

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 21, 2016**

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 21, 2016, by Chair Mike DeLuca at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Mike Hoekstra, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; Mike DeLuca, Maple Plain; Mike McLaughlin, Medina; Lisa Whalen, Minnetrista; James Kujawa, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Rich Brasch, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Scott Johnson, Medina; and Rachel Olmanson, MPCA.

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

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

a. **May 19, 2016 Meeting Minutes.**

b. **Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.*** Monthly claims total \$4,572.77.

4. ACTION ITEMS.

a. **2016-02W Budd Avenue Improvement Project, Maple Plain.*** The City of Maple Plain is proposing the reconstruction of Budd Avenue between Independence Street on the south to the city limits on the north. The roadway work will replace 1165 feet of street. The project also includes updating storm sewer, sanitary sewer and water main utilities. New impervious areas are 0.3 acres. Construction site disturbance will be approximately 1.2 acres. Minor wetland fill in two wetland basins is proposed. The Commission standards require the review of grading and erosion controls and compliance with the MN Wetland Conservation Act. A wetland replacement will occur in the BWSR road construction wetland bank at a 2:1 ratio. Staff recommends approval of the project.

The wetland replacement bank is in the Crow River Watershed in Stearns County. Commissioners noted that wetlands should be replaced within the watershed for future projects. County and private projects are required to replace within the watershed.

Motion by McLaughlin, second by Daniels to approve project 2016-02W with no conditions. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. **CIP Process Policy.*** Whalen asked the Minnetrista attorney to review the policy and the determination was that a public hearing is only required if the Commission, not a City, orders the project, or if the project will be funded by tax levy. The way the CIPs are currently handled is that a City acts as the lead and orders the project, the Commission reviews for a cost-share of the project. Items F.1. and F.2. should be stricken from the policy. Motion by Whalen, second by Daniels to approve the CIP Process Policy striking items F.1. and F.2. *Motion carried unanimously.*

c. **2016 CAMP Agreement.*** The Commission approved CAMP monitoring of Haften Lake and has funded the monitoring in the 2016 budget. Motion by McLaughlin, second by Hoekstra to approve the 2016 CAMP agreement. *Motion carried unanimously.*

5. OPEN FORUM.

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

*Included in meeting packet.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Third Community Conversation.* Only 11 attendees were registered for the June 29 Community Conversation by June 25, most of which were Commissioners and Staff. The Commission made the decision to cancel the event and reschedule for later in the year. The contract with MPCA runs through June 30, 2017. The event will be rescheduled for the end of October/beginning of November. Staff will return at the August meeting with a proposed date and publicity plan.

b. TAC CIP review. No cities have submitted projects for TAC review other than the projects identified in the Ardmore Subwatershed Assessment in Medina. Staff will schedule a TAC meeting in the second week of August to review those projects and re-solicit the cities for additional projects.

c. Livestock Management Ordinance. Due to a few unresolved items, the ordinance will be finalized for approval at the July meeting. Anderson will request language from Brasch. Whalen noted that she will not be present for the August meeting and requested that the full ordinance be sent to her alternate prior to the meeting. All items on the agenda will be included in the regular meeting packet for all Commissioners and alternates.

7. NEW BUSINESS.

An information update re the **New Buffer Law** will be included in the August meeting. Enforcement of the law will be provided by the Board of Soil and Water Resources.

8. STAFF REPORT.*

a. WRAPS. Brasch submitted a review draft of the TMDL to MPCA and will receive comments prior to submitting the TMDL for the next stage of review.

b. Ravine Stabilization Project. A draft feasibility report is now available. Brasch will meet with Baker, McLaughlin, and Wenck Staff to review. There are two projects that will reduce loading by approximately 328 lbs/year at a total cost of \$350,000 for one and \$70,000 for the second project, which is very cost effective. The feasibility study will allow the pursuit of grant funding.

c. Rural Conservationist. The County has interviewed five applicants, but has not hired yet. The position was republished this week.

d. Project Reviews. Staff is handling a few minor wetland violations and a new project, Pheasant Meadows Estates was recently received but has not yet been reviewed. The Commission expressed appreciation for the County's enforcement of the Wetland Conservation Act.

e. Website. Due to issues with the current website platform not allowing updates, and the cost to move to a new platform with the existing company, Staff has redesigned the website using Weebly, which will save the Commission about \$600 per year in hosting fees. The new website has been launched. Feedback for changes or improvements are welcome.

[Baker arrived 6:44 p.m.]

9. EDUCATION.

a. Pledge to Plant rack cards.* The West Metro Water Alliance has launched its Pledge to Plant campaign, asking citizens to replace some turf in their yards with native plants.

b. 2016 Clean Water Summit.* The Summit will be held on Thursday, September 22 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Cost to attend is \$80. The focus will be on green infrastructure practices.

c. NEMO Workshop on the Water.** The NEMO Workshop on the Water will be hosted by the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District on Wednesday, August 3.

10. COMMUNICATIONS. The Commission discussed Chuck Alcon's request and visit to view the Commission's storage area. Staff allowed the visit after discussion with DeLuca and charged Alcon for the time. The Commission

determined that future requests should be made during a Commission meeting or in writing, and not allowed until the Commission has met and made a determination. In the future, specific documents or information may be requested, but not an open visit. Staff will include the full stream of communication with Alcon in the August meeting packet for transparency.

11. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

- a. **DeLuca, Daniels and Whalen** had nothing to report.
- b. **Hoekstra** reported that, at its July 7 Council meeting, Greenfield approved the joint agreement with Independence, Lake Sarah Improvement Association, and TRPD for the Lake Sarah outlet maintenance. He expressed appreciation to all the parties involved that worked on the maintenance proposal and agreement and believes Greenfield and Independence will work well together on this project.
- c. **McLaughlin.** James Johnson, the Freshwater Scientific Services Limnologist, met with the Lake Independence Citizens Association (LICA) Board to talk about curlyleaf pondweed and provided insights on the results of treatments at other lakes. LICA presented an award to Brad Spencer for his involvement with projects on the lake.
- d. **Baker.** The Selstads have a 1,000 acre subwatershed flowing through their 80 acre property. Hakanson Anderson performed a feasibility study on the largest-ever proposed iron enhanced filter bench. However, since nothing of that size has yet been done and due to the prohibitive cost, the project is too expensive to self-fund, for both the Commission and the City. Information on iron-enhanced filters will continue to be monitored. Unfortunately, the land is for sale and the new owner may not be as interested in such projects. Anderson commented that Ed Matthiesen at Wenck is working on a DER research grant for bio filters for the Shingle Creek watershed. Baker will reach out to Wenck. Baker and Brasch visited the Lake Minnetonka Regional Park and Wayzata High School projects, which also use iron-enhanced filters, to better understand how they work.

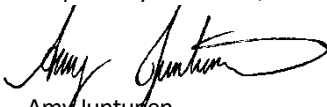
Baker noted that the new buffer law should be incorporated in the next Community Conversation or another event to raise awareness of the law and how the Commission works with other agencies.

12. OTHER BUSINESS.

- a. **2015-2017 CIPs.***
- b. The **next meeting** is scheduled for August 18, 2016.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Amy Juntunen
Recording Secretary
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