

# **Blue Earth River Watershed Planning Partnership**

## **Policy Committee Meeting #3 Minutes**

February 26, 2024

**Members Present:** Kevin Paap, Blue Earth County; John Rollings, Blue Earth SWCD; Bruce Anderson, Faribault County; Curt Helland, Freeborn SWCD; Roger Pohlman, Jackson County; Steve Flohrs, Martin County; Larry Cowing, Martin SWCD; Britney Kawecky, City of Fairmont; Jeff Bell, Faribault SWCD; Chantill Kahler Royer, Martin SWCD alternate; Brad Edwin, Freeborn County alternate; Dave Hussong, Jackson SWCD (online).

**Staff Present:** Ashley Brenke, Martin SWCD; Jesse Walters, Martin SWCD; Hannah Neusch, City of Fairmont (online); Jill Sackett Eberhart, BWSR; Scott Salisbury, Blue Earth County; Hadley Mensing, Faribault SWCD; Lindsey Zeitler, Freeborn SWCD.

Meeting was called to order by Larry Cowing at 9:00 am.

### **1 – Welcome and Introductions**

### **2 – Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Jeff Bell, seconded by Britney Kawecky to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **3 – Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Steve Flohrs, seconded by Curt Helland to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

### **4 – Consider Approval of a Consultant**

Subcommittee gave a review and recommendation of Houston Engineering Incorporated (HEI). Discussion on the topic and considerations. Motion by John Rollings, seconded by Steve Flohrs to approve the hiring of HEI as a consultant. Motion carried unanimously.

### **5 – Consultant Contract**

Discussion regarding consultant contract details. Motion by Britney Kawecky, seconded by Jeff Bell to allow Martin SWCD to approve the consultant contract if it is at or below the budgeted amount of \$168,000. Motion carried unanimously.

### **6 – Grant Update**

Ashley gave an update on the grant.

### **7 – Kickoff Meeting**

Discussion regarding details of the kickoff meeting. Discussion on tentative date in the evening of May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **8 – Advisory Committee**

Ashley gave an update from the Advisory Committee.

### **9 - Adjourn**

Motion by Jeff Bell, seconded by Kevin Paap to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.

Next meeting March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9am.