

COTTONWOOD – MIDDLE MINNESOTA CWMP – POLICY COMMITTEE (RCRCA).

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM.

Netzke explained that the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (CWMP) will be part of the RCRCA's agenda from this point forward as RCRCA serves as the Policy Committee to oversee plan management and for approval of implementation projects and expenditures.

Wage Range for Coordinator. Netzke reported that BWSR has approved the Implementation Funding Grant as of April 30. She presented a wage range appropriate for a watershed coordinator that will eventually serve the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota and the Redwood River. Based on experience, a wage of \$30-\$40 per hour with RCRCA's benefit package is proposed. Discussion followed as the health insurance cost is incorrect as the formula did not calculate the annual cost, only the monthly cost. Netzke will correct the formula and add \$20,000 to the Administration/Coordination budget line item.

Position Job Description. Netzke is gathering information to draft a job description that will fit our needs. She has received one job description from Pope SWCD and is waiting for a couple more.

Advertising, Interview, Hire Schedule, Hiring Committee. Netzke started a discussion on the anticipated timeline: advertise the position by mid-May, interview by late May and hire early to mid- to late June. Volunteers for the hiring committee are Luke Johnson, Gary Crowley and Larry Anderson. Netzke will connect with the committee to find a suitable meeting date.

WBIF Grant Policy and Budget. Netzke provided the grant policy and implementation budget that the Steering Team/Technical Committee has established. This information is used to enter the work plan into eLINK. Once the work plan is approved, the grant agreement will be signed with funds disbursed in 50/40/10 increments. The funds should become available by late May/early June. It is hoped that we will be ready to approve projects in July with several completed by the end of the year.

Designate Intent for Interest Earnings. Netzke sought ideas of how the interest from the WBIF funds would best be utilized. Consensus of the board is to track the interest earnings and set aside in a reserve account. Use of any funds from this reserve account would require approval of the Policy Committee. A separate Magic Account will be established to invest the WBIF and track the interest earnings.

Adjournment. With no other business to address, Chairman Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:49 AM.

Joint Meeting Area II/RCRCA Board of Directors

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

June Board Meeting	Thursday, June 5, 2025	Redwood Learning Center 9 AM
July Board Meeting	Thursday, July 3, 2025	Lyon County Government 9 AM

 6-5-25
Luke Johnson, RCRCA Chairman Date