



**Pioneer-Sarah Creek
Watershed Management Commission**

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 5:33 p.m., Thursday, January 16, 2020, by Chair Joe Baker at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Mark Workcuff, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; John Fay, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; John Tschumperlin, Minnetrista; Andrew Vistad, Hakanson-Anderson, Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Also Present: Karen Galles and Paul Stewart, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); and Diane Spector, Wenck Associates.

2. AGENDA. Motion by Wulff, second by Fay to approve the revised agenda. *Motion carried unanimously.*

3. CONSENT AGENDA. Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Wulff to approve the Consent Agenda, items a, b, and b2):

a. November Regular Meeting Minutes.*

b. January Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report/Quarterly Financials.* Claims total \$23,647.58.

b.2) Wenck Associates claim*in the amount of \$613.50.

Motion carried unanimously.

b.1) Minnesota Native Landscapes claim* in the amount of \$91,615.72. Staff responded to questions from Fay regarding this claim. Motion by Fay, second by Tschumperlin to approve the MNL claim. *Motion carried unanimously.*

4. OPEN FORUM.

5. ACTION ITEMS.

a. Schedule Fourth Generation Plan Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings. Spector and Amy Juntunen, JASS, will contact the cities to schedule these meetings, ideally prior to the next regular meeting on February 20.

b. Annual Appointments. Motion by Daniels, second by Wulff to make the following appointments for the year 2020.

1) Official depositories - 4MFund/US Bank

2) Deputy Treasurer -Judie Anderson

3) Auditor - Johnson & Company

4) Official newspaper – *Crow River News*.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Included in the meeting packet is the **2019 Work Plan.*** The Commissioners were asked to review the plan in anticipation of the Fourth Generation Plan kickoff meeting which follows this meeting. The plan will be updated by Staff with the activities that were undertaken in 2019. Staff will also begin to develop the **2020 Work Plan** for the Commission's input.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

Greenfield • Independence • Loretto • Maple Plain • Medina • Minnetrista

*Included in meeting packet.

7. **NEW BUSINESS** (see Staff Report*).

8. **EDUCATION.** The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has been awarded \$900,000 from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) to fund the “**Lawns to Legumes**” program.* The program was described at the November meeting. More information is included in this month’s meeting packet and can also be found at <https://bwsr.state.mn.us/lawns-legumes-your-yard-can-bee-change>. Staff will update the Commission’s website and Facebook to include this information and also contact cities to request that they promote the individual grants program to their residents.

9. **GRANT OPPORTUNITIES.**

Baker Park Ravine. Wenck weekly updates* were included in the packet along with links to project photos. Vlach reported that the channel work is substantially completed. He also provided a spreadsheet showing budgeted vs actual costs to date and a copy of Change Order 1 increasing the contract amount by \$7,502.00. CO #1 consists of stabilizing an additional area of erosion discovered at the outlet of the existing settling pond, reducing the amount of sediment entering the lake. Staff was asked to review the contract to determine who the owners of the project are and who would share in any loss at project-end.

10. **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.** *Working Schedule.*

- a. ~~November 13, 2019 – 60 day notice to cities, agencies, other stakeholders.~~
- b. ~~November 21, 2019 – Award contract.~~
- c. December-January 2020 - Compile data, background work
- d. ~~January 16, 2020 – Kickoff meeting~~
- e. Feb-Mar-Apr Commission, TAC, CAC meetings, Open House
- f. April 16, 2020 - Preliminary draft for informal review
- g. May 21, 2020 - Review preliminary comments and revise plan
- h. June 18, 2020 - Review final draft plan and authorize start of 60 day review
- i. August 21, 2020 - Approximate end of 60-day review
- j. Sept 17, 2020 - Public Hearing
- k. Sept-Oct-Nov 2020 - Agency review and approval
- l. Dec -Jan 2021 - Commission adoption

11. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

12. **STAFF REPORT.***

a. **Cost Share Projects.** Two projects are in development in the watershed – one in Independence on Lake Independence and the other in Greenfield along an unnamed stream. More information will be provided at the February meeting.

b. **Zuhrah Shrine Horse Facility.** Baker, Vlach, Galles and Stewart, along with Danny Nadeau from County Commissioner Jeff Johnson’s office, met with Zuhrah Shrine Horsemen Ranch Manager Steve Pool and Zuhrah Shrine Horsemen Board Members to explore solutions to the wetland flooding. The goals are to provide the Horsemen with more predictable pasturing and feeding conditions year-to-year, while also benefitting natural resources. Next steps will be to look at hydrologic restoration options, BMPs for the pasture, and a farm management plan. A follow-up meeting where additional information will be presented on wetland banks and other wetland restoration approaches will be scheduled for early February. The Horsemen also agreed to work with County staff to get their wetland complex formally delineated.

13. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

- a. **Greenfield.**
- b. **Independence.** Baker noted that two snowmobilers have gone through the ice on Lake Independence already this winter.
- c. **Loretto.**
- d. **Maple Plain.** Fay announced that the Iron Exchange Brewery is open. The Maple Plain Council approved a general fund balance that remained level with the preceding year and a tax levy with less than a \$1,000 increase.
- e. **Medina.**
- f. **Minnetrista.**

14. OTHER BUSINESS.

- a. **Election of Officers** will occur at the February meeting. Current officers are:

- 1) Chair – Joe Baker
- 2) Vice Chair – John Fay
- 3) Secretary – Benda Daniels
- 4) Treasurer – John Tschumperlin

- b. The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for February 20, 2020.

15. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, motion by Daniels, second by Fay to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judie A. Anderson, Recording Secretary
JAA:tim

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