



Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, July 20, 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; Shannon Bruce, Minnetrista; James Kujawa and Kirsten Barta, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Scott Johnson, Medina.

2. AGENDA. Motion by McLaughlin, second by Daniels to approve the revised agenda with the addition of items 3.b.1. and 5.c. *Motion carried unanimously.*

3. CONSENT AGENDA. Motion by Fay, second by McLaughlin to approve the consent agenda as revised. *Motion carried unanimously.*

a. June 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes.* Revise item 6.b. to state that it will be available later this year.

b. Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.* Monthly claims totaling \$6,448.41, including the LMCIT invoice described below.

1. LMCIT invoice. For annual insurance coverage for the Commission totaling \$2,930.00 was received July 17 and is due August 1. Commissioners requested more information on this coverage.

4. PUBLIC MEETING FOR MINOR PLAN AMENDMENT TO THIRD GENERATION PLAN.

[The regular meeting was suspended and the public meeting called to order at 6:16 p.m.]

CIP Project IN-2, Hydrologic Restoration GS50, requires a minor plan amendment because the project cost will exceed 125% of the estimated cost listed in the current CIP. Responses were received from Met Council, MDA, BWSR, and DNR indicating that they had no comment on the proposed Plan Amendment. No public comments were received.

[The public meeting was closed and the regular meeting resumed at 6:24 p.m.]

Motion by McLaughlin, second by Bruce to approve Resolution 2017-01, Adopting a Minor Plan Amendment to the Third Generation Plan revising the Capital Improvement Program. *Motion carried unanimously.*

5. ACTION ITEMS.

a. Approve participation as partner in Medina's Hennepin County Opportunity Grant Application for Lake Ardmore Area BMP Retrofit Projects.* Medina will apply for a BWSR Clean Water Legacy grant and a Hennepin County Opportunity Grant for five projects identified in the Ardmore Subwatershed Assessment. The total cost of all five projects is \$163,050. The projects are expected to decrease phosphorus loading to Lake Independence by 9-10 lbs/year. Medina and the Commission are listed as partners in the grant applications with a financial contribution of \$10,525 each. McLaughlin thanked Kujawa and Johnson for their work in reviewing and determining the best projects to pursue. Motion by Daniels, second by McLaughlin to approve participation in the grant application for the Lake Ardmore retrofit project bundle. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. Approve submittal of CWLA Grant Application for Lake Ardmore Area BMP Retrofit Projects.* Vlach noted that the application in the meeting packet is not final, but any changes would be to the text, not to the financial portion of the grant. Motion by McLaughlin, second by Daniels to approve submittal of the CWLA grant. *Motion carried unanimously.*

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

*Included in meeting packet.

Baker directed Staff to write a letter of support for inclusion with the grant. However, BWSR grants are now submitted through an online system and do not have an area to attach a letter of support. Notification of grant awards is expected in December or January.

c. **BNSF RR Culvert Project, Maple Plain.** BNSF will be replacing a culvert between the Day Distributing and Tri-K sites, near the gully area. The current culvert is a brick arch with a box culvert that was added to the arch sometime in the 1950s. BNSF proposes to install a 66" corrugated metal pipe in the current culvert and grout concrete around the pipe. However, this capacity is less than the current capacity, so a second 48" pipe will be installed 1.5 feet higher than the current pipe to ensure the amount of water flowing through the area is the same. Staff recommends approval pending receipt of scour protection details for the pipe outlet and, if scour protection occurs in the wetland, it is considered a permanent impact to the wetland. A wetland exemption is recommended if impacts are under 1,000 SF, or a replacement plan if the impacts are over 1,000 SF. Motion by McLaughlin, second by Bruce to approve the project per Staff recommendations with the two conditions noted. *Motion carried unanimously.*

6. OLD BUSINESS.

a. **Park Reserve Campground Ravine Stabilization Project CWLA Grant Application.*** Commissioners were requested to review the grant application and provide comments to Vlach via Email.

b. **Updated CIP.** Baker indicated that this item would be available later this year after meeting with the TAC and reviewing the entire CIP. Steve Christopher at BWSR indicated they would consider exchanging the entire CIP with an updated CIP as a minor plan amendment. A request for projects will be sent to member cities and a plan amendment will be considered once the CIP is completely updated.

7. NEW BUSINESS.

There is no pressing business to require an **August Commission meeting**. Motion by Baker, second by Bruce to cancel the August regular meeting unless action is required prior to the September meeting, and to grant authority for the Treasurer to approve and pay claims as necessary. *Motion carried unanimously.*

8. STAFF REPORT.*

a. **2017-01W Salem Lutheran Church, Greenfield.*** The wetland delineation was approved last week.

b. Local Water Plans.

1) **Medina.*** The plan was received and reviewed under the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission. Comments from Pioneer-Sarah Creek are expected to be nearly identical to Elm Creek's comments and will be available in the September meeting packet.

2) **Minnetrissa** recently submitted their stormwater management plan; Staff will review.

c. **Kujawa.** Wetland complaints have been received in Loretto and Greenfield, but impacts do not affect actual wetlands, so no action is necessary.

d. **Barta** will be working with U of M Extension at a Demonstration Day in Dayton on August 5. The topic is manure management and best practices. The event is free and local horse owners from Pioneer-Sarah Creek are encouraged to attend. Hennepin County libraries, including Maple Plain, are interested in partnering to disseminate information on how carp affect water quality to area residents. Barta is also working with residents in Greenfield and other cities to install voluntary buffers after crops come out this fall. The landowner's only obligation is to plant the area. This project is intended to improve water quality in the Crow River. Barta is also working with County Transportation Operations to improve their practices, including relocating a stream to its original bed in Independence which will help with erosion issues. The County is funding 75% of this project with landowner contributing 25%. Barta may begin working with Boy Scouts for conservation hours, depending on appropriate projects being available.

Cost share funding from the County will become available for the **buffer law**, but the total amount and when it will be available haven't been determined. The expectation is a total of \$10,000 available for cost-share

funding. Barta will send a letter to landowners once the amount is set. The buffer law enforcement date has been pushed back to July 1, 2018. Barta will investigate whether a letter can be sent to compliant landowners to thank them as a way to raise awareness. Non-compliant landowners will receive a letter re the extension of the deadline.

e. **Vlach.** Two efforts collected 260 10-20lb carp from Lake Ardmore. The fish are taken to the University Fish Lab. Only one fish caught had a radio transmitter. Box baiting for capture will continue. Because Ardmore flows into and directly affects the water quality of Lake Independence while being much smaller than Independence, it's an ideal pilot project to determine the effects of the efforts prior to attempting implementation on a larger system.

9. **WATERSHED-WIDE TMDL.** Responses to comments from MCES* and MDA* were included in the meeting packet. The next step is for MPCA to review and approve the WRAPS report. The TMDL will then go to the EPA for approval. Once approved, the Commission will implement projects to address the TMDLs.

10. **EDUCATION.**

11. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

12. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS.**

a. **Baker** will work with Barta to meet with potential wetland project landowners and discuss the wetland credit process. They will also meet with the city to discuss and educate about the reasons to pursue wetland restoration projects and the Planning Commission to discuss the advantages of working with developers to install BMPs during development. A fall wetland credit demo day is being planned. Mike DeLuca may be a speaker at that demo day.

b. **Cook** shared that the Central Park pond project contract was approved earlier this week and the project will be completed this fall. MPCA inspected three suspected manure violators in Greenfield. One was in compliance, one no longer has animals and is not a priority, and the third situation has been remediated. Cook also offered kudos to Barta for helping with the manure violations and working well with Greenfield residents. Several commented that they enjoyed working with Barta. Greenfield will be contacting a trapper to remove beaver from Lakes Sarah and Hafften. A new owner near the Lake Hafften outlet has been clearing debris from the outlet all year, allowing a consistent lake level for the first time in several years.

c. **Fay** noted Maple Plain is currently seeking bids for road construction and drain tile implementation because many residents are pumping water out of their basements and into the street and storm sewer. The city's goal is to complete this project by fall 2017. The Douglas County Lakes Association had a carp tournament this year that removed about 3,000 lbs of carp from the lake and the fish were sold for \$0.15/lb, so the contest was paid for between entry fees and the sale of the fish.

d. **McLaughlin.** The high-water/no-wake restriction has been lifted on Lake Independence.

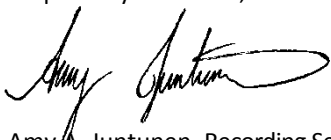
e. **Bruce** will talk with Vlach re the South Whaletail project. Minnetrista has recently started discussion regarding a manure management ordinance.

13. **OTHER BUSINESS.**

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for September 21, 2017.

14. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, motion by McLaughlin, second by Cook to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy A. Juntunen, Recording Secretary

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