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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES November 16, 2017

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, November 16, 2017, by Chair Joe Baker at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Mike Hoekstra, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; John Fay, Maple Plain; James Kujawa and Kirsten Barta, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Scott Johnson, Medina, and Paula Kalinsky, EOR, and Scott Hines, Windsong Farm, for Project 2017-04.

2. **AGENDA.** Motion by Daniels, second by Fay to approve the agenda. *Motion carried unanimously.*

3. **CONSENT AGENDA.**

a. **September 21, 2017 Meeting Minutes.*** Motion by Daniels, second by Hoekstra to approve the September minutes with a correction to the location in item 4.c. as the site is in Independence, not Maple Plain. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. **October Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.*** Claims total \$5,194.57.

c. **November Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.*** Claims total \$5,757.55. Motion by Daniels, second by Fay to approve the October and November Treasurer's Reports and claims. *Motion carried unanimously.*

4. **ACTION ITEMS.**

Project Review 2017-05 Ostberg Equestrian Facility, Independence.* This is a 40-acre agriculture parcel located just southwest of the intersections of CSAH 6 and Game Farm Road. This project includes construction of a new home, two garages, a horse stall barn, indoor arena, outdoor ring, eight horse paddocks and an access drive off of CSAH 6. The project will disturb 7 acres during construction and create 1.69 acres of new impervious areas. This project was reviewed for Rule D, stormwater management and Rule E, grading and erosion control. There are also two wetlands that have been delineated on this site, so the Commission wetland buffer requirements (Rule I) are triggered. Stormwater will be routed to a sand filtration system for volume, rate and nutrient controls. A concrete manure pit and written manure management plan were also reviewed and found satisfactory for up to eight horses. If more than eight horses are on the site, the manure management plan will require revision. Twenty-five foot buffers and signage will be installed around the two wetlands. Fencing around the buffers will be required if horses are pastured in these areas. Staff recommends approval of the project contingent upon 1) receipt of an approved long-term basin/pond operation and maintenance plan between the landowner and City of Independence recorded on the land title; and 2) the manure management plan is approved for up to eight horses.

Motion by Daniels, second by Hoekstra to approve project 2017-05 with the contingencies noted above. *Motion carried unanimously.*

5. **OPEN FORUM.**

6. **OLD BUSINESS.**

Updated CIP. Baker will continue to work on updating the CIP to include efforts that did not result in projects due to infeasibility or other factors. The updated CIP will be available prior to the PRAP exercise. Commissioners discussed a potential meeting with BWSR and unanimously decided to not pursue a delay in the PRAP exercise scheduled for 2018.

Commissioners directed Staff to include the current CIP into future agendas for review.

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

*Included in meeting packet.

7. **NEW BUSINESS.**

8. **STAFF REPORT.***

- a. **Kujawa** will follow up with Warren DeLuge later this month regarding a **wetland violation**.

The Hennepin County **Good Steward grant** received 14 applications for BMP installation and prairie restoration. The Committee recommended seven for funding at a total cost of \$72,000. This grant is available to landowners, neighborhood associations, and agencies.

- b. **Barta** noted that the **buffer** deadline has passed. Baker requested a list of Independence residents who are non-compliant with the buffer law. Independence, Maple Plain and Loretto have no compliance issues.

A new scanner has been added to County plow trucks to coordinate use of **salt/sand** on roads. This information will be used to determine which areas need more or less sand/salt and identify areas where drainage or other issues cause increase in use. Identification and evaluation of areas for windbreak installation along county roadways is also in process

Barta is willing to attend **city council** meetings if requested at least two weeks ahead of the meeting date.

Barta is also working on a **horse owner guide** with a goal of distribution in spring 2018. This guide will contain information for site planning, grading, manure management and more.

- c. **Vlach**. Lake Rebecca was not reviewed for de-listing in the **MPCA 2018 Impaired Waters List** because MPCA did not have time to review the data. Rachel Olmanson suggested submitting a formal request for review during the public comment period of November 27, 2017-January 26, 2018. A draft letter was included in the meeting packet. Commissioners directed Staff to prepare the letter on Pioneer-Sarah Creek letterhead and submit to Vlach for inclusion with the TRPD letter. Hennepin County will also submit a letter requesting review.

Adult **zebra mussels** were recently found in two areas of Medicine Lake, suggesting that the mussels have been in the lake for at least one full year. If the zebra mussels are relatively localized, treatment with potash or a copper sulfate product may be pursued.

9. **WATERSHED-WIDE TMDL**. The TMDL was approved by the EPA on September 29, 2017. One comment noted that improvements will ultimately improve water quality in Lake Independence, which has a separate TMDL. Impaired waters were identified in the TMDL, next steps are to define and fund implementation projects designed to meet TMDL goals. Keeping track of reductions through projects and development is important for reporting on a watershed-basis and for city MS4 permits. Subwatershed assessments are critical for identifying the sources of E. Coli and other pollutants and determining where projects can mitigate these loads.

10. **EDUCATION**. DNR grants for curly leaf pondweed treatment were discontinued in 2017. The grants were helpful in the Lake Sarah CLP treatments in 2012-2016 which totaled about \$125,000 and resulted in about 90% control of the invasive species.

Baker requested that Vlach update the Commission on the Fish Lake alum treatment at a future meeting.

11. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

2018 Conservation Corps Clean Water Funding.* TRPD applies for this grant every year in the forestry/horticulture group. The Corps supplies labor to assist with plantings.

12. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS.**

- a. **Fay**. The Maple Plain CIP includes a street reconstruction project for 2018 at Independence Avenue and Howard. The reconstruction will include installation of curb/gutter and stormwater sewer. Drain tile will be installed behind the curb for homeowner sump pump use so sumps are not pumped onto the street.

- b. **Baker** attended the Freshwater Society sponsored talk by Kathy Blake this week on active management of a large stormwater treatment plant and engaging with the community, including ag folks. Fear of

regulation is a motivator in ag segments and education doesn't always lead to behavior change. Baker would like to see Barta recognize landowners who worked to become compliant with the buffer law prior to the deadline. LSIA identified purple loosestrife around Lake Sarah and notified TRPD.

c. **Hoekstra.** Greenfield has improved the landing at Lake Sarah, replacing concrete in the boat ramp to mitigate power loading. Replacement of the current dock is also being pursued. DNR agreed to replace the dock with the same size/type as currently in place, but a floating dock is a better option so Public Works does not need to raise/lower the dock regularly and because the pole dock regularly becomes unlevel due to power loading. Greenfield is currently working on financing and LSIA may be willing to contribute if a different style of dock is approved by DNR.

d. **Daniels** did not have a report.

13. OTHER BUSINESS.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2017. Motion by Daniels, second by Fay to **cancel** the December meeting if there are no pressing agenda items. *Motion carried unanimously.*

14. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, motion by Daniels, second by Hoekstra to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy A. Juntunen, Recording Secretary
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