

MINUTES: Yahara WINS Executive Committee meeting:

DATE: 06/17/2025

TIME: (approx. 2:15 PM)

LOCATION: Virtual meeting

SUBMITTED BY: Greg Fries - Secretary

Executive Committee:

X Martin Griffin, President, MMSD
X Greg Fries, Secretary, City of Madison
X Tom Wilson, Towns and Villages Association
X Judd Blau, Village of Deforest, Vice President
X Kyle Minks, Kim Meyer, Amy Piaget, Dane County Representative
X Laura Hicklin, John Reimer, Dane County Representative
X Jeff Endres – Yahara Pride Farms
John Lindert, Strand
X Mark Riedel – WDNR
Ben Schulte – City of Fitchburg
X Mike Gilbertson, Kathy Lake, Emily Jones – MMSD
Phil Gaebler – City of Madison
Lauren Striegl – Village of Oregon

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order – Griffin called the meeting to order at 2:21 PM
- b. Welcome guests and visitors

2. Review and acceptance of March 18, 2025, meeting minutes

Motion by Blau, Seconded by Wilson, Unanimous

3. Other Business:

A) Action Item: Consideration of Support for Biological Farming Friends (BFF) Cost Share Request – Griffin gave a brief summary of BFF request for additional funds to backfill for cut Federal funds to allow BFF to continue to meet their contracts at approximately 50\$/LB of TP removed. There was a comment from Yahara Pride Farms – that the way LBS of TP are measured how much they are paid, and they have different requirements for WINS vs Federal programs. Discussion was had by the group regarding whether the LBS of TP were LBS that WINS would have “gotten” anyway as part of our Dane Co contract at Dane Co acts as the “agent” for BFF. Additional discussion regarding treating “private farm groups” BFF vs Yahara Pride the same for the same practices.

Wilson moved for Option 1 which is full funding of the request a total of \$400,000.00 in 2025 to BFF with Dane County as their agent. Discussion regarding specific funding under item B. Second Blau. Unanimous.

B) Action Item: Evaluation of Yahara WINS Funding Reserves

Griffin provided a summary of how an underspending accounting error occurred cumulatively from 2017 to 2024 resulting in an excess amount of approximately \$1M that was not spent during that time. Brief discussion was had regarding options to address the excess funding.

Wilson made a motion to follow the Recommendation which was to fulfil one-time funding requests (Item A above) for phosphorus reduction practices, the remaining funds shall be held in the unencumbered 2025 budget for other potential phosphorus reduction requests and if not spent addressed with the 2026 budget. Second Blau. Unanimous.

- C) Update: MMSD WPDES Permit Reissuance (2025) - Griffin gave a brief update on the update there is a possibility that a draft of the new permit might be available from the WDNR in the late fall but that is pending WDNR availability.

5. Future Agenda Items –

- A) prioritization of what should be done with remaining unencumbered funds
- B) USGS service agreement ends at end of 2026 and discussion has begun on renewal
- C) Discussion of targeted approach for meeting the TMDL reach specific reductions, and resulting need for additional data and analysis and that may result in a contract to acquire that data.

6. Adjourn Moved by Wilson, Seconded by Blau, Unanimous