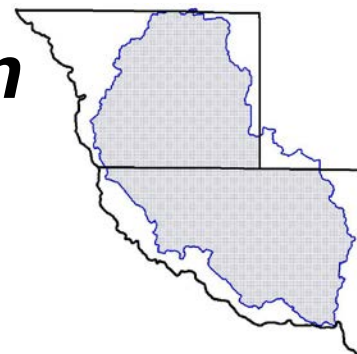


# Elk River Watershed Association

*A Joint Powers Board of Benton and Sherburne Counties  
and Soil and Water Conservation Districts*

c/o Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District  
14855 Highway 10 Elk River, MN 55330  
(763) 241-1170 ext. 4



Elk River Watershed Association  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 15, 2019, 8:30 A.M.  
USDA Service Center, Foley, MN

Attendance: Roger Athman, Lisa Fobbe, Joe Jordan, Brian Kaschmitter, Mark Lefebvre, Kenzie Phelps, Jason Selvog, Dan Cibulka, Amanda Guertin, Francine Larson, Gerry Maciej, Kelly Molitor, Jason Weinerman

In for part of the meeting: Brad Redlin, Casey Gwost, Grant Pearson, Ed Popp

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Jordan at 8:32 AM.

1. **Introductions:** Introductions were made around the room at the start of the meeting.
2. **Review & Approval of the Agenda:** Jason Selvog requested to add an informational item to the agenda called "Sherburne SWCD & Elk River Watershed Withdrawal" as item number 5.5. Motion by Kenzie Phelps and second by Ed Popp to approve the agenda with the addition. All were in favor. The motion passed.
3. **Review & Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Mark Lefebvre and second by Roger Athman to approve minutes from the March 18, 2019 board meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed.
4. **Review Financial Reports:** Francine Larson presented the March monthly Treasurer's Report and Account Quick Report.
5. **Review and Approve Accounts Payable:** Larson presented the Accounts Payable Report for April. Motion by Popp and second by Phelps to approve the March Accounts Payable Report. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 5.5. **Sherburne SWCD & Elk River Watershed Withdrawal:** The Sherburne SWCD board will potentially consider a motion to withdraw from the ERWA in May. Following the Sherburne SWCD board's decision, the Sherburne County board will also consider a motion to withdraw from the ERWA. Dan Cibulka then explained some of their handout and some discussion was had (Elk River Watershed Association handout was inserted into filed copy of the April board packet for reference.) Lisa Fobbe concurred as a Sherburne County Commissioner with what Cibulka had stated. Benton County Commissioner, Ed Popp, said he felt differently, and that their Benton County Board has not had similar conversations but rather conversations regarding whether or not they were providing enough funding to the ERWA. Jason Weinerman provided some details regarding 1W1P. More discussion was had. Brad Redlin, Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program Manager, entered the meeting at this time and was introduced. Gerry Maciej suggested that perhaps the board come back to this discussion later on in order to stay on track with the agenda.
6. **Strategic Plan Implementation High Level Overview;** 7. **Discuss Implementation Activities 1 and 2;** 8. **Discuss Remaining Implementation Activities:** In the essence of time, Maciej requested to discuss agenda items 6 through 8 concurrently. Maciej handed out the ERWA Goals Survey results along with the 2018 ERWA Road Map and gave a quick review (handout was inserted into filed copy of the April board packet for reference.) He then discussed the ERWA's 2019 budget and how some of his proposals to the Board may affect the budget. Maciej then

passed out the 2019 ERWA Road Map which had some new potential activities and timelines for the ERWA (handout was inserted into filed copy of the April board packet for reference.) He then passed out a letter that he had written to BWSR to request Capacity funds for the ERWA. Some discussion was had. Maciej went through more of the listed items on the 2019 Road Map in reverse order. Moreover, Maciej introduced the Section 319 Small Watershed Focus grant and explained the program as a potential grant opportunity for the ERWA. Next, Maciej introduced the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) saying this could possibly be a good fit to be introduced in the Tier 1 and 2 areas of the Elk River Watershed. Cibulka agreed that the program is great and has some applicability in some areas of the watershed but noted that much of the Sherburne portions of Tier 1 and Tier 2 priority areas are largely non-agricultural parcels and so MAWQCP would probably not be applicable there. He also stated that Sherburne SWCD has a certified planner on staff who has funding for MAWQCP implementation in Sherburne. Brad Redlin, Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program Manager, gave an overview and explained the infrastructure of the program. Grant Pearson, West Central MAWQCP Certification Specialist, and Casey Gwost, Benton SWCD Technician, shared insight of working hands on with the program. Popp left the meeting at this time. Maciej then shared the similarities and differences between the MAWQCP and the environmental assessments Kelly Molitor has been doing. Redlin, Gwost, and Pearson left the meeting at this time.

Discussion reverted to 1W1P and Sherburne withdrawing from the ERWA. Fobbe suggested that the ERWA board have more discussions about the future of their organization and perhaps invite others with a more objective point of view to attend. Motion by Phelps and second by Brian Kaschmitter to add 1W1P as a major agenda item to discuss 1W1P in more detail and its impact on the ERWA at the May ERWA board meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed. Some discussion was had about possibly making the Elk River Watershed its own 1W1P area.

9. **Strategic Plan Implementation Decisions:** Maciej asked for input from the board on the items he had presented. Joe Jordan suggested possibly tabling this agenda item until a later date. Motion by Phelps and second by Selvog to table agenda item number 9. All were in favor. The motion passed.
10. **Sherburne SWCD Staff Updates:** Cibulka announced that their Tree Week is coming up and mentioned that they have had a number of projects approved recently for funding that will take place within the Elk River Watershed.
11. **Member Updates:** No member updates.
12. **Next Meeting Time & Place:** Molitor announced that there is a schedule conflict for the next ERWA meeting scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>. The State Envirothon is the same day and several staff/board members will be attending the event. May 13<sup>th</sup> was discussed as a potential reschedule date and May 6<sup>th</sup> as a backup. Molitor said she would send out an email to everyone once a date is settled upon.
13. **Adjourn:** Motion by Kaschmitter and second by Selvog to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:06 AM.

  
Chair, Elk River Watershed Association

5-13-2019  
Date