

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 19, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:01 p.m., Thursday, September 19, 2019, by Chair Joe Baker at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Mike Hoekstra, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; John Fay, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; John Tschumperlin, Minnetrista; James Kujawa, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); Steve Christopher, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also Present: Brad Spencer, Independence, and Scott Johnson, Medina.

2. AGENDA. Motion by Hoekstra, second by Wulff to approve the agenda as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

3. CONSENT AGENDA. Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Fay to approve the Consent Agenda:

a. **August Regular Meeting Minutes.***

b. **September Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.*** Claims total \$5,610.08.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. OPEN FORUM.

5. ACTION ITEMS.

a. **Project Reviews 2019-05 Green Acres East, Greenfield.*** This project is a six-lot residential subdivision on a 34-acre agriculture parcel at Schendel Lake Drive and Pioneer Trail. This project was reviewed for stormwater standards, erosion and sediment control, wetland alteration and buffer strips. During construction of the public street, 3,913 sq. ft. of wetland is proposed to be filled. Stormwater will be treated by three infiltration basins meeting rate control and nutrient reduction requirements. Buffers are proposed around existing wetlands at 10 ft minimum, 25 ft average, meeting buffer requirements. Wetland impacts were reviewed and deemed unavoidable for development. Wetland fill will be replaced at a 2:1 ratio by purchasing wetland banking credits from the Ball wetland bank in Greenfield and the Imdieke-Stamer wetland bank in Stearns County, meeting WCA requirements. Staff recommends approval contingent upon 1) recording of an O&M plan on the property approved by the City of Greenfield and; 2) no wetland impacts occurring until the replacement credits have been purchased or a \$21,500 cash or letter of credit escrow is received by the Commission. Motion by Hoekstra, second by Fay to approve project 2019-05 with the contingencies recommended by Staff. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. **Technical Services Subcommittee Recommendation.** Baker provided a verbal update regarding the September 17 subcommittee meeting where the four proposals received for technical services were reviewed. Baker recommended a work session of the whole to review the proposals and bringing the top firms in for interviews. City Staff and TRPD will also be invited to participate. JASS will forward the proposals to all Commissioners. A work session was scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2019 at Maple Plain City Hall to review the proposals.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

7. NEW BUSINESS (also see Staff Report*).

a. Baker Park Ravine Contract. The construction contract for the Baker Park Ravine project was received today. The Commission and TRPD will need to sign the contract. Baker asked TRPD to review the contract prior to Commission signing.

b. Ardmore CIP projects. Medina has decided to move forward with the carp barrier portion of the project. Funding will come from Hennepin County, the Lake Independence Citizen's Association, TRPD and the Commission's watershed-based funding plus \$11,015 from CIP funds. TRPD will create an agreement for the project.

c. Lake Independence No-Wake. The LICA Board agreed at a recent meeting that the trigger level for the no-wake restriction should be changed. The LICA President will meet with the DNR representative for boating rules to discuss the process. LICA is interested in performing a shoreline study to determine impacts of raising the trigger level. Public meetings will need to be held in each city as part of the process with the goal of a majority agreement. LICA will solicit aid from TRPD in determining what the new trigger level should be. Spencer noted that the City will manage the process and work with the DNR to change the trigger level, once that level is decided. If LICA cannot come to a consensus on the level, the City of Independence may choose to set the level.

8. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.

a. Fourth Generation Planning Process.* Pioneer-Sarah Creek WMC's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan expires December 31, 2020. A Fourth Generation Plan will need to be adopted before expiration in order for the Commission to remain eligible for grant funding. A recommended schedule for the planning process was included in the meeting packet.

Because the Third Generation Plan was only approved for six years, this process will be more of a review and refresh of the current plan, rather than creation of a whole new plan. The first step of the process is to notify stakeholders (state agencies, county, member cities, MnDoT, Met Council, TRPD, etc.) to begin gathering their input on what the Plan should include. Following that, the Commission will discuss the planning process, the input received, and plan public input gathering. A public input session is suggested for the Commission's January meeting which could be held jointly with the Kickoff meeting and should include local interest groups like lake associations, TRPD, and MPCA. The Commission will need to hold three to four TAC meetings, and potentially two to three CAC meetings. These committees should be established within the next month.

When assessing the current plan, identify progress made and gaps, and review items that weren't included in the plan but have been activities undertaken by the Commission. Complete a TAC review of any existing studies and strategies that should be included in the plan and identify how they fit within the plan. Set strong priorities with a focus on implementation. All of this should be completed in the next four months. The goal is to get through all of these items, create a draft plan, update the CIP and submit these items for the first 60-day review period by June.

Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Hoekstra to direct Staff to notify the stakeholders and begin the 60-day preliminary input period. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. Watershed-based Funding. For the next biennium, BWSR's watershed-based funding will be distributed by major watershed instead of by county as it was for the pilot program. Pioneer-Sarah Creek falls within two major watersheds, the North Fork Crow and South Fork Crow. As previously, meetings between the organizations involved will need to occur to determine how the funds will be distributed among the organizations. The total for the North Fork Crow watershed is \$91,000 and South Fork Crow is \$330,000.

9. EDUCATION. Hennepin County is offering free bus services for field trips to several TRPD park sites for schools. Teachers can apply online.

10. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES.

Hennepin County Good Steward Grants. The County will open this grant for applications on Monday, September 23. Grants range from \$500-\$10,000 and can be applied for by individuals and units of government. Applications must be received by November 5.

11. COMMUNICATIONS.

Sample resolution for cities' use in assuming the WCA LGU role.* A sample resolution was included in the packet. Greenfield, Loretto and Maple Plain will need to adopt a similar resolution to assume the WCA LGU role as of January 1, 2020. Ken Bowell and Ben Carlson at BWSR should also be notified of the change.

12. STAFF REPORT.*

Veterans Memorial Park, Maple Plain.* Staff administratively approved the Veterans Memorial Park improvements project for grading.

13. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

a. Fay noted that the Park & Ride lot has been demolished and ground broken one week ago for the new care facility, which is expected to be completed in 18 months. It will be a 180 bed facility and employ 80 people. There will also be a new road between Baker Park Road and the old MPFCA parking lot with 50 parking spaces and roof for additional business development. Bids will be solicited in January/February for spring construction of the Veteran's Memorial Park improvements which will include a band shell, walking paths, plantings and a new playground. Orono Rotary raised \$20,000 over the past two years through the Party in the Park events. DNR also provided a \$240,000 grant.

b. Wulff shared that the Medina Celebration event is this coming Saturday at Hamel Legion Park.

c. Hoekstra commented that Loretto has recently joined the Tri-City Agreement for the sanitary sewer connection. Loretto gifted Greenfield 15 extra connections that will serve lakeshore properties on Lake Sarah, taking them off septic systems. Greenfield greatly appreciates the partnership with Medina and Loretto on this project.

d. Baker noted that the Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA) received a Hennepin County grant to engage a consultant for AIS education at the access and with lakeshore residents. A report will be compiled regarding user and resident behaviors and will be shared once available. Scott Walsh is no longer on the LSIA board.

14. OTHER BUSINESS.

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for October 17, 2019.

15. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, motion by Fay, second by Wulff to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:23. p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy A. Juntunen, Recording Secretary
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