



**Pioneer-Sarah Creek
Watershed Management Commission**

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**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 21, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:01 p.m., Thursday, February 21, 2019, by Chair Joe Baker at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Mike Hoekstra, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; Caitlin Cahill, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; John Tschumperlin, 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 Scott Walsh, Kevin Horn and John Arneson, Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA).

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

3. CONSENT AGENDA. Motion by Hoekstra, second by Daniels to approve the Consent Agenda:

a. January Regular Meeting Minutes.*

b. February Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.* Claims total \$19,437.17.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. OPEN FORUM.

a. Lake Sarah Bog. Scott Walsh made a presentation to the Commission regarding a bog of approximately 150,000 SF bog with the potential to break free of the shoreline, causing damage to lake shore property, docks, habitat and lake water quality. A loose bog this size would be impossible to control, and may also clog the outlet leading to high lake levels and flooding. LSIA is interested in securing the bog to the shoreline. A DNR permit is required and a CPL grant from the DNR may be available to fund much of the project. Wenck will write the application if the project qualifies for the grant funding. Barta suggested having two to three options for management of this bog and letting the DNR choose the option they prefer. LSIA is seeking the Commission's support before moving forward to ensure that the cities and Commission would not prevent such a project.

The Commission is supportive of LSIA's efforts regarding management of this bog but can't commit any funds or make any other commitments regarding a project at this time since there is no plan or costs outlined.

b. Lake Sarah High Water. Joe Slavec was not in attendance to make this presentation.

5. ACTION ITEMS.

a. Election of Officers. Motion by Baker, second by Daniels to elect the following slate of officers: Chair, Baker; Vice Chair, Fay; Secretary, Daniels; Treasurer, Tschumperlin. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. Selection of Consultants for 2019-2020.* A request for letters of interest for technical (T), wetland (W), legal (L), and administrative (A) services was published in the January 14, 2019 *State Register*. Letters of interest were received from (T) Barr Engineering, Graef and Hennepin County Environmental Services; (W) from Barr Engineering, Graef, Hennepin County Environmental Services and ProSource; (L) from Campbell Knutson PA; and (A) from Judie Anderson's Secretarial Services, Inc. Motion by Daniels, second by Wulff to retain the current consultants (highlighted above) for 2019-2020. *Motion carried unanimously.*

6. OLD BUSINESS.

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

*Included in meeting packet.

7. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Commission **2019 appointments** have been received from Greenfield, Independence, Loretto, Medina and Minnetrista.

b. 2018 Work Plan in Review. Cities do a lot of work outside of the Commission. Projects that have been completed by Cities that affect water quality and quantity should be submitted for inclusion in the Work Plan in Review. An Email will be sent to cities requesting this information be submitted to the Commission's Administrator by March 13. The Work Plan will be reviewed and approved at the March meeting after City comments are incorporated. A draft of the 2018 Annual Report was requested for review at the March meeting.

8. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.

a. Greenfield. Staff has reviewed the plan and found it in conformance with the Commission's Third Generation Plan. Staff recommends approval. Motion by Cahill, second by Wulff to approve the Greenfield Local Water Management Plan. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. Independence. Staff has reviewed the plan, noting that Independence is the first Member City to include updated hydraulics and hydrology. The CIP, implementation plan and funding plan are very good. There are three areas of recommendation for improvement.

Motion by Baker, second by Daniels to approve the Independence Local Water Management Plan with the following three conditions:

1) Section 4.2, Water Quality Goals; the goals only mention the Lake Independence and Painter Creek TMDL's. The other TMDLs within the community must be included in this goal.

2) Section 4.2, Policy 3, Section 4.3, Policy 12 and Section 5.10; all these sections and policies discuss stormwater facilities and their operation and maintenance. They do not specify who is responsible for said maintenance. Because of the potential future cost implications to the City or landowner, this should be determined for existing and future stormwater facilities, especially stormwater basins, and identified in the plan.

3) Section 5.9, Manure Management Policy. This is an excellent policy. We would encourage the city to go beyond requiring this for only commercial riding facilities, but to require it as a guideline for any new animal facility that is over 1.0 animal units in size.

Motion carried unanimously.

[Daniels departed at 7:29 p.m.]

c. Maple Plain. Staff has not had time to review this plan.

9. Staff Report.*

a. Buffer Inspection Map.* The state requires buffer inspections to be performed every three years. The County has split the watershed area into thirds and will be inspecting the northwest portion of the watershed in 2019. Cities and Commission have no enforcement responsibilities so no violations will be disclosed due to privacy issues. Additional spot-checks will occur throughout the watershed as mandated.

b. Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Agreements. Many projects have been approved contingent on receipt of an O&M agreement recorded on parcels. Many of these projects, though completed, have not had an O&M agreement recorded on the property. Due to the future cost burden for O&M, the Cities need to pursue and complete this item. A list of outstanding projects and their locations is in the Staff Report.

c. Lake Independence. There was no official zebra mussel report for 2018 by the Lake Independence Citizens Association (LICA). There were 12 sampling plate stations on the lake managed by residents, but the individual overseeing the project retired in mid-July. Wulff will send the list of participating homeowners discs to Vlach for follow-up. One sampler plate collected by TRPD did contain mussels. TRPD performed a shoreline survey and found more zebra mussels in 2018 compared to previous years, mainly at the private access and west of the

public access. The mussels seem to be localized in those areas. Other lakes also experienced an increase in mussels last year. Vlach will compile the information and provide a report at the March meeting.

10. EDUCATION.

11. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES.

12. COMMUNICATIONS.

a. Baker Campground Ravine Stabilization – Annual Report.* An annual progress report prepared for the BWSR grant was included in the meeting packet. Lake report cards are expected to be available at the March meeting.

b. Lake Sarah Report Card.* The Lake Sarah report card was included in the meeting packet. It shows a dramatic decrease in water quality in 2004 when the last large bog broke free of the shoreline.

13. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

a. Cahill noted that Fay will continue as Commissioner and all Council members have been named as alternates.

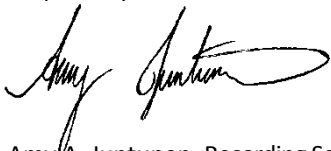
b. Baker announced that LSIA has been awarded a Hennepin County grant to raise awareness of lake users, beginning with lakeshore resident education on AIS prevention and expanding to other users. The program closes with a personal pledge from participants to understand and adhere to AIS prevention measures. The grant is capped at \$20,000. Additional inspections at the public access to ensure the CD3 station is used and maintained is part of the grant. Data gathered from this program will be available to the public and other organizations. This grant and program should be promoted on the Commission's website and Facebook page.

14. OTHER BUSINESS.

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for March 21, 2019.

15. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, motion by Cahill, second by Wulff to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:53. p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy A. Juntunen, Recording Secretary
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