

**MINUTES
September 17, 2015**

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, September 17, 2015, by Treasurer Tom Cook at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

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

Not represented: Minnetrista.

Also present: Pat Wulff and Scott Johnson, Medina.

2. AGENDA.* Motion by McLaughlin, second by Daniels to approve the Agenda as presented.

3. CONSENT AGENDA.

a. August 20, 2015 meeting minutes. Item 9.a. in the last sentence, replace \$73,000 with \$107,000. Motion by Cook, second by Baker to approve the August minutes as amended. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.* DeLuca questioned the TRPD invoice which included billing for the preparation of the invoice. Brasch explained the line item for preparing the invoice was for preparing documentation required by MPCA for the Commission to be reimbursed as the billing to MPCA is fairly complicated. Motion by Cook, second by McLaughlin to approve the claims/Treasurer's Report as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

4. OPEN FORUM.

5. ACTION ITEMS.

6. NEW BUSINESS.

Minor Plan Amendment.* The Board of Water and Soil Resources has completed its long-planned revisions to Minnesota Rules 8410, sections of which govern Metropolitan watershed planning. The Metropolitan Water Management Rule Amendment, Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410, became effective July 13, 2015.

Many of the revisions have to do with what information now needs to be in watershed and local plans, most of which will not affect the Commissions or cities until their next planning cycle. For cities, local plan timing will now be aligned with Comprehensive Plan updates, and the local plans are now required to be incorporated into Comp Plans. The next Comp Plans are due December 31, 2018, thus *all cities and towns in the seven-county metropolitan area must complete and adopt their local water plan between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018.* However, watershed plans are on a rolling schedule and the schedules do not sync with Comp Plans. BWSR is still developing guidance to reconcile the existing requirements to update local plans within two years of adoption of a watershed plan, and the new requirements to align the schedule with the Comp Plan schedule. For example, since the PSCWMC plan was adopted on May 21, 2015, the member cities must update their local plans by May 21, 2017 unless they have land in another watershed whose plan is still being updated.

For WMOs, one of the more important revisions is a change in the types of plan amendments that must be completed by major plan amendment versus minor plan amendment. The revised 8410 now allows projects to be added to or revised within the CIP by minor amendment instead of major amendment, as long as the county does not object. Randy Anhorn, Hennepin County Environment and Energy Department, has stated that the County follows

the same process whether they are reviewing a minor or major amendment, so he does not believe adopting the new 8410 provisions will be an issue with the county.

The minor plan amendment process requires a 30-day comment period followed by a discussion at a legally-noticed public meeting. Staff recommends initiating the minor plan amendment process to adopt these revisions. This would occur at the Commission's November 19 meeting.

Commissioners directed Staff to proceed with the amendment process and send notice of public meeting for the November 19 Commission meeting.

7. STAFF REPORT.*

a. Administrative Staff provided copies of the latest West Metro Water Alliance (**WMWA**) activity including the *Guide for Commercial Property Maintenance* and the *WaterLinks* newsletter.

b. **2015-07w 7325 Pioneer Trail Wetland Violation, Greenfield.** Contacts from the property owner have been limited. After approximately five phone messages and two site visits, he finally provided Staff with his email contact. Staff sent him an email outlining the process to resolve a filling violation. No contact from the landowner has been received since that email. Staff will follow up with the DNR on enforcement actions. Staff will advise the City of Greenfield that the Commission will begin to invoice the City for Staff's costs associated with this project.

c. Technical Staff continues to work with property owners regarding projects identified in the **Dance Hall Creek subwatershed assessment**.

d. The **Ardmore subwatershed assessment** is expected to be completed by the end of 2015.

e. Karl Hakanson has been working with a horse owner to host a **demonstration site** in Dayton in mid-October. The property has several drainage issues, including manure in the drainage way. Local horse owners, as well as city representatives and commissioners, will be invited to attend.

f. NEMO is hosting a **Winter Road and Parking Lot Management workshop** for local and elected leaders on October 7 at 6pm at the Minnetonka Public Works Facility. This workshop will focus on winter road and parking lot management— best practices, policies, and plans for salt, sand, and snow that protect water quality while ensuring public safety and efficiently managing financial, equipment and staff resources. This workshop provides an opportunity for local leaders to build their knowledge and learn skills that will assist them in making informed decisions and be better equipped to answer questions from residents, business owners, and others about approaches for winter road management. Brad Spencer and Joe Baker are planning to attend.

8. **WATERSHED-WIDE TMDL.** TRPD will continue to collect wetland data into October. The lake TMDLs are planned to be completed in January 2016 and will include loading capacities and draft allocation tables for Commission review.

The Lake Ardmore carp project is underway. Original estimates of carp biomass were 120 kg/acre. After sampling and analysis, the estimate is now over 450 kg/acre, a definite contributor to poor water quality. Population assessment will also be done in the Spurzem Creek chain. Understanding of the population is required to understand how much removal is needed.

9. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS.** DeLuca requested Commissioners to update the progress with the CIPs in their cities so the Commission is prepared when the projects are ready and can help the cities make progress. The 2015-2017 CIPs are listed on the agenda.

a. **McLaughlin** reported that the Ardmore retrofit is underway, with the pond installed. The curb installation was delayed today due to rain, but once installed, the street surfacing will be completed. The project is expected to be complete in the next two weeks, depending on weather. The Ardmore subwatershed assessment is in progress and expected to be completed by the end of 2015.

b. **Baker** requested that the CIP list notes added regarding completion/participation of projects simply combine the amounts for a multi-year project, such as the Lake Sarah CLPW treatments, rather than listing each year. He asked if an estimated vs. actual cost could also be posted in separate columns. Projects 67 and 68 identified in the Dance Hall Creek assessment will not be completed because actual benefits are much less than

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*Included in meeting packet.

originally estimated. These projects may be addressed when the property is developed. Baker will continue to work with the Selstad property on one of the four identified opportunities, but more study is required. No CIP funds are anticipated to be requested this year for those projects. The Lake Independence Outlet weir was inspected and a large piece of white oak and steel to replace the top board will be purchased. This will slightly raise the current level of the weir, but it is still within the DNR permit. Total cost is expected to be under \$5,000. LICA will use a chemical cleanout to keep the channel clear of vegetation. Baker proposed a partnership for future outlet maintenance for Lakes Sarah and Independence between Medina, Independence, Greenfield, LICA, LSIA, and the Commission.

c. **Cook** reported that TRPD engineers proposed two solutions to keep the outlet on Lake Sarah clear, both involving barriers at the outlet and one further out in the lake. A meeting with LSIA will be scheduled to discuss options and past experience. The goal is a permanent solution to maintain the Lake Sarah outlet. This solution is likely to be a cost-share between all parties involved: Greenfield, Independence, TRPD, LSIA, and the Commission. The City also held a public hearing on the proposed Stormwater District with 30 residents in attendance. The preliminary budget of \$107,000 includes the Commission member dues, projects, pond dredging, ditch cleaning efforts, and administration. The Council still needs to vote on the District. The holding pond in Central Park needs more work due to additional runoff and has the potential to be a great educational source for visitors to the park if signage can be installed cost-effectively. The City is looking into possible grants for interpretive signage. A backhoe or front-end loader is needed to install the concrete at the lake access.

10. COMMUNICATIONS.

- a. **Commissioner Mortenson resignation.***
- b. **How to install and maintain a Modular Green Roof.***

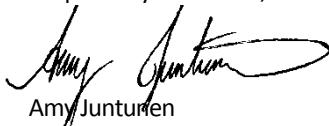
11. OLD BUSINESS. A subcommittee meeting for the **WRAPS Second Community Conversation** was set for October 5 at 5:00 p.m.. The Community Conversation was set for Monday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m. Staff will check with the City of Independence for availability.

12. OTHER BUSINESS.

- a. **2015-2017 CIPs.**
- b. The **next meeting** is October 15 in Maple Plain.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen
Recording Secretary
AAJ:tim

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