizes the issues, resources, subwatersheds, and demographic areas identified as priority water resource concerns by local stakeholders and Benton County residents. This document will assist in the management of Benton County's water resources until 2028.

1.1 County Primer

Benton County General Information

Benton County was established in 1849 as one of Minnesota's nine original counties, making it one of the state's oldest counties. It is one of the five smallest counties in the state with an area of just 413 square miles. It is located in central Minnesota, 65 miles northwest of Minneapolis/St. Paul. Adjacent to Benton County is Morrison County to the north, Mille Lacs to the east, Sherburne to the south, and Stearns to the west, divided by the Mississippi River. The city of Foley is the County Seat and is located near the intersection of State Highways 23 and 25.

Mostly positioned in Stearns County, the largest population center in the central region, the City of St. Cloud, also extends into Benton and Sherburne Counties. St. Cloud is Minnesota's tenth largest city with the fourth largest metropolitan area, behind Minneapolis-St. Paul, Duluth-Superior, and Rochester. St. Cloud, along with its most populated suburb, Sartell, are amongst the most populated regions of Benton County.

Demographics

Data from the United States Census Bureau indicates that Benton County has seen a steady population increase since the 1950's (Figure 3). In the last 65 years, the population has more than doubled, with the most rapid growth occurred between 1970 and 1990 at an average of 20% growth (Figure 5). Since the 1960's, Benton County has seen higher growth rates than the state of Minnesota (Figure 5). The County's population growth slowed in the 1990's. From 2000 to 2010 there was an average of 12% growth, followed by a slower growth rate of 3% between the years of 2010 and 2015 (Figure 5). Projections conclude a continuing population increase for both Benton County and Minnesota, however Benton County will continue to see the larger growth rate (Figure 9).

Benton County is most populated in the west along the Mississippi River (Figures 2 and 6). The city of Sauk Rapids contains the largest portion of the County's population at 33%. Other highly populated areas include Watab Township and the cities of St. Cloud, Sartell and Foley (Figure 6). These significantly populated areas are likely to see a faster population growth than Benton County, and many of these areas have documents in place which plan for population and land use changes.

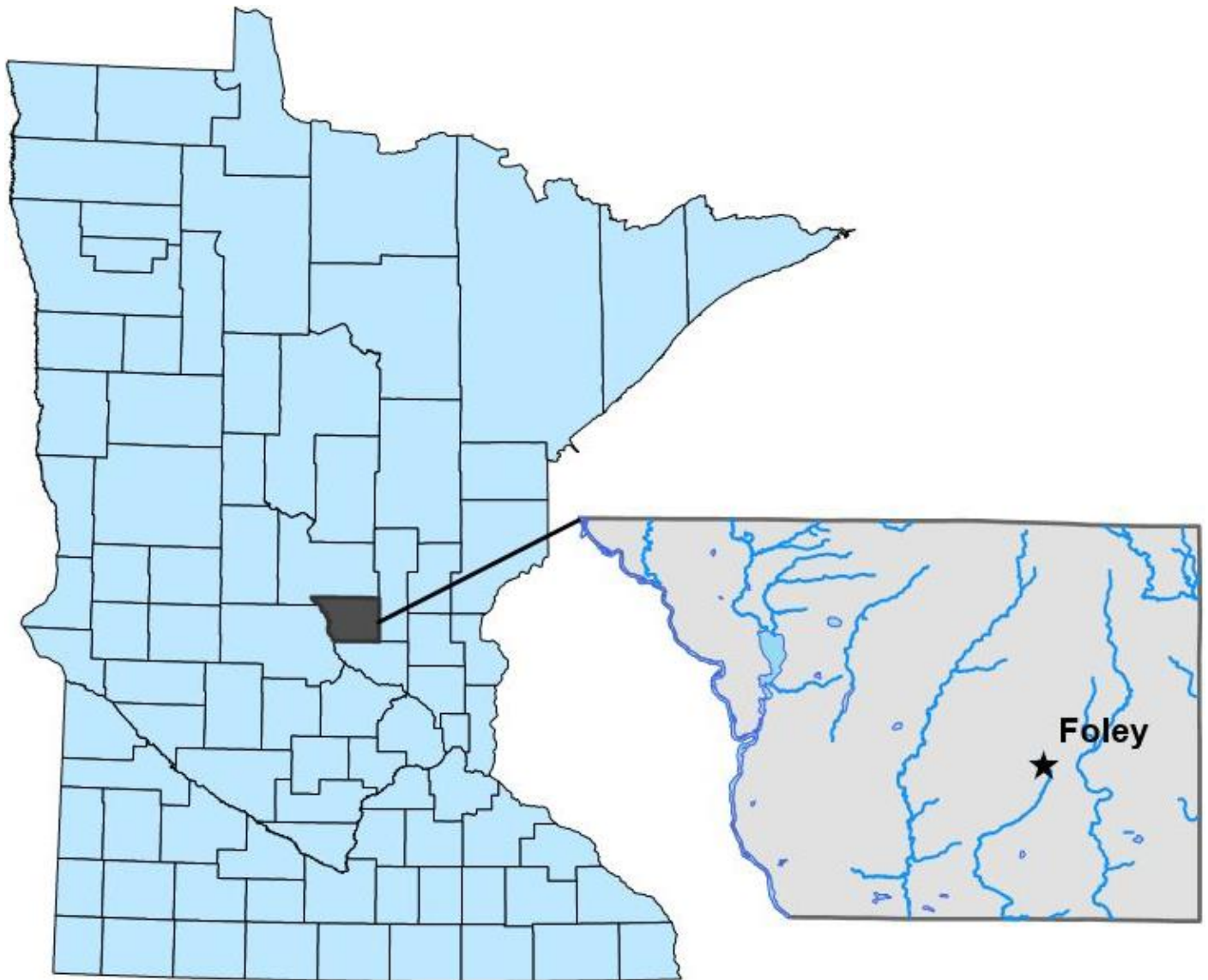


Figure 1: Map of Minnesota highlighting Benton County and the city of Foley, County Seat

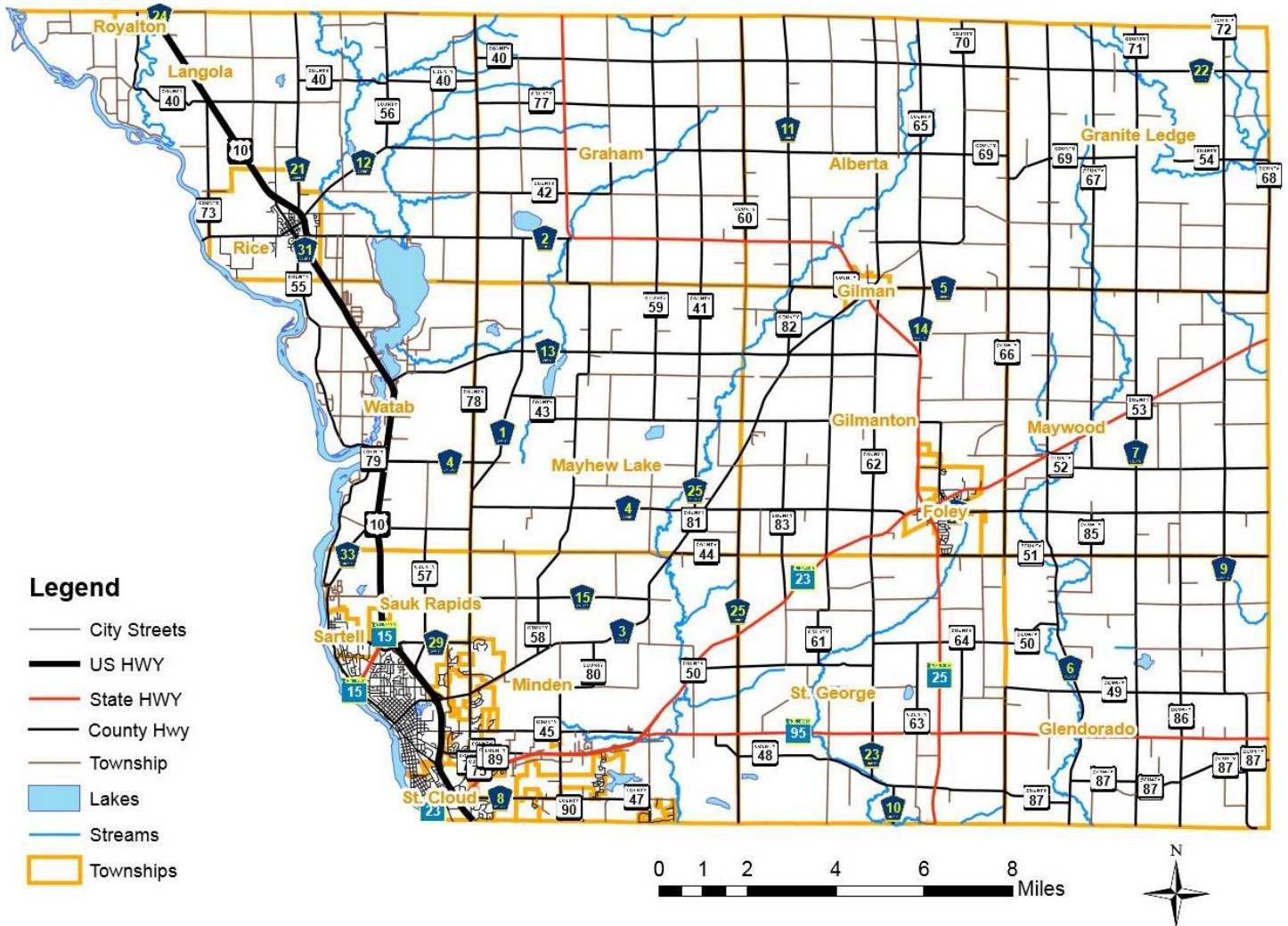


Figure 2: Map of Benton County cities and townships

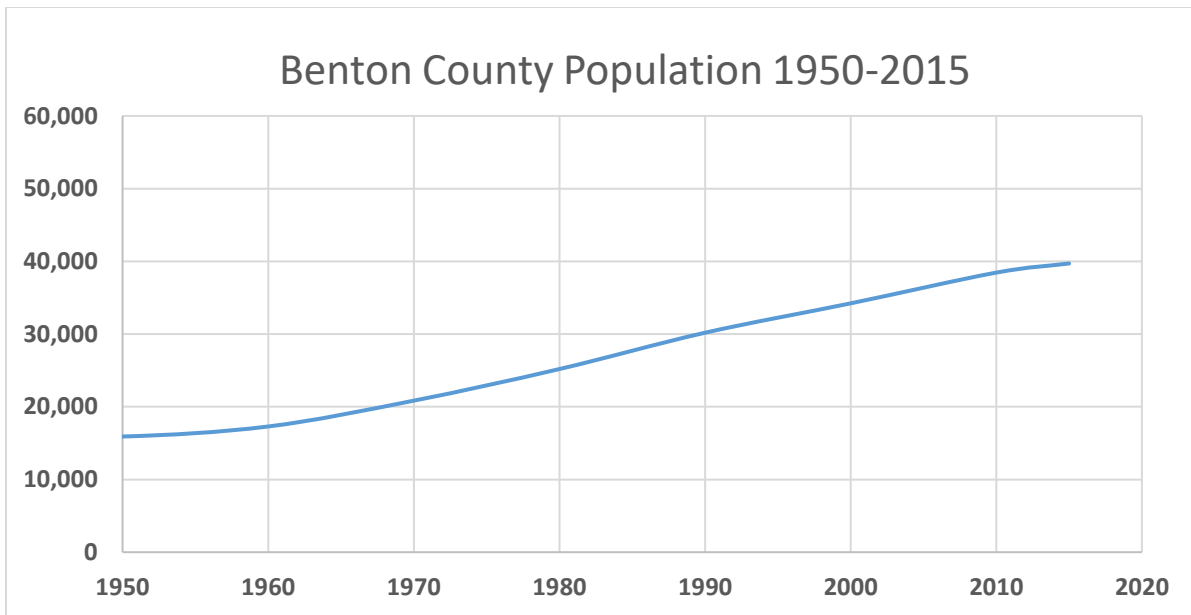


Figure 3: Benton County Population from 1950-2015. Graph based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau (<http://factfinder.census.gov/>.)

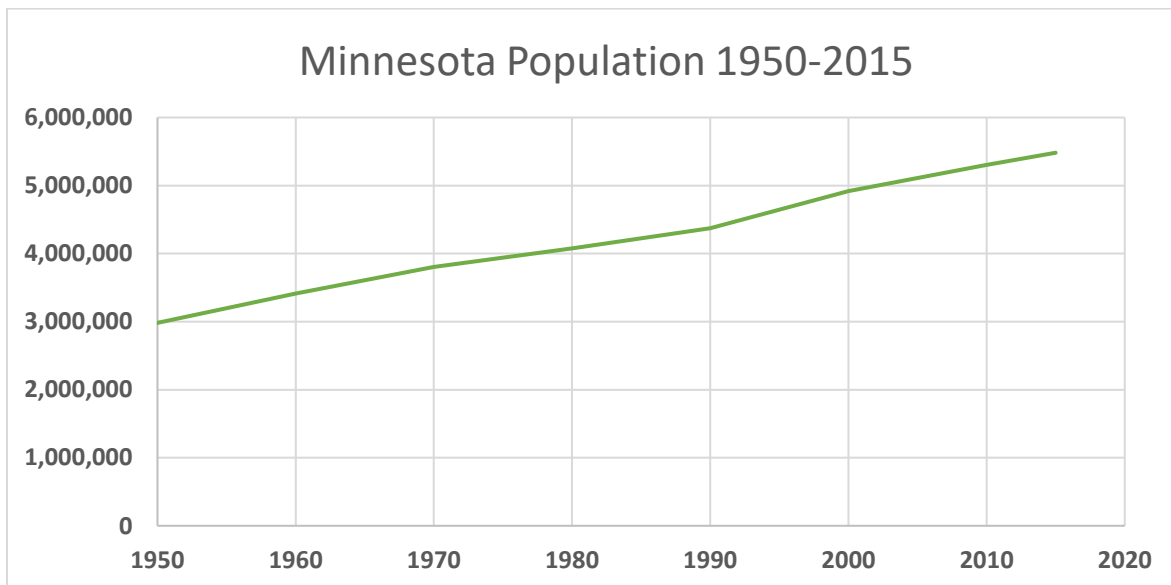


Figure 4: Minnesota population from 1950-2015. Graph based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau (<http://factfinder.census.gov/>.)

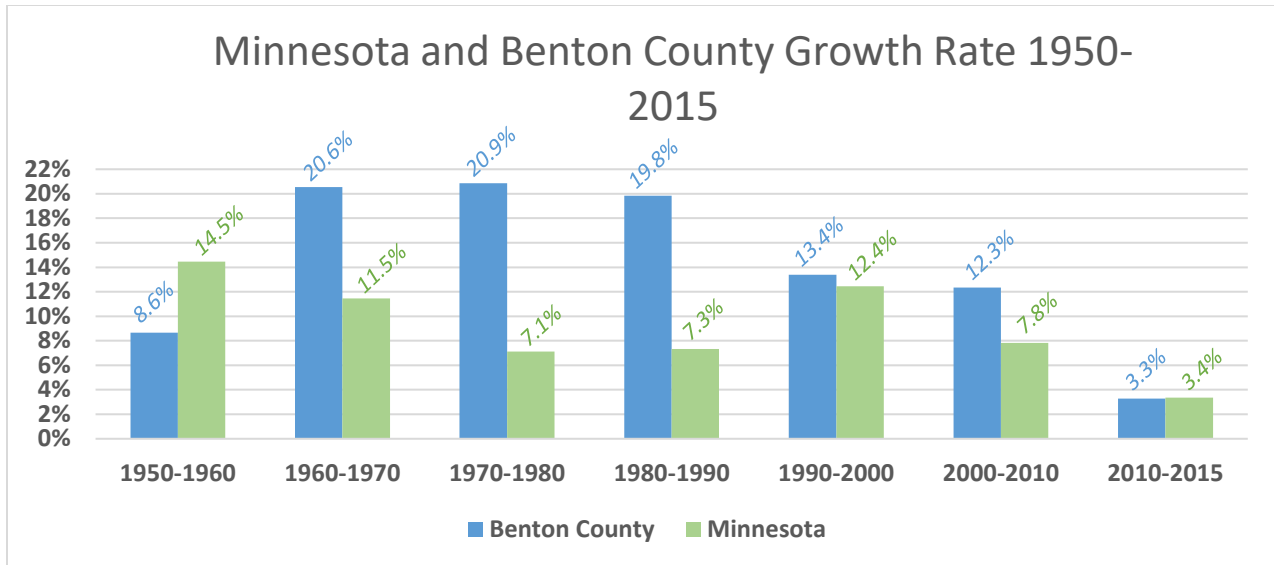


Figure 5: Minnesota and Benton County percent growth from 1940-2015. *Graph based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau (<http://factfinder.census.gov/>). The percent growth is calculated by taking the difference between two years, dividing by the first number, and then multiplying by 100 to obtain a percentage.*

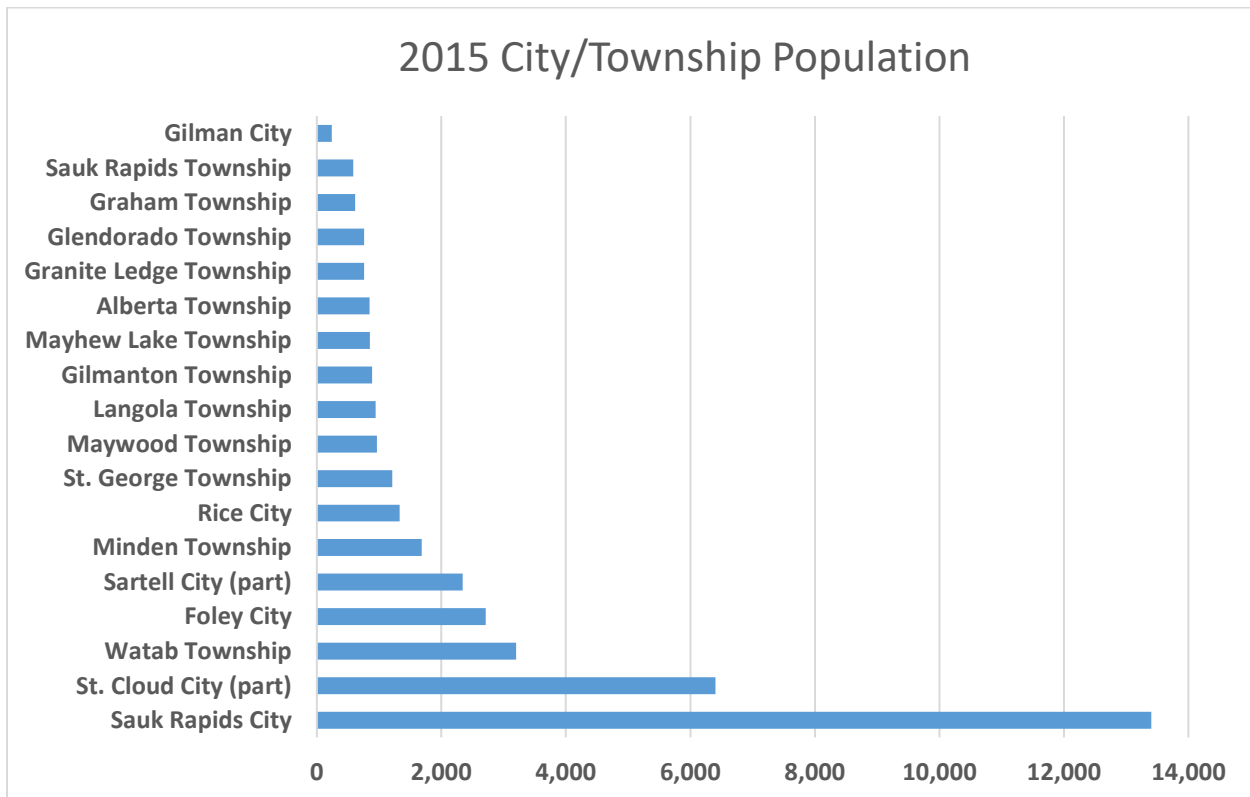


Figure 6: 2015 population based on geographic area within Benton County. Refer to Figure 2 for geographic location. *Graph based on data from the MN State Demographic Center (<https://mn.gov/admin/demography/>).*

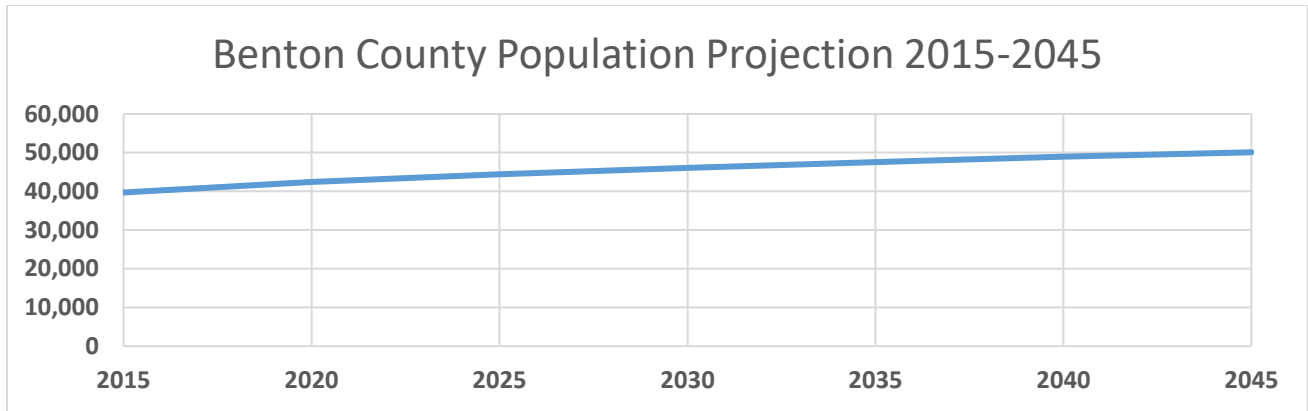


Figure 7: Benton County population projections from 2015-2045. Graph based on data from the MN State Demographic Center (<https://mn.gov/admin/demography/>).

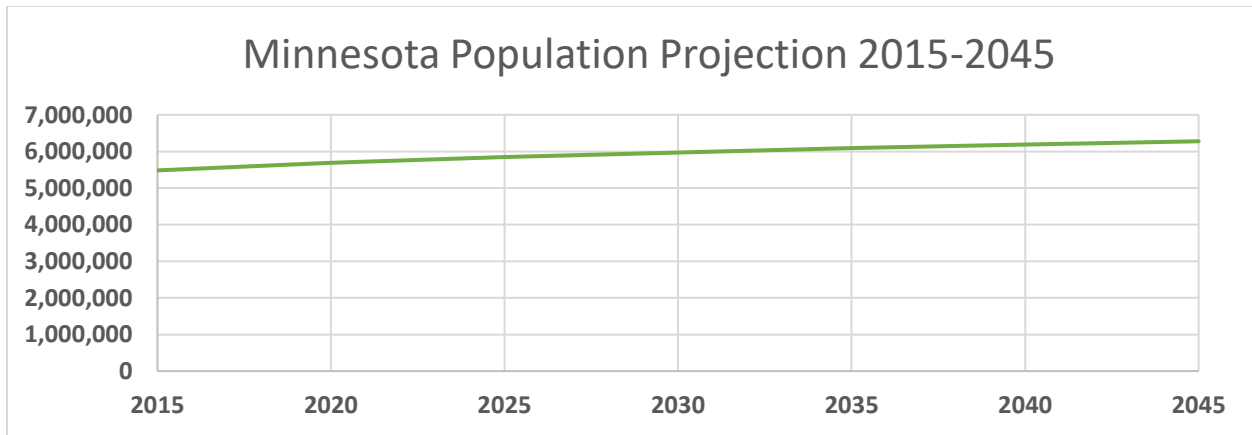


Figure 8: Minnesota population projections from 2015-2045. Graph based on data from the MN State Demographic Center (<https://mn.gov/admin/demography/>).

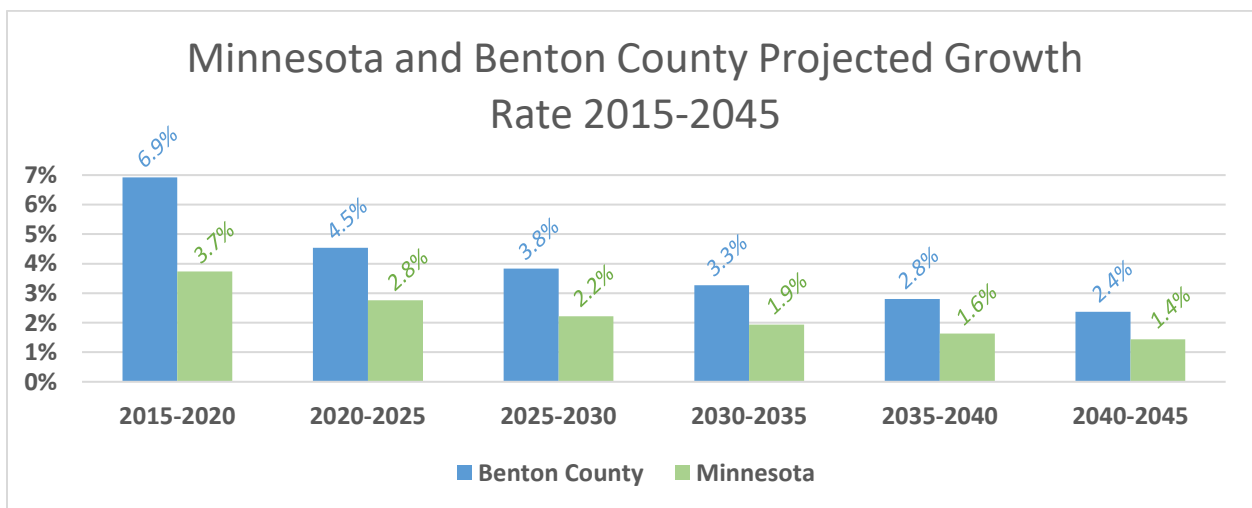


Figure 9: Benton County population percent growth projection from 2015-2045. Graph based on data from the MN State Demographic Center (<https://mn.gov/admin/demography/>). The percent growth is calculated by taking the difference between two years, dividing by the first number, and then multiplying by 100 to obtain a percentage.

Land Use

The following information was taken from the 2006 Benton County Land Use Plan. While specific numbers have changed, the overall land use pattern remains the same. Since the County was first settled in the late 1850's it has been primarily an agricultural and rural community, and remains primarily agricultural today. The County has remained consistent with approximately 70% farm land since 1982 (Figure 10). Cropland is the most abundant type of farmland with corn, oats, soybeans, and hay amongst the most common crops (Figure 11). While poultry farming have been increasing, other animal farming such as cattle and hogs have been significantly decreasing (Figure 12). Agricultural land is expected to increase as new industries such as hops farming, aquaponics, large chicken farm operations, and large farming greenhouses develop. The central portion of the County including Alberta, Graham, Gilmanton, Mayhew Lake and St. George Townships are comprised of 94-96% agricultural land. While the majority of the County remains agricultural, the southwestern portion (St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, and Sartell) is experiencing increasing pressure to accommodate urban development.

The rapid development in the City of St. Cloud effects the city's stormwater management. As a result, the city has created numerous plans to focus on development, redevelopment, and stormwater management within heavily urbanized areas such as northeast St. Cloud located in Benton County (Appendix D). Northeast St. Cloud is a significant source of pollution to the Mississippi River as a result of large sediment loadings entering the river through stormwater runoff. The St. Cloud 2012 Northeast Drainage Analysis (Appendix D) discusses ways to better incorporate stormwater management, including numerous projects which have been installed including an underground regional treatment system and four sump catch basins.

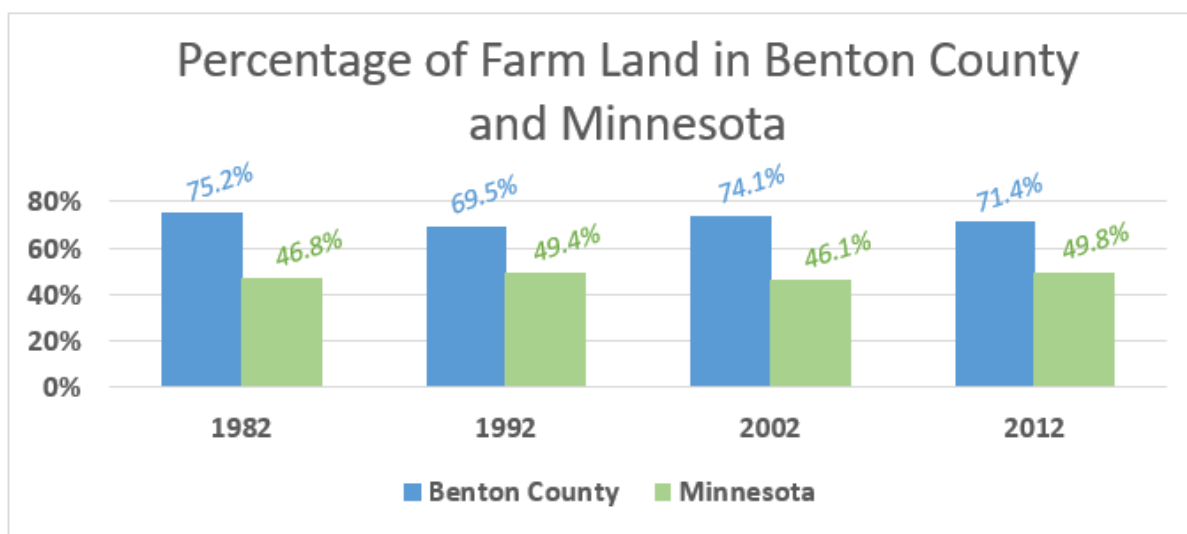


Figure 10: Percentage of land in Benton County and Minnesota which is considered farm land. *Graph based on data from the U.S. Census of Agriculture (<https://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>).*

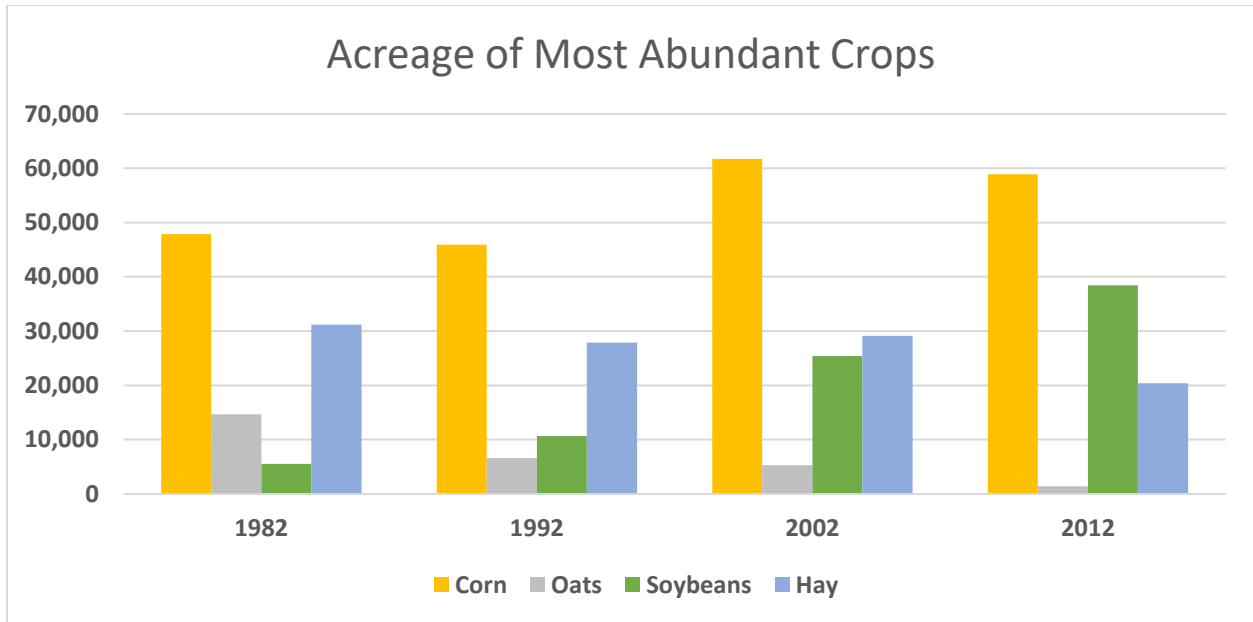


Figure 11: Acreage of the most abundant crops in Benton County. Graph based on data from the U.S. Census of Agriculture (<https://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>).

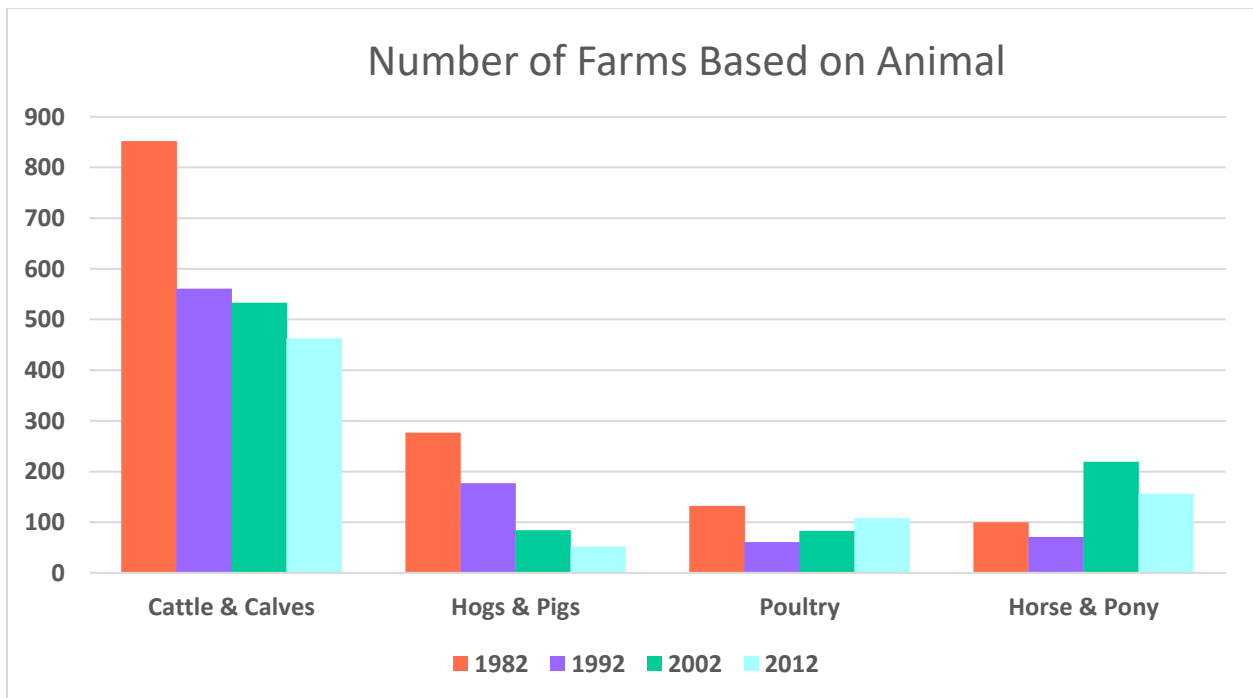


Figure 12: Number of farms in Benton County based on type of animal

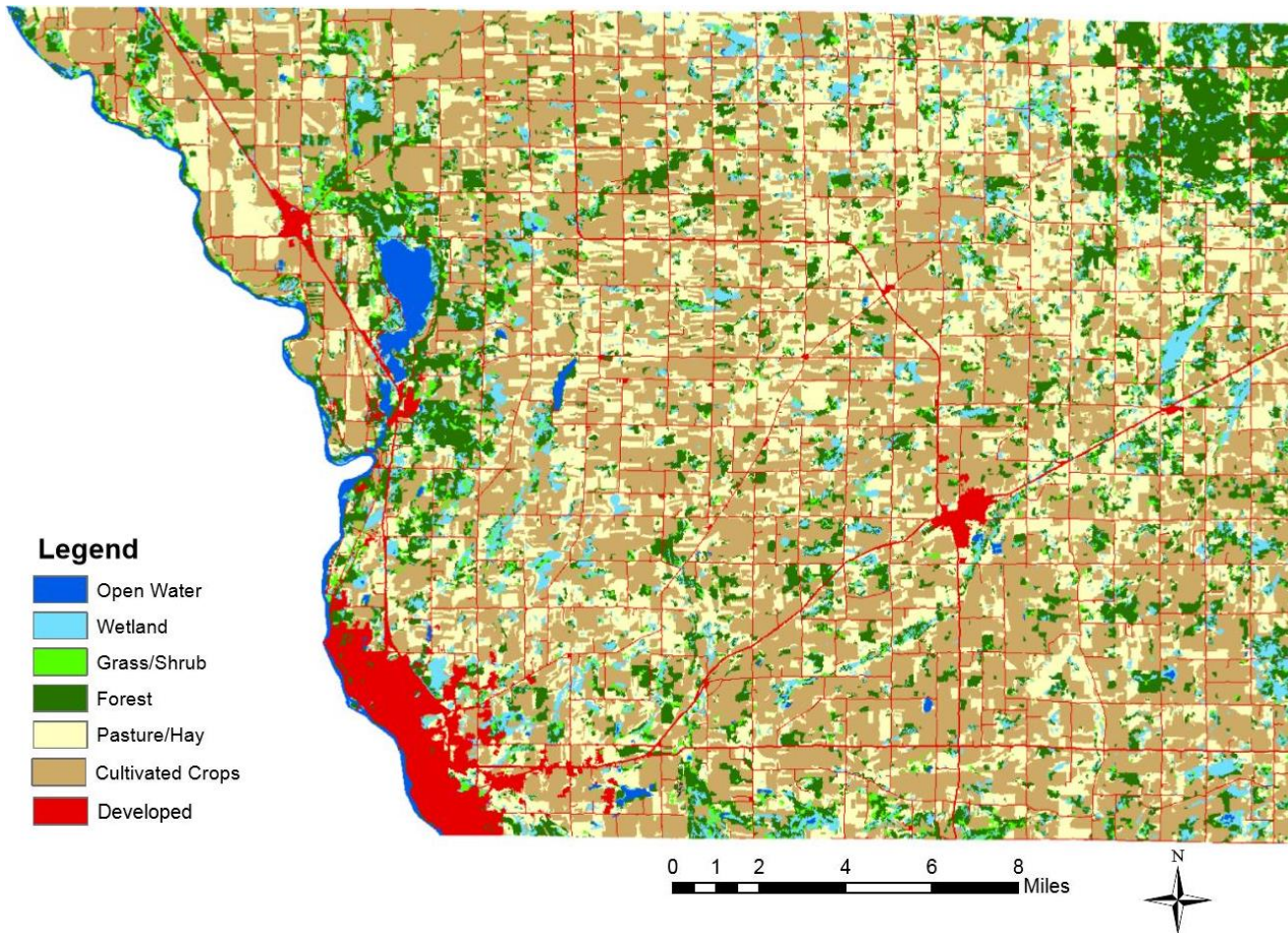


Figure 13: 2011 land use in Benton County. Data for this map is from the Minnesota Geospatial Commons <https://gisdata.mn.gov/dataset/biota-landcover-nlcd-mn-2006>

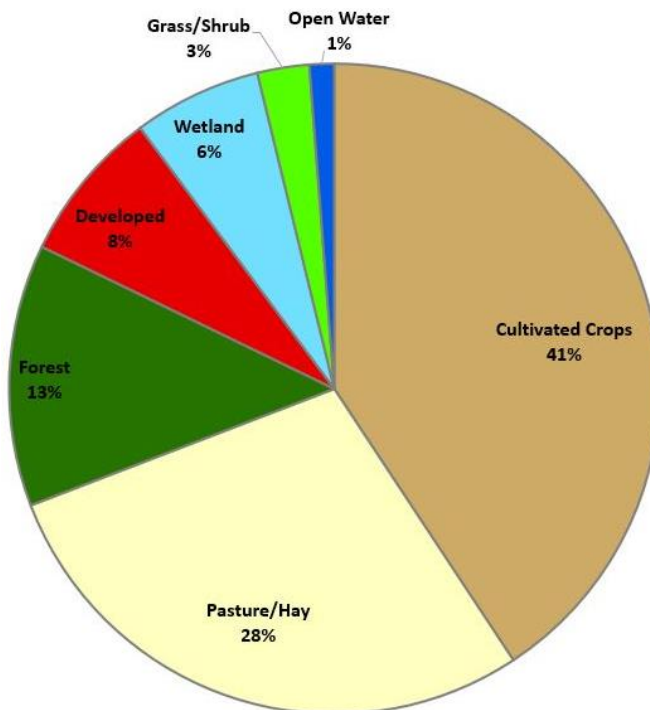


Figure 14: 2011 Land use percentages for Benton County. Map based on data from the Minnesota Geospatial Commons <https://gisdata.mn.gov/dataset/biota-landcover-nlcd-mn-2006>

1.2 Water Plan Information

Local Water Management Planning and Responsibility

The Comprehensive Local Water Management Act was enacted in 1985 encouraging counties to voluntarily develop and implement a water management plan. Benton County was lacking a plan to assess and protect water resources; Benton County Soil and Water Conservation District (Benton SWCD) was designated by the Benton County Board of Commissioners, the local government unit responsible for the Local Water Management Plan in 1988.

To advise and aid the SWCD in water management, the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) was formed. It is the mission of the WRAC to provide coordination between units of government, citizens, and others involved in the protection, management, and improvement of water resources in Benton County. The WRAC is used to advise Benton SWCD regarding the Local Water Management Plan review, adoption, and implementation.

The WRAC is comprised of members from various local governments and local citizens. Voting membership includes one representative from each of the following groups:

- Benton County Board of Commissioners
- Benton SWCD District Supervisor
- Benton County Township Officer
- Benton County Municipality Representative (rotating between all municipalities)
- Lake Association
- Watershed Association
- Three Benton County Residents (with a minimum of one farm owner operator)

Ex-officio WRAC members are local government, state, and federal agency personnel, special interest groups, private industry/business/commercial groups that can provide technical input. The ex-officio members include a representative from each of the following agencies or organization:

- Benton County Public Health Service
- Benton County Highway Department
- Benton County Department of Development
- Minnesota Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Minnesota Extension Service
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Minnesota Rural Water Association
- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Previous Water Plans

The Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is typically a ten year plan with an update after five years. The first Benton County Water Plan was approved by Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Board on December 18, 1991. The Water Plan was updated in 1995 and then updated for the second time in 2001. This update corresponded with an expiration on December 31, 2006. The Benton County Commissioners requested an extension on August 15, 2006 and was granted on December 20, 2006. The extension moved the expiration date to December 31, 2008. The fourth revision of the Water Plan was approved on March 26th, 2008 with an expiration date of August 31, 2018. This Water Plan will mark the fifth update of the Benton County Local Water Management Plan, and will be in effect until 2028 with an update in 2023.

Table 1: Benton County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan updates and revisions

1991	First Benton County Water Plan
1995	Plan updated
2001	Plan updated
2006	Plan extension and update
2008	Plan updated

2. Priority Concerns Addressed By the Plan

The March 23, 2017 Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting (WRAC) was dedicated to reviewing all public and state agency inputs, and determining new priority concerns. The new Water Plan will feature the following priority concerns:

1. **Surface and Groundwater Quality and Quantity:**

Protect water resources from increasing demands to prevent potential problems with water quantity. Protect and prevent surface and groundwater from contamination and other impairment factors which negatively affect water quality.

2. **Feedlot and Nutrient Management:**

Protect surface water quality by encouraging proper nutrient management of animal manure and fertilizers.

3. **Erosion and Sedimentation:**

Excess runoff and sediment in surface waters can have negative impacts on surface water quality.

4. **Development:**

Water resources have the potential to be adversely effected by residential, commercial, and industrial growth and development, as well as rural land use changes.

3. Priority Concern Identification Process

The priority concern identification process began with the Water Resource Concerns survey included in Appendix C. The public ranked the water resource they perceived to be most threatened, chose their biggest concerns from a list below of possible water resource concerns, and had the option to provide additional comments and suggestions. Results for this survey are shown below and written comments are included in Appendix C.

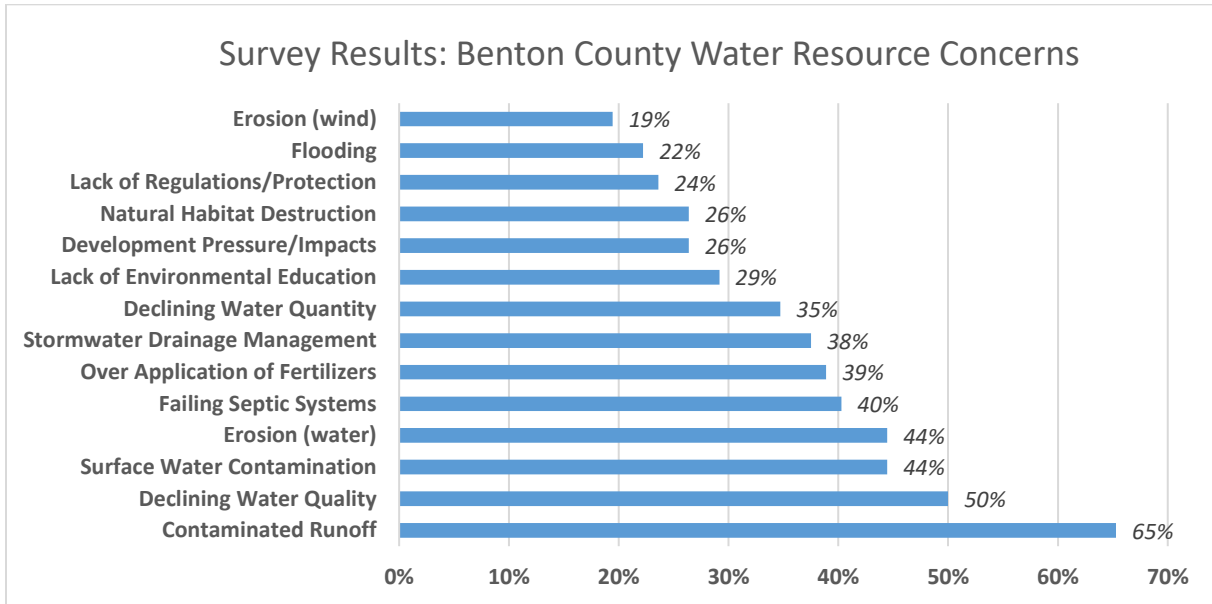


Figure 15: Survey results from the Water Resources Concerns Survey where citizens identified their water resource concerns for Benton County. Full survey and results are located in Appendix C.

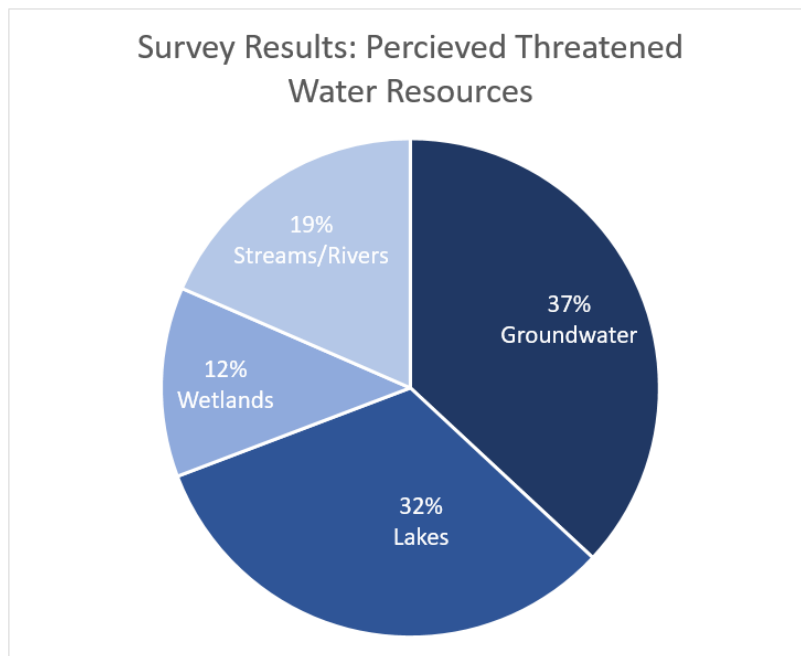


Figure 16: Survey results from the Water Resources Concerns Survey where residents ranked which water resources they perceived to be most threatened. Full survey and results shown in Appendix C.

3.1 Public and Internal Forums

Table 2: List of public and internal forums held during the development of the Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Title	Date	Participants	Description
Benton County Board Meeting	11/15/16	Benton County Commissioners, SWCD Staff – Amanda Guertin and Gerry Maciej	Amanda discussed with the board that Benton County's current Water Plan will expire in August of 2018 and the SWCD would like to begin the process of updating the plan
Water Resources Advisory Committee Meeting	1/24/17	Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)	The WRAC meets throughout the year to discuss the water plan and water resources in the County. This meeting highlighted the update process for the new water plan and discussions on how to best obtain public input regarding priority concerns. Appendix B - WRAC Minutes 1-24-17
Benton & Sherburne Priority Concerns Discussion with the City of St. Cloud	2/6/17	Benton SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin, Sherburne SWCD Staff - Dan Cibulka, City of St. Cloud Staff - Noah Czech and Lisa Vollbrecht	St. Cloud staff indicated that priority concerns for St. Cloud are outlined in the St. Cloud Stormwater Management Plan, St. Cloud Urban Area Mississippi River Corridor Plan, SE Subwater 3025 Assessment, and the 2012 NE Drainage Analysis Appendix A - I. St. Cloud
Mayhew Lake Township Meeting	2/7/17	Mayhew Lake Township Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update and Township Officers took Amanda's Water Resource Survey Appendix C - Survey and Results
Gilmanton Township Meeting	2/7/17	Gilmanton Township Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update and Township Officers took Amanda's Water Resource Survey Appendix C - Survey and Results
Rice City Council Meeting	2/13/17	Rice City Council Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update Appendix B - Rice City Council Meeting 2-13-17
Minden Township Meeting	2/14/17	Minden Township Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update Appendix B - Minden Township Meeting 2-14-17
Langola Township Meeting	2/15/17	Langola Township Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update
Annual Township Meeting	2/16/17	Township Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update
Glendorado Township Meeting	2/23/17	Glendorado Township Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update
Watab Township Meeting	3/7/17	Watab Township Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update Appendix B - Watab Township Meeting 3-07-17
Gilman City Council Meeting	3/8/17	Gilman City Council Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update
Water Resources Advisory Committee Meeting	3/28/17	Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)	The WRAC discussed criteria for identifying "other waters" as part of the buffer law to be included in the Water Plan. Also discussed was the progress made on the Development priority concern for the current water plan. The group discussed input received from the Water Resource Survey and from State Agencies. Appendix B - WRAC Meeting 3-28-17
Foley City Council Meeting	4/4/17	Foley City Council Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update Appendix B - Foley City Council Meeting 4-04-2017
St. George Township Meeting	4/11/17	St. George Township Officers, SWCD Staff - Amanda Guertin	Amanda discussed the Water Plan update
Water Resources Advisory Committee Meeting	5/23/17	Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)	Amanda discussed the progress made on the Groundwater priority concern for the current water plan. The group discussed all received input and determined the new priority concerns Appendix B - WRAC Meeting 5-23-2017

4. Priority Concern Selection Process

Priority Concern Selection

The Water Resources Advisory Committee determined the priority concerns at the May 23, 2017 meeting. The selection process began by compiling Water Resource Concerns survey results and written comments received. The survey results were sorted into nine general categories to gain perspective on the public's concerns (Figure 12). The written survey results were also sorted into general categories; feedlot and nutrient management, extreme weather, erosion and sedimentation, education and outreach, riparian, development, drainage, surface water quality, ground water quality, and wildlife. The written comments are shown in Appendix C. Sorting the data allowed the WRAC to determine the priority concerns based on the general category with the most comments and survey responses.

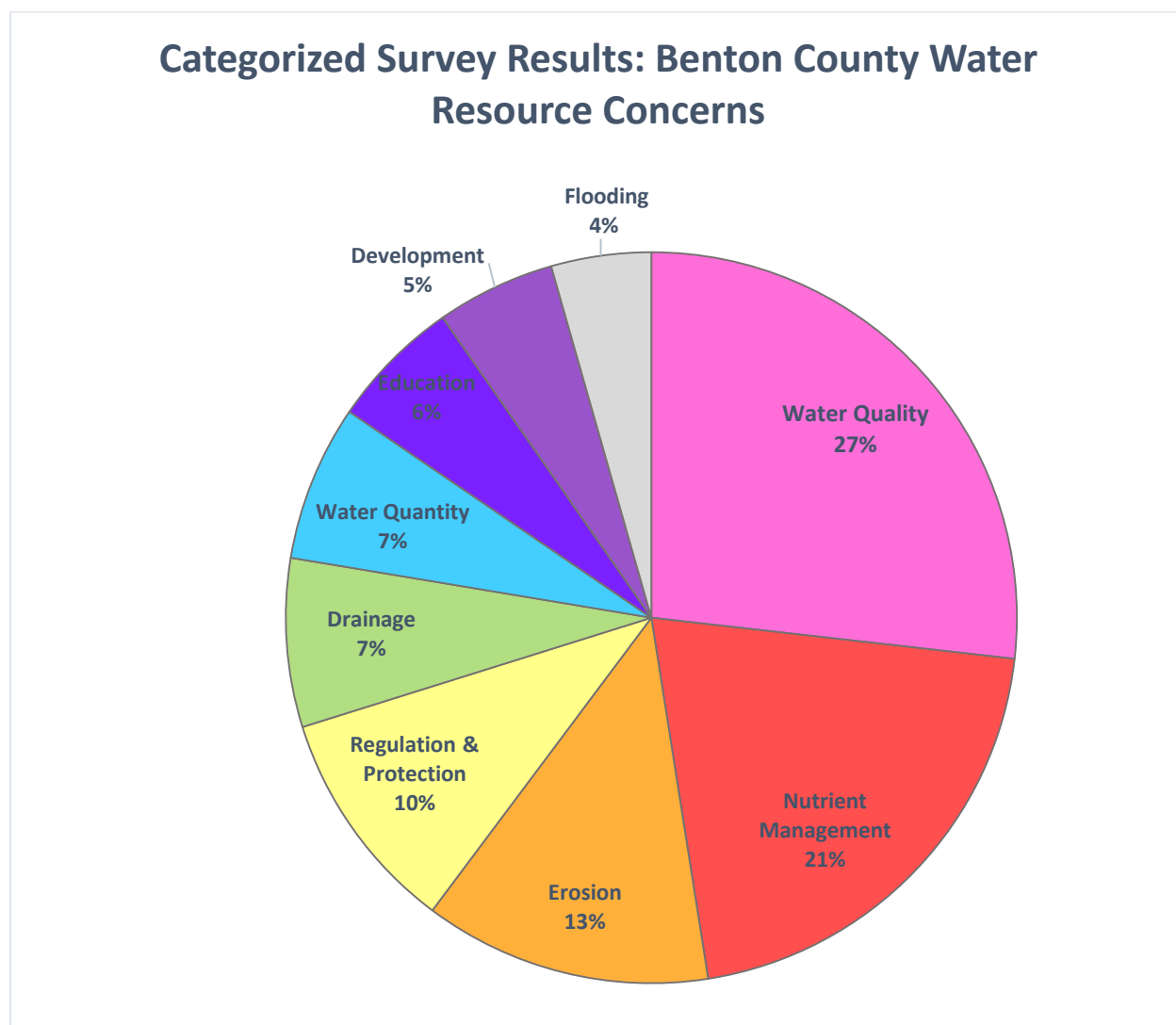


Figure 17: Survey results from the Water Resources Concerns Survey where citizens identified their water resource concerns for Benton County (Figure 10) which have been sorted and categorized by general concern to obtain percentages. Full survey and results are located in Appendix C.

Other State, Local, and Regional Concerns

Abundant state and local plans exist pertinent to water resource management. Many plans were reviewed to assure cohesiveness with the Water Plan priority concerns. A list and summary of review plans are located in Appendix D. The focus and goals of these plans are largely consistent with the Water Plan priority concerns.

Many cities in Benton County have their own comprehensive plan to guide community development including; Foley, Sartell, Sauk Rapids, Royalton, and St. Cloud. These Comprehensive Plans largely focus on planning for future growth and redevelopment efficiently while preserving and enhancing the environment. In particular, many of these plans highlight protecting rivers, lakes, and wetlands to improve water quality and quantity. Other plans, such as the St. Cloud Urban Area Mississippi River Corridor Plan also highlight the preservation and promotion of water resources. Stormwater management has become an emphasis following the rapid development within urban areas. Reviewed plans discuss how to efficiently incorporate stormwater management in intensely urbanized areas in order to conserve, protect, and restore surface and groundwater quality and quantity.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Watershed Restoration and Protection (WRAP) reports, both completed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) are a significant piece to water management. WRAPS reports are a way to intensively monitor a specific watershed for aquatic health through biological and water chemistry sampling on a rotating ten year cycle. The watersheds with identified impairments require a TMDL study to designate the maximum amount of pollutant the body can receive without exceeding water quality standards. TMDL reports are followed by implementation plans which identify ways to achieve the required load reductions. Within the county, numerous WRAPS and TMDL reports have been completed or are in process. Table 4, in Appendix A lists the impairment and TMDL status for waters within Benton County. These documents have a large impact on the Water Plan by identifying priority areas and setting goals and objectives.

Surrounding county water plans also play a role in Benton County's water management decisions. Benton County works closely with Morrison and Sherburne counties to address concerns within the Little Rock Lake Watershed and the Elk River Watershed, respectively. The priority concerns addressed in this plan are largely consistent with other counties.

Table 3: List of completed TMDLs in Benton County. Full list of impaired waters and TMDL status is located in Table 4 Appendix A

Study	Year Completed
Elk River TMDL	2012
Little Rock Creek TMDL	2017
Little Rock Lake TMDL	2011
Mississippi River – St. Cloud WRAP	2015
Upper Mississippi River TMDL	2014
Rum River (TMDL)	2017 (Draft)

5. Priority Concerns Not Addressed

Throughout the priority concern identification process, careful consideration was taken to include all concerns addressed by the public. There were four topics; extreme weather, education outreach, wildlife, and drainage, which received public comments but were not considered priority concerns.

Each of the four topics are connected to priority concerns and will be addressed through Water Plan Action Items or Goals. Education outreach is an important aspect of any water resource concern, and therefore each of the chosen priority concerns will entail an education outreach facet.

Stormwater drainage management was highly ranked on the Water Resource Concern Survey (Figure 10). However, few comments were received regarding stormwater drainage management specifically. The comments regarding drainage were largely focused on flooding and sedimentation effects of poor ditch maintenance and drainage, and therefore are better suited to be addressed through the Erosion and Sedimentation priority concern. The other comments regarding drainage can be addressed through the other specified priority concerns.

Appendix A – State Agency Input

I. BWSR

December 22, 2012

RE: Response to invitation to submit priority concerns for the Benton County Priority Concerns Scoping Document for the Local Water Management Plan Update

Dear Benton County Commissioners:

Thank you for providing the opportunity to provide priority issues and plan expectations for the update and revision of the Benton County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan, as authorized under the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, Minnesota Statutes, §103B.301.

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has the following specific priority issues:

- The county is strongly encouraged to include the drainage authority as a stakeholder in the plan update process as well as include projects and activities consistent with multipurpose drainage criteria outlined in Minnesota Statutes §103E.015, Subd. 1.
- The state's Nonpoint Priority Funding Plan (NPFP) outlines a criteria-based process to prioritize Clean Water Fund investments—if the county is intending to pursue Clean Water Fund as a future source of funding, partners are strongly encouraged to consider the high-level state priorities, keys to implementation, and criteria for evaluating proposed activities in the NPFP.
- The County's Development Code has several ordinances and zoning rules that were adopted in 2010 and 2012. Reviewing and updating ordinances on a regular basis is important to ensure the county is managing land use in such a way as to provide opportunities for current residents while maintaining a healthy environment for future residents.
- Data collection and monitoring activities necessary to support implementation schedule and reasonably assess and evaluate plan progress are suggested and should be coordinated with other data collection and monitoring efforts.
- The county is strongly encouraged to consider the potential for more extreme weather events and their implications for the water and land resources of the watershed in the analysis and prioritization of issues.
- Highway 10, Highway 23, and the region around the greater St. Cloud metropolitan area are likely to see significant rates of growth and conversion from current uses to more intensive development patterns. As this area lies within the Anoka Sand Plains area and near the Mississippi River, the potential for significant threats to both surface and groundwater should be considered within the county's water plan.
- Livestock production is a significant industry within Benton County. Poultry and cattle production can be a contributor to water quality impairments if not managed properly. The county should explore ways to encourage the proper management of waste on existing site while seeking the most effective strategies to reduce waste management problems on new sites.

We look forward to working with you through the rest of the plan development process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jason Weinerman, jason.weinerman@state.mn.us, 320-223-7072.

Sincerely,

Jason Weinerman

Jason Weinerman

Board Conservationist

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

2. DNR



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Central Region

1200 Warner Road

St. Paul, MN 55106

February 16, 2017

Amanda Guertin

Water Plan Technician

Benton Soil and Water Conservation District

14 W. 2nd Ave.

Foley, MN, 56329

Greetings Ms Guertin,

I am writing in response to your request of the Minnesota DNR to provide water management issues we feel the plan should address, as well as other information and resources that would be relevant to this planning process. In reviewing your plan, our staff concurs with the overall priorities you have identified. They have provided some comments on those and additional priorities and focus areas for your consideration:

Priority Concerns:

1. Water Quality – Biggest concern.
2. Shoreland and Riparian Zones
3. Habitat and Outdoor Recreation
4. Water Storage and Retention/Wetlands
5. Groundwater Supply

Water Quality

Mississippi River

Issues:

1. Development – Adopt shoreland zoning laws that protect riparian lands and prevent erosion.
2. Impacts from tributaries – Primarily Little Rock Lake impacts to water quality on the river. Continue implementing BMPs in the watershed and support/encourage compliance with new buffer laws.
3. Agriculture – Crop fields are common along the east bank. Some erosion is occurring on the banks due to crop fields located too close to the river. Buffer laws and bank stabilization efforts are needed.

Little Rock Lake

Issues:

Appendix A: Priority Concerns Scoping Document

1. Water quality issues – algae blooms and nutrient loading. Support efforts to do a drawdown of the lake to consolidate nutrients and encourage vegetation growth in the lake by manipulating Sartell Dam.
2. TMDL – Address by continuing to implement BMPs in the watershed and support/encourage compliance with new buffer laws.
3. Agriculture – Institute BMPs on agricultural lands and use conservation farming practices including continued work with irrigation budgeting, optimizing nutrient applications to crop fields, and planting of cover crops. Emphasize BMPs which minimize erosion and loss of nutrients to surface waters.

Little Rock Creek (and Watershed)

Issues:

1. Sedimentation/erosion – Several banks in Benton County experience severe erosion. Support buffer laws and encourage BMPs which minimize erosion and loss of nutrients and soil to surface waters. Support projects to stabilize banks.
2. Hydrology/flow issues – Little Rock Creek suffers from extreme flashiness after significant rain events characterized by very sharp storm hydrographs at DNR/MPCA flow monitoring stations. This disrupts normal channel design and function leading to poor sediment transport issues in the stream. The result is sedimentation of important hard substrates important to aquatic macroinvertebrates and fish for spawning.
3. TMDL – Emphasize BMPs that stop nutrient inputs from crop fields. Support new buffer laws. Support BMPs that reduce erosion/sedimentation to address fish community diversity.
4. Continue to support and work with the MN Pollution Control Agency, MN Dept. of Health and MN Dept. of Agriculture on nutrient and fertilizer management for nitrate reduction in surface and groundwater resources. In particular, we encourage support of the Dept. of Agriculture Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan.
5. Continue to Support the MN Dept. of Health and MN Dept. of Agriculture in helping assist the City of Rice keep nitrate levels in City wells below the health risk limit.
6. Promote participation in the MN Dept. Of Agriculture's water quality certification program.

Mayhew Lake

Issues:

1. Nutrients – Encourage BMPs that arrest nutrient inputs to Mayhew Creek and Mayhew Lake. Fence cattle from accessing the lake. Support drawdown of the lake to consolidate sediments and nutrients and encourage plant growth.
2. Fish Kills – Nutrient issue – same as above.
3. Lack of Vegetation – Result of algae blooms due to nutrient inputs. BMPs in watershed to minimize nutrient input. Support buffer laws.

Elk River, St. Francis River, and West Branch Rum River

Issues:

1. Sedimentation/Nutrient Loading – Support buffer laws and initiate BMPs in the watershed that reduce erosion/excessive runoff.

DNR (continued)

Shoreland and Riparian Zones

In all riparian areas (whether riverine or lacustrine systems): Educate and communicate the benefits of land use BMPs (i.e. reduced impervious surface, shoreline buffers, bioengineering vs. rock riprap, grassed filter strip swales, rain gardens, etc.) for water quality improvement. Work with cities or associations (home owners or lake associations) regarding wastewater treatment education (septic or municipal systems) and water conservation efforts.

Mississippi River and tributaries

1. Support the purchase of conservation easements/Aquatic Management Areas along the river.
2. Support buffer laws.
3. Stabilize eroding banks. Prioritize projects and work toward shoreline restoration and buffer establishment to reduce erosion, nutrient input, and sedimentation during Sartell pool drawdown events.
4. Support and increase storm water BMP installations or retrofits for pre-treatment efforts in the St. Cloud and Sauk Rapids Municipal areas, particularly those in the vicinity of the St. Cloud drinking water intake for source water protection.

Little Rock Creek

1. Support purchase of trout stream easements along the stream.
2. Support buffer laws.

Little Rock Lake and Mayhew Lake

1. Adopt Alternative Shoreland Standards (Radomski).
2. Fence cattle from the stream (Mayhew Lake).
3. Support buffer laws.

Elk and St. Francis River Watersheds

1. Implement watercourse and ditch buffer enforcement requirements.

Habitat and Outdoor Recreation

Little Rock Lake and Mayhew Lake

1. Lakes have poor habitat. Support efforts to complete drawdowns to encourage emergent and submergent vegetation growth and improve water quality. Better water quality/clarity will improve natural reproduction of desirable fish species.

Mississippi River

1. Preserve riparian lands through buffer laws or support of purchase of conservation easements/Aquatic Management Areas.
2. Investigate ways to reduce wake damage to shorelines resulting from excessive recreational boating. No wake zones.

Little Rock Creek

1. Support buffer laws.
2. Support purchase of trout stream easements to permanently protect riparian habitat.

Water Storage and Retention

Wetlands

1. Encourage restoration of drained wetlands to high quality conditions for floodwater retention, which ultimately reduces erosion and sedimentation. Implement upland buffers on restored wetlands for ecosystem enhancement and wildlife/pollinator habitat improvement.
2. Protect and enhance remaining wetlands.
3. Abandon ditches that drain wetlands.
4. Monitor ditching and tiling in the county.

Groundwater Supply

Little Rock Creek Watershed:

1. Support groundwater conservation efforts regarding improving quantity and quality
2. Consider encouraging irrigation management strategies be incorporated with the Dept. of Agriculture's water quality certification program.
3. Encourage ongoing support of the SWCD/DNR cooperative observation well monitoring contracts
4. Support the current Benton SWCD Irrigation Efficiencies project
5. Encourage supporting an update to the University of MN Extension Irrigation Guide
6. Encourage support for communities adopting revised DNR Water Supply Plans
7. Encourage support for the pending DNR Little Rock Creek Sustainable Groundwater Use Plan and Groundwater modeling project for the Little Rock Creek watershed.
8. Explore opportunities to increase aquifer recharge and provide financial assistance for related projects.
9. Encourage support to increase education and awareness about groundwater sustainability
10. Encourage support for long term monitoring of surface water flow in Little Rock Creek and adjacent water table/buried aquifers levels.

Please feel free to contact me with with regard to these comments, 651-259-5809, gina.bonsignore@state.mn.us

Sincerely,


Gina Bonsignore

Regional Planner, Central Region

CC:

Keith Parker, MN DNR Regional Director
Steve Marod, MN DNR Fisheries Specialist
Nicola Blake-Bradley, MN DNR Area Hydrologist
Jason Weinerman, MN BWSR Board Conservationist

3. MDA

amanda@soilandwater.org

From: Sip, Rob (MDA) <rob.sip@state.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 11:11 AM
To: amanda@soilandwater.org
Cc: Weirnerman, Jason (BWSR)
Subject: MDA Comments - Benton County Water Plan
Attachments: Final Version Reducing Ditch System Maintenance Costs Factsheet in the RRB - March 25, 2015.pdf; NRCS_FarmLandClassification_2016_MN_2.pdf; 2015 Crow Wing Prioritization.pdf; Drainage Recommendations for Local Water Management Plans.pdf

Amanda,

Below is a website that MDA has developed to discuss and illustrate priority concerns and not sure if you had seen any of this in the past. Also, there are two weblinks below that illustrate various MDA grant and loan programs. The MDA realizes that recommendations are implemented based on staff, financial and technical resources and that this is not a complete update or re-write. In addition to the website recommendations, the MDA is providing additional information below to highlight priorities.

MDA Water Planning Assistance Website:

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/en/protecting/waterprotection/waterplanning.aspx>

MDA Grant and Loan Programs Brochure:

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/~media/Files/grants/finassistprograms.pdf>
<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/~media/Files/grants/finassistprograms1tr.pdf>

1. Drainage Water Management (DWM) - The MDA recommends additional effort be focused on encouraging landowners and farmers to implement DWM practices and management plans. The Benton County SWCD can play an important role in working with drainage authorities, landowners and agricultural groups to determine how best to promote and implement DWM practices. Attached are drainage related recommendations from the MDA, which are also being updating. A fact sheet from the Red River Watershed Management Board regarding ditch system maintenance is also attached. Please distribute this factsheet when appropriate as you work with area farmers and landowners and water management partners.

The MDA also recommends that Benton County consider the development of a Multipurpose Drainage Management Plan in conjunction with its partners and below is a recent example that you are probably aware of. While this is just one recent example, it may serve as a model for Benton County:
<http://www.co.martin.mn.us/images/Ditch%20Admin/Martin%20County%20Multipurpose%20Drainage%20Management%20Plan.pdf>

2. Water Storage - The MDA recommends that Benton County along with its water management partners consider the development of a water storage plan for both public drainage systems and for private on-farm water storage. This plan may build off of existing water or drainage management plans and may include but not be limited to the following:

- Communication of the development of a water storage plan with private landowners in Benton County.

1

- Obtaining flow data and setting flow goals agreed upon by landowners within each public ditch systems or sub-watersheds.
- Prioritizing public ditch systems or sub-watersheds based on flow goals with input from landowners.
- Assessment of where short-term and long-term water storage projects can be located. This may include several types of water storage, including smaller scale (wetland restorations) or larger scale projects such as constructed impoundments. However, larger scale projects are costly and require significant financial resources to engineer, construct, operate and maintain.
- Development of an implementation plan or schedule that would include discussion of funding considerations, again with landowner input.
- Operation and maintenance plans for each project.

The MDA is also aware of the sensitivity regarding past efforts to manage water on a regional basis and further recognizes that local policy-makers have difficult decisions to make regarding how to address these important issues.

3. Wind and Water Erosion - Attached is a map of prime soils that was recently updated by the USDA NRCS and please share this with your partners. The SWCD may have opportunities in the future to create additional awareness about prime soils by sharing and distributing this map. The MDA recommends that the Benton County water plan focus and renew efforts to reduce wind and water erosion and that efforts continue to implement more conservation practices such as WASCOBs, grassed waterways, etc., in priority areas.

Field windbreaks, farmstead windbreaks and small areas of trees or other vegetation have been removed from the landscape at unprecedented levels in recent years. However, the MDA also realizes that many of the field windbreaks that have been removed were beyond their lifespan. Windbreaks and vegetative plantings that also incorporate pollinator habitat can serve dual purposes. It is also critical that cover crops, residue management and other soil health initiatives be implemented at an increased levels. The MDA recommends that tools such as PTMAPP (website below) be used as your county continues its important water quality efforts: <http://www.rbdin.org/prioritize-target-measure-application-ptmapp>

4. Lake Management - The MDA recommends that a process be considered for development to prioritize lake management and protection efforts in Benton County. As an example, Crow Wing County developed a process (attached) to prioritize lake protection efforts. Recently two additional counties have adopted components of this process or have created similar lake protection efforts.

5. Nitrogen Issues - The MDA website below will direct you to the Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan, which includes a wealth of information about the plan, township testing, prevention, etc.: <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/nfmp>

6. MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) - This program is a volunteer opportunity for farmers and agricultural landowners to implement BMPs that protect water. Technical and financial assistance is available to those participating in the program and once certified, participants are granted regulatory certainty for 10 years. The MAWQCP is positioned to identify and treat agricultural risks to water quality throughout Minnesota. The MDA operates the MAWQCP in

2

MDA (continued)

collaboration with the MPCA, BWSR and DNR. Through these partnerships the MAWQCP is aligned with other nonpoint and water quality projects across multiple agencies.

Implementing new on-farm conservation practices that address nonpoint issues is best achieved on the local level and is designed to be delivered through Minnesota's 91 SWCDs. Implemented on the local level with these local partners, MAWQCP-certification is a key strategy local water plans can utilize when writing integrated management plans. The [Benton](#) County SWCD can provide MAWQCP information and encourage participation in the program to access technical and/or financial assistance to county landowners and operators implementing agricultural BMP's on working lands to reduce soil erosion, protect stream banks and improve water resources. MAWQCP website: <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/awqcp>

7. General Information about the MDA - you may wish to incorporate the following language if there is a need to illustrate state agency duties and responsibilities:

The MDA is statutorily responsible for the management of pesticides and fertilizer other than manure to protect water resources. The MDA implements a wide range of protection and regulatory activities to ensure that pesticides and fertilizer are stored, handled, applied and disposed of in a manner that will protect human health, water resources and the environment. The MDA works with the University of Minnesota to develop pesticide and fertilizer Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect water resources, and with farmers, crop advisers, farm organizations, other agencies and many other groups to educate, promote, demonstrate and evaluate BMPs, to test and license applicators, and to enforce rules and statutes. The MDA has broad regulatory authority for pesticides and has authority to regulate the use of fertilizer to protect groundwater. The MDA is the lead agency for all aspects of pesticide and fertilizer environmental and regulatory functions as directed in the Groundwater Protection Act (Minnesota Statute 103H). These include but are not limited to the following:

- Serve as lead agency for groundwater contamination from pesticide and fertilizer nonpoint source pollution.
- Conduct monitoring and assessment of agricultural chemicals (pesticides and nitrates) in ground and surface waters.
- Oversee agricultural chemical remediation sites and incident response.
- Regulate use, storage, handling and disposal of pesticides and fertilizer.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Robert L. Sip
Environmental Policy Specialist
Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Division
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
3725 12Th Street North
St. Cloud, MN 56303

320-223-6531 (Office)
651-319-1832 (Cell)
651-201-6120 (Fax)

4. MDH

Priority Concerns & Actions Input Benton County Local Water Management Plan Update

PRIORITY CONCERN 1:

Protect ground water-based drinking water sources within Benton County

Benton County's citizens depend on ground water for drinking water. Wellhead protection efforts result in public water suppliers developing and implementing wellhead protection plans. All public water suppliers within the county should be listed within the county management plan (see the below referenced web address for a complete listing of public water suppliers in Benton County). Private wells also need protection from potential contaminant sources.

Protecting the drinking water for the majority of citizens within Benton County is a wise and relatively inexpensive investment in the community's future. Additional information regarding drinking water supplies can be found at:

www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa/index.htm

What actions are needed?

Acknowledgement and support of public water supply wellhead protection areas within the county. Work with community and noncommunity public water suppliers in development and implementation of wellhead protection activities. Consider wellhead protection areas and groundwater vulnerability when making land use decisions to protect both public and private wells. When requested by a public water supplier, provide aid in efforts to locate wells for ground water modeling efforts undertaken in wellhead protection. All wells should be constructed with proper setbacks to potential contaminant sources in accordance of MN Rules Chapter 4725.

What resources may be available to accomplish the actions?

State, County and other local units of government or public water supplier staff time to provide input into development and implementation of wellhead protection plans and county-wide land use planning. Presently, the MDH through the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment are making source water protection grants available to assist public water suppliers address drinking water protection issues. Grants program information is available at:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/grants/index.html>

MDH Continued

What area(s) of the county is high priority?

As community and noncommunity nontransient public water suppliers complete wellhead protection plans there will be designated “drinking water supply management areas”. As these areas are approved by the MDH they are posted on the above listed website. All noncommunity transient public water suppliers have a 200 foot radius surrounding the well that is designated as the wellhead protection area. Other areas that have vulnerable geologic settings and private wells need to be protected. County Geologic Atlases contain information about groundwater vulnerability. A map of the state groundwater vulnerability (susceptibility) can be found here:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/whaf/about/scores/geomorphology/gw_contamination.html

PRIORITY CONCERN 2:**Sealing unused, unsealed wells**

Proper well abandonment is an effective means of protecting groundwater from potential contaminants that may be carried into an aquifer. Also, unused, unsealed wells can pose a safety hazard to children or animals and a potential liability to the well owner.

What actions are needed?

Inventory where unused, unsealed wells may be located. Develop or continue a cost share program to aid property owners in sealing unused, unsealed wells.

What resources may be available to accomplish the actions?

Local units of government staff for inventory purposes. County and City awareness to encourage well sealing where appropriate in land use decisions. Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment funds are currently available through MDH for well sealing of public water supply wells.

Other State and Federal programs may also include funding for well sealing.

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/sealing/index.html>

What area(s) of the county is high priority?

Wellhead protection areas. Based upon detail of inventory, unused, unsealed wells that reach or penetrate to the same aquifer used by a public water supply system should be sealed first.

PRIORITY CONCERN 3:**Develop a local ground-water quality data base.**

There is a need to better understand local ground water quality. Benton County should consider developing a water quality data bases for private wells that are compatible with the County Well Index and can be used in a geographic information system (GIS) format. The water quality data base can be used (1) to show the distribution of water quality problems, (2) characterize aquifers of concern, and (3) identify factors contributing to water quality problems. This can lead to better understanding of drinking water issues such as nitrate contamination or areas of arsenic in the county and the ability to track these contaminants. Currently, there is limited data available.

What actions are needed?

Evaluate the possibility of establishing a ground water data base using local data. Consider providing testing for private well owners.

What resources may be available to accomplish the actions?

The Minnesota Department of Health will assist in supplying expertise to help the county develop their water quality data base for storing and retrieving water quality data.

What area(s) of the county is high priority?

The entire county could benefit from this effort but areas of concern would include areas that currently are known to be impacted by nitrates, arsenic or other contaminants.

PRIORITY CONCERN: 4**Surface Drinking Water Protection - Mississippi River and Tributaries**

The Mississippi River is a major source of drinking water for the Minneapolis, St. Paul & St. Cloud metropolitan areas.

What actions are needed?

Inventory possible large contamination sources that may leak or spill contaminants into stormwater conveyances, ditches or tributaries of the Mississippi River upstream of drinking water inlets.

What resources may be available to accomplish the actions?

Local units of government staff for inventory purposes. County and City awareness to encourage proper material, waste and spill management. Pursue State and Federal programs that fund waste and spill management through local resource agencies.

What area(s) of the county is high priority?

Cities, commercial/industrial developments, bulk chemical storage/processing sites or other large manufacturing facilities located within 2 miles of the banks of the Mississippi river and cities, commercial / industrial developments bulk chemical storage sites or other large manufacturing facilities located adjacent to or on a tributary of the Mississippi River.

PRIORITY CONCERN: 5**Identify Possibly Surface Spill/Pollution Routes to Mississippi River**

The Mississippi River is a major source of drinking water for the Minneapolis, St. Paul & St. Cloud metropolitan areas.

What actions are needed?

Inventory and map stormwater and ditch outlets/outfalls into the Mississippi River or its tributaries so that emergency responders will have an inventory of sites and map locations in which to deploy spill response measures in the event of spills that threaten downstream drinking water intakes Mississippi River.

What resources may be available to accomplish the actions?

Local units of government staff for inventory purposes. County and City awareness to encourage proper material, waste and spill management planning. . Pursue State and Federal programs that fund waste and spill management planning through local resource agencies.

What area(s) of the county is high priority?

All stormwater and ditch outlets/outfalls discharging directly into the Mississippi River or discharging to its tributaries with 5 miles of the Mississippi.

5. PCA

**Minnesota Pollution Control Agency**

Brainerd Office | 7678 College Road | Suite 105 | Baxter, MN 56425 | 218-828-2492

800-657-3864 | Use your preferred relay service | info.pca@state.mn.us | Equal Opportunity Employer

March 9, 2017

Amanda Guertin
Water Plan Technician
Benton Soil and Water Conservation District
14 2nd Ave W.
Foley, MN 56329

RE: Priority Concerns for the Benton County Local Water Plan Update

Dear Ms. Guertin:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the priority concerns for the revision and update of the Benton County Local Water Management Plan (LWMP).

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) would like to sincerely thank Benton County and the Benton Soil & Water Conservation District (Benton SWCD) for all their hard work through the years in being essential water quality partners on projects within the three major watersheds, Mississippi River - St. Cloud (MRSC), Mississippi River – Sartell (MRS), and the Rum River of Benton County. The MPCA is currently conducting Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) on two of these watersheds, MRS and the Rum River, with the MRSC going into the second WRAPS/Intensive Watershed Monitoring Cycle in 2019. Upon completion, WRAPS and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) will be available on the MPCA's website.

In reviewing the Benton County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Amendment 2011-2018 document, the MPCA agrees with the overall priorities identified in the plan. While the MPCA recommends the approval of the LWMP, the MPCA would like to take this opportunity to provide some additional thoughts/comments for consideration in the LWMP update process. These comments are as follows on the next page:

PCA (continued)

- **Impaired Waters/Total Maximum Daily loads** – The Federal Clean Water Act requires states to adopt water quality standards to protect the nation's waters. These standards define how much pollution a surface and/or groundwater resource can accept while still allowing it to meet its designated uses, such as drinking water, fishing, swimming, irrigation, or industrial purposes. Many of Minnesota's water resources currently do not meet their designated uses because of pollution problems from a variety of sources.

Impaired waters information for Benton County, from the MPCA's Environmental Data Access website is enclosed (Table 1). Current impaired waters information (and TMDL information where approved) should be included in Benton County's LWMP. There have been several updates to the impaired waters listing since the last Benton County LWMP revision. These updates, underlined in Table 1, include EPA approvals on several TMDLs including the Little Rock Creek/Bunker Hill Creek, Little Rock Lake, Donavon Lake, Spunk Creek, and a bacteria de-listing of a Mississippi River reach. The LWMP should be updated to reflect these changes in the Clean Water Act Section 303d listing as well as the TMDL discussion section.

The EPA has approved a statewide TMDL for mercury and the MPCA will lead efforts on studies for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The MPCA recommends Benton County address water listed for pollutants/stressors other than mercury and PCBs in the LWMP.

- **Ongoing participation in the WRAPS processes** – The continued involvement in the ongoing and future WRAPS processes for the major watersheds within Benton County is strongly recommended. The participation and input provided by the county will significantly influence and help define the way these comprehensive watershed efforts are conducted. Also, within the LWMP, consider including a brief summary paragraph of each major watershed, which includes an update on the WRAPS process. If available, note some of the outcomes to date from the WRAPS and implementation priorities that have been identified.
- **Feedlot and Nutrient Management** – Continue to work with agricultural producers in the effort to install and maintain best management practices (BMPS) where necessary for water quality restoration and protection. High priority areas include the Little Rock Creek subwatershed, Elk River subwatershed, and along the Mississippi River corridor. Pasturelands within riparian areas present challenges within the county and throughout central Minnesota. Cooperative efforts working with landowners to limit or eliminate livestock access and to establish/maintain buffers to waterways and drainage areas (including private ditches) within pasture settings, will be key elements in helping address the various nutrient and bacteria impairments affecting surface water resources. Continued discussions during the LWMP process on the potential impacts of becoming a feedlot-delegated county is recommended.

- **Development** – Benton County is situated within an area of the state (urban-fringe county) where population and the accompanying development growth is projected to increase significantly in the near future. Strategic efforts to effectively manage this expected growth while maintaining the agricultural and environmental integrity of the county, will present challenges. The continued actions of working with local leaders and environmental partners through cooperative efforts such as the LWMP and statewide initiatives (e.g. WRAPS and Buffer program) will be essential in ensuring that future growth occurs in a way that serves the county and its resources most effectively. As development occurs, it is recommended to use Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) where possible. MIDS is based on low impact development, which is an approach to stormwater management that mimics a site's natural hydrology as the landscape is developed. Using the low impact development approach, stormwater is managed onsite and the rate and volume of predevelopment stormwater reaching receiving waters is unchanged.
- **Groundwater** – The continued cooperative efforts in working/planning with landowners and other agencies in addressing sustainable groundwater management will be vital in meeting the overall goals of effectively utilizing this essential resource, while protecting its quality and quantity into the future. Key areas of the county include the Little Rock Creek subwatershed and along the Mississippi River corridor. Ongoing groundwater monitoring for nitrates and other contaminants, including activities such as well-water nitrate testing clinics, will be important to ensure the health of the citizens of the county. The mapping of areas of concern will serve as valuable tools in strategic future development planning efforts for the county.

We look forward to our continued water quality partnership with Benton County and working through the WRAPS and TMDL processes in developing and implementing strategies to protect the surface and groundwater resources within Benton County. It is through the work of locally led efforts like the LWMP that implementation progress can be achieved in restoring and protecting the health of Minnesota's surface waters.

Please feel free to contact me at 218-316-3883 or at reed.larson@state.mn.us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Reed Larson
Manager
North Watershed Section
Watershed Division

Appendix A: Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Table 4: Benton County Impairments and TMDL status

Waterbody	ID	Impaired Use	Impairment Cause	Impairment Status	Added to Inventory
Mayhew Creek: Mayhew Lk (05-0007-00) to Elk R	07010203-509	Aquatic Life	Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments	TMDL Required	2006
Mayhew Creek: Unnamed Cr to CD 7	07010203-675	Aquatic Life	Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments	TMDL Required	2012
Elk River: Headwaters to Mayhew Cr	07010203-508	Aquatic Life	Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments	TMDL Required	2012
St Francis River: Headwaters to Unnamed Lk (71-0371-00)	07010203-700	Aquatic Life	Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments	TMDL Required	2012
St Francis River: Headwaters to Unnamed Lk (71-0371-00)	07010203-700	Aquatic Recreation	Escherichia coli	TMDL Required	2012
Elk River: Mayhew Cr to Rice Cr	07010203-507	Aquatic Recreation	Escherichia coli	TMDL Required	2012
Mayhew Creek: Mayhew Lk (05-0007-00) to Elk R	07010203-509	Aquatic Recreation	Escherichia coli	TMDL Required	2012
Mississippi River: Sauk R to University Dr. S bridge in St. Cloud	07010203-574 (729)	Aquatic Recreation	Escherichia coli	TMDL Required – <i>New reach ID 07010203-729 (part of MissR large river study)</i>	2010
Mississippi River: Watab R to Sauk R	07010201-502	Aquatic Recreation	Escherichia coli	<u>To be de-listed</u>	2012
Elk River: Headwaters to Mayhew Cr	07010203-508	Aquatic Recreation	Escherichia coli	TMDL Required	2012
Spunk Creek: Lower Spunk Lk to Mississippi R	07010201-525	Aquatic Recreation	Fecal Coliform	<u>TMDL Approved</u>	2008
Elk River: Headwaters to Mayhew Cr	07010201-508	Aquatic Life	Fishes Bioassessments	TMDL Required	2012
Platte River: Unnamed Cr (above RR bridge) to Mississippi R	07010201-545	Aquatic Life	Fishes Bioassessments	Removed from Inventory – <i>Miscellaneous Reasons</i>	2002
Mayhew Creek: Unnamed Cr to CD 7	07010203-675	Aquatic Life	Fishes Bioassessments	TMDL Required	2012
Mayhew Creek: Mayhew Lk (05-0007-00) to Elk R	07010203-509	Aquatic Life	Fishes Bioassessments	TMDL Required	2002
St Francis River: Headwaters to Unnamed Lk (71-0371-00)	07010203-700	Aquatic Life	Fishes Bioassessments	TMDL Required	2012
Little Rock Creek: T39 R30W, south line to T38 R31W S28, east line	07010201-548	Aquatic Life	Lack of Coldwater Assemblage	TMDL Approved	2002

Appendix A: Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Elk River: Headwaters to Mayhew Cr	07010203-508	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	2002
Elk River: Mayhew Cr to Rice Cr	07010203-507	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	2002
Mississippi River: Morrison/Stearns County border to Little Rock Cr	07010201-607	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Mississippi River: Platte R to Morrison/Stearns County border	07010201-606	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Mississippi River: Little Rock Cr to Sartell Dam	07010201-513	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Mississippi River: Two R to Spunk Cr	07010201-509	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Mississippi River: Sauk R to University Dr. S bridge in St. Cloud	07010203-574	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Mississippi River: Watab R to Sauk R	07010201-502	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Mississippi River: Spunk Cr to Platte R	07010201-508	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Mayhew: 7 MI SE of Rice	05-0007-00	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Little Rock: 1 MI E of Rice	05-0013-00	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury in Fish Tissue	TMDL Approved	1998
Little Rock Creek: T39 R30W S22, south line to T38 R31W S28, east line	07010201-548	Drinking Water	Nitrates	<u>TMDL Approved</u>	2010
Bunker Hill Creek: T38 R30W S6, north line to Little Rock Cr	07010201-511	Drinking Water	Nitrates	<u>TMDL Approved</u>	2010
Mayhew: 7 MI SE of Rice	05-0007-00	Aquatic Recreation	Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological Indicators	<u>TMDL Approved</u>	2008
Donovan: main bay	05-0004-02	Aquatic Recreation	Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological Indicators	<u>TMDL Approved</u>	2010
Little Rock: 1 MI E of Rice	05-0013-00	Aquatic Recreation	Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological Indicators	<u>TMDL Approved</u>	2008
Little Rock Creek: T39 R30W S22, south line to T38 R31W S28, east line	07010201-548	Aquatic Life	Oxygen, Dissolved	<u>TMDL Approved</u>	2010

Appendix B – Meeting Documentation

County Board Meeting 11-15-16

Resolution 2016 - # 41

Resolution to Update

The Benton County

Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan

Whereas, Minnesota Statutes, §103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act (Act), authorizes Minnesota counties to develop and implement a Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan, and

Whereas, the Act requires that a county update and revise their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan on a periodic basis, and

Whereas, the Act encourages that a county coordinate its planning with contiguous counties, and solicit input from local governmental units and state review agencies, and

Whereas, the Act requires that plans and official controls of other local governmental units be consistent with the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan, and

Whereas, Benton County has determined that the revision and continued implementation of a Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan will help promote the health and welfare of the citizens of Benton County, and

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Benton County Board of Commissioners resolve to revise and update its current Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan.

Be it Further Resolved that Benton County will coordinate its efforts in the revision and update of its Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan with all local units of government within the county, and the state review agencies.

Be it Further Resolved that the Benton County Board of Commissioners authorizes the establishment of a Water Resources Advisory Committee with the responsibility of revising and updating the plan and who shall report to the County Board on a periodic basis.

Be it Further Resolved that the Benton County Board of Commissioners delegates the SWCD responsibility of coordinating, assembling, writing and implementing the revised Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, §103B.301.

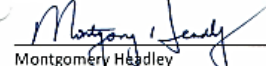
CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF BENTON

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of a resolution presented to and adopted by the County of Benton at a duly authorized meeting thereof held on the 15th of November 2016.


Spencer C. Buerkle, Chair
Benton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


Montgomery Headley
Benton County Administrator

WRAC Minutes 1-24-17

Benton County Water Resources Advisory Committee Minutes

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 – 9:00 AM

Benton County Commissioners Room – Foley, MN 56329

The Benton County Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Joe Wollak at 9:00 a.m. at the Benton County Commissioners Room on Tuesday January 24, 2017.

Voting Members Present: Steve Anderson- Citizen at Large; Jim Rau- Little Rock Lake Association; Joe Wollak- Citizen at Large; Warren Peschl - County Commissioner; Steve Simones- Township Officers Association; Joe Jordan - Elk River Watershed, Wade Bastian – Benton SWCD.

Voting Members Absent: Lisa Vollbrecht- City of St. Cloud.

Voting Member Excused: Dale Vouk - Citizen at Large.

Others Present: Pat Gehling- Natural Resources Conservation Service; Mark McNamara- Benton DOD; Nicole Ruhoff- Benton County Public Health; Dan Martens- Benton County Extension; Gerry Maciej- Benton SWCD, Mike McMillin – Benton SWCD, George Minerich – MDH, Sean Moe – DOD, Duane Cekalla – Citizen at Large, Nicola Blake-Bradley – DNR, Randy Pepin – University of Minnesota Extension, Steve Marod – DNR, Gene Kivi – Little Rock Lake Association, Greg Marshall – Mayhew Lake

(Three Priority Issues in Comprehensive Water Plan: 1) Groundwater quantity and quality, 2) Development, 3) Feedlots and Nutrient Management.)

1. Welcome and Introductions – Joe Wollak, Chair

2. Review and approve November 22, 2016 minutes

Motion by Warren Peschl, second by Steve Simones to approve the November 22, 2016 minutes. Motion Carried.

3. Review/Approve Agenda.

Motion by Duane Cekalla, second by Joe Jordan to approve the amended agenda. Motion Carried.

4. Reports and Announcements

A. USDA Programs Update - Pat Gehling, NRCS

Provided list of EQIP projects and related funds.

WRAC Minutes 1-24-17 - Continued**B. Buffer Law Update – Gerry Maciej, SWCD**

- Gerry provided a handout and map showing the status of buffer compliance and work to be done in Benton County. It is based on a January 1, 2017 review of aerial photos.
 - 3,084 parcels are adjacent to Public Waters.
 - 1,716 were determined to “not applicable.”
 - Of the remaining 1,332 parcels,
 - 1,150 designated as “Clearly in Compliance”
 - 182 designated as “Needs further Review” meaning a field review is needed or that they are clearly not in compliance. These require a buffer that averages 50 feet wide, with a minimum of 30, or acceptable alternative practices.
 - 278 parcels were identified as “Adjacent to Public Ditches”. The review work is in progress. There is more of this land that needs review and attention.
 - The deadline for buffer work on these areas is November 1, 2018, based on current law.
 - These require a 1.6 foot buffer or acceptable alternative practices.

Mayhew creek is partly public waters and partly a ditch. Some parts look more like a wetland, flat and wide.

QUESTION: Near the creek by Apollo High School, the city piles loads and loads of snow and salt and sand that is flushing into creek. There is a population of Mallard ducks that use this for overwintering. They feed off invertebrates, and contribute fecal material. Can't they find a better place to pile snow?

Future Efforts with Buffer Law:

- Buffer law concerns needs to be added to water plan.
- SWCD will come up with recommendations whether to add “other waters” to the map requiring buffers or alternative management practices. Other waters, could be none, or could be added. Additional measures could include educational work, voluntary compliance, ordinance changes, etc.
- SWCD needs to complete recommendation related to “other waters” by July 1, 2017. Casey Gwost will present info at a future meeting. The WRAC can have input.
- Non-Compliance will be subject to administrative penalties of \$500 per parcel. County has to decide by March 31 whether they want to accept this task, or default to BWSR. Funding from enforcement was supposed to go through special session that did not happen. Most counties are electing out of compliance enforcement. Is county funding for doing work tied to accepting enforcement tasks. Not currently.

C. Other Announcements

- Commissioner Peschl reported that interviews are being done for the Department of Development director position. The commissioners are seeking legislative approval for appointing, rather than electing the County Recorder.
- There has been no response from the state NRCS Office regarding letters written to convey concerns of re-alignment of NRCS staff. The Board of Commissioners and SWCD Board wrote letters in addition to this committee.

- Extension Educator Dan Martens shared information about a Nutrient Management Conference that will be held on Tuesday March 7 in St. Cloud at the River's Edge

5. Cover Crop and Manure Management Presentation - Randy Pepin, UM Extension.

Randy manages this field trial project to look at one strategy for using cover crops to hold onto nitrogen from manure applied in the fall. The goal with cover crops is to keep something green and growing on the landscape as much as possible. Cover crops help to build organic matter, protect soil surface from wind and water erosion, hold nitrogen, and provide forage feed.

One dilemma is that most cover crops need to be seeded by the end of August or earlier to be useful in the fall. Winter cereal can be planted from September to early October most years, late October some years. The preference is to apply manure when the soil is less than 50 degrees, usually late October. This trial looks at planting the cover crop as soon as possible after soybean or corn silage harvest, and injecting manure later into the growing cover crop. The rye is terminated in the spring at about 8 inches and corn is planted for grain or silage. Some sites use dairy manure and some use Swine manure.

Strips are replicated to the reliability of results can be determined. Soil samples are taken for nitrate tests in the spring. The biomass of above ground rye growth is measured in the spring and tested for nitrogen.

Results 1st year.

24" soil nitrate in spring average 86 pounds under cover crop strips and 154 under no cover strips, a difference 68 pounds. This indicates the rye cover crop was taking up nitrogen. Variability is driven by soil types, weather conditions, timing of tasks, spring termination date. Where there was more growth in spring with later termination dates, there was more uptake of nitrogen.

Biomass testing and calculations showed and average 62 lbs. of nitrogen per acre in the above ground plant material.

There was no significant difference in yield between cover and non-cover strips for either grain or corn silage. The nitrogen content of corn grain harvested from cover crop strips averaged 178 pounds per acre and 183 pounds per acre on non-cover crop strips, with no statistical difference.

The aggressiveness of manure application equipment is a factor. Rye is pretty durable and survives some abuse.

- What is cost vs benefit? Economics have not been calculated yet.
- Water and wind erosion is key concern on some land, beyond nutrient management.
- Want some rye growth in spring, but terminate by 8 inches is preferred.
- More mature rye plant material breaks down and release nitrogen for next crop more slowly
- Winter Cereal Rye can be successfully planted after corn silage and soybean harvest.
- Winter rye captures N from Manure
- Consider other soil benefits

WRAC Minutes 1-24-17 - Continued

6. Feedlot and Nutrient Management Projects – Mike McMillin, SWCD

Mike shared list of projects, stacking slabs, manure storage, filter strips, and clean water diversions.

- Cover crops on 5 farms. One was aerial seeded at the end of August in standing corn that was chopped later.
- Chesapeake Bay area estimates 6 pounds of N and 0.2 pounds of P per acres reduced pollution with cover crops.
- Erosion Control, sediments and nutrients
- Imminent Health Threat Septic Systems might be discharging on the surface, have sewage backing up in basements, or have electrical hazards.
- Test Plot
- Nitrogen inhibitor in Dairy manure \$10 per acre
- Gain yield gained by hanging onto nitrogen. Next year plots to measure N credit.
- Stacking Slabs
- Manure stock piles prohibited on sandy soil areas of leaching potential.
- Temporary stock piles are allowed.
- Project work totaled \$719,000 in 2016. \$724,000 carry over to 2017
- 2017
 - \$200,000 in Little Rock Lake Grant
 - \$200,000 Mayhew Lake
- Work is being done to evaluate whether projects on the land are making a difference toward TMDL Goals. The Elk River Watershed was identified as impaired with Phosphorus and EColi bacteria. The project studies water quality data for the last 20 years. Phosphorus could be showing slight decrease in lakes. It has not been flow adjusted.

7. Review of Water Plan Nutrient Management Action Items – Amanda Guertin, SWCD

Amanda provide handout estimating progress with Objectives 1-4 with some discussion around these items.

8. Water Plan Update – Amanda Guertin, SWCD

- Amanda reviewed steps that need to be taken.
- Currently working on step 3, Scoping document and priority concerns.
- Notification of plan update to all local government units.
- Need at least one publicly noticed meeting.
- Discussed strategies to gather input: flyer, public input forum, Email, print mail, newspaper, meeting contacts.
- Would want surveys back by end of March.
- DNR has license angler addresses.
- Priority and Scoping document submitted for review by other agencies.
- The goal for Water Plan Update is July 2018.

9. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Force - Mark McNamara, Department of Development

Circulated listed examples of plant and critter species.

Questions to this group:

1. Do you wish to temporarily expand the task force?
2. Do you wish to hold the meetings prior to, or after, or separate?
3. How many people do you want? Lake association and creek or river folks may be key.

Discussion:

- Have we determined there's a problem that needs \$37,000 to solve? That's part of the task.
- What is DNR already doing?
- Carp, zebra mussel, Eurasian milfoil, education is most important, clean boats, etc.
- What makes a difference?
- Inspection programs.
- Sherburne has formed a taxing district to levy to have resources to deal with the problem.

Motion by Wade Bastian, Second by Duane Cekalla to meet on Tuesday February 28, 10 a.m. at the County Commissioner's Board Room. Motion Carried.

10. WRAC Meeting Schedule.

Amanda handed out a proposed Schedule.

- February 28 WRAC for purpose of dealing with Aquatic Invasive Species.
- March 28, 2017 10:00 A.M.
- June 27, 2017
- September 26, 2017
- November 28, 2017
- January 23, 2018
- March 27, 2018
- May 22, 2018

Motion by Warren Peschl, second by Duane Cekalla to adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at about 11:27 a.m.

Rice City Council Meeting 2-13-17

City of Rice
205 Main St E – PO Box 179
Rice, MN 56367



Rice City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 13th, 2017 – 7 PM

1. Meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm. Present: Dale Rogholt, Bryan Anderson, Chris Scheel, Paula Kampa, and Brian Skroch. Also present: Jonathon Fleck, City Engineer and Stephanie Roggenbuck, Clerk.

2. Skroch made a motion to accept Agenda as presented. Second by Anderson. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

3. Scheel made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as amended to include **3.a.** Approval of Minnesota Rural Water Association Membership 2017 **3.b.** Approval of Park Board Meeting Minutes January 3rd, 2017 **3.c.** Approval of Park Board Meeting Minutes January 10th, 2017 **3.d.** Approval of Park Board meeting Minutes January 31st, 2017 **3.e.** Approval of Planning Commission Meeting Minutes December 27, 2016 **3.f.** Approval of Special City Council Meeting Minutes January 10th, 2017 **3.g.** Approval of Special City Council Meeting Minutes January 11th, 2017 **3.h.** Approval of Special City Council Meeting Minutes January 17th, 2017. **3.i.** Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes January 17th, 2017 **3.j.** Approval of Special City Council Meeting Minutes February 6th, 2017 **3.k.** Approval of January 2017 Fire Department Report **3.l.** Approval of January 2017 Police Department Report **3.m.** Approval of 2017 MCFOA Annual Conference **3.n.** Approval of 2017 Rice Area Chamber of Commerce Membership. Second by Skroch as amended. Discussion by Kampa to update the previous clerk to the current clerk for the Minnesota Rural Water Association. 5 ayes, 0 nays motion carried.

4. Citizen Participation:

Ed Popp was present to discuss the intersection of county road 2 and 21 and mentioned that the state completed a survey in October of 2015 and was amazed at the number of cars that exit as it is over 2,000 cars a day. Those numbers do qualify for a three way stop. The other part that was discussed was the possibility of the state coming in and pay for fixing this problem. Popp added there was no count of the cars leaving town only coming into town. Popp stated that this area is a problem and something will be done but does not have a timeline yet. Sometime in the future there should be a three way stop there.

Karla Virnig was present to discuss a street light issue. Virnig stated that the street light has been an ongoing issue for at least three months and has yet to be fixed. Virnig added that she been disappointed on how long it has been taking and is wondering how long the City waits until they will do something. It is very dark in that area and is afraid of potential accidents. Scheel mentioned he will call Little Rock Electric tomorrow.

5.a. Discuss/Approve Resolution 021317-01 Donation: Skroch made a motion to approve Resolution 021317-01 Donation from the Rice Firefighter's Association to the Rice Police Department for the purchase a speed radar sign in the amount of \$2,500.00 as amended. Second by Kampa as amended. Discussion by Scheel to change name on resolution to Rice Firefighter's Association. 5 ayes, 0 nays motion carried.



City of Rice
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5.b. Discuss/Approve RFP Assessor: Kampa made a motion to discuss and approve Maurice Balder as the assessor for the City of Rice as amended. Second by Scheel as amended. Discussion by Rogholt stating that he has no reservations to continue on with what they City currently has with Maurice Balder. Anderson stated he is just fine keeping things the way they are. Scheel stated that both assessors presented great presentations, but thinks that Maurice Balder has the history with the City and has a great working relationship with him. Kampa stated her vote is for Maurice Balder. Skroch stated his vote is Maurice Balder. 5 ayes, 0 nays motion carried.

5.c. Discuss/Approve RFP Comprehensive Park and Trail Plan: Skroch made a motion to accept the Park Board's recommendation of hiring Bolton and Menk to do the Comprehensive Parks and Trails plan not to exceed \$14,960.00 as amended. Second by Scheel as amended. Discussion by Rogholt to include the maximum price. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

5.d. Discuss/Approve Large Gathering Permit (Heritage Day Parade): Scheel made a motion to approve the large gathering permit for the Heritage Day Parade on March 18th, 2017 as presented. Second by Kampa. Discussion by O'Brien regarding a spring fun run and would like to do something like that for the next year and asked Hamann what they would need to do that. O'Brien added that possibly at some point they can get this coordinated with the Rice Women of Today. 5 ayes, 0 nays motion carried.

5.e. Discuss/Approve Ball Field Agreement 2017: Scheel made a motion to approve the Ball field agreement between Softballs Inc. and the City of Rice. Second by Skroch. Discussion by Meyer that they would like to the opportunity to have Tuesday nights in addition to Thursday nights so they could have a possible split of a women's or co-recreation league. Rogholt asked how that would affect the monetary portion of the agreement. Meyer stated it will give the City more money and can always work around Rice Recreation programs. Rogholt stated to approve this agreement and bring in an addendum to the original agreement at the next council meeting reflecting the added Tuesday night's. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

5.f. Discuss/Approve Softball Liquor License/Signage: Kampa made a motion to approve the Softball Liquor License application and exclude the signage portion as amended. Second by Anderson as amended. Discussion by Meyer regarding the signage ordinance along the ballfield and according to City ordinance it is an approved place for signage so what they would like to propose because of the high costs of the upkeep of the ballfields, the opportunity to put area businesses signage up at the field and would split the profit with the City. Scheel stated that the council has not entertained this idea as they would have to revisit the city ordinances and would be something that would need to be run through the planning commission. Scheel also mentioned that they should approach the Lion's club for help with the upkeep. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

6.a. Watab Fire Department Report: Pat Spence, Township Board supervisors, and Maureen Graber were present to discuss some of their wishes for the Watab Fire Contract. Pat Spence mentioned that they are pleased with the service with the Rice Fire Department and part of the reason we want to talk to the council tonight is to explain that they are not the same as Graham and Langola township as their township is a urban township. Spence mentioned that she sincerely hopes that the township will develop a better relationship with the City moving forward and for several

Rice City Council Meeting 2-13-17 Continued

City of Rice
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years the formula that was used had them overpaying for several years. Spence mentioned that they appreciate Rogholt and his cooperation with the township. Spence mentioned that two years ago they asked the City to drop the first responder medical service portion of the contract and it failed. Maureen Graber provided a financial analysis and mentioned that it is a huge burden to the township by having the medical service. The first responder medical service is not affordable for Watab Township and they provided a contract history and costs in the service areas. If Watab could get a contract with the City of Rice that didn't include the medical portion it would make it more financially feasible for the township. Spence mentioned that the township should have the option according to the Attorney general's office. The City's revenues in 2015 in fire contract payments were a total of \$88,837.54 and Watab's contribution is \$40,106.00 which is 45% of the City's revenues of fire contract payments. Spence stated that all we are asking is to remove the medical portion of the service.

Scheel stated that on the night of thanksgiving the Fire Department was there way seven to eight minutes before gold cross and that was significant in an emergency situation such as that.

Spence then presented the proposed contract and highlighted the changes that Watab would like to see. Spence mentioned again that they would like the medical services portion dropped from the contract. If the first responder medical service portion is not removed, Spence stated the Watab township board will be looking elsewhere and would really like for the City to honor their request.

6.b. Rice Firefighter's Association Report: The Rice Firefighter's Association stated that themselves, as well as the Boy Scouts, and Sportsmen's club have rooms downstairs in the Old Village Hall. They are proposing doing some work downstairs by building some cabinets and moving the old bar upstairs and make it portable so it can be utilized.

Council consensus to go ahead and get building plans.

6.c. Engineering Transition Update: Fleck presented a progress update to the City Council. Fleck mentioned that most of the information requested from the City has been received and the letters are sent out to notify agencies of engineer transitions. Fleck added that the street commission meeting regarding the proposed street project went great and will present to the council in March what the project should look like. The next steps will be to continue gathering information, determine path forward for GIS website, request information and data from BMI and continue to learn about the City's goals and needs.

6.d. Benton County Soil and Water Conservation District Plan: Amanda Guertin with Benton County stated that the Benton County Soil and Water Conservation District management plan expires in 2018 and they are currently working on updating the plan. Some of the first steps in writing the plan is to discuss water concerns in the county and that is why she asked to attend this meeting. Water quality is a big concern in this area and requested that the council fill out surveys and list their priority concerns.

Rogholt asked how the water plan affects Rice. Guertin stated that if there is something in the plan regarding priority concerns it is easier to obtain funding for a project if it's listed in the water plan. Popp mentioned that Benton County Soil and Water has been very successful in the past in getting grant funding.



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6.e. Treasurer's Report: Council reviewed the treasurer's report.

6.f. Clerk's Report: Scheel made a motion to approve the purchase of the radar detection trailer to be purchased as soon as possible so the City can receive the grant money. Second by Skroch. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

6.g. Personnel Committee Update: Kampa stated that the compost site workers need to be posted and the two past employees need to re-apply if they would like to come back.

Skroch made a motion to post for the hiring of two compost site workers starting 02/14/2017 with a deadline of 4 PM March 2nd, 2017. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

7. Announcements/Upcoming Meetings: a) Planning Commission Meeting February 27th, 2017 7 PM b) Special City Council Meeting March 6, 2017 6 PM c) City Council Meeting March 6, 2017 7 PM d) Park Board Meeting March 7, 2017 6 PM e) Economic Development Committee Meeting March 14th, 2017 5:15 PM f) Finance Board Meeting March 20, 2017 6 PM g) City Council Meeting March 20, 2017 7 PM.

9. Approval of Bills/Electronic Transfers: Kampa made a motion to approve the Bills/Electronic Transfers as presented. Second by Anderson. 5 ayes 0 nays motion carried.

10. Adjourn: Scheel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47PM. Second by Skroch. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

Approved on March 6th, 2017

Stephanie Roggenbuck – Clerk

Dale Rogholt, Mayor

Minden Township Meeting 2-14-17

Minden Township
Regular Monthly Meeting
February 14, 2017

Members Present: Steve Simones, Chairperson, Pam Benoit, Steve Goulet, Supervisors, Marie Pflipsen, Treasurer, Glenice Mehrwerth, Appointed Clerk Members absent: None

The Yearly Financial Audit was held at 7:00 p.m. The Audit opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The full board discussed the financial status of the township. A motion by Pam Benoit and seconded by Steve Goulet to accept the audit as presented. Motion carried. Adjournment was at 7:40 by motion by Steve Goulet, seconded by Pam Benoit. Carried.

1. Opening with Pledge of Allegiance.
2. The agenda was approved with the following additions: Thermo Tech. Motion to approve was by Steve Goulet and seconded by Pam Benoit. Motion carried.
3. The minutes were approved by motion by Steve Goulet and seconded by Pam Benoit. Motion carried.
4. The claims were approved by Pam Benoit and seconded by Steve Goulet. Motion carried.
5. Visitors/Audience: Amanda Guertin, Benton County Water Plan Technician and Wayne Cymaluk, MS4 Certified Inspector from Stearns County was present to present their services and cost. Wayne's private company is WC Environmental, LLC, if hired by the township he would be helping Minden with the MS4 inspections. The board did not make a decision on hiring Wayne. There will be more discussion on this matter at the March meeting.
6. New Business
 - a. Election Judges for Township Election will be Glenice Mehrwerth, Head Judge, Esther Ebnet, Pam Gilson and Judy Sommers, Alternate. A motion by Pam Benoit and seconded by Steve Goulet to accept the judges. Motion carried.
 - b. A motion by Steve Goulet and seconded by Pam Benoit to allow the absentee voting at the Clerk's house on Saturday, March 11, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
 - c. The township will be checking at possibly hiring Sentence to Serve from the Sheriff's office for brush cutting on township roads. A motion by Steve Goulet and seconded by Pam Benoit to hire STS for brush cleanup. Motion carried.
 - d. Levies suggested for the annual meeting was General Fund \$46,000, Road & Bridge \$110,000, Fire \$49,000.
 - e. A suggestion to have audience discussion time at the end of the meeting prior to adjournment will be discussed at the next meeting.
7. Old Business:
 - a. The bathroom remodeling will be discussed at the annual meeting.
 - b. Marie Pflipsen will continue to add minutes and agendas to the web site after leaving the treasurer's position.
 - c. The board accepted the resignation of Glenice Mehrwerth as of March 14, 2017 by motion by Steve Goulet and seconded by Pam Benoit. Motion carried. A motion by Steve Goulet to appoint Cindy Abraham to fill the clerk position from March 15, 2017 until the end of the term in 2018. Motion seconded by Pam Benoit. Motion carried.
8. Treasurer's Report: Disbursements \$4,949.57; Payroll \$1,235.64 Total: \$6185.21 Income: F&M Bank: Interest on checking \$2.94; Copies \$.50; Benton Cty Final Settlement \$1,527.77; Title search \$20.00; Candidacy Fee \$6.00. Total \$1,557.21. Check Book Balance \$65,001.60; Money

Market \$5,981.75; CD's \$116,101.58; Total on Hand \$187,084.93. Motion by Pam Benoit and seconded by Steve Goulet to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

9. Mail: Score Grant Application was received from the county. The board will get more information from the county before applying for a grant. Gambling Tax was discussed as to where the money is donated. More information is needed from the State on distribution of the money.
10. Meetings attended by board members: Pam and Steve attended the Joint Powers meeting in Sauk Rapids. Steve also attended a CMWEA meeting.
11. A motion by Pam Benoit and seconded by Steve Goulet to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Chair Clerk

Watab Township Meeting 3-07-17**Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes for March 7, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 by Chairman Craig Gondeck. Board members present were Treasurer Eileen Saldana, Clerk Pat Spence, Supervisor Gondeck, Supervisor Lloyd Erdmann, and Supervisor Todd Waytashek. Audience members were Engineer Jon Bogart, Jason Kruger, Ed Kacures, Anna Saldana, Ray Thompson, Allen and Sandra Saldana, Dick Raveling, Bob Raveling, Kevin Reiter, Jerome Walker, John Walker, Katie Wilson, Erik Forsberg, Brian Erdmann, Ray Thompson, Jeff Hanson, Maureen Graber, and Amanda Guertin. Following the Pledge to the Flag, the following changes were made to the agenda through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann: discuss donations to the township and the recognition of an employee; motion passed.

Chair Gondeck introduced Jon Bogart to continue the Public Hearing on Alterations to 95th Street NW. He noted that changes had been made to move the edge of the road an additional eight feet away from Jerome Walker's house than the previous plan. Jon is waiting for the go ahead from the Town Attorney when the final permanent easement has been obtained, so that the project can go out for bids. Jerome Walker had reviewed the plan prior to the beginning of the meeting; Allen and Sandra Saldana came forward at this time to see it. Ray Thompson asked why the road isn't staying exactly where it is currently. Jerome Walker came forward and stated that Allen and Sandra Saldana should give a quit claim deed to the township for some of their property, so the road could move toward their house. Supervisor Gondeck responded that the project was discussed for public input at last year's annual meeting, and everyone was in favor of moving ahead with improving it. Ray stated that the board should get some common sense and leave it where it is or cancel the whole project. Kevin Reiter asked if moving the road would affect Walker's property value. Chair Gondeck responded that the board is keeping the road within the township right of way, and the house is located incorrectly due to a Benton County permitting error many years ago. Maureen Graber asked to have discussion closed, since the discussion wasn't going anywhere. There were no other comments or questions.

A motion was made by Supervisor Waytashek, second by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to approve the minutes of the February 7 Regular Meeting and the February 28 Public Hearing on Alterations to 95th Street NW. Eileen Saldana gave the Treasurer's Report with a cash balance of \$563,862.20. A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Waytashek, and passed to accept her report. Supervisor Gondeck thanked her for her many years of service. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Waytashek, and passed to pay the Claims # 6303 – 6325 and Electronic Transfers for PERA, MN Dept. of Revenue, and IRS totaling \$28,696.95.

Citizen's Issues: Amanda Guertin, Benton Soil and Water Conservation District staff member, reported that the Benton County Water Plan is being updated to protect water resources in the county and come up with goals and plans to help improve water quality. She has a survey online and handouts available to describe the project. Agriculture will be addressed in the new

water plan. Dick Raveling asked about the aquifer level. Kevin Reiter asked about water quality testing. Amanda responded that she does not have answers on the aquifer level, and residents can bring in water samples to the BCSWCD for free testing. Maureen Graber added that grants are available for failing septic systems and well sealing. The board thanked Amanda for coming.

Old Business included the following:

- A. Brownfield Grant: Supervisor Gondeck showed the consultant three blighted Watab sites: one commercial and two residential properties. He said that he would like to invite the consultant to a future meeting. It takes about 6 months to get the grant.
- B. Frontage Road: Clerk Spence was asked to inquire if Jim Dahl is back in Minnesota to set up a meeting with him. She also referred to an email from someone who doesn't want the frontage road extending past the Golf Course to the north.
- C. Supervisor Gondeck reported on Land Disturbance Permits.
- D. Update on the Rice Fire Contract: Maureen Graber and Supervisor Gondeck attended that Rice City Council Planning Meeting last evening. The City wants to give Watab another three month extension, because they aren't prepared to make a decision. Maureen said they still have a lot of questions; the Fire Chief hasn't analyzed the city cost of the calls. The Mayor said the City would lose money if they only collected \$75 per cancelled call. Supervisor Waytashek asked the Clerk if it was true that the Fire Chief had told her and Maureen that the City might not have to charge the township anything for cancelled calls; she responded, "Yes." Maureen suggested that the Supervisors make sure there is a thirty-day cancellation clause in the next contract. Supervisor Gondeck said that a large concern for the City is how dropping our medical calls will affect the morale of the fire department. Eric Forsberg and Katie Wilson were present to tell the story of their daughter's medical call, and to stress that they don't want medical calls dropped. They are very concerned that their daughter might die without the Rice First Responders; they live on River Road immediately north of 95th Street NW. Supervisor Gondeck responded that the township's major goal is to get costs under control. Maureen added that the township has been discussing getting the costs under control for at least ten years. Supervisor Gondeck added that the Foley Fire Department charges \$100 per medical call; Rice charges \$350. He concluded the discussion by stating that he won't be surprised if the City ignores most of the township's requests for the contract.
- E. Benton County Association of Township Meeting recap was given by Clerk Spence. County elected officials and town boards from throughout the county attended the meeting on February 16th at Watab's Town Hall.
- F. Supervisor Gondeck nominated Patrick Virnig to receive the first Watab Pride Award for cleaning up a blighted property and then building a home on it. Motion was passed by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Waytashek, and passed to approve the nomination. He will be invited to the April board meeting to receive the award, which will be a gift certificate to Rumor's donated by a private citizen.
- G. Supervisor Gondeck said that the acoustical tiles for the ceiling at the town hall will be installed this month. He received approval from the Sauk Rapids Fire Chief on the materials.
- H. The new storage cabinets for plats have been installed in the Supervisor's room.

Watab Township Meeting 3-07-17 Continued

- I. Supervisor Gondeck spoke with the Department of Development regarding the request for the portable toilet to be located again at St. Regis Park. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed to send a letter to Monty Headley asking that the portable toilet be placed there year-round.

New Business included:

- A. Siren Maintenance Contract: Frontline Outdoor Warning Sirens of Monticello are recommending an annual maintenance contract for the two outdoor warning sirens for \$500 per year; the proposed contract was reviewed by the board. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion, second by Supervisor Waytashek, and passed to approve the contract. Allen Saldana asked why the siren didn't go off with the recent wind storm. Supervisor Gondeck said that others had also asked, and he will check on it tomorrow.
- B. Clerk Spence showed the Supervisors three possibilities to replace the current donation board. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to purchase a two-door, oak framed letter board for \$366.
- C. Chair Gondeck gave a brief summary of the Governor's Fishing Opener, which will be held in St. Cloud. Volunteers are needed to supply boats and drive visitors for the fishing, which will be on the Mississippi River and also may extend to the Channel and Little Rock Lake. There will also be an event at Lake George on May 12th with a variety of vendors.
- D. Motion was made to renew the township's membership in the Central Minnesota Water Education Alliance for \$586; motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed. It helps fulfill the township's public education component for the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Permit from MPCA.
- E. The Minnesota Association of Townships is holding an Urban Short Course on April 20th. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann and passed to have Todd, Pat, and Craig attend the training.
- F. Clerk Spence reported on the board's responsibility to find state statutes that allow the township to make donations recommended by voters at the Annual Meeting. If there isn't a statute that allows the donation, board members are personally responsible to repay the funds donated.
- G. Watab's Board of Equalization will be April 11th at 2:30 p.m. Supervisors Waytashek and Erdmann will need to get certificates of training this summer.
- H. Benton County has sent Watab the annual Park Dedication Report. There is a year-end balance of \$10,236. Jeff Hanson asked questions about it. Supervisor Gondeck stated that the town board wants to have control of the park dedication dollars in the future.
- I. Clerk Spence gave the report on the Annual Election and Meeting for March 11th. Polling hours are from 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting will immediately follow. Absentee voting is on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until noon.
- J. The Minnesota Association Township Short Course is March 28th at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud; Clerk Spence was asked to have a check prepared to cover the registration fee.
- K. Supervisor Gondeck said that he and Clerk Spence would be going on the District 8 Bus Trip to the Capitol tomorrow for lobbying purposes on township issues. Maureen Graber suggested that they discuss funding for election equipment.

- L. A motion was made by Supervisor Waytashek, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed to continue the Public Hearing on Alterations to 95th Street NW to April 4th at 7:00 p.m. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed to accept the Permanent Easements from Phillip Saldana and Willard and Joyce Laab.
- M. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed for Supervisor Gondeck and Clerk Spence to attend the MS4 training in Willmar on April 26th.
- N. Newsletter donations total \$1,650. Supervisor Gondeck thanked Ed Kacures for coming up with the idea for the newsletter; there was a round of applause from the audience.

Board Work Plan: Supervisor Gondeck will attend a March 24th meeting at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud on water runoff issues. He will continue to work on township signs; recently some have been stolen. Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, second by Supervisor Waytashek, and passed to authorize him to order crack filling material. Roads will be chosen on the spring road tour, which will be scheduled at the next meeting. Supervisor Erdmann and Clerk Spence will get the meeting scheduled with the Golf Course owners regarding the frontage road. The board will ask residents at the Annual Meeting for a preferred date for the 85th Street input meeting.

Citizen's Issues: Jason Kruger talked about the Sauk Rapids Rice school district referendum vote coming up in May and recommended more information be provided residents at the Annual Meeting.

Supervisor Gondeck called Eileen Saldana forward to receive an engraved plaque and congratulations from the board on her thirty-eight years of service as the Township Treasurer. A board photo was taken with Eileen receiving the plaque and refreshments were enjoyed after the meeting to honor her. She will be missed.

Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence

WRAC Meeting 3-28-17

**Benton County Water Resources Advisory Committee Minutes
Tuesday, March 28, 2017 – 10:00 AM
Benton County Commissioners Room – Foley, MN 56329**

The Benton County Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Wade Bastian at 10:07 a.m. at the Benton County Commissioners Room on Tuesday March 28, 2017.

CHECK Voting Members Present: Wade Bastian – Benton SWCD; Joe Jordan - Elk River Watershed; Jim Rau- Little Rock Lake Association; Steve Simones- Township Officers Association; Dale Vouk-Citizen at Large;

CHECK Voting Members Absent: Steve Anderson- Citizen at Large; Warren Peschl – County Commissioner; Lisa Vollbrecht- City of St. Cloud; Joe Wollak- Citizen at Large;

CHECK Voting Member Excused:

CHECK Others Present: Steve Marod – DNR Fisheries Little Falls; Mark McNamara- Benton County DOD; Duane Cekalla – Citizen at Large, Dan Martens- Benton County Extension; Casey Gwost – Benton SWCD, Pat Gehling- Natural Resources Conservation Service; Gerry Maciej- Benton SWCD; Amanda Guertin – Benton SWCD; Benton Citizen.

(Three Priority Issues in Comprehensive Water Plan: 1) Groundwater quantity and quality, 2) Development, 3) Feedlots and Nutrient Management.)

1. Welcome and Introductions – Wade Bastian, Vice Chair

2. Review and approve January 24, 2017 minutes

Motion by Duane Cekalla, second by Joe Jordan to approve the January 24, 2017 minutes. Motion Carried.

3. Review/Approve Agenda.

Motion by Steve Simones, second by Dale Vouk to approve the amended agenda. Motion Carried.

4. Reports and Announcements

A. USDA Programs Update - Pat Gehling, NRCS

There are 1.6 million in requests. Hope to find out next week what gets funded.

B. Grant/Program Update – Gerry Maciej, SWCD

- Annual Benton SWCD Report was mailed out. Page 2 is summary of all the clean water legacy funded projects. This is about half of the SWCD work.
- Page 8 has information about NE St. Cloud Project.
 - A video was shown about the project, put together by Casey Gwost and Amanda Guertin.
 - The project aimed at preventing a plume of sediment from storm water drain discharging into the Mississippi.
 - A private firm helped to evaluate problems and potential fixes.
 - Projects are estimated to reduce sediment by 70%.
 - They installed an underground storage sediment structure.

- This is expected to remove 10,000 pounds of sediment annually.
- Water and sediment are removed by a pump and taken to the wastewater treatment system.
- A vacuum street sweeper removes estimate 3.7 tons of material per year.
- This totaled about \$1,000,000 of work.
- Cooperation between units of government is a key to getting better work done.
- It is important to be proactive before developments go in.
- Give consideration to the St. Cloud Snow dump site by Apollo High School.

5. Buffer Law: Other Waters Discussion – Casey Gwost

- Casey leads SWCD efforts for compliance tracking and implementation. They are working now on identifying whether there are other water channels that should be identified as priorities for further care along with the public waters and designated ditches that are covered by the buffer law.
 - The task is to develop criteria for identifying other areas. Additional waters, if any, need to be determined by July 1. These would need to be identified in the 2018 Water Plan revision.
 - These “other waters” are not subject to regulatory buffer laws.
 - One suggestion was to look first for obvious issues and risk, and to use a lot of common sense in considering care that might be given. Look first where it clearly makes sense to do something.
 - State BWSR says “other waters” could be in areas where they are conveying material to impaired waters, in areas of priority concern for water plans.
 - Need input by April SWCD Board meeting.
 - Buffer update: 86% are clearly compliant. 14% need to be field verified. SWCD is sending letter and maps to land owners, and will follow up with on-site visits where needed.

6. Water Plan Development Action Items

- Amanda led a review of Water Plan items related to “development” activities.
 - This review helps to consider areas of work to give attention to for the remaining span of the current water plan... and more importantly to consider how this topic gets address in the 2018 water plan revision.
- Steve Simone talked about the MS4 Process – MPCA’s Municipal Stormwater Rules

7. Priority Concerns Input Discussion – Amanda Guertin

- Amanda shared information and data from surveys that have been returned regarding water planning concerns and priorities. Questions and observation followed:
 - Do we have data about who is responding, city residents, farm, rural-non-farm, lake areas?
 - Township officers, school students and parents, others. Amanda thinks it’s a pretty good mix.
 - How do you balance opinion with reality?
 - Water quality seems to be about 50% of concerns. This will likely be a priority concern.
 - Drainage is second. This might reflect more drainage work being done and weather patterns.
 - There could be 3 or 4 priority concerns.
 - Duane Cekalla shared that Groundwater is the # 1 concern for him.

WRAC Meeting 3-28-17 Continued

- Water quantity got some comments.
- Should this committee think about things to list as priorities based on surveys to share at a public meeting, issues that are relevant to consider, but not it limit public input? The public meeting might be a time to share what we think we learned from surveys, sharing other useful information, then to see if we on the right track.

8. Set next meeting Date and Topics.

- Groundwater quality & quantity would be the next topic in the rotation of 3 priority issues.
- The Priority Concerns Scoping Document Draft aimed to be sent mid-July.
- AIS meets April 25.

Move by Duane Cekalla, second by Steve Simone, Carried to Meet May 23, 2017, 10:00 a.m. at the County Commissioner's Board Room.

- The aim would be to review draft of priorities and concerns.
- A public meeting would be scheduled in June to stay on schedule with submitting scoping document sent to DRN, BWSR, etc. in July. Plans for the public meeting would be reviewed at the May 23 meeting.

9. Adjourn

Motion by Duane Cekalla, second by Joe Jordan to adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at about 11:57 a.m.

Approved by:

Signature: _____ Date: _____
WRAC Board Chairperson

Foley City Council Meeting 4-04-17

CITY OF FOLEY, MINNESOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING – April 4, 2017

The Foley City Council held a regular meeting on April 4, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at the Foley City Hall.

Members Present: Mayor Gerard Bettendorf, Councilmembers Jeff Gondeck, Kris du'Monceaux, Gary Swanson.

Members Absent: Councilmember Brian Weis

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by du'Monceaux, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, unanimous.

Consent Agenda

Motion by du'Monceaux, seconded by Gondeck, to approve the consent agenda which includes the following:

- Approve minutes of March 7, 2017.
 - Approve closure of 3rd Avenue for Vet Clinic on April 15, 2017.
 - Approve Vet Clinic Hold Harmless Agreement.
 - Approve part-time police officer eligibility list.
 - Approve hire of Joshua Neumann for part-time police officer.
 - Approve sale of Fire Department 2000 GMC Yukon XL.
 - Approve sale of Public Works 1993 Volvo Plow Truck.
 - Approve payment of bills paid for with checks #49522 - #49580.
- Motion carried, unanimous.

Amanda Guertin - Discussion on County Water Plan

Amanda Guertin indicated the county is currently working on the 10-year water plan. Guertin indicated she is attending the meeting to obtain feedback on water concerns in the city. Gondeck indicated some county residents have expressed concerns with water quality. Guertin indicated the city limits area has not had many concerns with nitrates. Foley is considered medium to low risk in relation to water standards. Guertin said she can be contacted should any questions or concerns come about. There was also discussion on public notices in the paper.

Pat Wier - Innovative Power Systems - Solar Buy-In

Pat Wier gave an overview of the solar buy-in process. Cost figures were reviewed and cost savings were discussed. Bettendorf asked if private property owners could sign up. Wier indicated the solar buy-in is only offered for government or commercial entities. Bettendorf asked about impact to farmland. Brunn overviewed the pros and cons of the arrangement. The council would like more feedback or comments from other public entities. Staff will bring back more information at an upcoming meeting.

Public Hearing - Zoning Ordinance Amendments

Mayor Bettendorf recessed the regular city council meeting at 5:52 p.m. to conduct the public hearing on zoning amendments on the variance ordinance and accessory building size. Mayor Bettendorf reconvened the regular city council meeting at 5:53 p.m. Motion by Swanson,

Foley City Council Meeting 4-04-17 Continued

seconded by du'Monceaux, to adopt Ordinance 428 Amending Zoning Ordinance. Gondeck clarified the accessory building size. Motion carried, unanimous.

Discussion on chicken ordinance

Gondeck indicated the planning commission has been reviewing this ordinance for many months. du'Monceaux indicated support for the ordinance and did not see the staff concerns with keeping chickens in town. Swanson expressed concerns with who would monitor the ordinance and chickens should problems arise. Gondeck indicated he did not support the ordinance with limited staff resources to monitor the chickens. Bettendorf expressed concerns with chickens leading to the keeping of other animals in town and staff resources are limited already. Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Swanson, to not adopt the chicken ordinance. Gondeck, Swanson, Bettendorf - aye. du'Monceaux - nay. Motion carried.

Discussion on city rental house

Pappenfus gave an overview of the history and current condition of the rental house. Pappenfus indicated the city's desire to keep the land and remove the house. Bettendorf indicated a desire to sell the house to be moved and also include the removal of the basement in the bid. Swanson expressed concern with the condition on if we could get anything for it. City Attorney Adam Ripple indicated Sauk Rapids had difficulty selling and moving houses for a recent road project. Gondeck indicated offering the house to be moved and the city taking care of the foundation. Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Swanson, to start the lease termination process of the existing tenant. Motion carried, unanimous. Staff will then return with options on selling or removing the house from the property.

Mayor's Comments and Open Forum

Rosalie Musachio, 150 Cottage Grove, questioned if the city has a water conservation plan and what could be done to improve conservation. Musachio also questioned the condition and erosion of Stony Brook.

Department Reports

Chief Katie McMillin gave an overview of the monthly law enforcement report and the passing of the random police board audit. du'Monceaux asked about recent activity in town. Gondeck indicated the part-time hiring process was conducted and went very well.

Adam Ripple, City Attorney, gave an overview the process to pursue the excess right-of-way along Highway 23 and also the tax forfeit piece. Motion by Swanson, seconded du'Monceaux, to proceed in requesting to acquire the identified property. Motion carried, unanimous.

City Engineer Jon Halter updated the council on the status of 4th Avenue N project and punch list items. Halter indicated a desire to wait until after Foley Fun Days to do the final blacktop, which may extend the project timeline a bit. Halter also updated the council on construction on Highway 25 this summer. Staff will be attending a meeting for more information.

Public Works Director Mark Pappenfus presented the Fire Department annual report. Pappenfus indicated clean-up day is scheduled for April 22nd and also updated on the activities of the public works department.

City Administrator Sarah Brunn updated the council on I/I penalties, pool hiring, and activities of the planning commission.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Brunn gave an overview of an award the Public Works Department received on wastewater operators. Pappenfus also indicated he spoke at a wastewater conference last week.

Closed Session to Discuss Land Sale

Mayor Bettendorf closed the city council meeting at 6:27 p.m. pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.05 Subd 3(c) to determine the asking price for real property to be sold by the City. The property was identified as 320 Broadway Avenue N.

Mayor Bettendorf re-opened the meeting and indicated the council determined an asking price for the property located at 320 Broadway Avenue N and directed staff to proceed in the negotiations for the property located at 320 Broadway Ave N.

Performance Review of City Administrator

Mayor Bettendorf again closed the city council meeting to conduct the 6-month performance review of City Administrator Sarah Brunn.

Mayor Bettendorf re-opened the meeting at 6:58 p.m. The performance of the City Administrator was discussed and determined satisfactory.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by du'Monceaux, to adjourn. Motion carried, unanimous.

Sarah A. Brunn, Administrator

WRAC Meeting 5-23-17

**Benton County Water Resources Advisory Committee Minutes
Tuesday, May 23, 2017 – 10:00 AM
Benton County Commissioners Room – Foley, MN 56329**

The Benton County Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Joe Wollak at 10:07 a.m. at the Benton County Commissioners Room on Tuesday May 23, 2017.

Voting Members Present: Wade Bastion – Benton SWCD; Joe Jordan – Elk River Watershed; Warren Peschl – County Commissioner; Jim Rau – Little Rock Lake Association; Steve Simones – Township Officers Association; Dale Vouk – Citizen at Large; Joe Wollak – Citizen at Large; Duane Cekalla – Citizen at Large.

Voting Members Absent: Steve Anderson – Citizen at Large;

Voting Member Excused: Lisa Vollbrecht – City of St. Cloud;

Others Present: Steve Marod – DNR Fisheries; Dan Martens – Benton County Extension; Mary Kivi – Little Rock Lake Association; Pat Gehling – Natural Resources Conservation Service; Gerry Maciej – Benton SWCD.

(Three Priority Issues in Comprehensive Water Plan: 1) Groundwater quantity and quality, 2) Development, 3) Feedlots and Nutrient Management.)

1. Welcome and Introductions – Joe Wollak, Chair

2. Review and approve March 28, 2017 minutes

Motion by Warren Peschl, second by Joe Jordan to approve the March 28, 2017 minutes.
Motion Carried.

3. Review/Approve Agenda.

Motion by Warren Peschl, second by Joe Jordan to approve the amended agenda. Motion Carried.

4. Reports and Announcements

A. USDA Programs Update – Pat Gehling, NRCS

- Pat circulated information about 2017 final summary for EQIP proposals with \$1.4 million of projects approved for work over the next year or two.
- Benton SWCD might have other money to apply to these projects to reduce costs for landowners.
- There are about \$250,000 of carryover funds for project in progress.

B. Grant/Program Update – Gerry Maciej, SWCD

- Some things are somewhat unknown with the Legislature in special session.
- The Water plan grants for this committee's process are from general fund and the same as the previous biennium.
 - This is the same level of funding for the last decade.
- The Clean Water Legacy Funding includes designating fund to help move toward a watershed-based planning process.
 - There is a new grant program tied to the "one watershed one plan" concept.

- Statewide funding for SWCD's increased \$22 million.
- For the Surface and Drinking Water Grants, \$5 million was taken out of account to use for Buffer law work to install buffers or alternative practices.
- Is the one watershed concept being tabled at a federal level? It's really a state process.

C. Other

1) Dan Martens reported that he worked with Extension Colleague Randy Pepin on taking soil samples and rye crop residue samples for the manure and cover crop plot project that Randy talked about during the winter.

Dan reported on a Stearns County Project where the farm planted 4 kinds of winter cereal grains that are harvested for a forage crop in the spring and then planted to soybeans or corn silage. Winter injury and suitable weather for harvesting forage and getting the spring crop planted will be an issue this year.

- Soil Health Field Day, Wednesday June 28, at UM Morris Research and Outreach Center.
- Strip Till Expo at Fergus Falls September 6
- Conservation Tillage Conference in Willmar December 5-6. (Joint UM/NDSU program)

2) Warren Peschl – County Ditch 13 and 15. Letting bids for cleanup work with hope to have work done this fall. Cost will be assessed to benefitting land owners over 15 years at low interest. Total cost \$100,000 and \$140,000.

- The County is setting up a fund to collect \$100,000 per year for ditch maintenance work.
- Ditches 13 and 15 are in the eastern part of the county, running into Sherburne County.
- Ditches in the Mayhew Lake and Creek area might be next.
- The county is working on a process for clean county road ditches also drainage is compromised.

3) Amanda Guertin offered an invitation to the SWCD Tour of practices bus tour on June 13. RSVP is requested.

5. Water Plan Groundwater Action Items

Amanda led a review of Water Plan items related to groundwater action items. There were not questions.

6. Priority Concerns Discussion – Amanda Guertin

Review State Agency Input and Survey Result.
Priority Concerns are listed as

1. Surface and groundwater quality and quantity
2. Feedlot and nutrient management
3. Erosion and sedimentation
4. Development

- Discussion about tension between farmers with irrigation and DNR.
- Discussion about whether you list issues as Surface water quality, Ground water quality, and Groundwater quantity or leave them listed as 4. Consensus was to leave them as-is 1-4.
- Descriptive statement for item one could use some clarification.
- Sediment is the biggest contaminant in surface water.
- Development concerns should apply to areas that have already been developed as well as future development.

WRAC Meeting 5-23-17 Continued

- There was some question about whether the term "Development" is primarily assumed to mean urban growth and building processes. If so are concerns about agricultural drainage a logical fit under that heading.

7. Public Meeting Discussion.

Scheduled for Monday June 12th, 7-9 PM at the County Commissioner Board Room.

8. Next Meeting

Motion by Steve Simones, second by Duane Cekalla, to meet June 27, 2017, 10:00 a.m. at the County Commissioner's Board Room.

9. Adjourn

Motion by Duane Cekalla, second by Joe Jordan to adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at about 11:37 a.m.

Approved by:

Signature: _____ Date: _____
WRAC Board Chairperson

Appendix C – Survey and Results

I. Water Resource Survey

1. *Are you a resident of Benton County?*
2. *Which resources is most threatened (Rank 1-5)*
 - a. *Groundwater*
 - b. *Lakes*
 - c. *Wetlands*
 - d. *Streams/Rivers*
 - e. *Other*
3. *As a Benton County resident, what concerns do you have about the water resources in Benton County?*
 - a. *Contaminated runoff*
 - b. *Declining water quality*
 - c. *Declining water quantity*
 - d. *Development pressure/impacts*
 - e. *Erosion (Water)*
 - f. *Erosion (Wind)*
 - g. *Failing septic systems*
 - h. *Flooding*
 - i. *Lack of environmental education*
 - j. *Lack of regulations/protection*
 - k. *Natural habitat destruction*
 - l. *Over application of fertilizers*
 - m. *Stormwater drainage management*
 - n. *Surface water contamination*
 - o. *Other*
4. *Additional Comments/Suggestions*

II. Survey and Agency Comments

Feedlot & Nutrient Management	Encourage proper management of waste on poultry & cattle production sites & seek the most effective strategies to reduce waste management problems.	Institute BMPs on agricultural land & use conservation farming practices including continued work with irrigation budgeting, optimizing nutrient applications to crop fields, & planting cover crops in Little Rock Lake . Emphasize BMPs which minimize erosion & loss of nutrients to surface waters		From Little Rock Lake TMDL - Emphasize BMPs that stop nutrient inputs from crop fields in Little Rock Creek (& watershed)		Continue to support & work with PCA, MDH, and MDA on nutrient & fertilizer management in Little Rock Creek (& watershed) . In particular, we encourage support of MDA Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan	Lack of vegetation in Mayhew Lake as result of algae blooms due to nutrient inputs. Install BMPs in watershed to minimize nutrient input.	
	Continue to work with agricultural producers in the effort to install & maintain BMPs where necessary for water quality restoration & protection. High priority areas include Little Rock Creek subwatershed, Elk River Subwatershed, & along the Mississippi River corridor.		Discussion on the potential impacts of becoming a feedlot delegated County is recommended	Review Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan	Fence cattle from stream near Little Rock & Mayhew Lake	Encourage BMPs that arrest nutrient inputs to Mayhew Creek & Mayhew Lake . Fence cattle from accessing the lake. Support drawdown of the lake to consolidate sediments & nutrients & encourage plant growth. Address fish kills problem due to excess nutrients.		
Extreme Weather	Consider the potential for more extreme weather events & their implications for the land & water resources in the watershed in the analysis & prioritization of issues			Little Rock Creek suffers from extreme flashiness after significant rain events characterized by very sharp hydrographs at flow monitoring stations. This disrupts normal channel design & function leading to poor sediment transport issues in the stream. The result is sedimentation of important hard substrates important to aquatic macroinvertebrates & fish for spawning				
Erosion & Sedimentation	Crop fields are common along the east bank of the Mississippi . Some erosion is occurring on the banks due to crop fields located too close to the river. Buffer law & bank stabilization efforts are needed	Focus & renew efforts to reduce wind & water erosion & that efforts continue to implement more conservation practices such as WASCOBs, grassed waterways, etc.		Support buffer laws & encourage BMPs which minimize erosion & loss of nutrients & soil to surface waters in Little Rock Creek (& Watershed) . Support projects to stabilize banks.			Support BMPs that reduce erosion & sedimentation to address fish community diversity in Little Rock Creek (& watershed)	Support buffer laws & initiate BMPs in Elk River, St. Francis River & West Branch Rum River Watersheds that reduce erosion & excess runoff
	Institute BMPs on agricultural land & use conservation farming practices including continued work with irrigation budgeting, optimizing nutrient applications to crop fields, & planting cover crops in Little Rock Lake . Emphasize BMPs which minimize erosion & loss of nutrients to surface waters		Wakeboard boats are causing erosion, they put off huge waves destroying riverbanks on upper Mississippi	Encourage restoration of drained wetlands to high quality conditions for floodwater retention, which ultimately reduces erosion & sedimentation		Investigate ways to reduce wake damage to Mississippi shorelines from excess recreational boating - no wake zones	Stabilize eroding banks on Mississippi & tributaries . Prioritize projects & work toward shoreline restoration & buffer establishment to reduce erosion, nutrient input, & sedimentation during Sartell pool drawdown events	
Education & Outreach	In all riparian areas, educate & communicate the benefits of land use BMPs (reduced impervious surface, shoreline buffers, bioengineering vs rock riprap, grassed filter strip swales, rain gardens, etc..) for water quality improvement		Work with cities/townships/associations regarding wastewater treatment education (septic or municipal systems) & water conservation efforts		Encourage support to increase education & awareness about groundwater sustainability		Consider field days & outreach events at established bioreactors, saturated buffers, or other drainage BMPs to illustrate operation, maintenance, & performance issues to interest landowners & farmers. MDA can assist with field days.	
Riparian	Support the purchase of conservation easements & Aquatic Management Areas along the Mississippi River & Tributaries & reserve riparian lands	Support purchase of trout stream easements along Little Rock Creek to permanently protect riparian habitat	Adopt Alternative Shoreline Standards in Little Rock Lake and Mayhew Lake	Implement watercourse & ditch buffer enforcement requirements in Elk and St. Francis River Watersheds	Pasturelands with riparian areas present challenges within the County & central MN. Cooperative efforts working with landowners to limit or eliminate livestock access & to establish/maintain buffers to waterways & drainage areas (including private ditches) within pasture settings, will be key elements in helping address the various nutrient & bacteria impairments affecting surface water resources			Lack of quality riparian buffers

Appendix A: Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Ground Water Quality	Ongoing groundwater monitoring for nitrates & other contaminants, including activities such as nitrate clinics, will be important to ensure health of the citizens. The mapping of areas of concern will serve as valuable tools in strategic future development planning efforts for the County		Continued cooperative efforts in working & planning with landowners & other agencies in addressing sustainable groundwater management will be vital in meeting the overall goals of effectively utilizing this essential resources, while protecting its quality & quantity into the future. Key areas - Little Rock Creek subwatershed & along the Mississippi River corridor.			Watab township is concerned with nitrates in drinking water	We are very concerned about the huge drawdown of water by irrigators.	Develop local groundwater quality data base	Support the MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP)	Seal unused wells	High nitrates in drinking water	
	Data collection & monitoring efforts should be coordinated with existing efforts	Continue to support MDH & MDA in helping assist the City of Rice keep nitrate levels in City wells below the health risk limit	Promote participation in the MDA Water Quality Certification Program primarily in Little Rock Creek (& watershed) & encourage irrigation management strategies	Continue Benton SWCD Irrigation Efficiencies project	Encourage supporting an update to the University of MN Extension Irrigation Guide	Encourage support for the pending DNR Little Rock Creek Sustainable Groundwater Use Plan & Groundwater modeling project for the Little Rock Creek watershed		Explore opportunities to increase aquifer recharge & provide financial assistance for related projects	Inventory possible large contamination sources that may leak or spill contaminants into stormwater conveyances, ditches, or tributaries of the Mississippi River upstream of drinking water inlets			
	Protect groundwater based drinking water sources - acknowledge & support public water supply wellhead protection areas, work with community public water suppliers in development & implementation of wellhead protection activities. Consider wellhead protection areas & groundwater vulnerability when making land use decisions to protect both public & private wells. When requested by a public water supplier, provide aid in efforts to locate wells for groundwater modeling efforts				Protect groundwater based drinking water sources - acknowledge & support public water supply wellhead protection areas, work with community public water suppliers in development & implementation of wellhead protection activities. Consider wellhead protection areas & groundwater vulnerability when making land use decisions to protect both public & private wells. When requested by a public water supplier, provide aid in efforts to locate wells for groundwater modeling efforts				We cannot drink our well water because of high nitrates, has not improved in past 20 yrs. Many of our neighbors are in the same situation having to install expense reverse osmosis systems.			
Development	Highway 10, 23 & region around greater St. Cloud metropolitan area are likely to see significant growth rates & conversion of current uses to more intensive development patterns. This area lies within the Anoka Sand Plains area & Mississippi River with a potential for significant surface & groundwater threats	Review & update ordinances on a regular basis	Adopt shoreland zoning laws that protect riparian lands & prevent erosion on the Mississippi	Population & accompanying development growth is projected to increase significantly in the near future. Strategic efforts to effectively manage this expected growth while maintaining the agricultural & environmental integrity of the County, will present challenges. The continued actions of working with local leaders & environmental partners through cooperative efforts such as the Water Plan & statewide initiatives (WRAPS & Buffer Law) will be essential in ensuring that future growth occurs in a way that serves the County & its resources most effectively. As development occurs, it is recommended to use Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) where possible. MIDSs is based on low impact development, which is an approach to stormwater management that mimics a sites natural hydrology as the landscape is developed. Using low impact development approach, stormwater is managed onsite & the rate & volume of predevelopment stormwater reaching receiving waters is unchanged							Increase in development lacking true preservation sites give me great concern, I am deeply concerned with soil, air , & water in our area, state, nation	
Wildlife	Little Rock Lake & Mayhew Lake have poor habitat. Support efforts to complete drawdowns to encourage emergent & submerging vegetation growth & improve water quality. Better water quality/clarity will improve natural reproduction of desirable fish species								Aquatic life habitat in Little Rock Creek			

Appendix A: Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Surface Water Quality	The farming community need to do "the right thing" sooner rather than later to preserve both our ground & surface water.		Human health issues associated with poor water quality (e.g. E. coli bacteria, blue-green algae blooms)		Continued involvement in ongoing & future WRAPS processes. Include a summary of each major watershed which includes an update on the WRAPS process & some outcome dates from WRAPS & implementation priorities.		Include updated impaired waters information & TMDL information		Farm chemical runoff		Drainage in the Estes Brook & the West Branch Rum effect Mille Lacs County residents		Manure & chicken barn runoff into Little Rock Lake		Cross pollination of GM seeds & how this is effecting water supplies directly harming bees, butterflies, birds, etc., & how this full circle interacts with all water		
	Impacts from tributaries - Little Rock Lake - to water quality on the Mississippi . Continue BMPs in the watershed & support/encourage compliance with buffer laws			Algae blooms & nutrient loading in Little Rock Lake . Support drawdown to consolidate nutrients & encourage vegetation growth by manipulating Sartell Dam		Address Little Rock Lake TMDL - BMPs & support/encourage compliance with buffer laws		Promote participation in the MDA Water Quality Certification Program primarily in Little Rock Watershed & encourage irrigation management strategies			Encourage support for long term monitoring of surface water flow in Little Rock Creek & adjacent water table/buried aquifer levels			Protect & enhance wetlands		AIS	Applying manure in winter
	Support the MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP)		Recommend developing a process to prioritize lake management & protection efforts		Inventory possible large contamination sources that may leak or spill contaminants into stormwater conveyances, ditches, or tributaries of the Mississippi River upstream of drinking water inlets			Identify possibly surface spill/pollution routes to Mississippi		Surface drinking water protection - Mississippi & Tributaries		Chicken barns storing animal waste & dead chickens in piles for over a year, discharging waste water to the surface, without treatment. Runoff near waste & dead animals is running into the small creeks, wetlands & rivers contaminating our well waters, streams, wetlands & rivers need to have statutes to follow.					
Drainage	Include the drainage authority as a stakeholder	Support & increase storm water BMP installations or retrofits for pre-treatment efforts in the St. Cloud & Sauk Rapids Municipal areas , particularly those in the vicinity of the St. Cloud drinking water intake for source water protection				Abandon ditches that drain wetlands	Monitor ditching & tiling in the County	Create a Drainage Advisory Committee to inform drainage issues before critical decisions are made by local policy makers. The management of public drainage systems is complex & involves consideration of how public open ditches, tiles, & culverts interact or are affected by private systems - both subsurface tile & open ditches with private culverts					Recommends Benton County consider the development of a Multipurpose Drainage Management Plan in conjunction with its partners				
	System wide culvert inventory will provide much needed information about the location, capacity, & condition of culverts that are off or adjacent to the public drainage system. Once conducted, your local government may want to consider how culvert sizing can be utilized to address localized flooding conditions.			Standard ditch design - consistent surface design for private & public systems, including township, County, & watershed district managed ditches is critical in reducing downstream impacts.		Open tile inlet inventory of open tile inlets that are immediately adjacent to public ditches. An inventory will provide information about where inlets could be converted into blind inlets, rock inlets, or some other type of inlet to reduce sediment loss and slow the flow of water. The inventory could also provide info about where side inlet controls would be beneficial & where efforts could be targeted and prioritized.				When drainage coefficients are being considered or adopted, engineering information, flow data, or other information should be used to guide local policies. Crop tolerances for standing water should be considered & this is one area where a drainage advisory committee could provide additional guidance & expertise			Water storage should be considered to include both short & long term storage.		Drainage without thought to downstream peak water discharge (downstream flash flooding) & stream base flow impacts.		
	Buffers along private ditches, tile systems that discharge into private ditches	Benton County needs proper drainage done. Road ditches need to drain so wetlands don't enlarge & backup	Long term effects of tile drainage - may or may not be a problem, but it seems no one knows for sure	Drainage in the Estes Brook & West Branch Rum effect Mille Lacs County residents	Recommends additional effort be focused on encouraging landowners & farmers to implement drainage water management practices & management plans. The SWCD can play an important role in working with drainage authorities, landowners & agricultural groups to determine how best to promote & implement DWM practices. Consider developing a comprehensive plan to guide efforts related to system wide drainage management - may include prioritization or redetermination of benefits & other ditch system maintenance, repair, or improvement projects. The plan should be implemented when new private tile systems are installed or when existing private systems are repaired or upgraded, efforts should be made to promote the management of surface & subsurface water.												

Appendix D – Other Relevant Plans

Document	Summary
2012 Northeast Drainage Analysis St. Cloud, Minnesota	This analysis is a result of the ongoing sediment loadings to the Mississippi River from the Northeast portion of St. Cloud. Northeast St. Cloud is an older area of town, largely constructed prior to stormwater requirements. A drainage analysis was completed to estimate pollutant loads and identify potential improvements. A feasibility analysis was also completed to provide preliminary cost estimates and cost/benefit analysis for each of the proposed practices/projects. Since this plans creation, numerous projects were completed including the purchase and use of a regenerative air street sweeper, the construction of an underground regional treatment system, and the installation of four sump catch basins.
Elk River Watershed TMDL	This report addresses the bacteria and turbidity impairments of the Elk River and the nutrient impairments in Mayhew and Big Elk Lake; and quantifies the pollutant reductions needed to meet State water quality standards by setting forth an implementation framework and load reduction strategies. The study identifies a required phosphorus load reduction of 78% for Mayhew Lake and 57% for Big Elk Lake to meet state standards. Internal loading management, phosphorus reduction from watershed runoff, and use of agricultural BMPs will be required to meet these load reduction goals. Mayhew Lake phosphorus loading is primarily driven by spring loads while Big Elk Lake phosphorus loading is primarily driven by mid to late summer loads. The Elk River turbidity impairment to be driven by the nutrient impairment in Big Elk Lake, and therefore the required nutrient load reductions in Big Elk Lake will result in acceptable turbidity levels in the Elk River. A load reduction of 72.5% is required for the Elk River to meet E. coli state standards. Riparian livestock were determined to be the primary cause of the bacteria impairment.
Elk River Watershed Protection and Restoration Plan (Implementation Plan)	This plan addresses the bacteria and turbidity impairments in the Elk River and lake nutrient impairments for Big Elk Lake and Mayhew Lake identified in the Elk River Watershed Association TMDL Report. This plan identifies implementation activities and strategies to reduce nutrient, bacteria, and turbidity sources to the impaired waters; and focuses on high priority areas to achieve a higher benefit for dollars spent as size of the watershed and magnitude of the goals are significant. Major guiding principles of this plan include; targeting BMPs to address the source specifically, achieving maximum implementation density, fostering stewardship and partnerships, and maintaining ecological integrity and a sustained coordinated effort. Nutrient impairment improvement activities for Mayhew Lake include; limiting manure application prior to spring melt, implementing cover crops if possible, and managing riparian grazing. Turbidity improvement activities for Big Elk Lake and the Elk River include; managing livestock in riparian areas, managing lake-shore loads, installing riparian buffers, and developing a septic load management plan. Elk River bacteria improvement activities include; managing livestock in riparian areas and developing a septic load management plan. The plan addresses the need for adaptive management as it is difficult to predict the load reductions from various BMPs, and the ongoing need for annual monitoring in order to track long term water quality trends and progress towards goals.

City of Foley Comprehensive Plan	The plan provides direction and guidelines for the future growth and redevelopment of the City of Foley. Land use issues are discussed with recommendations for future residential, commercial, industrial, open space, transportation, and recreational facility development.
Little Rock Creek Stressor Identification Report	This report is a prelude to the Little Rock Creek Watershed TMDL. It identifies stressors which contribute to the lack of cold water assemblage in Little Rock Creek by describing impairments and their causes, evaluating relationships of these with the biological community, and then identifies the most likely stressors using elimination and strength of evidence analyses. Seven pollutants were identified and are listed in order of priority; flow alteration, temperature, sediment, nitrates, dissolved oxygen/ BOD, connectivity, and predation of trout by pike and other warm water piscivores. The study concluded altered flow is the dominate stressor as it serves as a step in the causal pathways of several other stressors. The evidence shows that the Sartell Wildlife Management impoundment and groundwater withdrawals are likely causing the increased stream temperatures. While the source(s) of the bedded sediment is uncertain, altered flow may be a potential reason for the problem. Data suggests that it is unlikely that elevated nitrate levels are due to the geology or other natural sources in the watershed. The report indicates that lower groundwater levels is a possible contributor to the dissolved oxygen and increased temperature. TMDLs will be developed for temperature, bedded sediment, nitrates, and dissolved oxygen in Little Rock Creek.
Little Rock Creek Watershed TMDL	This TMDL focuses on the lack of cold water assemblage impairment in Little Rock Creek. Watershed modeling was used to determine the required load reductions necessary to meet water quality standards and ways to assist in meeting those goals. The model simulated three mitigation scenarios: removal of the man-made impoundment (Sartell Wildlife Management), doubling the groundwater flow into the system while maintaining the same chemical loads, and a combination of the first two mitigation scenarios. Results indicate that a combination of both are required to meet the dissolved oxygen and the temperature criteria, but an increase in groundwater flow is necessary to meet the drinking water standard for nitrate in Little Rock Creek. Overall, a 52% reduction in total oxygen demand, a nitrate reduction of 47% during dry flow conditions, nitrate reduction of 33% under moist range flow conditions in Bunker Hill Creek, and an overall 1% reduction in thermal loading across all thermal sources is needed to reach water quality standards.

Little Rock Lake Watershed TMDL	<p>This study addresses the excessive nutrient impairment in Little Rock Lake, quantifies the necessary phosphorus reductions, and develops implementation strategies. Severe algal blooms are present in the lake and are highly responsive to variations in watershed phosphorus loads, recycling of historical phosphorus loads from bottom sediments, and climate. The study indicates that animal waste was a significant factor in the extreme 2007 algal blooms. These algal blooms are likely accelerated later in the summer by low inflows and warm temperatures. Reductions in total phosphorus (TP) are expected to provide incremental reductions in algal bloom severity and increases in transparency. To reach the water quality standard for phosphorus, an overall reduction of 53% is needed. Potential sources of phosphorus include; internal loading, septic loads, greywater, direct lakeshed runoff, streambank & shoreline erosion, runoff from the agricultural land uses (livestock, row-crop) as well as practices that might worsen pollutant delivery such as row-crop, tiling, winter manure application, and impervious surfaces. Modeling results signify required load reductions of 54 to 69% for tributaries discharging directly into the lake are necessary to meet the water quality standards for total phosphorus (TP), chlorophyll-a, and secchi depth. First priority implementation practices suggested in the study include; nutrient management, cover crop, feedlot projects, residue and tillage management, stream crossing, contour buffer strips, prescribed grazing. Other BMPs; lakeshore native buffers, rain gardens, water and sediment control basin, wetland restoration, subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) inspection program, and education. Continued monitoring and adaptive implementation of the TMDL is necessary to reach load reduction goals.</p>
Little Rock Lake and Creek Watershed Protection and Improvement Plan (TMDL Implementation Plan)	<p>This implementation plan addresses the necessary load reductions defined in the Little Rock Lake and Little Rock Creek TMDL. As the two watersheds overlap, there is opportunity to address multiples impairments within this plan. Ideal combination of implementation strategies would combine restoration of groundwater flow, reductions in nutrient and organic contributions to the stream and a free-flowing system at the Sartell Wildlife Management Area impoundment to minimize thermal impacts. This plan states that reaching water quality standards will be difficult and likely take decades due to the severity of the impairments. First priority practices defined in the plan include; animal feedlot improvements, conservation ditch management, cover crops, education/outreach, feed management, filter strips, harvestable filter strips, irrigation system conversions, irrigation system maintenance, irrigation system uniformity test, irrigation water management, lakeshore native buffers, nutrient management, pasture management/prescribed grazing, residential BMPs, residue/tillage management, riparian buffers, SSTS upgrades, wetland restorations, stream habitat improvement and management.</p>
Mississippi River – St. Cloud WRAP	<p>This TMDL study addresses low dissolved oxygen (DO), aquatic macroinvertebrate, turbidity, and lake eutrophication impairments in the watershed. To reach the DO water quality standard reductions of 80% for Battle Brook, 80% for Rice Creek, and 10% for Clearwater River are necessary. To address the eutrophication impairments phosphorus load reductions of 63% for Donovan Lake is necessary, in addition to load reductions from other waters within the watershed. Load reductions should focus on reducing nonpoint watershed loads to impaired receiving waters. Areas for implementation will focus first on impaired lakes, which will provide some improvement for area streams. Implementation strategies include; nutrient management, riparian buffer zones, and restoration of channelized stream reaches. Donovan Lake makes is susceptible to eutrophication, efforts should be made to minimize total phosphorus loading to the lake.</p>

City of Sartell Comprehensive Plan	The Sartell plan places a strong focus on sustainability and is committed to preserving, enhancing, and providing good stewardship of environmentally sensitive areas. The city has emerged as a leader in sustainability by promoting rain gardens, rain barrels, and compost bins. The city strives to preserve and improve its natural, ecological and scenic resources, including water quality, vegetation, wildlife and other environmentally sensitive resources. The city has set forth many goals directed towards the protection of surface and groundwater quality and quantity such as updating and revising storm water and sewer plans, elimination of private sewage systems, heightening community awareness of water quality management, restoring wetlands, working with adjacent municipalities to encourage upstream pollutant reduction, as well as continuing to implement a conservation-oriented water rate system that charges increasing fees for increasing use of water. The plan also indicates measures being taken to prevent flooding.
Sartell Surface Water Management Plan	The purpose of this plan is to develop a framework for sustaining long term integrity of surface waters. Sartell identifies surface water management is a very strong component of their overall approach to protecting and preserving the community's natural resources. This plan addresses issues such as runoff management for water quality purposes, flood control and mitigation, wetland management, development/redevelopment standards, public education, and regulatory programs. The purpose of this plan is to develop a framework for sustaining long term integrity of surface waters.
City of Sauk Rapids Comprehensive Plan	This plan places a strong emphasis on protecting the environment as their community vision states that the City of Sauk Rapids shall be a place where natural resources such as woodlands, wetlands, and rare and sensitive environmental features should be preserved. The plan also focuses on efficiently planning for orderly growth and development of urban, residential, commercial and industrial areas while preserving greenway and environmentally sensitive areas by conducting environmental land reviews within the plan growth area to assess potential impacts. Surface water, groundwater, and soils must be protected from contamination resulting from urban development. This plan also stresses the importance of minimizing impervious area and direct connections between impervious surfaces.
City of St. Cloud Comprehensive Plan	This plan focuses on a wide range of topics, many of which are not pertinent to the Water Plan, however the plan does focus on land use and development and community facilities, parks, recreation and environmental features. The city's goal for land use and development is to promote growth that strengthens existing neighborhoods and minimizes impacts to city resources, infrastructure, and natural environment. The city is strongly encouraging low impact designs in environmentally sensitive areas such as floodplains, wetlands, areas of high slope, rock outcroppings, and wooded areas to preserve the areas natural drainage and strongly discourages development within rural preservation areas. The city has numerous plans to increase greenspace and sustainable best management practices throughout the city to enhance physical appearance and assist with storm water management and flood control. The city recognizes the importance of protecting environmentally sensitive areas to protect the health of the watershed by trapping floodwaters, reducing pollution, and recharging local groundwater.

St. Cloud Urban Area Mississippi River Corridor Plan	This plan is based upon previous planning initiatives and is a guiding document for development and redevelopment, natural resource enhancement, preservation, and promotion of the river corridor. The purpose of this plan is to establish a community vision and implementation strategy to maintain the Mississippi River as a regional asset through sustainable utilization and stewardship. One goal of this plan is to protect, restore and manage the Mississippi's natural environment while accommodating human activities in a sustainable manner through stormwater management, shoreline restoration, and acquisition of natural areas, design standards/green building, and corridor protection.
St. Cloud Stormwater Management Plan	This plan is a comprehensive guide to managing stormwater discharge as the city grows, and is meant to complement the city comprehensive plan by more narrowly focusing on the stormwater impacts of growth. The goals of this plan are compliance with regulatory requirements with the Clean Water Act and to conserve, protect, and restore St. Cloud's surface water resources to the maximum extent possible while promoting groundwater recharge and drinking water and well protection. The plan hopes to improve water quality by reducing loadings of total phosphorus, total suspended solids, and runoff volume and by promoting wildlife habitat and wetland preservation.
City of Rice Comprehensive Plan	The overall goal of this plan is to "create a quality environment which will enhance the quality of life of residents". Sustainable development is one major theme seen throughout this plan as various policies and goals. The community desires growth while still maintaining a small town atmosphere as well as respect for the land and environment. The creation of this plan allowed for the evaluation and reinforcement of existing growth and development policies. Quality of life is another major theme seen throughout this plan. Environmental quality is a large part of that as many policies and goals address improving and protecting environmental quality, such as adopting shore land regulations to protect lakes and rivers from pollution.
City of Royalton Comprehensive Plan	This plan stresses the importance of managing growth and development while improving the conditions of the city and protection of the cities natural resources to preserve natural beauty and water quality of the Platte River. A shore land/floodplain overlay district is proposed for the purpose of providing protection to the Platte River and to landowners against erosion and flooding. The protection of old growth trees and promotion of tree, shrub, and other foliage plantings is encouraged in residential areas.
Rum River TMDL	(Pending Approval) The study addresses bacteria, dissolved oxygen, and lake nutrient impairments by quantifying the necessary pollutant reductions to meet state water quality standards. Reductions are primarily focused on impaired waters in the middle portion of the watershed. A phased approach beginning the headwaters of impaired streams and lakes may result in more quickly detected changes. Pollutant reductions of 0-93% is required for bacteria, 50% for DO, and 10-86% and 21-39% reductions in phosphorus for shallow lake and deep lake standards respectively. Widespread adoption of buffers and streambank stabilization should be a high priority as it will assist in bacteria, nutrient, and organic matter reduction.

Rum River WRAPS	(Pending Approval) This report identified ten impaired lakes and 11 impaired stream reaches, with a majority of the impaired waters located in the middle portion of the watershed. Overall, many lakes and streams already meet the water quality goals and therefore protection is the primary focus. Modeling results indicated implementation of low impact development (LID) standards will reduce total suspended solids and total phosphorus from developed areas and implementation of buffers will reduce sediment and nutrient loads by 30%. Common non-point pollution sources include; field and stream erosion, internal loading, upstream lakes and streams, stormwater runoff, ditch maintenance and tile drainage, wetland modification, fertilizer/manure runoff, failing septic systems
Upper Mississippi River TMDL	This plan focuses on the E. coli impairment on the Mississippi River over portions of three major watersheds; Mississippi River – Sartell, Mississippi River – St. Cloud, and the Mississippi River – Twin Cities. Subwatersheds along the Mississippi River corridor (including Little Rock Creek) from Royalton to Hastings were identified in order to support the protection of surface waters, though no bacteria impairment is currently present. Estimated load reductions in watershed runoff from impaired reaches range from 2-97% with an average reduction of 63% for mid-range flow conditions. Municipal, watershed, wastewater treatment system and other local and regional plans may already include implementation of best management practices that will provide bacteria control and treatment. BMPs that address multiple contaminants are preferred and will be encouraged in priority areas. Impairment source controls should include efforts such as; control of pet waste, street sweeping, septic system maintenance, wildlife management, livestock exclusion from riparian access, manure management, clean runoff water diversion and animal husbandry as well as education on these topics. The plan highlights various BMPs and activities to consider for pollutant reduction such as; wetland treatment systems, stormwater ponds, biofiltration/filtration, hydrodynamic and manufactured devices, livestock riparian access control, manure management, wastewater system maintenance, wastewater system structural improvements, education, and ordinances

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RESOLUTION #2017-02

LOCAL WATER RESOURCES RIPARIAN PROTECTION IN BENTON COUNTY

Whereas, the Minnesota Statutes §103F.48, Subd. 4 requires Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in consultation with local water management authorities, to develop, adopt, and submit to each local water management authority within its boundary a summary of watercourses for inclusion in the local water management plan.

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has adopted the Local Water Resources Riparian Protection ("Other Watercourses") Policy 6, dated August 25, 2016, which identifies the steps SWCDs are required to take in developing said Inventory.

Whereas, the Benton SWCD met with Benton County water resource advisory committee on March 28, 2017, to discuss and gather input on the development of "Other Watercourses" criteria as well as to discuss public waters and public ditches that have been identified on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) Buffer Protection Map within Benton County.

Whereas, the Benton SWCD has reviewed watershed data and water quality data, and has determined that conservation planning (Resource Management Systems) in the contributing watersheds within perennial and intermittent watercourses, in conjunction with the Riparian Protection and Water Quality Practices, is better suited to address Benton County's water quality and quantity impairments and concerns.

Whereas, the Benton SWCD has determined adoption of best management practices (BMPs) consistent with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) and state BMPs for nitrogen & phosphorus fertilizer and manure management will improve or protect water quality coming from the contributing watershed of a perennial or intermittent watercourse.

Whereas, the Benton SWCD has provided rationale for the exclusion of any additional watercourses through the creation of a document describing the effectiveness of voluntary adoption of BMPs in addressing Benton County's water quality and quantity impairments and concerns.

Therefore be it resolved that, the Benton SWCD has no additional watercourses to include in local water authorities' plan since conservation planning (Resources Management Systems) within contributing watersheds of perennial and intermittent streams, in conjunction with the Riparian Protection and Water Quality Practices, provide adequate protection to those waters not found on the DNR Buffer maps in Benton County.

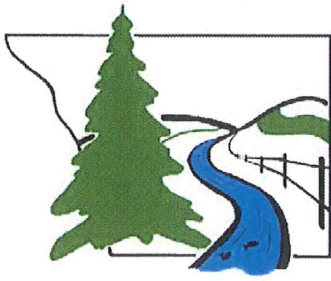
Be it further resolved that, to comply with Minnesota Statutes §103F.48, the Benton SWCD shall provide notification of this decision as well as rationale to BWSR and all water management authorities within Benton County.

 5 Ayes 0 Nayes

Authorized Signature: Bernie Thole

Title: Chair

Date: 6-21-17



Benton Soil & Water Conservation District

Benton SWCD
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Foley, MN 56329

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Local Water Resources Riparian Protection (“Other Watercourses”)

Accompanying Document to the Benton Soil & Water Conservation District Resolution #2017-2

Background

Minnesota Statutes §103F.48, Subd. 4 requires Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in consultation with local water management authorities, to develop, adopt, and submit to each local water management authority within its boundary a summary of watercourses for inclusion in the local water management plan. The resulting summary must be adopted as a resolution by the SWCD Board and submitted to BWSR and water management authorities by July 1, 2017.

Summary of “Other Watercourses”

Benton SWCD has no additional watercourses to include in local water authorities’ plan. A conservation plan is the first step in managing natural resources in the landscape. Through conservation planning, site specific Best Management Practices (BMPs) can be voluntarily adopted to reduce sediment, pesticide, and nutrient losses. The framework of Conservation Planning (Resources System Management) works to determine landowner’s objectives, identify any existing resource concerns, inventory resources, come up with alternative management practices and implement the conservation plan developed with the landowner/Ag. Producer. Conservation planning actively engages farmers to work with resource professions and come to a decision that works best for the specific site. BMPs are designed utilizing Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) and state BMPs for nitrogen & phosphorous fertilizer and manure management.

Benton SWCD recognizes improving water quality in lakes and streams in agricultural watershed requires various conservation practices to adequately address the primary resource concern. Promotion and voluntary adoption of soil health and conservation practices within the contributing watershed of a perennial or intermittent watercourses will keep soil, nutrients, and pesticides on the land, while also reducing leaching into the groundwater. Below are some example of voluntary BMPs that provide water quality benefits that can be applied individually or in combination within the contributing watershed of perennial and intermittent streams:

Agricultural BMP (NRCS FOTG Practice Number)

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| - Conservation Cover (327) | - Conservation Crop Rotation (328) | - Cover Crops (340) |
| - Nutrient Management (590) | - Livestock Exclusion/Fencing (382/472) | - Grade Stabilization (410) |
| - Alternative Tile Intakes | - Conservation Tillage (329, 345, 346) | - Grass Waterways (412) |
| - Riparian Forest Buffer (391) | - Filter Strip (393) | - Field Boarders (386) |
| - Forage & Biomass Planting (512) | - Prescribe Grazing (528) | - Access Control (472) |
| - Animal Mortality Facility (316) | - Waste Storage Facility (313) | - Sediment Basin (350) |
| - Irrigation Management (442&449) | - Feedlot Runoff Control | - Terrace (600) |
| - Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580) | | - Native Shoreline Buffer |

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 21, 2018

The Benton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 21, 2018 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Commissioners Jim McMahon, Spencer Buerkle, Ed Popp, Warren Peschl and Jake Bauerly present. Call to order by Chair Popp was at 9:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Peschl/Buerkle unanimous to approve the agenda as written.

No one was present to speak under Open Forum.

Consent Agenda item #3 was “pulled” for further discussion. McMahon/Bauerly unanimous to approve the remaining Consent Agenda: 1) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2018 as written; 2) approve Application for Two Special Event Permits as requested by Deanna Rosa dba/Rollies, LLC; and 4) approve final payment for tied construction projects SAP 05-614-006 (CSAH 14), SAP 005-625-011 (CSAH 25), and 005-2017BO (seasonal bituminous overlay) to *Knife River Inc.*, and authorize the Chair to sign. Following brief discussion, Peschl/ Bauerly unanimous to approve a Design Study Contract with *BKV* for the jail intake area, and authorize the Chair to sign (Consent Agenda item #3).

A public hearing on the Benton County 2018-2019 Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan was opened at 9:05 AM. Gerry Maciej, Benton SWCD District Manager, explained that the water plan is a county plan, not an SWCD plan; it is voluntary for counties to develop plans, but “opens the door” for grants to complete actions. He noted that Benton County delegated the responsibility to manage the plan to Benton SWCD in the 1990’s; the plan identifies existing and potential opportunities for protection, management, and development of water and land resources, and implements an action plan—all activities are non-binding (voluntary). Amanda Guertin, Benton SWCD Water Plan Technician, stated that the plan is a ten-year plan, updated every five years; the four priorities identified in the plan are Feedlot and Nutrient Management, Erosion and Sedimentation, Development, and Surface and Groundwater Quality and Quantity. She noted that the Water Resource Advisory Committee had many meetings to discuss each priority concern; estimated cost of plan implementation is \$25,789,500. Guertin indicated that the next steps for the plan are submittal to BWSR, who will submit to the state agencies for comment; once approved by BWSR, the County Board has 120 days to formally adopt the plan. Walter Parkins, 28274 Nature Road, Royalton, commented “...I have extensive agricultural interest in Langola Township...I’m also the President of Upper Mississippi Irrigators Association...I’ve been a member of the Project Advisory Team set up by the DNR to go through the comprehensive plan of water for the Little Rock Creek Watershed...that plan is strictly a study plan...it’s based on no scientific fact...it’s universally accepted that the irrigation is not pumping down the aquifer in our area...the water that we use to irrigate crops is scientifically proven to be less water than pre-settlement vegetation...the DNR is working on a computer model that, theoretically, is going to talk about how much pumping irrigation water affects the streamflow in Little Rock Creek...to the extent it affects your plan, you need to keep in mind that whatever has been produced by them (DNR) is not scientific knowledge...they have not been able to come up with anything that suggests that the irrigation is causing any harm...” Bauerly commented “...in this document it states that the lack of water flow caused by irrigation is hurting the water quality of the lake, plus the fish...that hasn’t been proven...it’s implied that the groundwater usage is causing the problem...that hasn’t been proven...I understand from a University of MN study done for the MN Corn Growers that oak leaves have a lot of phosphorus...agriculture is being blamed for a lot of phosphorus in the lake, but oak trees are equally as guilty...” With no one else present to speak, the public hearing was closed at 9:31 AM. Maciej commented “...the DNR’s Little Rock Creek Groundwater

Appendix C: Record of Public Hearing

Management Plan is not part of our water plan...we do have actions related to Little Rock Creek and irrigation management...it does call for voluntary activities related to irrigation..." Bauerly commented "...I'd like to have a Committee of the Whole on this and go through some of these points we have concerns about...the other issue is nitrates...a University of MN study showed that the nitrate and phosphorus levels were seven times higher on the water coming out of the storm water system from the City of Wilmar than at the drain tile water outlet...I see these two issues (drain tile and irrigation) as being paramount to the future of farming in Benton County..." Popp commented "...I feel that some of the language (in the water plan) is too strong..." Peschl commented "...the Water Advisory Committee did not go into this plan to target any particular group...irrigation or farming...I'm a farmer myself...if there's language that should be changed, I think we should do that..." Buerkle inquired if changes to the water plan would cause conflict with the Little Rock Creek TMDL implementation plan, thereby hindering possible grants. Following brief discussion, Bauerly/Popp to table this issue for further language discussion. Motion carried with Bauerly, Popp and Peschl voting aye and Buerkle and McMahon voting nay.

Jim McDermott, Emergency Management Director, presented his 2019 budget requests; the requests relate to upgrades to the Emergency Operations Center/Sheriff's Situation Room in order to make it more efficient and useful.

The Regular County Board meeting was recessed at 9:52 AM to conduct a Human Services Board meeting.

The Regular Board meeting was reconvened at 9:55 AM.

Mike Harvey, Land Services Director, explained that, recently, questions about why his office collects private data, and how it is stored, have come up; a taxpayer was concerned with the collection of social security numbers and trust documents. He noted that the State requires the collection of private data for all homestead applications, most notably, social security numbers; the State uses this information to ensure that owners are not receiving homestead on multiple properties across the state. Harvey explained that this particular taxpayer had a property that was held under trust; the Assessor may ask for additional information in this case. He stated that other confidential information collected by his office include Schedule F for active farms and income information on commercial properties; confidential information is filed in a secure imaging system.

George Fiedler, County Veteran Service Officer (CVSO), stated that the MN Department of Veteran Affairs CVSO grant program provides an annual base grant to all 87 counties of \$7,500; in addition to the base grant, each county gets additional money based on the veteran population in their county (Benton County's veteran population is cited as 2,968 so Benton County will get an additional \$2,500). Fiedler noted that grant dollars can only be spent for specific items; he recommends the money be spent for marketing, conference/travel expenses, and software maintenance. Buerkle/Bauerly unanimous to adopt Resolution 2018-#25, authorizing Benton County to enter into a grant contract with the MN Department of Veteran Affairs to conduct the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program.

Monty Headley, County Administrator, explained that the County Board and Management Team members conducted a strategic planning session with facilitation from AMC on July 27th; the meeting included a review of the mission and vision statements and organizational values, as well as selection of the top "strategic priorities" and developing action plans for those selected. Headley noted the top two priorities—promote economic development/reduce the County tax rate, creatively recruit and retain the best possible county workforce; and the two secondary priorities—use technology to improve

Appendix C: Record of Public Hearing

service and increase productivity, and improve communication with County residents and within the organization. He pointed out other goals slated for a later time include—create a safe working environment for our employees, support employee health and wellness, develop partnerships with local governments, and encourage innovation and efficiency through LEAN and Continuous Improvement. Headley requested feedback from the Board regarding the strategic planning session and the Board's thoughts on the next steps in this process. Bauerly suggested that the County Board review these goals/priorities on a quarterly basis so as not to lose focus. There was consensus of the Board that the Management Team "take these priorities to the next level of detail", i.e. identify ownership, focusing first on the top four priorities. Headley will organize a meeting of the Management Team and provide a quarterly update to the Board.

Headley reported that the County has received correspondence from DNR regarding a 40-acre parcel in Maywood Township (off County Road #9 south of TH #23) that DNR is making available for sale; according to the letter, DNR can first offer the parcel to local units of government who may purchase it for a public purpose. He noted that the parcel may be purchased for no less than its appraised value (the current estimated market value, as determined by the County Assessor, is \$56,800); it appears most of the parcel is a wetland surrounded by land in private ownership. There was consensus of the Board of no interest in the parcel at this time.

Board members reported on recent meetings they attended on behalf of the county.

Under Commissioner Concerns, Commissioner Bauerly commented "...on the issue of nitrates, I asked Nicole (Public Health Supervisor) about the whole "blue baby" issue...our water quality plan talks about "blue baby" as well...I studied the report I received from Nicole...the main "blue baby" syndrome was in 1945-1950...back when vitamin C was low in the diet...they quit testing for "blue baby" syndrome because they can't prove that nitrates cause any of them...there's no evidence of blue babies in Minnesota...but the Governor had six town hall meetings across the state...why doesn't he have town hall meetings about a real problem (i.e. increased out of home placements for children due to drug usage amongst parents) rather than a perceived problem (nutrients/blue babies)..."

Keith Carlson, Executive Director with the Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA), provided an overview of the 2018 legislative session and its implications for Benton County. MICA staff members Nancy Silesky (Health and Human Services Liaison), Ryan Erdmann (Public Safety and Corrections Liaison) and Steve Novak (Transportation and Capital Investment Liaison) were additional presenters.

Peschl/Bauerly unanimous to set Committees of the Whole: August 21, Discussion of Potential Local Option Sales Tax for Transportation, Sidewalks/Trails in County Road Right-of-Way, and Comp Time Maximums/Cash Out for Exempt Employee; September 6, Benton County Association of Township Officers; September 10, Water Plan Discussion/2019 Budget Discussion; and October 9, Board Review of County Emergency Operations Plan.

McMahon/Peschl unanimous to adjourn at 11:12 AM.

Edward D. Popp, Chair
Benton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Montgomery Headley
Benton County Administrator

