



**Pioneer-Sarah Creek
Watershed Management Commission**

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 15, 2018

Corrected

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:03 p.m., Thursday, February 15, 2018, by Chair Joe Baker at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Tom Cook, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; John Fay, Maple Plain; Mike McLaughlin, Medina; Pam Mortenson, Minnetrista; 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, and Steve Christopher, Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR).

2. AGENDA. Motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to approve the agenda as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

3. CONSENT AGENDA. Motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to approve the Consent Agenda with one change to the minutes as noted below. *Motion carried unanimously.*

a. January Regular Meeting Minutes.* Correct item 8.b. to note that the fish barrier may be installed as part of the Ardmore Neighborhood project, not Baker Ravine.

b. February Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.* Claims total \$5,560.66.

4. ACTION ITEMS.

a. Election of Officers. Motion by McLaughlin, second by Cook to elect the same officers as the previous year: Chair, Baker; Vice Chair, Fay; Secretary, Daniels; Treasurer, Cook. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. Annual Appointments. Motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to renew the same appointments as the previous year: Official Depositories, US Bank and 4M Fund; Deputy Treasurer, Judie Anderson; Auditor, Johnson & Company; Official Newspaper, Crow River News. *Motion carried unanimously.*

c. Project Reviews. No action needed

d. Revised 2017 Work Plan.* Baker will send commentary re the March 2017 meeting with Baker, Brad Spencer, and Kevin Bigalke at BWSR to Judie Anderson by the end of next week.

e. Steam Monitoring. The 2018 budget calls out \$7,600 for routine monitoring in 2017. Vlach recommended continuing to monitor Pioneer Creek at Copeland Road and Pagenkopf, and Sarah Creek at County Rd 92. Continuous flow monitoring may be added. Motion by Cook, second by Daniels to approve monitoring at these locations.

f. Lake Monitoring. The 2018 budget includes \$5,180 for TRPD to monitor lakes, as well as \$550 for one lake to be monitored through CAMP. Vlach recommended monitoring the same lakes as in 2017: Independence, Sarah, and the north and south basins of Whaletail since TRPD is monitoring most other lakes in the watershed. Cook volunteered to perform CAMP monitoring on Hafften Lake in 2018. For 2019, a volunteer should be found to monitor Ox Yoke Lake and others. Motion by Fay, second by McLaughlin to monitor Independence, Sarah, and both basins of Whaletail Lake through TRPD and to monitor Hafften Lake through CAMP. *Motion carried unanimously.*

1. CAMP Survey.* Cook noted that he will write a letter to Met Council regarding the large increase in CAMP (\$210/year) monitoring costs. Baker will review and sign the letter as appropriate.

g. WaterShed Partners membership. Juntunen will send the WaterShed Partners Annual Report to Commissioners for review. Membership renewal will be discussed at the March meeting. The expense will be on the Treasurer's Report, but will be voted on as a separate item.

5. OPEN FORUM.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Updated CIP. Projects to be added to CIP include Lake Independence Alum Treatment for 5+ years in the future. The Maple Plain Ravine Cleanup should be removed as the project is not likely to go forward.

b. BWSR Funding Update. The first meeting was held on January 8 and detailed several ways the funding could be distributed, including competitive grants with the total county money; distribution to each watershed based on land area, taxable value, or a split of both; or distribution by major watershed basin (Minnesota, Mississippi, and Crow). The next meeting will be held February 27 at a location to be determined. Juntunen will send an invitation once the location is specified.

7. NEW BUSINESS.

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Management Policy.*

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
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