#### **Policy Committee Meeting Agenda**

Clean Water Council May 17, 2024 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. WebEx Only

**2024** Policy Committee: John Barten, Rich Biske (Chair), Gail Cederberg, Kelly Gribauval-Hite, Peter Schwagerl, and Marcie Weinandt

#### 9:30 Regular Business

- Introductions
- Approve today's agenda
- Approve minutes of previous meeting(s)
- Chair update
- Staff update
- 9:45 Legislative Rundown
- 10:00 Outline for a Groundwater Protection Policy Statement
- 10:45 BREAK
- 11:00 Conversation on Resources Needed for More Regular Feedlot Inspections
- 11:45 Public Comment
- 12:00 Adjourn

#### **Next Meetings Options:**

- Water storage pilot completion
- **New Report:** Minnesota's Vanishing Natural Shorelines: A Loss that Contributes to Degraded Lake Quality + lake water quality issues in general

#### Policy Committee Meeting Summary Clean Water Council (Council) March 22, 2024, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Committee Members present:** John Barten, Rich Biske (Chair), Kelly Gribauval-Hite, Victoria Reinhardt (Vice Chair), Peter Schwagerl, Marcie Weinandt.

Members absent: Gail Cederberg.

**Others present**: Jim Stark (Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy), Annie Felix-Gerth (BWSR), Glenn Skuta (MPCA), Margaret Wagner (MDA), Justin Hanson (BWSR), Jeff Berg (MDA), Jen Kader (Met Council), Jamie Beyer (Bois de Sioux Watershed District), Anne Nelson (MDH), Jason Moeckel (DNR), Catherine Neuschler (EQB)

To watch the WebEx video recording of this meeting, please go to <a href="https://www.pca.state.mn.us/clean-water-council/policy-ad-hoc-committee">https://www.pca.state.mn.us/clean-water-council/policy-ad-hoc-committee</a>, or contact Brianna Frisch.

#### **Regular Business**

- Introductions
- Approval of the March 22 meeting agenda, and February 23 meeting summary, motion by John Barten, seconded by Marcie Weinandt. Motion carries.
- Chair update
- Staff update

#### **Legislative Rundown**

On Monday, March 18 the Clean Water Council finalized its supplemental budget recommendations. Paul Gardner, Clean Water Council Administrator, presented to the Senate on Tuesday, March 19. There were no questions. On Wednesday, the Senate Climate, Environment, and Legacy Finance Committee adopted its Legacy Finance bill, which included changing some of the items from the Council. There will be a conference committee for the Legacy Bill. A lot of differences will likely be worked out at that time. A document is included in the meeting packet that reveals the changes.

- We will have to follow up with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), because the Senate removed the
  local capacity funding for the Southeast Minnesota Nitrate Response. They only included funding for well
  testing and well inventory. They removed the funding for the local capacity of the TAP IN Collaborative and
  the full-time employee position at the MDH. So they are funding output without funding the people who do
  the work.
- They also removed the River and Lake Monitoring and Assessment funding, which would allow MPCA to fully monitor for per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) statewide as part of their regular monitoring.
- They removed funding form the Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) program, which means about seventy households will not get septic system replacements.
- They added \$500,000 for Municipal Effluent Testing for PFAS.
- They also added in \$150,000 for River Watch with Friends of the Minnesota Valley.
- The Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) program had \$500,000 taken out of it but the Senate inserted \$5.4 million for the 50-Year Clean Water Plan.

#### Questions:

- John Barten: If the House accepts the Council's recommendations, in the process of combining the two bills, is there a way that the Council can try to influence the outcome? Or do we sit on the sidelines waiting? *Answer:* I asked the Governor's Office staff, to see if the Council could send a letter. They said it would be a good idea. I also thought the agencies should be asked as well, to show how the pieces all fit together. We want to be as constructive as possible. Some groups have expressed strong support for the Council's recommendations.
- Victoria Reinhardt: Will there be more opportunities to testify? Answer: Yes, that is likely.
- Kelly Gribauval-Hite: The SSTS program cut is difficult to see. This is something that people really need assistance with. We want to think about equity. I have a problem with this change. If there is a way to restore this funding, would be good to see. It impacts so many.
- John Barten: I like the idea of a letter. Paul did a great job but was very concise during his time. A letter may explain more to rectify the funding more. We can do it in a non-challenging, non-threatening way.

• Rich Biske: Has the University of Minnesota (UMN) requested funding elsewhere? Answer: I am not aware. They did not initiate the plan. They are just as surprised as we are that it was placed with the CWFs.

#### **Financial and Policy Items at the Legislature**, Paul Gardner (Webex 00:38:30)

- Governor's Bonding Recommendations
  - o Metropolitan Council: \$5,000,000 Inflow and Infiltration Grant Program
  - Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: \$10,000,000 Statewide Drinking Water Contamination Mitigation for Private Wells (at select sites with PFAS and 1,4-dioxane). Also, \$2,000,000 Continuous Nitrate Sensor Network [Now in Clean Water Fund recommendations]
  - o Public Facilities Authority:
    - \$39,000,000 State Match for Federal Grants to State Revolving Loan Programs
    - \$23,485,000 Water Infrastructure Funding Program
    - \$18,527,000 Point Source Implementation Grant Program
    - \$18,000,000 Emerging Contaminants Grant Program (for manganese and PFAS at public water suppliers)
    - \$10,000,000 Lead Service Line Replacement Grant Program
  - o Board of Water and Soil Resources: \$10,000,000 Reinvestment in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve Program
- Bills already passed:
  - HF3377 (Hansen, R) Environment and natural resources trust fund; previous appropriations modified, and money appropriated.

#### Questions:

- John Barten: Jim Stark, how many items are being viewed by your subcommittee at the Legislature? *Answer from Jim Stark:* There are about four of them, coming around in various ways.
- John Barten: Are they working hard to get those items passed, or less aggressive in getting items adopted. Answer from Jim Stark: I'm not sure on the level of interest for each item, but they are working hard to get involved and move items forward. I'll send you and Paul an update of where things are at.
- Rich Biske: Do you know how the SWCD funding bill has been received? Answer: Not sure. It would be in the tax bill.

#### Strategic Discussion on Nitrate Response in Southeast Minnesota (Webex 01:00:00)

- The committee has looked at what a nitrate policy looks like, since the EPA petition. The discussions have looked at different programs. The Council has produced some significant policies in the past that have be impactful. Now may be a good time to start formulating potential policies. Also, understanding where there are gaps, looking at what is not being accomplished.
- The MDH has its public health response. The other agencies are working on short-term and long-term plans. It
  may be good to look at how they are targeting items right now.
- The MDA is looking to use the nitrate and groundwater efforts to add a million dollars to continue the technical assistance. The other part is the Ag BMP loan program. There is a backlog of projects. Should we do more? Answer from Margaret Wagner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA): That speaks to some of our Legislative initiatives. We are focused on this issue. There is an acknowledgment that work in southeast didn't start with this petition. We have an opportunity to work beyond that too. Something that has been helpful is meeting directly with Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). We have identified things at the local level, that our partners think could help accelerate the work. It is about working together, leveraging funds, the role of other state agencies, and looking at what is working to move forward. Looking at capacity, we can only do so much with the staff that we have. I don't know if this is a policy issue, but there might be something there on how to support the SWCD partners in their desire to deliver. There are some administrative challenges, like the number of practices that they want to have going on the ground and the challenges that those present. There are conversations with federal partners. The MDA is also looking at how we can accelerate work in townships, federal partners, the ag community, ag retailers, and the Forever Green Initiative.

- Rich Biske: Is there an inventory of newer storage and handling facilities of manure that require an upgrade?
   Answer: Not sure. There is an inventory. The program has an estimate, but it is hard when you don't have good numbers to quantify the variables. It is more expensive to do the manure storage because of the karst geology. We were ballparking \$40-50 million for needed manure storage.
- Rich Biske: Will the agencies estimated the body of work and expenses needed for the EPA petition? *Answer:* We have been looking at it program-by-program. I am not sure if there will be a completed estimate.
- Catherine Neuschler, EQB: Just a reminder that the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) puts together the state water plan to cover ten years. The 2020 State Water Plan has some specific goals, actions, and strategies which include some designed to prevent nitrates. I have been talking with the agencies to see if they can present on the alignment between the state water plan and nitrate response. The board does get regular updates from the state agencies on the state water plan. We are interested in a data compilation but haven't done it. We are thinking about making these more living documents to regularly look and report on. An interim report is due in 2025.
- John Barten: Does the public have some responsibility to mitigate the nitrate so it is safe for drinking? Should that be a policy too? Helping private well owners is politically charged but it doesn't mean we shouldn't look at doing it. We should continue to push well testing at time of property transfers. These are my thoughts the last few weeks, on where to look for policy statements. We need to look at different ways of approaching it.
- Rich Biske: This is looking more comprehensive. What would be helpful to advance this right now? *Answer from Paul Gardner:* It would be good to break down activities by function.
- Paul Gardner: The lead cost benefit analysis the MDH produced that was used a lot at the Legislature is a good precedent. The Council could consider something in its recommendations which brings in some outside analysis to cost out options, which could be something the Legislature could use.
- Rich Biske: I like the comments from Catherine Neuschler on looking at the commonalities. I like the cost benefit analysis part. But timing is important. There is a lot of uncertainty, but it would be helpful to know when the returns would materialize and what their durability would be.
- Paul Gardner will work on an outline.

**Public Comment** (Webex 02:14:30)

• No public comments.

Adjournment (Webex 02:15:30)

# Clean Water Council Policy Committee Meeting May 17, 2024

#### **Legislative Highlights**

All relevant finance bills have been passed off the floor. Some have finished conference committee and others are still there.

### Omnibus Legacy Finance Bill (HF4124)

The Clean Water Council's recommendations are 99.8 percent intact for a supplemental appropriation of \$25 million. (See attached spreadsheet.) The line item amounts are the same but there is some additional appropriation rider language for the Water Partners Legacy grant program. The conference committee took \$50,000 out of the SSTS program for the Minnesota Valley River Watch program. The House re-passed the bill as amended by conference on Friday and the Senate did the same on Monday. Once the bill is "enrolled" by the House and Senate it is presented to the Governor, who has three days (except Sunday) to sign the bill. If the bill is enrolled Tuesday or Wednesday, the Governor could sign it by the end of session. Otherwise, he has more time to sign all the bills after session.

### Omnibus Environment and Natural Resources Finance Bill (HF3911)

House provisions of interest include:

- Rulemaking for EIS for Large Animal Projects Required (HF4698 Pursell)
- Report on State Agency Salt Purchases (HF4624 Hansen)
- Report on State Agency Nitrogen Fertilizer Purchases (HF4625 Hansen)
- PFAS in Biosolid Agricultural Fertilizer Report (HF4135 Hansen)
- Water Quality Monitoring in State Fish Hatcheries (HF4214 Hansen)
- Planting Corn on State lands Prohibited (HF3624 Hansen)
- Subsurface Drain Tile Disclosure and Additional Drainage Work (HF 3389 Pursell)

#### Senate provisions of interest include:

- SF 3527 Manure Management Grants (Gustafson) for \$2 million in FY25
- SF 3957 Keep It Clean Grants (Putnam) at \$1.418 million in FY25.
- SF 4850 Report on State Agency Salt Purchases (Morrison)
- \$300,000 for Red River Phosphorus Management
- \$12 million additional to soil and water conservation districts

### Omnibus Agriculture Finance Bill (SF4942)

The bill has only just gone to conference committee.

#### House provisions of interest include:

- Adds to existing soil health financial assistance grants (\$300,000 from the General Fund to MN Department of Agriculture), and requires that any recipient of these funds should get certified by the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) within two years.
- Funds home water treatment for nitrate (\$3,072,000 from the General Fund to the MN Department of Agriculture)
- Creates a Private Well Drinking Water Assistance Program and funds it at \$223,000 to the MN Department of Health in FY25
- Moves the \$0.40 per ton fee on fertilizer that supports the agricultural fertilizer research and education account to the Private Well Drinking Water Assistance Program starting July 1, 2025.

#### Senate provisions of interest include:

- Extends the expiration of the Minnesota Agricultural Fertilizer Research and Education Council until June 30, 2035.
- Supports Nitrate Treatment Reverse Osmosis Systems in SE MN counties for \$750,000.
- Supports \$2 million to address nitrate contamination in private wells in SE MN counties through the Minnesota Department of Health.
- Adds \$500,000 for soil health financial assistance grants.

#### **Omnibus Tax Bill**

 The Senate version includes an additional \$2 million in support for soil and water conservation districts.

### Capital Investment Bills

There are two bills in each house, neither of which has come up for a floor vote. One is a bill that uses general obligation (GO) bonds and requires a supermajority and therefore bipartisan support. The other uses general fund money and only requires a majority vote. A bonding bill (which includes plenty of water infrastructure funding) is generally the last piece of the puzzle to fall in place by the end of session, since it requires a bipartisan vote. The House bills have reached the floor but is not scheduled for a vote yet. The Senate bills have not yet been finalized in committee.

#### House provisions of interest include:

- (MPCA) \$8 million for statewide drinking water contamination mitigation (for private wells around a few contaminated sites with 1,4-dioxane and PFAS)
- (BWSR) \$4 million for permanent easements through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- (Met Council) \$10 million for inflow and infiltration grants
- (MDH) \$6 million for Secondary Sources of Drinking Water Grant Program, plus \$100,000 from the General Fund (cash, not bonding)

- This is a new program (not in the Governor's request) designed to provide backup drinking water wells for small communities under 3,300 people that only have one well and meet environmental justice criteria.
- (PFA) \$39 million for state match for federal grants to state revolving loan programs
- (PFA) \$17.742 million in drinking water grants through the Water Infrastructure Funding Program and \$17,742 for wastewater projects
- (PFA) \$18,527,000 for Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG) program
- (PFA) \$7 million for Emerging Contaminants Grant Program

Senate provisions of interest include:

The Senate has not put its final bill forward in committee.

# Legacy Finance Committee: HF4124 Conference Committee Comparison

	Artic								
	7.0	le 2: Clean Water Fu	nd						
House					House		Senate/CC Agreement		
$\neg$			T	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 24-25		FY 2025	
ct. 3	Department of Agriculture								
-	Nitrate in Groundwater	MDA		-	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
i	AgBMP Loan Program	MDA		-	3,402	3,402	-	3,402	3,402
	AgBMP Loan Program SE Minnesota Focus	MDA		-	[3,000]	[3,000]	-	[3,000]	[3,000]
	Subtotal			-	4,402	4,402	-	4,402	4,402
ct. 4	Pollution Control Agency								
1	River and Lake Monitoring and Assessment			-	326	326	-	326	326
1	Enhanced County Inspections/SSTS Corrective Actions	МРСА		-	2,000	2,000	-	1,950	1,950
7	Chloride Reduction Program	MPCA		-	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	Continous Nitrate Sensor Network	MPCA		-	2,000	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
	Friends of the Minnesota Valley River Watch	MPCA						50	50
	Subtotal			-	5,326	5,326	-	5,326	5,326
ct. 5	Department of Natural Resources								
- 1	Fish Contamination Assessment	DNR		-	90	90	-	90	90
	Subtotal			-	90	90	-	90	90
ct. 6	Board of Water and Soil Resources								
,	Working Lands Floodplain Easements	BWSR		-	3,434	3,434	-	3,434	3,434
-	Critical Shore land Protection-Permanent Conservation Easements	BWSR		-	4,000	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
,	Watershed Partners Legacy Grants Program	BWSR		-	2,000	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
	-Targeted Rain Garden Grant Program			-	[500]	[500]	-	[500]	[500]
(	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative LAMP Match	BWSR		-	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	RIM Conservation Easements	BWSR		-	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	Subtotal			-	11,434	11,434	-	11,434	11,434
ct. 7	Minnesota Department of Health								
	Drinking Water Contaminants of Emerging Concern Program	MDH		-	384	384	-	384	384
!	Southeast Minnesota Nitrate Response	MDH		-	2,790	2,790	-	2,790	2,790
	Subtotal				3,174	3,174	-	3,174	3,174
ct. 9 l	University of Minnesota								
	Storm water BMP Performance Evaluation and Technology Transfer	UMN		-	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	Subtotal				1,000	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	TOTAL			-	25,426	25,426	-	25,426	25,426
	Amount Available to Appropriate with 5% Reserve (February 2024 Forecast)				25,426	25,426	-	25,426	25,426
	Difference			-	-	-	-	-	-
	Article	3: Parks and Trails I	und						

#### Clean Water Council

#### Outline for Groundwater Protection Policy Statement

April 26, 2024

Policy Statement: The State of Minnesota should combine the Clean Water Fund with policy and other funding sources to provide safe drinking water to public and private well users and to prevent future nitrate contamination.

[Do we want to include other contaminants? Bacteria, pesticides, manganese, arsenic, lead? And not include contaminants like PFAS that are being addressed elsewhere?]

This draft document could serve as a template to know what resources and timeline would be required to address groundwater protection anywhere in the state from the big five private well contaminants plus pesticides?]

What are activities now, what is current type of education, how to know what is effective, what are indicators of success, inventory of current and planned activities, spend time in committee on those indicators of success, find the gaps, brainstorming session

Topic/Program	Function	Funder	Responsible Unit
	Public Health		Offic
Capacity for MDH			MDH
Capacity for local public health			MDH
Capacity for local SWCDs			BWSR
Capacity for municipalities			MDH
Well inventory			MDH
Well index			MDH
Education/outreach			MDH
Mitigation: new wells; R/O			MDH
Dashboard for			MDH
results/progress			
	On Farm Practices		
Equipment grants and loans			MDA
Nutrient management			MDA
Continuous living cover			MDA/UMN
Manure storage	\$40-50 million		BWSR/MDA
	Monitoring		
River and lake monitoring			MPCA
Groundwater monitoring			MPCA/DNR
Identify areas with			MDH/MDA
vulnerable groundwater			
Complete Part B			DNR
Groundwater Atlas			

Establish Groundwater		DNR
Management Area when		
necessary		
	Land Use	
Easement funding for public		BWSR
water supply source water		
protection		
Easement funding allowing		BWSR
for private well source water		
protection		
Expand buffer law to		BWSR
vulnerable features like		
sinkholes		
_	Funding	
Long-term funding through		Legislature
fees, general fund, etc.		
	Regulation	
Enhanced inspection and		MPCA
compliance on feedlots		
Feedlot permitting		MPCA
Enhanced inspection and		MPCA
compliance on SSTS		
Grants for low-income SSTS		MPCA
	Partners	
Federal agencies		
University of Minnesota		
Forever Green Initiative and		
other departments		
SWCDs		
Public health agencies		
Lenders		
Ag retailers		
Crop advisors		
Irrigators?		
Realtors		
Well drillers		
Water treatment vendors		
Accredited laboratories		

Others		
1 Others		

Timeline with milestones?

Policy	Adopted	Key Policy Recommendations	Progress	Future Actions Needed
		Identify more opportunities for multi-purpose drainage management (MDH) and water storage that improve water quality and complement Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) and One Watershed One Plan (1W1P).  Request data to quantify the effectiveness of Multi-Purpose Drainage Management relative to nutrient transport and hydrologic changes compared to traditional drainage systems, and an estimate of the hydrologic impact of drainage projects on downstream rivers and streams.		
Drainage	FY26-27	Support opportunities for training of drainage engineers, drainage commissioners, and other relevant professionals on the benefits of MDM and resources available, to encourage line-item estimates for conservation practices, and to encourage costbenefit analysis of water storage and its resulting impact on drainage system and maintenance costs.		
		Develop a drainage endorsement for the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) with the input of the Drainage Work Group and other stakeholders.		

Advancing Drinking Water Protection	FY 24-25	Property Transfers: Direct the Minnesota Department of Health to promote adoption of county ordinances that require well testing and a disclosure of the testing at the time a property is transferred, and develop model ordinances. Ordinances should reflect the contaminants of particular interest to the geology of a given county.  Private Well Testing: Use the Clean Water Fund to provide opportunities for all Minnesota private well owners to test their water for five major contaminants (nitrates, lead, arsenic, manganese, and bacteria).  Private Well Mitigation: Develop cost-effective	
		strategies for private well owners to help mitigate wells that do not meet Minnesota health-based guidance for those five contaminants, with a particular focus on low-income households.	
		Fully fund the Smart Salting applicator training and certification program, and MPCA chloride reduction program aimed at reducing salt use.	CWC recommended funding and Legislature appropriated it in 2023
		Request that the Legislature give MPCA the authority to charge a fee for chloride training.	Legislature passed in 2023
De-icing		Provide liability protection for the Smart Salting program certificd private winter de-icing applicators to reduce salt use.	
Chloride Reduction	FY22-23	Provide research funds to develop new technology, alternatives and best management practices	
		Encourage and support the adoption of the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Model Ordinance language by local government entities.	

		Have the MPCA convene and lead a stakeholder process to develop recommendations for new labelling requirements on bags of de-icing chemicals sold in Minnesota.		
		Fund research on the pathways of pharmaceuticals into surface water and ground water, identify priority pharmaceuticals that pose the greatest risk to human health and aquatic life, identify and support practicable solutions to reduce their entry into Minnesota waters, and recoup reasonable costs through an industry-funded safe medication return program.		
Pharmaceutic al Pollution Prevention	FY24-25	Require the words or symbols for "do not flush" be printed on all prescription pharmaceutical labels, and remove any existing instructions to flush unused portions.		
		Adopt a "Safe Medication Return Program" funded by the pharmaceutical producers.	Washington State and several other states have passed similar legislation and are going through rulemaking or are just starting their programs.	
		Require the words or symbols for "do not flush" be printed on all prescription pharmaceutical labels, and remove any existing instructions to flush unused portions.		

PFAS	FY24-25	The CWF should be a partial source of funding to implement Minnesota's comprehensive PFAS Blueprint. Of the ten key issue areas prioritized in the Blueprint, there are three in which the CWF would fulfill both the Clean Water Legacy Act and the Blueprint: 1) Quantifying PFAS risk to human health; 2) Limiting PFAS exposure from drinking water; and 3) Reducing PFAS exposure from fish and game exposure.	The CWC recommended funding in its FY24-25 CWF recommendations for: 1) adding capacity to Contaminants of Emerging Concern; 2) regular river and lake monitoring for PFAS; and 3) including PFAS in fish contamination assessments. The Legislature appropriated the funding.
Chloride Reduction: Water Softening	FY22-23	Provide financial support and technical assistance to municipalities to reduce chloride discharges and allow flexibility for how municipalities achieve these reductions.  Update the state plumbing code to effectively prohibit the installation of new water softeners in Minnesota that use timers rather than on-demand regeneration systems.	The CWC has recommended funding for the Chloride Reduction Program for FY24-25 and the Legislature appropriated it.
Softening		Fund a program for activities, training, and grants that reduce chloride pollution. Grants should support upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units.	The CWC has recommended funding for the Chloride Reduction Program for FY24-25 and the Legislature appropriated it.
Underground Utilities	FY24-25	To create an accurate inventory of Minnesota's underground utility infrastructure, the Clean Water Council (CWC) recommends that the State of Minnesota develop an accurate map of all underground utilities installed in the state and require Minnesota's public and private sectors to support sharing of necessary data in a secure and confidential manner.	

Carp	FY24-25	Ireduce cost of carn management: 4) Remove carn		MAISRC forum held in 2022; awaiting new ideas?
		Possible statement on need to tighten		
Shoreland		variance/exemption process for shoreland		John Barten talking to MNLRA
Management	FY24-25	development rules.	DNR presentation in June 2022	7/2022

Water Storage & Drainage	FY24-25		Based in part on BWSR presentations and background information	Need more info: BWSR carrying out water quality and storage pilot program. Info requested: review Crow Wing drainage presentation; being specific about multi-purpose drainage management grants not promoting more tile; compile water storage acreage goals from 1W1P; how to encourage more water storage as part of drainage authority process; would capital improvement plans give more detail to broader storage goals; what tech support needed; put guard rails on what the Council is asking to avoid "slippery slope" argument
Manure	FY24-25	Options: 1) View manure not as a waste but as a resource; 2) Increase capacity at University of Minnesota to research and promote more precision manure application; 3) Promote more trial manure application plots and precision application field days; 4) Develop more precise N crediting method; 5) Provide more education to small producers who are not subject to large feedlot permit	based on discussions with MPCA feedlot staff	CWC recommended funding in FY24- 25 CWF recommendations for N crediting update, and Legislature appropriated it in 2023.

Soil Health		Hold off a bit as efforts start to synchronize; focus on goals, focusing resources on DWSMAs, fit with NFMP, GPR, MAWQCP soil health endorsements		Need more info: MN Office of Soil Health has a stakeholder process going. MDA got 2022 funding to develop a Healthy Soils Plan. Does the Council want to express support for these efforts, and specifically ask for certain topics to be included? For certain stakeholders to be consulted? For there to be targets like number of acres?
Micro- and nano-plastics	FY24-25		2019 CWF appropriations used in 2022 for groundwater sampling by MPCA/UMD and	We are likely to find microplastics wherever we look; what can Minnesota contribute to the global discussion that no one else is doing? Refine info on pathways into our water? Better identify resins to narrow down sources? Develop health-based guidance for drinking water? Develop aquatic toxicity values for fish?
Neonicitinoid s	FY24-25		MDA has identified several neonics as Surface Water Pesticide of Concern; awaiting presentation in 7/2022 from MDA	

Living Cover for Drinking Water Protection [Request update in 8/2022 to consider revisions]		lareas such as wellhead & unstream of surface water	These areas are targeted, but voluntary, the progress is limited.	
Increasing Continuous Productive Vegetative	FY18-19	Steering Council	_	Legislature to approve the CWC's recommendation.
Cover [Requesting		Create a Minnesota Agricultural Diversification Network		