

**BUDGET WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING**  
**Minutes (Corrected)**  
**May 20, 2021**

1. A **budget work session** was called to order via Zoom at 4:47 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, 2021 by Chair Joe Baker.

Present: Mark Workcuff, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; John Fay, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

2. **BUDGET DISCUSSION.** Juntunen reviewed the proposed budget which includes a minor deficit of \$3,375 which would be funded from the Commission's Unassigned/Unrestricted fund balance estimated to be at nearly \$300,000. The Commissioners directed staff to separate TAC meeting costs from general administrative/engineering costs and to adjust expenses down by \$3,375 to equal a zero balance rather than a deficit for the year. Staff reduced Engineering/Consulting and several other lines slightly, and increased the TAC meeting expense to \$2,500 and the interest income line to \$1,460 resulting in a net zero budget for 2022 and no increase in member dues.

Baker commended Staff, Hennepin County and TRPD for their diligence and fiscal responsibility which has resulted in the Commission operating expenses coming in under budget in previous years and allowing a reserve fund to build up for the Commission which will allow greater flexibility with project opportunities in the future.

The work session closed at 5:54 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order via Zoom at 6:02 p.m., Thursday, May 20, 2021, by Chair Joe Baker.

Present: Mark Workcuff, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; John Fay, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; John Tschumperlin, Minnetrista; Andrew Vistad, Hakanson-Anderson; Kris Guentzel and Paul Stewart, 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 Wulff, second by Fay to approve the agenda\* as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

3. **CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion by Wulff, second by Tschumperlin to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

a. **April Regular Meeting Minutes.\***

b. **May Treasurer's Report/Monthly Claims \*** totaling \$5,371.52.

*Motion carried unanimously.*

4. **OPEN FORUM.**

5. **ACTION ITEMS.**

**a. 2021 HCEE Cooperative Agreement.\*** Guentzel reviewed the 2022 budget line items corresponding to the Agreement, mainly in the areas of the North and South Fork Crow Watershed-Based Implementation Funding and subwatershed assessments. Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Baker to approve the 2021 Cooperative Agreement in the amount not-to-exceed \$243,028 as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**b. Non-Waiver of Tort Liability Limit.\*** Motion by Fay, second by Workcuff to NOT waive statutory tort limits of liability insurance for individual claimants. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**c. 2022 Operating Budget.\*** Commissioners directed Staff to send only four columns, 2020 budget/actual, 2021 budget and 2022 budget to cities, along with the member assessments table. Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Workcuff to approve the 2022 operating budget of \$274,844 and member assessments of \$103,800. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**6. OLD BUSINESS.**

**7. NEW BUSINESS.**

**8. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

**9. EDUCATION.**

**10. GRANT UPDATES.**

**11. COMMUNICATIONS.**

**12. REPORTS.**

**a. HCEE Report.\*** Hennepin County recently completed a Climate Action Plan. This Plan is the result of two years of study and planning. Goals and actions relevant to the Commission include a groundwater plan, the watershed plan, protecting and engaging citizens-especially vulnerable communities, maintaining floodplain storage, identifying at-risk areas for flooding, and identifying and protecting necessary structures for stormwater management.

Stantec has been chosen to perform the Dance Hall Creek subwatershed assessment with an anticipated total cost of \$42,117. The Spurzem Creek subwatershed assessment is in progress with County staff updating hydrologic models. A completed draft is expected by mid-summer.

Several updates were included in the report including projects on the Windsong Golf property, the Zurah Shrine Horsemen property, shoreline and channel stabilization projects, and other cost-share BMP projects in progress.

**b TRPD Report.\*** Vlach noted that the four stream monitoring sites (Dance Hall Creek, channel to Lake Rebecca, and two points on Spurzem Creek) have been installed and operating for over a month to monitor flow and take water quality samples. Water quality sampling has been difficult due to lack of rain. Water quality sampling of the five lakes monitored in 2021 is done every other week.

**13. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.**

**a. Minnetrista.** City ordinance had allowed solar farms on Ag Preserve land. After a request received last winter to install a solar farm near Whaletail Lake, the ordinance has been revised to limit ground-mounted solar to no greater than 3,000 square feet. This allows residents to supplement their energy usage, but disallows large solar farms.

**b. Independence.** The Lake Sarah curlyleaf pondweed (CLP) treatment occurred last Sunday.

This is the ninth year of treatment. Treatment area has decreased from 270 acres the first year, to 120 acres in 2020 and 96 acres in 2021. Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) has had a resurgence with the decline of CLP, so the Association has received approval to use Diquat which will treat both EWM and CLP instead of Aquathol which only treats CLP. The Association also applied for and received a grant for \$10,000 for treatment in 2021. The lack of rain has resulted in low water on Lake Sarah.

c. **Medina.** The Lake Independence Citizen Association's annual meeting had 29 attendees on May 8. Another event is planned for fall 2021 at a pavilion at Baker Park with an Oktoberfest theme. Hopefully, the weather will be better for the fall event and result in better attendance.

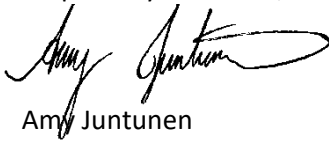
d. **Maple Plain.** The City will start a \$2.2 million street reconstruction project next month which will include new curbs, gutters, and storm sewer. This is the third major street reconstruction in Maple Plain within the past few years. Highway 12 will be detoured so local restaurants would appreciate your business. The 2021 Orono Rotary Party in the Park will be held on June 5.

**14. OTHER BUSINESS.**

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for June 17, 2021 and will be held online again via Zoom link <https://zoom.us/j/845974640>.

**15. ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, motion by Wulff, second by Baker to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen  
Administrator  
AAJ:tim

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