



# MEETING NOTES 2050 WATER RESOURCES POLICY PLAN UPDATE ADVISORY GROUP

June 5, 2023

## ATTENDANCE

### Members Present:

Scott Anderson  
Bryan Bear  
Andy Brotzler  
Paul Carpenter  
Bryan Dodds  
Charlie Howley  
Laura Jester  
Jennifer Levitt  
Russ Matthys  
Richard McCoy  
Paul Moline  
Nick Tomczik

### Absent:

Phil Belfiori  
Bruce Elder  
Tim Kelly  
Pat Shea  
Vanessa Strong  
Bruce Westby  
James Wisker

### Staff:

Kyle Colvin  
Jen Kostrzewski  
Sam Paske  
Shannon Skally  
Judy Sventek

### Guests:

Walter Atkins  
Mirae Guenther  
Dan Henely  
Maureen Hoffman  
Greg Johnson  
Jen Kader  
Julia Kloiber  
Henry McCarthy  
Joe Mulcahy  
Freya Thamman  
Laura Wagner

## WELCOME

Judy Sventek welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda. Introductions were made.

She provided a legislative update:

- \$2 million to work on next steps for White Bear Lake issues. Legislature has given four years to complete this work with the end goal of sustainable water resources for the Northeast Metro area. Met Council will be initiating contact with local communities and state agencies to kick off the work in the upcoming months.
- \$1.5 for water efficiency grant program. Evaluation for the existing program will be used to inform the new cycle.
- \$2.25 million to continue water supply sustainability work.
- Climate planning will now be required instead of recommended for the Comp Planning process. We will be working with communities and partners to determine what that means and provide tools to assist in this area.

Jen Kader introduced the group to the preliminary subregional engagement approach. This work will focus on engaging surface and groundwater perspectives in water resources planning. It is kicking off now and will be wrapping up February, 2024 with a focus on developing goals and objectives for the subregions. She will be reaching out to this group to identify local champions and participants with unique perspectives. Contact her directly with questions at [Jen.Kader@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:Jen.Kader@metc.state.mn.us) or 651-602-1114.

## RURAL WATER ISSUES RESEARCH PAPER

Maureen Hoffman provided an overview of the Rural Water Issues Research Paper. The focus was on three Key Concerns identified in the paper:

- Water Quality
- Wastewater
- Community Water Supply and Private Wells

Participants were asked to share their opinions of the relative importance of each of the strategies and actions presented in each Research Paper via Mural. Discussion was centered on areas where there was the greatest divergence of opinions.

- [Rural Water Issues Research Paper](#)
- [Mural Brainstorm](#)

## WATER AVAILABILITY, ACCESS, & USE RESEARCH PAPER

Jen Kostrzewski provided an overview of the Water Availability, Access, & Use Research Paper. The focus was on the four Crucial Concerns identified in the paper:

- Increasing water demand pressures
- Threats to groundwater-dependent water resources
- Growing water contamination
- Aging infrastructure

Participants were asked to share their opinions of the relative importance of each of the strategies and actions presented in each Research Paper via Mural. Discussion was centered on areas where there was the greatest divergence of opinions.

- [Water Availability, Access, & Use Research Paper](#)
- [Mural Brainstorm](#)

## NEXT STEPS AND ACTION ITEMS

Kyle Colvin summarized the progress made and overall project timeline. He noted that the next step is drafting policy and the stakeholder engagement process.

- If there are any upcoming events or gatherings that would be good forums as outreach for the Research Papers, please contact Jen Kostrzewski ([jennifer.kostrzewski@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:jennifer.kostrzewski@metc.state.mn.us)) or Shannon Skally ([shannon.skally@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:shannon.skally@metc.state.mn.us)).
- The Mural will remain open until June 20, 2023 for additional feedback. (<https://app.mural.co/t/metcouncils5702/m/metcouncils5702/1684879169687/745cb3d042bce2d23254da00057c17b779573db7?sender=jenniferkostrzewski2240>)
- Research Papers will continue to be posted on the website as they become available, so please share widely with contacts in your networks and encourage them to provide comments. Current papers online are: Water Quality and Water Reuse. Protecting Source Water, Wastewater Planning and Service Concerns, and Water and Climate are soon coming.

<https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Planning/2050-Water-Resources-Policy-Plan.aspx>

- The next meeting will be this fall, with a target of early September, to review draft policy. A Doodle poll will follow this summer to identify a date.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Shannon Skally  
Recording Secretary  
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