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**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Minutes**  
**August 18, 2022**

**1. CALL TO ORDER.** A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order by Chair Joe Baker at 6:01 p.m., Thursday, August 18, 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; Paul Stewart and Kris Guentzel, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); Andrew Vistad, Hakanson-Anderson; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Scott Johnson, Medina.

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

**3. CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Daniels to approve the Consent Agenda with a change to the minutes as noted below.

**a. July Regular Meeting Minutes.\*** Change item 13.c. last sentence to: "Plans have been submitted for a new grocery store just north of Highway 7 east of St. Bonifacius."

**b. August Treasurer's Report/Monthly Claims \*** totaling \$40,022.30.

**OPEN FORUM.**

**4. ACTION ITEMS.**

**a. 2022-011 Burgess Residence, Greenfield.\*** This is an application for the construction of a driveway, residential dwelling, and septic system. The residential lot is located along Greenfield Road just south of County Road 10 (Woodland Trail). The southwest shoreline of Schwappauff Lake is located in the northeast corner of this lot. The dwelling, septic system, and driveway construction will result in over one acre of disturbance. Silt fencing is provided downstream from the driveway construction adjacent to the wetlands. The Commission's management plan requires compliance for Erosion Control (Rule E). Staff recommends approval with no contingency.

Motion by Workcuff, second by Wulff to approve project 2022-11. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**5. OLD BUSINESS.**

**6. NEW BUSINESS.**

**7. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

**8. EDUCATION.**

## 9. GRANT UPDATES.

a. **Dance Hall Creek BMP CWF Grant.** At the July meeting the Commission approved up to \$5,000 to contract with Stantec to complete a grant application for projects identified in the new Dance Hall Creek Subwatershed Assessment (SWA). After review, Diane Spector from Stantec recommended delaying the grant application until formal agreements with adjacent landowners are secured and the project design is further developed. This will be a good candidate for a 2023 Clean Water Fund grant.

b. **Whaletail South Alum Treatment CWF Grant.** This project is on the Commission's CIP for 2023. TRPD has completed the required feasibility study and sent it to MPCA for review. The TMDL for Whaletail identified that 80% of phosphorus loading in the south basin is internal. The south basin has a very small watershed. The TMDL recommended an alum treatment to achieve water quality goals for the south basin. The north basin has been meeting TP and clarity standards for three of the past five years. Treating the south basin is expected to have a positive impact on the north basin as well. Modeling shows that the anticipated response to alum treatment is estimated at a 90% reduction in internal loading (381 lbs) which would bring the lake within state standards.

When treating with more than 330 gallons of alum per acre, which will be the case with this treatment, it is possible that the alum dosage can lower the pH level in the lake to a level that harms aquatic life. Sodium aluminate is an additional treatment option to minimize the drop in the pH level. However, it won't be known whether sodium aluminate will be needed until more testing can be done. The current price for alum is \$2.35/gallon and for sodium aluminate is \$8.32/gallon. For the alum treatment alone, the cost is \$410,204.18. Staff recommends a contingency as the price of alum may increase, which would bring the project cost to \$451,000 including a 10% contingency. If sodium aluminate is needed, the project cost will increase to \$506,250 including a five percent contingency. The Commission will need to decide at what level to apply for funding. The Commission and Partners are required to match 25% of the grant amount, whether or not the entire grant amount is expended. This can increase the cost to the Commission and Partners. However, if the smaller amount is requested, the Commission and Partners will then be responsible for the additional \$70,000 in cost for sodium aluminate.

Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Cahill to apply for the Clean Water Fund grant for the South Whaletail alum treatment in the amount of \$405,000, resulting in a total required match of \$101,250 and a five percent contingency. *Motion carried unanimously.*

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS.

### 11. STAFF REPORTS.

a. **Engineer's Report.\*** An overview of items is provided in the report. Adam's Pest Control had submitted a project review application and the project was approved in 2019. They did not move forward with the project and recently submitted plans for the same project that have been altered slightly from what was approved. The applicant asked if they are required to re-submit the full project review fee or if the prior review would cover the new review changes. Vistad estimated 25 hours to review the plans.

Motion by Cahill, second by Daniels to adjust the "re-review" fee based on estimated hours needed to complete the process, or \$2,625. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**b. HCEE Report.\*** The **McCombs project** at 2772 Becker Road has been completed, along with the **White Wetland Restoration** project. Photos of both projects were included in the meeting packet and shown at the meeting. These projects were funded through the remaining funds in the Baker Park Ravine grant.

**Buffer inspections** are expected to be completed by Monday. There are no outstanding violations in the Pioneer Sarah Creek Watershed area.

The **Lake Rebecca SWA** is nearing completion. Feedback from the draft did result in some edits needed. Fieldwork for the SWA is complete.

**Paul Stewart's** last day with HCEE will be August 31. The Commissioners wished him well in his new position. HCEE will be filling the position within the next few months.

## 12. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

**a. Baker.** Lake Sarah experienced a fish kill of over 10,000 crappies. Most were younger fish. The DNR is investigating the cause of the fish kill. The event did not affect other species of fish. The warm conditions may have stressed the fish and contributed to expedited growth of a bacteria or virus.

Some owners on Lake Sarah are petitioning to raise the weir due to the low water levels. Stewart from HCEE completed a survey in August that suggests the profile of the structure has changed slightly. The DNR will need to complete a survey and issue a permit prior to any change to the weir structure. LSIA is requesting a flexible structure that can be opened or closed as needed. The City of Greenfield will need to work with LSIA and the DNR since the weir structure is located on city property.

**b. Tschumperlin** presented the Whaletail alum treatment to the Minnetrista City Council on Monday, August 15. The presentation was well received, but did not include the potential need for sodium aluminate and its added cost.

**c. Wulff.** The Medina Celebration event will be held on September 17 at Hamel Legion Park.

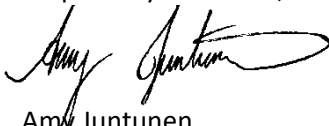
**d. Daniels.** Loretto's Fun Fest will be held on September 10 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at the Loretto Ballfields.

## 13. OTHER BUSINESS.

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for September 15, 2022 at Maple Plain City Hall.

**14. ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, motion by Daniels, second by Wulff to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen  
Administrator  
AAJ:tim

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