

Record of Upper Mississippi – Grand Rapids 1W1P Public Hearing

At Hill City School, Hill City, MN

October 18th, 2024

The Policy Committee Chair, Cal Saari, opened the public hearing session.

Chair Saari explained the purpose of the public hearing, summarized the water planning process, and that those that wanted to make a comment for the record could do so. Each person that chose to make a comment would have 5 minutes to speak

Public Comment 1: Allen Richardson representing the Tamarack Water Alliance addressed the group. He offered that the plan should provide more attention to extraction issues like mining, and gravel excavation / movement. Mr. Richardson also noted that the sulfate standards and their effect on wild rice need to be adhered to and monitored. The Talon Metals proposed mine was noted as a concern. He encouraged the history of Talon Metals partner, Rio Tinto, should be investigated. Exploration into the science behind mining districts was encouraged.

Public Comment 2: Jeff Hrubes, Clean Water Specialist from Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources thanked the group for their efforts to cooperate and complete the Watershed Plan.

After asking if there were further questions or comments and hearing none, participants were thanked for sharing their input. A motion was made to adjourn the public hearing M/S/C Gary Peterson / Barb Dahl. The public hearing was closed.