



**Pioneer-Sarah Creek
Watershed Management Commission**

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REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

September 16, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order via Zoom at 6:02 p.m., Thursday, September 16, 2021, by Chair Joe Baker.

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

Absent: Loretto

2. AGENDA. Motion by Cahill, second by Wulff 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.

a. August Regular Meeting Minutes.*

b. September Treasurer's Report/Monthly Claims * totaling \$11,610.87.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. OPEN FORUM.

5. ACTION ITEMS.

a. 2021-005 Town Hall Culvert Replacement.* The City of Greenfield is proposing to replace the Dance Hall Creek culvert located under Town Hall Drive. The current corrugated culvert will be replaced with a concrete culvert of the same size with no significant impacts. Staff recommends approval. The project meets the Commission's requirements for bridge and culvert crossings. Motion by Cahill, second by Baker to approve project 2021-005. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. 2021-006 Spurzem Lake Boat Launch.* Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) is proposing ADA improvements to the Spurzem Lake Boat Launch. This project will result in a small net decrease to impervious surface by replacing a portion of the existing gravel parking lot with concrete. This project meets all Commission requirements and staff recommends approval. Motion by Wulff, second by Cahill to approve project 2021-006 with the contingency of reviewing shoreline rules and statutes to ensure that this project is exempt from establishing buffer, proper slopes, and other rules as currently assumed. *Motion carried unanimously.*

c. 2021-007 6780 Greenfield Road. This project is a single residential dwelling, driveway, and septic system. This project was reviewed for erosion and sediment control and meets Commission standards. Staff recommends approval with no contingencies. The landowner will need additional project review for future development/subdivision. Motion by Workcuff, second by Baker to approve project 2021-007. *Motion*

carried unanimously.

6. **OLD BUSINESS.**
7. **NEW BUSINESS.**
8. **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.**
9. **EDUCATION.**
10. **GRANT UPDATES.**
11. **COMMUNICATIONS.**
12. **REPORTS.**

a. **Engineer's Report.*** A TAC meeting should be scheduled for this fall/winter to review the water appropriation permit discussed at the August meeting and bring an amended application and rules to the Commission.

b. **HCEE Report.*** County staff will be **tabling at events** over the next two weekends, Medina Celebration Day and Heidi's Growhaus. Commissioners are invited to attend.

The **South Fork Crow watershed planning group** is working on their One Watershed One Plan. County staff have taken an advisory role in the planning process. The current allocation for Watershed-Based Implementation Funds could be changed in the future and the Commission would need to work with South Fork Crow to compete for those funds.

The **Lake Rebecca Subwatershed Assessment (SWA)** went out for RFP on August 31. This will likely be on the agenda at the October meeting for action.

The **County Road 92 open house** was held on September 8. A recording from the open house can be shared on the Commission's website. The interchange will be open starting tomorrow.

County staff continue to work on several projects with landowners in the watershed including Shriners, McCombs, Duck Road, and Copeland Road. **Requests for funding** for these projects are anticipated over the next few months.

Concept plans from the **Dance Hall Creek SWA** have been received from Stantec. Vlach reviewed the nutrient load estimates from 2014 and feels comfortable with the calibration of the model for the SWA. The next steps will include modeling with BMPs.

c. **TRPD Report.** Vlach expects to develop a proposal to **excavate the channel** from the Shriners property to the Lake Rebecca Park Reserve for review at the October meeting.

The **stormwater sampling** has been short this year due to lack of rain this summer, though some samples are now possible with the recent rain events.

TRPD has completed the second **AIS survey** on Lake Independence and the draft study will soon be released. A zebra mussel survey will also be completed on Lake Independence this year. Vlach recommend that homeowners leave zebra mussel collection plates out at this time and requested photos and locations of the plates as they are removed, especially those very encrusted.

The U of M AIS laboratory gives a ***presentation on new research conducted on AIS issues*** every year. Anyone can attend via Zoom. Please email Vlach if interested. Baker requested to be emailed the information.

13. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

a. **Baker.** A meeting is scheduled for September 27 between LSIA, DNR, TRPD and the Commission regarding the Lake Sarah vegetation management plan. It's been five years since the last meeting with all partners. The topic will be the lake vegetation management to date and continued treatment plan, as well as hydrology issues with the low water this year. The DNR hydrologist will be invited to discuss outlet maintenance and how to retain water as needed. Water levels have resulted in challenges to public access and residents getting boats off lifts.

The Baker gully is dry. However, the neighboring property will be sold soon. Baker will reach out to staff and partners outside the meeting to discuss if access is available through his property to complete the gully stabilization project.

Baker encouraged all Commissioners to participate in the County's Natural Resources Plan. A link was sent by the County and can also be requested from Juntunen.

b. **Wulff.** LICA will be tabling at the Medina Celebration event on September 18. Commissioners are invited to attend.

c. **Cahill.** Maple Plain is communicating with a developer about a possible downtown development.

14. OTHER BUSINESS.

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled October 21, 2021 and will be held online again via Zoom link <https://zoom.us/j/845974640>.

15. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, motion by Wulff, second by Baker to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen
Administrator
AAJ:tim

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