

CARNELIAN-MARINE-ST. CROIX WATERSHED DISTRICT
Regular Meeting May 8, 2013

Managers Present: Steve Kronmiller, John Lennes, Kristin Tuenge, and Andy Weaver.

Managers Absent: Thomas Polasik, Victoria Dupre and Richard Caldecott.

Others Present: Jim Shaver (Administrator), Jed Chesnut, Jay Riggs and Adam King (WCD), Carl Almer (EOR), Stephanie Souter (Washington County) and Debbie Meister (MMC).

Manager Kronmiller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Approve May Agenda — Board Action

Manager Lennes moved to approve the May 8, 2013 agenda as amended. Second by Manager Weaver. Motion carried 4-0.

2. New Business

a. TMDL Implementation Plan—Jay Riggs — Board Action

Mr. Riggs presented the Implementation Plan that is a follow up to the TMDL Report. The plan identifies phosphorus loads for the 10 impaired lakes, the load reduction percentage for each lake needed to meet state goals and strategies to reduce the loads. Stakeholders in the impaired subwatersheds, technical advisors and board managers were involved in a process to identify potential opportunities for load reduction projects. From this overall input, the lakes were ranked and an implementation plan was developed. Overall, education will be an important component of implementation, it will take a significant amount of time to achieve the load reduction goals and monitoring and assessment of implementation activities will inform future monitoring, priorities and activities. Administrator Shaver added that the intent of the plan is to set reduction goals, and use assessments to continually reprioritize targeted projects. The District's Water Management Plan will need to be amended to incorporate the Implementation Plan. Prioritization protocols for project implementation are essential and various organizations and government agencies are working on developing protocols.

Manager Weaver moved to authorize Administrator Shaver and Mr. Riggs to submit the amended TMDL Implementation Plan. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 4-0.

b. Agriculture Cover Crops—Adam King

Administrator Shaver introduced Adam King, the WCD water resources technician working on agriculture projects and water monitoring. Mr. King provided a summary of the cover crops workshop that was co-sponsored by CMSCWD and the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD). He highlighted the benefits of cover crops, the reasons the agriculture community has not implemented this practice, examples of incentive programs— USDA Environmental Quality Incentive Program, a Maryland state program and CLFLWD's program designed using focus groups with farmers, and the

opportunity to include this in the District cost share program. Discussion focused on documenting the benefits of cover crops, continuing to educate farmers and considering funding a cost share project with an interested farmer whose land drains to the St. Croix River and Zavoral Creek. Administrator Shaver will add this cover crops project to next month's agenda.

c. Byron Karns Monitoring Proposal — Board Action

Administrator Shaver reported that as a condition of its mining permit, Tiller/Zavoral Mining is required to conduct macro-invertebrate monitoring. In conjunction with this, it would be timely to monitor the streams last monitored in 2003 for the Spring Creek Study. Byron Karns, now with the National Park Service, is available to again conduct the monitoring. To avoid a conflict of interest, Administrator Shaver recommended having EOR monitor Zavoral Creek and Mr. Karns' consulting group monitor the other 21 streams.

Manager Lennes moved to approve the PrairieScape Environmental Consulting proposal dated April 8, 2013 to provide macro-invertebrate monitoring for \$13,200. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 4-0.

Manager Lennes moved to reallocate funding of \$15,000 from the budget line item Other Projects: Marine Hwy 95 Wetlands to Other Projects: Spring Creek Monitoring. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 4-0.

3. Approve April 10, 2013 Minutes — Board Action

Manager Tuenge moved to approve the April 10, 2013 minutes as presented. Second by Manager Lennes. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Approve April 24, 2013 Minutes — Board Action

Manager Lennes moved to approve the April 24, 2013 as presented. Second by Manager Weaver. Motion carried 3-0-1, with Manager Tuenge abstaining.

5. Approve February 13, 2013 Executive Committee Minutes

Manager Tuenge moved to approve the February 13, 2013 minutes as presented. Second by Manager Weaver. Motion carried 4-0.

6. Treasurer's Report Board Action

Manager Tuenge presented the Treasurer's Report.

Manager Tuenge moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Second by Manager Weaver. Motion carried 4-0.

7. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

8. Permit Status Update, Permits / Violations

Administrator Shaver reported that the only activity from last month was approval of the Tiller permit. He will meet with Mr. Gruber's engineer for an on-site permit approval.

In response to Manager Kronmiller's concern about a potential wetland violation on Norell Avenue, Mr. Chesnut stated that he was denied access to investigate the property, but took a photo, a conservation officer could get a search warrant and Jyneen Thatcher has made site visits in the past but found no violations.

9. Project Status Update

a. General Updates

Mr. Almer reported that the District received a Phase II Implementation grant for Sand/Long Lakes Clean Water Partnership. Hamline University has completed the winter zooplankton monitoring on Square Lake and the report will be provided. Mr. Almer shared assessment tool maps to highlight the many layers of information. Data as a .kml file can be imported into Google Earth. Administrator Shaver added that the District will probably need a major plan amendment to incorporate this assessment tool and the TMDL Implementation Plan and possibly will reprioritize the work plan based on these projects. Mr. Chesnut noted that there is a washout into the Goose Lake pond and there is sediment in the pools, indicating the project is working.

b. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Survey Proposal Amendment

Mr. Almer outlined modifications to the approved 2013 scope of work to add AIS point intercept surveys for Carol and North Twin lakes and eliminate AIS reconnaissance on Hay, Sand and Square lakes.

Manager Tuenge moved to accept the revised cost of \$12,050 for the District AIS survey per the EOR memo dated April 24, 2013. Second by Manager Weaver. Motion carried 4-0.

c. Cost Share Update

Mr. Chesnut reported that six residents attended a recent neighborhood cost share program. Site visits were generated from this and cost share proposals are anticipated. Some projects approved last year will be completed this year.

10. Old Business

a. Square Lake Clean Water Partnership—Report Approval — Board Action **Manager Lennes moved to approve the Square Lake Implementation section for inclusion into the final Square Lake Clean Water Partnership Phase II Study and to submit the report to the MPCA. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 4-0.**

b. Administrator Salary

Manager Kronmiller suggested a 5% administrative salary increase and an increase of 5 days of paid time off based on a salary comparison of other district administrators (Administrator Shaver is the lowest paid in the county) and cost of living increases for government workers. While the cost of living has increased by 9%, state salaries have increased by 8.2%, county by 3% and the District Administrator by 0% for two years with a small increase in 2011. Manager Kronmiller further stated that the District has tried to be attuned to our constituents and the economy, but the economy is improving and Administrator Shaver has done a good job. Manager Tuenge stated that as a salaried

employee, Administrator Shaver does what it takes to meet District needs by consistently participating in meetings outside of normal weekday working hours and his experience and knowledge of the area are very helpful and valuable. Manager Weaver stated that the District needs to attract and keep good people and Jim has earned this.

Manager Kronmiller moved to give the Administrator a 5% salary increase. Second by Manager Lennes. Motion carried 4-0.

11. Discussion Points

a. Joint Meeting with Scandia—May 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Administrator Shaver stated that he noticed the meeting, the District will have about 45 minutes on the agenda and the Scandia council has had a lot of turnover. Mr. Almer reported that in preparation for the joint meeting, he revisited Goose Lake and Log House landings. The city maintenance supervisor said that the city might be putting in ditches in the Bliss Addition to address drainage issues. Administrator Shaver added that rain gardens or sand-iron filters could be used here.

b. Manager Candidate Update

Administrator Shaver reported that the County is reappointing Managers Tuenge and Polasik and appointing Dave DeVault, though it was not specified which manager Mr. DeVault replaces.

12. Bills to be Paid—Board Action

Manager Tuenge reviewed bills to be paid.

Manager Tuenge moved to pay bills in the amount of \$17,907.45. Second by Manager Weaver. Motion carried 4-0.

13. Administrator's Report

a. Realtor Seminar on Septic Systems

Administrator Shaver stated that he still feels the necessity for a septic replacement program with strong incentives. Stephanie Souter reported that about 60 realtors attended the workshop. The county commissioners are concerned about failing systems. Failing systems are identified at the time of home sales, because inspections are required. The county is looking at models and funding mechanisms, such as the Carver County cost share program. Manager Kronmiller stated that through the District's aerial surveys, failing systems were identified. He also stated that in the past, the county has asked the District to get involved, but whose responsibility is this? Administrator Shaver stated that he will participate in talks with the county and believes there is an incentive that can be developed to solve this problem.

b. CAC Planning Meeting May 29

Administrator Shaver stated that he will advertise the meeting in the paper, try to get an article in the *Messenger*, mail to CAC members and notice the meeting so managers can attend. The purpose is to get citizen input about priorities and provide notice about the major water management plan amendment.

c. MAWD Summer Water Resources Tour

Administrator Shaver reported that the tour is in New Ulm on June 20-21 and he plans to attend.

14. Next Meeting, Adjourn

The next meeting is Wednesday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Scandia Community Center.

Manager Lennes moved to adjourn. Second by Manager Weaver. Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Submitted by
Debbie Meister
MMC Associates