

**Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District  
Regular Meeting November 7, 2011**

**Managers Present:** Richard Caldecott, Kristin Tuenge, Jason Husveth, Victoria Dupre and John Lennes.

**Managers Absent:** Steven Kronmiller, and Thomas Polasik.

**Others Present:** Jim Shaver (Administrator), Carl Almer (EOR), Ray Marshall (Legal), Amy Carolan (WCD) and Debbie Meister (MMC).

Manager Dupre called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

**1. Approve November Agenda—Board Action**

**Manager Caldecott moved to approve the November 7, 2011 agenda. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 5-0.**

**2. Approve October 3 Minutes—Board Action**

**Manager Tuenge moved approval of the October 3, 2011 minutes. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 4-0-1.**

**3. Treasurer's Report and Bills to be Paid—Board Action**

Manager Tuenge presented the Treasurer's Report.

**Manager Lennes moved approval of the November 7, 2011 Treasurer's Report. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Manager Caldecott moved approval of the bills to be paid in the amount \$53,094.51. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 5-0.**

**4. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**5. Permit Status Update, Permits / Violations**

**a. Sandgren New Home on Big Carnelian Lake**

Mr. Almer reported that this project is already under construction. Administrator Shaver sent a letter on October 6 informing Mr. Sandgren that an after-the-fact permit is needed. A response has not been received. Administrator Shaver stated that during a site visit, Mr. Sandgren seemed interested in adding raingardens and buffers, but at this point legal action might be necessary. Mr. Marshall stated that the District can take action, either criminal (permit violation) or civil (failure to comply and/or endangerment of water resources), but recommends not waiting until spring to take action. It was agreed that Administrator Shaver and Manager Husveth will coordinate efforts to talk with Mr. Sandgren.

**b. BTG & BTG-II May Township Mining Operation**

Mr. Almer reported that EOR received the completed permit application and anticipates bringing the permit with recommendations to the Board in December.

**c. Scandia**

Administrator Shaver reported that the building inspector for the City of Scandia is leaving. The City will be contracting for inspection on a part-time basis.

**6. Project Status Update**

**a. Grassy Waterway Reconstruction-\$1,200—Board Action**

Administrator Shaver reported that Pete Young (WCD) contacted him about a good water quality improvement project to repair a failing waterway on an agriculture field. The project has already been vetted and funded by BWSR. Because of this, Administrator Shaver did not think a BMP Subcommittee meeting was necessary to review a cost share request. Manager Husveth noted that this is a high focus area because of its proximity to Zavoral Mines and the St. Croix River. Over a 10-year period, this will cost the District only \$120 per year for an estimated four pounds per year of phosphorus removal.

**Manager Tuenge moved to approve the grassy waterway reconstruction project with a cost share of \$1,200. Second by Manager Husveth. Motion carried 5-0.**

**b.Sand/Long Lake**

Mr. Almer reported that there has been a significant amount of work on the Sand and LongLakesClean Water Partnerships from completing the drafts of the diagnostics, to identifying BMPs, to holding stakeholder meetings. Next month the draft reports will be presented to the Board for input. After final edits, the plan will be submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Administrator Shaver stated that five of the 11 Long Lake residents attended the second stakeholder meeting. Residents expressed concern about the over abundance of aquatic vegetation, specifically water lilies, and asked that the District advance their concerns to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). At the meeting, Administrator Shaver explained that water lilies are classified as native and the District Management Plan supports natural aquatic vegetation. Since the residents' request is in opposition to the plan, he suggested residents bring a position to the Board. He also noted that the Board supports lake associations. Manager Lennes stated that because of the vegetation, Long Lake is more like a bog and is no longer swimmable, fishable or navigable. The lake residents do not feel they are being heard by the District or DNR.

Manager Husveth stated that not having seen a proposal from the Association, the Board has not had the opportunity to vote or provide input on these issues. He also stated that it is important to define the problem, such as, is this a natural oscillation of species in the wetlands and shallow lakes? Manager Dupre stated that the Board needs time to review its Management Plan and set a policy that can be applied to all lake associations. Several Managers noted an over abundance of water lilies on other area lakes. Other questions raised: are the lilies native or invasive, should the District do something to stop the progression of lilies, is the District constrained by other agencies/DNR, would a

presentation on shallow lake ecology be helpful to the lake residents and is there a way to restore the lake to where it was 10-15 years ago?

It was agreed that Manager Dupre will work with Administrator Shaver to review the District's Plan and established policy, talk with DNR staff and bring salient points to the Board next month.

**c. GIS Tool**

Mr. Almer reported that he met with the BMP Subcommittee to review the GIS tool and discuss subwatershed scores, tool use and next steps. Discussion included the use of the tool to prioritize projects, target outreach areas and provide the framework for long-term planning and implementation. Mr. Almer and Administrator Shaver will prepare a link between the tool and the District Management Plan.

**7. Cost Share Program Update**

**a. Rydeen Farm**

Administrator Shaver showed slides of the feedlot project under construction.

**b. Chesnut Ravine Engineering Bids—Board Action**

Ms. Carolan presented cost comparisons of the reconstruction bids. Before discussion of the bids, Mr. Almer left the room. **Manager Caldecott moved to accept the EOR bid as the lowest responsible bid and authorize entering into an agreement with EOR for Goose Lake ravine reconstruction services. Second by Manager Lennes. Motion carried 4-0-1, with Manager Husveth abstaining.**

**8. New Business**

Manager Shaver reported:

**a. Management Appointments**

Terms for Managers Husveth and Kronmiller will be coming up in 2012. Manager Lennes reported that there is a resolution pending before MAWD as to how appointments occur.

**b. Insurance**

**i. Waiver**

**Manager Lennes moved not to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.**

**ii. Resolution**

**Manager Lennes moved the Resolution for 2011 liability coverage. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.**

**c. WCD 2012 Agreement**

Administrator Shaver stated that the agreement was not received and will be on next month's agenda.

**9. Old/Other Business**

**a. Budget**

Administrator Shaver presented one option to fix the levy problem on the 2012 budget: increase the carryover funding to make a no-change levy from 2011 to 2012. The budget, with corrected numbers, actually reflects a six percent levy increase, not a decrease as the Board had anticipated. Manager Husveth stated that he thought there were two options: to decrease the levy or keep the levy even. Mr. Marshall cautioned that drawing on the reserve is very easy to do, but if there are unanticipated expenses it is not easy to raise the levy to cover them. Manager Caldecott stated that the Board went through a good process to set the budget and a good reason would be needed not to increase the levy and go with the prepared budget. For the December meeting, Administrator Shaver will provide the budget numbers, including reserve carryover, if the levy remains flat or decreases. The Board will adopt a final budget in December.

**b. Work Plan**

Administrator Shaver reported that Manager Kronmiller suggested the 2011 work plan be reviewed as a way to look at this year's expectations and results and to begin planning for next year. He noted that unexpected projects—channel maintenance, a church parking lot and the Marine Water Management Plan—took a lot of time. Suggestions for next year's work plan included updating and simplifying the Strategic Plan, developing an active CAC, engaging the public through social media and the District website, developing priority areas for BMPs and meeting with LGUs.

**10. Administrator's Report**

Administrator Shaver reported:

- St. Croix River Research Rendezvous was held on October 18.
- Metro MAWD meeting in October featured a tour at the Stilts Building parking lot and was hosted by the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.
- Minnesota Waters Resources Conference was held on October 18-19.
- The budget presentation to the County board went well.
- Zavoral Project Advisory Committee will hold a public meeting on November 16 to review the draft Zavoral Mining Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). EOR will review the EIS when it is released on Wednesday.
- MAWD Conference in December. Administrator Shaver will attend. Managers Tuenge and Lennes might attend.
- Office closed November 22- 28.
- Holiday party will be arranged.
- Washington County Administrator Jim Schug is retiring in January. A letter of appreciation will be sent.

**11. Next Meeting, Adjourn**

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, December 5, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at Scandia City Hall. **Manager Lennes moved to adjourn. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 5-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by  
Debbie Meister, MMC Associates, LLP