

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 16, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:02 p.m., Thursday, July 16, 2020, by Chair Joe Baker via online Zoom.

Present: Mark Workcuff, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; John Fay, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; John Tschumperlin, Minnetrista; Andrew Vistad, Hakanson-Anderson, Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also Present: Kyal Klawitter, Greenfield; Kris Guentzel, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); and Diane Spector, Wenck Associates.

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

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

a. **June Regular Meeting Minutes.***

b. **July Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.*** Claims total \$39,902.11.

4. OPEN FORUM.

5. ACTION ITEMS.

a. **Project Review 2020-005 Newstrum House and Barn, Greefield.*** This is a residential lot development with a house, horse barn, and accompanying pasture area. The project was reviewed for compliance with Commission rules E (Erosion and Sediment Control) and I (Buffer Strip). The applicant will be required to meet City manure management and storage requirements. This lot borders Dance Hall Creek. Staff recommends approval contingent on receipt of a wetland buffer planting and maintenance plan for areas not in permanent vegetative cover and correction of the buffer along Dance Hall Creek from 35 foot to 50 foot. Motion by Fay, second by Baker to approve project review 2020-005 with the recommended contingencies. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. **Projects to use remainder of funds from Baker Park Ravine project grant.**** Staff met with BWSR staff to review opportunities to use the remaining grant funding and guidance for making the request. BWSR is amenable to granting a one-year extension of the grant period in which to use the funds. Feasibility studies are needed for the proposed projects to ensure feasibility and project costs. The remaining grant funds would cover approximately four projects. Motion by Wulff, second by Baker to direct Vlach to request a grant extension and Staff to pursue feasibility studies on the Baker Park Stormwater Plantings, McCombs Channel Stabilization, White Savannah/Wetland Restoration, and Lake Independence South Lakeshore Restoration. *Motion carried unanimously.*

6. OLD BUSINESS.

7. NEW BUSINESS (see Staff Report*).

8. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Juntunen reviewed the agenda and plan for the **public input meeting** scheduled for July 30.

Working Schedule.

- 1) ~~May 21, 2020~~— Review preliminary comments and revise plan
- 2) ~~June 18, 2020~~— Review final draft plan and authorize start of 60-day review
- 3) August 21, 2020 - Approximate end of 60-day review
- 4) Sept 17, 2020 - Public Hearing

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

*Included in meeting packet.

- 5) Sept-Oct-Nov 2020 - Agency review and approval
- 6) Dec -Jan 2021 - Commission adoption

9. **EDUCATION.**

10. **GRANT UPDATES.**

11. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

Two recently published **articles*** regarding the Baker Park Ravine project were included in the meeting packet. The articles were written and published by BWSR and Wenck.

12. **STAFF REPORT.***

a. **BWSR Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF).*** The last South Fork Crow meeting was held July 6. At that meeting it was suggested that land area should be a consideration in the division of funds. BWSR now requires a feasibility study to be conducted prior to alum treatments and those treatments will still require additional funding, likely through a Clean Water Fund (CWF) grant. BWSR recommended that either the Shriner's project or the Lake Independence Area BMPs project be pursued for WBIF. Staff recommendation is to pursue the Shriners project as it must be completed before a Lake Rebecca alum treatment and BWSR considers "area BMPs" to be ambiguous and difficult to identify reductions. Guenzel, Vlach, and Paul Stewart will meet again to firm up estimated feasibility study and project costs. The Shriners project would include work on the adjacent TRPD property as well. The next South Fork Crow meeting is scheduled for July 30. The next North Fork Crow WBIF meeting is scheduled for July 21. Potential projects will be discussed at that meeting.

b. The **July Staff Report*** was included in the meeting packet.

13. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS.**

a. **Baker** reviewed the Lake Sarah Eurasian Watermilfoil treatment project, noting that two additional patches of curlyleaf pondweed near the inlet of Dance Hall Creek were also identified and treated. The first loon family in many years has been spotted on the lake. The deepest Secchi disk reading ever recorded occurred on July 3 with a reading of seven feet. As of last weekend the readings were at five feet. Twenty-one boats participated in the Lake Sarah boat parade on Independence Day. The public access is full every weekend.

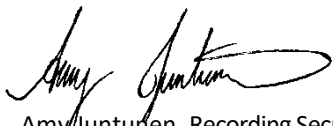
b. **Wulff** noted that Lake Independence also had a great flotilla with 22 participants for Independence Day and received good local press. LICA is creating an educational piece regarding phosphorus for their website. The LICA website will be updated to promote the July 30 public input meeting for the fourth generation plan. The high water mark and no-wake trigger for Lake Independence has been reset and approved by DNR though, with the low water levels this year, it hasn't been an issue.

14. **OTHER BUSINESS.**

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for August 20, 2020 and will most likely be held online again via Zoom link <https://zoom.us/j/845974640>.

15. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, motion by Wulff, second by Fay to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen, Recording Secretary
AAJ:tim

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