

REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
November 17, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order by Chair Joe Baker at 6:01 p.m., Thursday, November 17, 2022, at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Mark Workcuff, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; Caitlin Cahill, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; John Tschumperlin, Minnetrista; Kris Guentzel and Kevin Ellis, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); Andrew Vistad, Hakanson-Anderson; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Steve Bohl, BohLand Development for Project 2022-12 Bridgevine.

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

3. CONSENT AGENDA. Motion by Tschumperlin, second by Cahill to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

a. **October Regular Meeting Minutes.***

b. **November Treasurer's Report/Monthly Claims *** totaling \$11,904.75.

4. OPEN FORUM.

5. ACTION ITEMS.

a. **2022-010 Pioneer Highlands, Medina.*** This is a four-lot residential development on 67 acres. The site is predominantly row crops with some vegetation located in wetlands. The north portion of the site drains to South Fork Rush Creek in the Elm Creek watershed. The larger southern portion drains to Lake Spurzem. Most runoff goes to a closed basin and will not leave the property. Stormwater is proposed to be treated by providing additional wetland buffer and a small stormwater basin. This project was reviewed for Stormwater Management (Rule D), Erosion Control (Rule E), and Buffer Strips (Rule I). Staff recommends approval with no contingencies

Motion by Wulff, second by Daniels to approve project 2022-010 as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

b. **2022-012 Bridgevine, Independence.*** Bridgevine Subdivision is a 28-lot 47.5-acre residential development. Vistad met with the developer on site to review the ravine and identified targeted BMPs to reduce erosion in the gully, mainly armoring and riprap. Some trees in danger of falling into the gully due to current erosion could be removed to allow better vegetation growth. Targeted cross vanes can slow water and stepped down grade changes will also help to slow velocity. Locations of proposed vanes is based on accessibility. Just before the gully discharges into Lake Independence a natural settling pool has

been created from sediment buildup that could be excavated to make it larger. The developer has addressed stormwater concerns with the addition of two raingardens on site. This development will result in significantly reduced runoff rates as well as a 1.9 lb/yr reduction in TP, not including improvements to the gully. Lot 8 will include a walking bridge over the ravine to prevent future disturbance within the ravine and no buildings will be allowed north of the ravine. The gully stabilization will likely take place next spring. Staff recommends approval contingent on the recording of declaration, agreement and granting of easements regarding stormwater facilities and maintenance.

Motion by Wulff, second by Daniels to approve project 2022-12 with the contingency noted above. *Motion carried unanimously.*

c. Olsen Manure Bunker CIP Application and Funding Request.* This is a CIP application submitted by Hennepin County for this property on Pioneer Trail in Medina. The property houses 28 horses and currently has an open manure pile. The property drains to Lake Peter, which is impaired for nutrients. The application is for a 30' x 80' cement pad and four ft walls to allow manure storage for up to four months and to contain any runoff. The estimated cost for this manure bunker includes a 20% contingency due to the increasing costs of concrete. The total estimated cost is \$69,319 with the County and landowner each funding 10% / \$6,931.90, the Commission funding 25% / \$17,329.72 through CIP cost-share funds, and the Commission funding the balance 55% / \$38,125.45 through WBIF funding. The project expects to capture approximately 14 lbs. of TP per year, understanding that not all 14 lbs. would make it to Lake Peter. The cost per pound reduction on a 10-year lifespan is \$495, making it a high priority. This would be a project for spring/summer 2023. In the 2021 WBIF funding, \$35,000 was allocated to Spurzem chain BMPs, the remainder could be taken from funds designated for Lake Independence. An O&M plan would be required for the project to ensure the bunker is used properly.

The structure north of the barn does not have a slab and is not usable for manure storage. The current city ordinance would require a bunker but this property is grandfathered prior to the enactment of the ordinance. The Pioneer-Sarah Creek Commission does not have a set cost-share policy for BMPs on private property so the County is proposing a 10% landowner contribution based on drainage to a priority water body and limited opportunities in the area to reduce contribution to the Spurzem chain. If approved, a 10-year agreement with the landowner will be required and the County will perform inspections on site to ensure the project is working as intended. If the landowner does not follow the prescribed procedures it could result in a required payback to the Commission.

Motion by Wulff, second by Daniels to approve the Olsen Manure Bunker CIP as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

6. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Engineer's Estimate for GS68. The cost estimate based on 150 LF of gully stabilization is \$32,000-\$38,000 in construction cost. A secondary project excavating the island of sediment from the pond at the outfall has a very soft estimate of \$4,000/SF. If the sediment requires hazardous waste disposal, the disposal cost will increase from \$20/CY to \$100/CY, greatly impacting the cost of the project. That will not be known until the sediment is tested. The pond excavation cannot proceed without a wetland delineation

and WCA approval, which cannot take place until next spring. Until WCA approval is granted, it is not advised to perform sediment testing.

This project would qualify for 2021 WBIF funding. There is approximately \$60,000 in remaining WBIF funding for the North Fork Crow portion of the Pioneer-Sarah-Creek Watershed after the Dance Hall Creek SWA update. 2021 WBIF funds must be used by December 31, 2023.

Staff will continue to pursue this project for potential completion in winter 2022-2023.

7. NEW BUSINESS.

8. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.

9. EDUCATION.

10. GRANT UPDATES.

11. COMMUNICATIONS.

12. STAFF REPORTS.

a. Engineer's Report.* Two project reviews were recently received but not in time for this meeting. The next TAC meeting is scheduled for November 29 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

b. HCEE Report. The County hired a new employee for Paul Stewart's position. The new employee will start on December 5.

c. TRPD Report. Vlach will have a funding increase request at the December meeting for the Lake Independence TMDL Update due to needing to outsource the watershed modeling.

Vlach submitted a Hennepin County Environmental Stewardship grant application for the Whaletail alum treatment project in 2023. The grants were due November 15, 2022. The maximum grant amount is \$25,000. Guentzel noted that the County Opportunity grant may be available for the project next summer and the maximum Opportunity grant amount is \$100,000. It could be used for the second treatment. However, the Commission could not apply for both grants for the same project. The Commission is supportive of withdrawing the Environmental Stewardship grant to pursue an Opportunity grant instead. Guentzel suggested that the application not be withdrawn until it is known whether or not the application becomes a finalist.

13. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

a. Workcuff announced that Greenfield has two new Councilmembers since the incumbents chose not to run.

b. Tschumperlin will not be Minnetrista's representative to the Commission for 2023. He did note that an updated Commissioner Handbook would be helpful to new Commissioners.

c. Wulff noted that there was no turnover of the Council or Mayor in Medina. The channel dredging projects approved at the October meeting were dredged much deeper than anticipated, making

the project more expensive to the landowners. The third channel excavation will occur this winter.

d. **Baker** stated that the DNR was not interested in updating the Lake Sarah weir measurements. The Lake Sarah Improvement Association thanks the Commission for its ongoing support of the AIS management work.

e. **Cahill** will not be serving on the Commission in 2023. Two new Councilmembers were elected to the Maple Plain Council.

f. **Daniels** won her election and will return as a Commissioner for 2023.

14. OTHER BUSINESS.

The **next regular meeting** is scheduled for December 15, 2022 at Maple Plain City Hall.

15. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Juntunen
Administrator
AAJ:tim

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