*Itasca County Water Plan Implementation Committee*

*Regular Meeting Minutes:* **December 12, 2019**

SWCD Conference Room, Grand Rapids, MN

Chair Norman Miranda opened the meeting at 9:33 AM.

**WPIC members present:** Norman Miranda, Don Klandee, Tom Nelson, Norely Hansen, Dan Butterfield, Harold Goetzman, Bob Lindahl Mike Oja. Also, *guest* Ted Lovedahl, and *ex officio* SWCD Manager Andy Arens.

**1)** Approval of **Agenda and Minutes** from October 8: **Approved**

**2) Revision of** **WPIC Bylaws** regulating the WPIC Membership to include “Two Itasca County At-Large Positions” eliminating a reserved seat for a recreationally oriented business. This is an opportunity for a County Commissioner to be appointed at County Reorganization meeting. Andy will take this proposal to the County Board for approval.

**3)** Review and discussion of Chad Severt’s October 21, 2019 emails regarding the updating of the **Itasca County Comprehensive Water Plan**. The emails were attached to the Agenda Packet. Chad reviewed the options for WPIC after 1W1P becomes the dominant plan. He indicated that Option 3, with a 5 year extension and without an accompanying amendment is preferred, such that the county can concentrate on participation with 1W1P. BWSR staff is currently working on a revision of their Guidelines and Policy regarding extensions; BWSR Board approval expected soon.

**4)** Review of **Technical Service Areas and Watershed-Based Implementation Funds Distribution Map.** The map was attached to the Agenda Packet. Informational. The Areas are groups of counties; the shaded watersheds are those already in the allocation process.

**5)** **BWSR Clean Water Fund (CWF)** grant application from the Itasca SWCD for storm-water improvements in the City of Coleraine was presented by Andy. Proposals are ranked by established priority rather than size of fuds required. The grant raked high but no decision yet. This is a $430,000 project.

**6)** **MPCA Clean Water Partnership (CWP)** grant for 0% loans for non-compliant septic upgrades has been approved pending review by Itasca County legal department.

**7)** **Reissuance of NPDES and SDS Permit to City of Grand Rapids Wastewater Treatment Facility.** Informational. A public comment period was underway until January 7, 2020. Links attached to agenda provided detailed descriptions of the facility and its capabilities.

**8)** **Miscellaneous MPCA Issues** were discussed, including chloride variances, PFAS contamination, MPCA fees, the value of the Watershed Management approach, the impaired waters listings. Informational.

**9)** **Next Meeting** will be February 11, 2020 as a reorganizational meeting. Meeting schedule for 2020 WPIC will be established then. Terms expired at the end of 2019 are District 2, 3, Township, Conservation, and both At-Large. At least two vacancies will need replacement: District 1 and 2 (Norm and Tom are retiring from the committee).

**10)** **Adjourn** at 11:08am

Submitted by Tom Nelson, Secretary to WPIC