

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 20, 2016  
Corrected**

**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, October 20, 2016, by Chair Mike DeLuca 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; Pat Wulff, Medina; James Kujawa and Kirsten Barta, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Rich Brasch, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Scott Johnson, Medina; Steve Christopher, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); and Rachel Olmanson, MPCA.

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

**3. CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion by Cook, second by Baker to approve the consent agenda. *Motion carried unanimously.*

a. **September 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes.\***

b. **Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.\*** Monthly claims total \$17,900.10.

**4. ACTION ITEMS.**

**Livestock Management Ordinance.\*** This is a model ordinance for member cities to use as a model when considering adoption of ordinances to help control stormwater pollution caused by manure. Motion by Cook, second by Wulff to accept the Livestock Management Policy as the formal policy for the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**5. OPEN FORUM.**

a. **Rural Conservationist.** Kujawa introduced Kirstin Barta, the new Hennepin County Rural Conservationist. Barta shared her background and will be working within the watershed, mainly on the buffer initiative to start.

[Daniels arrived 6:08 p.m.]

b. **Ditch Cleaning.** Cook inquired if the County would perform requested cleanouts of public ditches. The County would require a petition and 85-95% agreement from all benefitting properties to be assessed for the work.

**6. OLD BUSINESS.**

a. **Third Community Conversation.** The opening and closing will be shortened to allow Karl Hakanson 5-10 minutes to discuss a horse pasture project. The Agenda will be revised slightly to allow for this. The Discussion Guide will be sent to participants one week prior to the event for review. Cook requested a list of ditches with city easements, but the County does not keep such a map or record. Juntunen will continue calling to recruit attendees. Commissioners were asked to make personal invitations to their council members and land owners.

b. **Crow River CIPs.\*** Kujawa sent the list of Commission CIPs that are within the Crow River hydrologic boundary for inclusion in the CROW One Watershed One Plan. There should be plenty of time for CROW

to incorporate those projects into their Plan.

c. **Commission Rules Revisions.\*** The current Rules list the time and location of meetings. Since that has been changed, the Rules are being changed in order to not have to list the current time and location as “new.” On page 2, items K and L are in conflict. Because Commission appointments are not made until the end of January, officers should not be elected until February, with terms beginning March 1. Staff will make the recommended changes. Motion by Cook, second by Daniels to approve the Rules with the change noted above. *Motion carried unanimously.*

#### 7. NEW BUSINESS.

**Letter from BWSR to Greenfield Councilors.\*** The letter was a follow-up to a requested meeting between two Greenfield Council members and the BWSR Executive Director. The Council members pursued the matter on their own to investigate any possible unexplored alternatives for watershed participation. The Commission will not pursue any options provided.

#### 8. STAFF REPORT.\*

a. Juntunen will send invitations for the **Blue Thumb recognition event** to be held at Surly Brewing on Monday, November 7 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The event will feature the WMWA Pledge to Plant campaign.

b. The County is preparing a **buffer inventory** and determination. Kujawa has discussed potential iron-enhanced filter bench installations with Ed Matthiesen from Wenck if willing landowners can be identified.

c. **Ravine Stabilization Project.** Medina, Independence, TRPD and the Commission split the cost of the feasibility study to reduce pollutant loading from the ravine running through Baker Park. There is currently no understory in the wooded area to prevent erosion. Brasch has inquired with the U of M if there is a way to establish turf or other vegetation in the area. The feasibility report has been completed and will be sent out, with invoices to the participating cities and agencies, within a few weeks. The next steps will be to receive approval from the participants to move the project forward, then submit a grant application.

d. **WRAPS.** The TMDL report was submitted to EPA for informal review ten days ago and the informal review process is expected to last about 90 days before a response is received. A draft of the WRAPS report is expected to be submitted to MPCA for informal review by Friday, October 28.

e. **Lake monitoring** ended on September 30. Lake Rebecca is in its sixth year of excellent monitoring results, meeting or exceeding water quality standards, proving the alum treatment is continuing to work well.

#### 9. EDUCATION.

a. **Water Links Fall 2016.\***

#### 10. COMMUNICATIONS.

a. **Iron-Enhanced Sand Filtration for Agricultural Tile Drainage.\***

b. **2017 Conservation Corps grant information.\*\***

#### 11. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

a. **DeLuca** expressed gratitude to Kujawa for following up and working with member cities to resolve WCA violations. The Budd Street reconstruction project is underway. There is some concern about having the asphalt laid prior to freeze. There may be an opportunity for Staff to get on the agenda for a meeting of the Northwest League to discuss water quality with Mayors of cities in northwestern Hennepin County. The League attendees are receptive to learning more about local management. It could be made part of the 2017 Commission Workplan.

b. **Daniels** had nothing to report.

c. **Wulff** noted that the outlet at Lake Independence is still draining slowly, even after cleaning out

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

\*Included in meeting packet.

the outlet area. The water is still above the no/slow wake level. Cook reminded that the drop from the outlet is only two feet over a mile, lending the topography to slower drainage than other area lakes. It may also be possible that there is a blockage further down the outlet channel. There have been no zebra mussels found on docks that were pulled out of the lake this fall. DNR and TRPD completed a scuba survey of the perimeter of the lake and found the zebra mussel population much decreased from the previous year. The cause of the decrease is unknown at this time. Twelve beavers were trapped at Hidden Lake in Independence. Baker will talk to his neighbor about performing a drone video flight over the entire Independence outlet channel to detect any additional blockages.

d. **Baker** met with another landowner experiencing flooding issues and continues to work with the Selstads and other owners to encourage attendance at the Community Conversation since landowner cooperation is needed for many projects.

e. **Cook** reported that the Lake Sarah public landing has had new concrete pillars installed, though they are not exactly level. The old concrete pillars were saved and are intended to be installed further out from the landing to prevent power loading washout. A sign may be installed warning of fines for power loading. The Central Park pond project has been approved for grant funding by Met Council, though the project will likely not start until spring 2017. The city has already rebuilt the tile system to restore drainage to the western end of the site. Greenfield's Stormwater District calculations may have some unintended consequences. A number of land owners felt it was unfair. The City is working to correct any errors. The District funding remains much more equitable than putting those funds in the general levy since even property owners who do not pay property tax will be charged the stormwater fee.

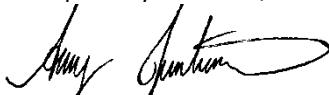
## 12. OTHER BUSINESS.

a. **2015-2017 CIPs.\*** Commissioners were asked to bring the list to their City Councils and staff for review of possible 2017 projects that will need TAC and Commission approval prior to moving forward.

b. The **next meeting** is scheduled for November 17, 2016.

13. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, motion by Cook, second by Daniels to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen  
Recording Secretary  
AAJ:tim

Z:\Pioneer-SarahCreek\Meetings\Meetings 2016\10\_Minutes.docx