

REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
June 16, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order by Vice Chair Caitlin Cahil at 6:02 p.m., Thursday, June 16, 2022, at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Mark Workcuff, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; Caitlin Cahill, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; John Tschumperlin, Minnetrista; Kris Guentzel and Paul Stewart, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); Andrew Vistad, Hakanson-Anderson; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

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

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

a. May Regular Meeting Minutes.*

b. June Treasurer's Report/Monthly Claims * totaling \$3,586.30.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. OPEN FORUM.

5. ACTION ITEMS.

a. 2022-001 Bushwood Hills Reserve, Greenfield.* This is a 35.84-acre residential development with five lots. The existing site is predominantly row crops with some vegetation located onsite in wetlands, as well as an old farmstead with outbuildings. The site is adjacent to and drains to Hafften Lake, which has a TMDL approved for nutrients. The development is proposing to meet stormwater requirements with biofiltration basins to capture runoff from new impervious surfaces. The Commission's management plan requires compliance for Stormwater Management (Rule D), Erosion Control (Rule E), and Buffer Strips (Rule I). Post development runoff rates for the 2-, 10-, and 100 year events are decreased and TP and TSS will be reduced by greater than 50% from current export rates.

Staff recommends approval contingent on: 1) receipt of a recorded Operations and Maintenance plan; and 2) receipt of an approved buffer establishment plan for establishing onsite wetland buffers.

Motion by Cahill, second by Daniels to approve project 2022-001 with the two contingencies listed. *Motion carried unanimously.*

[Baker arrived at 6:08 p.m.]

b. 2022-007 7655 County Road 15, Minnetrista.* This project is to build one residential house with driveway and septic system. An application was required due to proximity to wetlands that surround Whale Tail Lake. Silt fence is provided between the home construction/grading and wetlands. The Commission's management plan requires compliance for Erosion Control (Rule E). After review, staff recommends approval with no contingencies.

Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Workcuff to approve project 2022-007. *Motion carried unanimously.*

c. Engineering Expense for Project Design.** Vistad provided visuals of the **HR 68** project with topography. Due to the flatness of the area for HR 68, there may be legal liability if easements are not obtained prior to construction. There is a component of groundwater in this area that is difficult to model and prove and increasing the water level in this area may have unforeseen impacts to the nine adjacent properties. Because this project would not result in a large TP reduction, staff recommends not pursuing the project further without additional information. Guentzel noted that the County can get some of the critical elevations surveyed for accuracy. The County may also be able to assist in contacting stakeholders regarding easements.

The **JB Gully Stabilization** project is just downstream of HR 68. Vistad provided a rough estimate with the caveat that small projects can vary greatly in price and inflation may affect these costs as well. This is a shovel-ready project needing dry conditions. The ideal time for this type of project is November-January, and February-April 15 for establishing vegetation. A potential hurdle to this project is the tree canopy not allowing enough sunlight for new vegetation establishment. Baker will work with landowners to identify trees that may be removed for this project.

The **HR 65** project is just west of Lake Independence and involves three or four stakeholders. There is a shed on one property that is very close to the wetland and may be impacted by holding back water on the property. Staff will work with the County on obtaining easements for this improvement. A guesstimate for cost of this project is \$35,000-\$45,000 total, plus easement costs which could be \$0.50/SF.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

7. NEW BUSINESS.

Dance Hall Creek BMP Analysis.* Nearly all of this area has now been subdivided into large-lot residential sites. The County was able to interact with almost all landowners during this process and are now in the outreach phase to discuss the information and smaller opportunities identified in the final draft. Identified opportunities are mainly hydrologic restorations, wetland enhancements, buffers, improved ponding and other basic BMPs. The best time to implement these types of projects is as homes are being built on the properties. County staff requested the Commissioners to review the draft for discussion at the July meeting regarding the potential of larger projects or questions about the small projects. The County is currently targeting two properties that have heavy washout for County/State grants.

Staff recommended a TAC meeting be scheduled for mid-summer to review and determine which projects could have potential for a Clean Water Fund and WBIIF grants. This document could be used to add

a generic item to the CIP to ensure these projects qualify for grant and WBIF funding. Another item for the CIP may be a generic Cost-Share program to match county cost-share projects on private property.

Vistad will provide a MnDot contact to County Staff because the largest landowner for BMP1, which has great potential, is MnDot.

8. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.

9. EDUCATION.

10. GRANT UPDATES.

11. COMMUNICATIONS.

12. STAFF REPORTS.

a. **Engineer's Report.*** An overview of items is provided in the report.

b. **HCEE Report.*** Guentzel and Stewart met with the County **Easement Specialist** to discuss the Commission's needs. The Easement Specialist will attend the July Commission meeting to discuss different types of easements. Please email any questions regarding easements to Guentzel by July 18 to ensure they can be addressed at the meeting.

The **Spurzem Creek SWA** is complete. County staff has meetings scheduled later this month to review the SWA with stakeholders. The SWA will be finalized after the stakeholder meetings. This may also include projects to be added to the CIP.

The **Lake Rebecca SWA** is underway with survey work nearly complete. The draft is scheduled to be completed later this summer.

Buffer inspections are ongoing with the focus area being between County Road 6 and County Road 50.

The **McCombs** project should be starting in two weeks with the **White wetland** to follow shortly.

The County has received over 40 **responses to the mailer** and staff are working on responding to landowners and compiling a list of potential projects.

c. **TRPD Report.** TRPD Staff are busy with the monitoring program and vegetation surveys. Vegetation surveys of Lakes Ardmore, Independence, Sarah and Rebecca are complete. A fall survey will also be completed. There is a pit tag reader on both sides of the Ardmore channel carp barrier to determine if fish are getting through the barrier.

13. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

a. **Tschumperlin.** Minnetrista commissioned a compensation study for non-union employees and found that the city was about 13% under market in many positions. All fourteen city employees will be receiving raises this year, which will result in a substantial impact to the city's annual budget. Minnetrista also contracted with WSB Engineering to build an interactive road construction map to allow residents to

see when their street was constructed and any updates. The map will include a code for current road condition and provide the city with potential next steps for maintenance and costs.

b. **Workcuff** noted that the manure piles on Sioux Trail have disappeared. The city is looking at projects on Greenfield Road to fix areas where frost heaves have been an issue and potentially paving all of Greenfield Road.

14. OTHER BUSINESS.

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for July 21, 2022 at Maple Plain City Hall.

15. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, motion by Daniels, second by Wulff to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen
Administrator
AAJ:tim

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