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## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 15, 2017

Corrected

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:04 p.m., Thursday, June 15, 2017, 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; James Kujawa and Kirsten Barta, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Rich Brasch and Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Rachel Olmanson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA); and Scott Johnson, Medina.

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

3. **CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion by Cook, second by Daniels to approve the consent agenda as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

a. **May 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes.\***

b. **Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.\*** Monthly claims totaling \$3,375.01 plus an additional claim from LSIA for the Lake Sarah CLP treatment in the amount of \$15,178.00.

4. **ACTION ITEMS.**

a. **2017 CAMP Agreement with Metropolitan Council.\*** This is an annual agreement for the Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program. The agreement this year is for the monitoring of Hafften Lake. The Commission budgeted for CAMP monitoring of two area lakes but was unable to find a volunteer for a second lake. The agreement can be amended to add a second lake if necessary. Staff recommends approval of the agreement. Motion by McLaughlin, second by Fay to approve the 2017 CAMP Agreement. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. **Nonwaiver of monetary limits on tort liability.\*** This is an annual requirement of the LMCIT insurance policy. Motion by Cook, second by McLaughlin to approve the nonwaiver of monetary limits on tort liability. *Motion carried unanimously.*

c. **Call for Public Meeting – Minor Plan Amendment.\*** A minor plan amendment is required to add and revise projects when the costs exceed 125% of the original estimate. This plan amendment will be specifically to revise the CIP regarding the Baker Park Ravine project only. To complete the amendment, a public meeting is required and will be held during the July regular meeting. After the public meeting the amendment will be forwarded to Hennepin County for review and approval. Motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to approve the call for public meeting and schedule the public meeting to occur during the July regular meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*

d. **Baker Park Campground Ravine Stabilization project.** At the May meeting, Staff discussed whether to submit the Hennepin County Opportunity grant or the Clean Water Fund (CWF) grant first. After more discussion it has been determined that the Opportunity grant should be submitted during the current cycle. CWF grant dollars must go to either a watershed organization or member city. It is best if the grant applicant is the same for both grants, so the Commission will be the applicant. Much of the information from the Opportunity grant can be used on the CWF grant. The CWF grant is expected to be included in the July meeting packet. The Opportunity grant application deadline is

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\*Included in meeting packet.

next Tuesday. LICA has also expressed a desire to partner on the project with a \$2500 contribution. The grant applications will be amended to include LICA as a partner at \$2500. Motion by Fay, second by McLaughlin to approve submittal of the Hennepin County Opportunity grant including an amendment to include LICA as a partner at \$2500. *Motion carried unanimously.*

5. **OPEN FORUM.** Olmanson introduced herself to Commissioner Fay.

[Cook departed 6:27 p.m.]

6. **OLD BUSINESS.**

a. **Audio Recording Options.\*** The City of Greenfield has offered to let the Commission meet at their location and use their recording equipment at no cost. The Commissioners did not feel audio recordings of the meeting were necessary since there were very few citizens requesting the recordings. Motion by Fay, second by McLaughlin to continue holding regular Commission meetings at Maple Plain City Hall without audio or video recording. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. **Updated CIP.** Baker indicated that this item would be available later this year.

7. **NEW BUSINESS.**

a. **BWSR Clean Water Fund Grant Application for Baker Ravine project.** Staff suggested reducing the Opportunity Grant amount requested by \$2,500 since LICA will contribute that amount and not affect the funding allocations on the CWF grant because LICA cannot be part of the JPA for the project. Baker would like to draft a cover letter to be sent with the application. CWF grants do require a Project Assurance Agreement that designates responsible parties to maintain the improvement and ensure functionality throughout the life of the project. A template is in place used by the Elm Creek Commission on another project.

b. **Letter of support from LICA.\*** The Lake Independence Citizens Association sent a formal letter to indicate their support of the Baker Park Ravine project and financial contribution.

8. **STAFF REPORT.\***

a. Kujawa noted that member cities should be reminded that any project involving site disturbance of over one acre needs to be submitted to the Commission for review and approval. One application was recently received from Maple Plain re the BNSF culvert replacement project and a wetland delineation request was received yesterday.

b. Barta is currently working with the County's Transportation Operations Department which is updating procedures to make operations more water-friendly and there may be some projects that affect the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed. She is also still working with about 25 property owners that are non-compliant with the buffer law which will go into effect on November 1, 2018. Through Barta's efforts, another 25 property owners have become compliant with the buffer law this spring. Barta is currently working on a cost-share project for a windbreak installation on Pioneer Creek.

c. Baker proposed a potential **wetland restoration field day** for interested landowners, possibly in October after the crops are taken in. The invitations for the field day would be county-wide.

d. Brasch provided an update on the **carp study** on Lake Ardmore. The population estimate has started, though the electro-fishing was postponed due to a lot of movement in the tagged carp. Some carp have been observed moving through the channel from Lake Ardmore to Lake Independence. One solution that fits with a recently submitted CIP projects is a step or tier in the channel from Lake Ardmore to Lake Independence, though that project was submitted for erosion control issues. McLaughlin requested that Vlach write up a summary of the carp project for LICA. Studies have shown that carp removal varies on reducing a lake's internal loading by 5-60%. Barta will provide Baker with a study re the impact of carp on sediment disturbance.

9. **WATERSHED-WIDE TMDL.** Comments were received from BWSR\*, MCES\*, and MDA\*. There were no

major issues identified. Comments were also received from member cities during the unofficial comment period which were mostly questions and points of clarification. Brasch will make a few changes to the report to address the comments and anticipates completion by next week. After that, the WRAPS report must be approved by MPCA, which may take a few weeks. After MPCA approval is received, the WRAPS and TMDL will go to U.S. EPA for approval. It may take up to six months for EPA approval.

**10. EDUCATION.**

**11. COMMUNICATIONS.**

**12. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.**

a. **Fay** mentioned that the Maple Plain council was appreciative of the Commission's stewardship re the 2018 budget.

b. **McLaughlin** noted that Medina is working with Brasch and Kujawa on grant applications for projects in the city. The Lake Independence outlet is clogged with floating bogs and, while the water is flowing through the channel, the lake level remains above the slow/no wake elevation. The area has about 200 linear feet of blockage that can't be accessed by backhoe. McLaughlin will get the name of the person who did the manual cleanout for Lake Sarah from Baker, though it's too deep for waders and that may not be the best option. Baker mentioned that he can inquire whether a Lake Sarah resident would do a drone video of the channel.

c. **Baker** continues to work on wetland restoration projects in Independence.

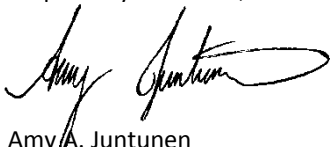
**13. OTHER BUSINESS.**

a. Brasch was **recognized for his years of assistance** to the Commission with a plaque. Baker presented Brasch with a Cabela's gift card on behalf of LICA and the Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA). Brasch will be retiring from TRPD on June 30.

b. The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for July 20, 2017.

**14. ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy A. Juntunen  
Recording Secretary

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