

STRATEGIC PLAN

Update

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Prioritized Goals

In January 2024, the Strategic Plan Committee reviewed tactics and strategies for the **Executive Director's work plan**. The top four priorities are legislative policies, communication, collaboration with the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and growing membership. The purpose of this update is to let our members know how work is progressing.

Accomplishments to date

Here's a short summary of the strategies and tactics undertaken in the Executive Director's work plan.

Goal 1: Fortify the infrastructure to ensure reliable delivery of services

- Distributed monthly newsletters
- Reviewed the website each month
- Consistently engaged committees

Goal 2: Build a watershed community that supports one another

- Regained membership of the Buffalo Creek, Heron Lake, and Prior Lake-Spring Lake WDs
- Based on a survey of our members and partners, changed the venue for the annual conference

Goal 3: Serve as a liaison to collaborate with statewide agencies and associations

- Held monthly meetings with BWSR leadership
- Participated in meetings with Local Government Water Roundtable staff
- Attended monthly meetings with MAWA

Goal 4: Ensure strong legislative policies are in place for watershed management

- Worked with Lobbyist Bohn and the Lockridge Grindal Nauen lobbying team during the 2024 Legislative Session
- Successfully secured clarifying and modernizing updates to M.S. Chapter 103D

Goal 5: Enhance the skills of WD and WMO boards

- Conducted a human resources survey to assess training needs
- Worked in partnership with the Events-Education Committee and MAWA Executive Committee for education opportunities at the Legislative Briefing
- Worked in partnership with the Events-Education Committee, Capitol Region and Ramsey-Washington Metro WD staff for an education workshop at the Summer Tour
- Continued to explore opportunities for training with BWSR staff

"Since our Strategic Plan was adopted in December of 2022, much progress has been made. Communication has improved. Our committee process was updated to provide members with a better voice in education and training, as well as developing our legislative priorities. Through our lobbyist succession plan, the Lockridge Grindal Nauen team was hired. The Board is pleased with the progress that has been made to date and looks forward to continuing the work identified in the Strategic Plan."

-Linda Vavra, President



