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 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) or Shannon Skally (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/metcouncils5702/1684879169687/745cb3d042bce2d3254da00057c17b779573db7?sender=jenniferkostrzewski2240](https://app.mural.co/t/metcouncils5702/m/metcouncils5702/1684879169687/745cb3d042bce2d3254da00057c17b779573db7?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.
• 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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