



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: 3235 Fernbrook Lane N • Plymouth, MN 55447  
763.553.1144 • Fax: 763.553.9326 • judie@jass.biz • www.pioneersarahcreek.org

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 18, 2018

Corrected

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:02 p.m., Thursday, January 18, 2018, by Vice Chair John Fay at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Tom Cook, Greenfield; Brad Spencer, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; John Fay, Maple Plain; Mike McLaughlin, Medina; James Kujawa and Kirsten Barta, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Scott Johnson, Medina.

2. **AGENDA.** Motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to approve the agenda with the addition of item 4.d. 2018 Cooperative Agreement with HCEE\*. *Motion carried unanimously.*

3. **CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to approve the Consent Agenda. *Motion carried unanimously.*

a. **November Regular Meeting Minutes.\***

b. **December Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.\*** Claims total \$5,126.23.

c. **January Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.\*** Claims total \$8,332.86.

4. **ACTION ITEMS.**

a. **Project Review 2018-01 Salem Lane Reconstruction, Greenfield.\*** The City will be reconstructing 900 feet of Salem Lane at the eastern border with Corcoran. The road was built in a wetland and floodplain and is in need of a proper road bed for safety. The expansion of the current roadway is minimal. The TEP ensured that this project meets the guidelines for the BWSR Local Road Replacement Program and is exempt from wetland mitigation. The project is under the 1.0 acre threshold for stormwater rate and volume controls. This project was reviewed for floodplain impacts and mitigation, and erosion and sediment controls.

Staff determined excess floodplain mitigation occurred in this wetland basin during a wetland banking project in 1997, creating enough additional storage to more than offset the fill that will occur during this project, so no additional floodplain mitigation is necessary. Staff recommends approval of this project contingent on receipt and staff approval of an erosion and sediment control plan.

Motion by McLaughlin, second by Daniels to approve project 2018-01 with the contingency noted above. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. **Review of 2017 Work Plan.\*** Under item C.4. add joined WaterShed Partners (double check), and item A.6., Spencer and Joe Baker did meet with BWSR in 2017. Defer to Joe for details. Item E.2., add "budget" to the end of the last sentence. Item D., add the Greenfield Central Park project details. Commissioners were asked to submit additional comments on the work plan to Juntunen by January 31.

c. **BWSR Funding.\*** The Board of Water and Soil Resources is considering moving from a competitive funding model towards a more systematic Clean Water Funding model for local water management authorities on a watershed basis. Included in the meeting packet was a document entitled, "Guiding Principles,"\* which outlines how these principles will direct and influence future policies and procedures for Clean Water funds appropriated to BWSR for the purposes of implementing comprehensive watershed management plans. Eligible watersheds are defined as those areas that have watershed management plans developed under the One Watershed, One Plan Program or the

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\*Included in meeting packet.

Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act.

For the metro area, the funding will be allocated by county, calculated based on the square mileage of private land within the county. County and municipal-owned land is included as private land for the purposes of this calculation. Hennepin County's share of watershed-based funding for FY 2018-2019 is \$1,018,000. If all watershed organizations in Hennepin County choose to create a collaborative group for the watershed-based funding, that share of funds is available for Hennepin County projects. If the WMOs choose to remain in the competitive-based grant funding, that money will be pooled with counties who also choose to remain competitive-based, meaning that Hennepin County watershed organizations may receive more or less than the \$1,018,000.

The decision on whether to move forward as a collaborative within the county or to remain as competitive must be made by June 30, 2018. This decision can be changed in the future, but BWSR requires that eligible LGUs complete a documented process to make that determination by June 30.

The watershed-based funding pilot program does allow certain activities to be eligible for BWSR grant funds that are not eligible under the competitive grant program such as: programs, project support, grant management and reporting, and technical and engineering assistance necessary to implement activities.

Beginning over the next few weeks, Hennepin County will be convening meetings of all eligible LGUs, which includes Watershed Districts, WMOs and Cities with a state-approved plan (City Local Water Management Plans are considered state-approved if approved by the governing watershed). The first meetings are to determine eligible participants, establish voting representation, establish a direction for the collaborative, and discuss potential projects for FY2018-2019.

Staff is requesting approval to attend the Hennepin County collaboration meetings on behalf of the Commission. Commissioners and Cities will also be invited to participate in these meetings. Motion by McLaughlin, second by Cook to grant this approval. *Motion carried unanimously.* Staff will send notices of future meetings to Commissioners and member cities.

**d. 2018 Cooperative Agreement with HCEE.\*** The 2018 Agreement states that HCEE will provide technical services at a cost not to exceed \$23,000 without Commission approval. This is the same amount as the 2017 Agreement. Hourly rates did increase 2.5% from 2017. Motion by Cook, second by McLaughlin to approve the 2018 Cooperative Agreement with HCEE. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**5. OPEN FORUM.**

**6. OLD BUSINESS.**

**Updated CIP.** The City of Medina will apply for County and BWSR grants for the Ardmore Neighborhood Projects (CIP ME-4) in 2018 for funding in 2019. The City will work with the Commission if there is a significant change in the estimated cost requiring a minor plan amendment.

**7. NEW BUSINESS.**

**8. STAFF REPORT.\***

**a. Kujawa** noted that two projects in the watershed applied for Hennepin County Natural Resource grants and were recommended for funding, the Jim Bunker prairie restoration and Doug McDonald shoreline stabilization and restoration projects. An Opportunity Grant for the Lake Ardmore Neighborhood Projects (ME-4) was approved last fall to be funded in 2019 for a potential BWSR grant match. The Baker Park Ravine project was also approved for an Opportunity Grant for approximately \$59,000 for 2018. Staff will complete a contract for this project.

**b. Vlach** confirmed that the Baker Park Ravine project was approved for BWSR grant funding in 2018 and provided a handout\* with a timeline for this project. Vlach attended an Independence City Council meeting to present an overview of the project. A work plan will be developed by March, followed by an approved and signed agreement. A JPA between PSCWMC, Medina, Independence, and TRPD is also required for this project. The project is expected to go out for bid in August 2018 with construction to begin in October/November and be completed over

the winter months. Spencer suggested using the JPA for the Lake Independence Outlet cleanout as a template.

A fish barrier may be installed between Lakes Independence and Ardmore to keep carp from traveling through the lake chain. This may be rolled into the Ardmore neighborhood project.

c. **Barta** discussed the Transportation Department's new devices to track salt application and conditions. There are only four buffer violations in the watershed in two cities. Barta will be assisting with a prairie and wetland restoration project in Minnetrista and plans to attend the Maple Plain City Council meeting on February 19.

d. **Scott Walsh** contacted administrative staff to inform the Commission that the Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA) will be meeting with DNR next week to discuss a five year spot-treatment for curlyleaf pondweed in Lake Sarah. LSIA intends to request funding from PSCWMC.

#### 9. EDUCATION.

#### 10. COMMUNICATIONS.

**Rockford Wellhead Protection Plan.\*** No action needed.

#### 11. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

a. **McLaughlin.** The Lake Independence Citizens Association (LICA) is working to clean out clogs in the outlet from the lake.

b. **Spencer.** Scott Walsh from LSIA approached the Independence City Council for assistance in applying for an AIS prevention grant. An application was submitted with Hennepin County for \$7500 to purchase signs, cleanout tools, and disposal boxes for bait and weeds. Independence and Greenfield will work cooperatively on this project. Grants will be awarded in March.

c. **Cook** noted that Scott Walsh requested more notice when grants of this type became available. Greenfield will begin cleaning out the first two stormwater ponds in the city in 2018. No hazardous materials were found in the sediment, so fill will be available. The stormwater plan funds the cleaning of stormwater ponds.

d. **Fay** expressed that Maple Plain approved and certified a levy and general budget at the end of 2017 that was a reduction from the previous year, the only city in western Hennepin County with a reduction. Maple Plain is working on their 20-year CIP and, due to older infrastructure, has road construction projects planned every year, with aggressive improvements planned for every three years. These projects will also be a responsible means to direct the city's stormwater. Each 3-year project cost is in excess of \$2 million.

e. **Daniels** did not have a report.

#### 12. OTHER BUSINESS.


a. **Election of Officers** will occur at the February Commission meeting.

b. Commissioners were reminded to have their cities **submit 2018 appointments** to the Commission. Johnson reported that Medina sent their appointments in today. Loretto and Independence appointments have been made and need to be received by the watershed office.

c. The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for February 15, 2017.

13. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy A. Juntunen, Recording Secretary  
AAJ:tim