



**Pioneer-Sarah Creek
Watershed Management Commission**

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**REGULAR MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
October 15, 2020**

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:02 p.m., Thursday, October 15, 2020, by Chair Joe Baker via online Zoom.

Present: Mark Workcuff, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; John Fay, Maple Plain; John Tschumperlin, Minnetrista; Andrew Vistad, Hakanson-Anderson; Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Not Represented: Loretto and Medina.

Also Present: Scott Johnson, Medina; Steve Christopher, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); Kirsten Barta, Kris Guentzel and Paul Stewart, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); and Diane Spector, Wenck Associates.

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

3. CONSENT AGENDA.

a. September Regular Meeting Minutes.* The minutes will be changed to reflect that Fay did not make the comments regarding the grassed waterway near Budd St. There is a typo under Item 12. Motion by Fay, second by Tschumperlin to approve the September minutes with the corrections noted. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. October Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.* Claims total \$14,824.93. The report in the online packet shows the PSC share of the Lake Sarah CLP treatment going to the wrong expense account, though the printed report is correct. The online report will be corrected. Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Baker to approve the October Treasurer's report as presented.. *Motion carried unanimously.*

[The regular meeting was suspended at 6:08 p.m.]

4. PUBLIC HEARING.

Staff's October 9, 2020 memo* outlines the actions required to review the comments received and submit the final draft of the Commission's Fourth Generation Watershed Management Plan to BWSR for final review and approval. The purpose of this public hearing is to accept any further comments regarding the proposed Plan prior to submitting the final draft for approval.

Written comments were received from BWSR, MnDNR, MDA, MCES, MPCA, cities of Greenfield and Independence, and Hennepin County. Staff updated the plan to incorporate the comments received after the Commission's September regular meeting.

[The public hearing was opened at 6:10 p.m.]

The Commission received the written comments for the record. There were no additional comments from the Public regarding the Plan. Christopher stated that he felt the Commission adequately responded to all comments received and that this Plan is a strong Plan as written. Christopher will recommend approval by the BWSR Board.

[The public hearing was closed at 6:23 p.m.]

Motion by Baker, second by Fay directing Staff to make the final changes to the Plan as discussed and submit to BWSR for final review and approval. *Motion carried unanimously.*

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

*Included in meeting packet.

5. **OPEN FORUM.**
6. **ACTION ITEMS.**
7. **OLD BUSINESS.**
8. **NEW BUSINESS** (see Staff Report*).
9. **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

Working Schedule.

- 1) ~~May 21, 2020—Review preliminary comments and revise plan~~
- 2) ~~June 18, 2020—Review final draft plan and authorize start of 60 day review~~
- 3) ~~August 21, 2020—Approximate end of 60-day review~~
- 4) October 15, 2020 - Public Hearing
- 5) Oct-Dec 2020 - BWSR review and approval
- 6) Dec -Jan 2021 - Commission adoption

10. **EDUCATION.**

11. **GRANT UPDATES.**

a. **Ardmore Carp Barrier.** The contractor is currently fabricating the barrier. Installation is expected in the last week of October or first week of November. Vlach will meet on-site with Medina city staff prior to installation.

b. **Baker Ravine Channel Stabilization.** The grant paperwork has been sent to BWSR for final signature for the extension and new projects added. Vlach will update the work plan online by next week.

12. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

The Commission received a request for comment on the **Greenfield Comprehensive Plan Update re Agricultural Preserves.*** After review, the Commission's engineer has no comments.

13. **STAFF REPORT.***

a. **Project Review 2020-006, Gaalswyck Acres, Greenfield.*** This is a 43.4 acre parcel to be split into four lots with two private driveways. The project review application is incomplete. Staff does not have a recommendation at this time. Staff has alerted the applicant to the items necessary to complete this application. If a complete application is not received within the 60-day deadline, or the applicant does not request an extension, the application will be denied.

Baker noted that this parcel is of strategic importance to Dance Hall Creek and Lake Sarah and urged ongoing communication between the Commission, the City, the County and the applicant regarding potential BMPs. The Commission and County will take a pro-active approach, offering technical assistance regarding the development of this parcel.

b. Hennepin County is working on twelve **projects** within the watershed. The County memo included updates on seven projects: a wetland restoration, a rock crossing to address gully erosion, a developing gully south of Rebecca Park Trail, two Lake Independence shoreline restorations, a failed grassed waterway installed in 2004, and a ditch/streambank stabilization project. The County will also be performing a one-year review of a grassed waterway installed on the Windsong Golf property.

c. The U of M St. Anthony Falls Laboratory has chosen Lake Independence for the site of their **shoreline wake impact study.** This study will not impact the recently revised no-wake trigger levels. It is to measure how far prop wash travels downward in the water column and wake shoreline impacts based on different types of watercraft. Data from the study may inform the Commission and TRPD regarding watercraft impacts on internal loading as far as re-suspending bottom sediment. The Lake Independence Citizen's Association (LICA) is supportive

and members are volunteering their own watercraft for testing.

14. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

a. **Baker** commented that the current low water levels are an excellent opportunity to complete shoreline and streambank restorations/stabilizations. Staff will work with Baker and the County to identify potential CIPs that could be completed.

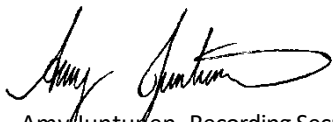
b. **Tschumperlin** noted that the Minnetrista Council is reviewing its first solar farm in the city next week. Solar farm vegetation is likely better for water quality than the row crops that had been on the 36-acre parcel, but solar farms are contentious for nearby landowners.

15. OTHER BUSINESS.

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for November 19, 2020 and will most likely be held online again via Zoom link <https://zoom.us/j/845974640>.

16. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, motion by Fay, second by Workcuff to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen, Recording Secretary
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