

**Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District
Regular Meeting March 5, 2012**

Managers Present: Steven Kronmiller, John Lennes, Jason Husveth, Thomas Polasik and Victoria Dupre.

Managers Absent: Kristin Tuenge and Richard Caldecott.

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

Manager Kronmiller called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

1. Approve March Agenda—Board Action

Manager Polasik moved to approve the March 5, 2012 agenda as amended. Second by Manager Lennes. Motion carried 4-0.

2. Approve February 6 Minutes—Board Action

Manager Dupre moved to approve the February 6, 2012 minutes as amended. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Administrator Shaver presented the Treasurer's Report.

Manager Dupre moved to approve the March 5, 2012 Treasurer's Report. Second by Manager Lennes. Motion carried 5-0.

Manager Polasik moved to approve the March 5, 2012 bills to be paid in the amount of \$20,898.87. Second by Manager Dupre. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Permit Status Update, Permits/Violations

Mr. Almer reported that he helped a Marine on St. Croix resident complete the small project worksheet for an after-the-fact permit. The District rules for stormwater management and erosion control were triggered. No variances are required and the resident seems willing to make the minor modifications that were suggested. Administrator Shaver contacted Marine staff about this permit.

Administrator Shaver reported that because of a resident call, trees along the Xcel Energy Hwy 95 project were saved and the utility pole locations were clarified.

6. Project Status Update

Mr. Almer reported that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) seems willing to temporarily suspend stocking rainbow trout in Square Lake, but wants to better understand the ramifications and hear from stakeholders at the March 26th public

meeting. After incorporating minor formatting and clarifications requested by the Pollution Control Agency, the Phase III TMDL Plan was sent to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It will take at least three months for an EPA response.

The BMP Subcommittee met on February 29th to review the GIS tool and explore phase II activities. Mr. Almer will prepare a technical memo about the tool and phase II scope of work for the subcommittee to consider at its March 26th meeting. Once the subcommittee approves the scope of work, it will be presented to the Board. A hot spot map and targeted areas for 2012 outreach will also be presented to the subcommittee.

a. Goose Lake Timeline Review

Administrator Shaver reported that he met with Judd Chesnut and the two upstream property owners. Mr. Chesnut agreed with the upstream water storage plan because it would reduce peak flows to the ravine. One of the upstream owners had no objections to a District easement, while the other couple felt they had already provided a lot of easements. This couple was OK with using the ditch for storage.

Administrator Shaver requested that Dan Fabian of EOR prepare three design sketches to present to the three property owners. At Board direction, he will also present the original plan using rock checks along the ravine as a fall back and have EOR explore using a series of pools along the ditch line with infiltration for water quality improvement. Following the meetings with property owners, Administrator Shaver will meet with Scandia City Administrator Anne Hurlburt and City Engineer Ryan Goodman. Administrator Shaver will e-mail a meeting schedule to Managers.

b. Accept Sand/Long CWP and Submit to MPCA—Board Action

Manager Kronmiller stated that the District hired a consultant to study Sand and Long lakes and make recommendations for improving water quality. The two basic options outlined were: 1. Use BMPs to reduce phosphorous loads and 2. Use sand-iron filter to reduce phosphorous. Based on a cost-benefit analysis, another option might be to do nothing. Discussion included: seek grants for implementation; ensure the report meets the criterion of a MPCA grant agreement; consider the long-term operations and management costs of the options; do nothing because for the next five years since the lakes are on an improving trend and currently meet the phosphorous goal. Mr. Almer stated that the Implementation Plan is somewhat like a TMDL Plan and believes it is negotiable. He suggested revising the plan to state: The District will implement strategies as funds are available and as the District deems them practicable.

Manager Lennes presented a cost-benefit chart of options one and two and noted the sand-iron filter would exceed the phosphorous reduction goal at significantly less per pound than the plan's suggested option, which would not meet the goal. He suggested taking additional time to review the sand-iron option by reviewing University of MN research and local projects using this technology.

Manager Lennes moved to table acceptance of the Sand & Long Lakes Clean Water Partnership Report until next month to allow time to gather information about the

sand-iron option and review the report's recommendations. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 5-0.

A grant extension will be requested.

7. Cost Share Program Update

a. Review Subcommittee Meeting of 2-29-12

Ms Carolan reported that at the meeting she provided the 2011 Cost Share Report, Mr. Almer presented the GIS tool, the subcommittee reviewed all cost share projects from 2008 to the present, discussed increasing the cost share match to 75% and discussed marketing to targeted areas. There were no new projects to review.

8. New Business

a. WCD Contract—TMDL Implementation Plan—Board Action

Administrator Shaver reported that the District can be reimbursed about \$4,000 for preparing the TMDL Implementation Plan. Funding comes from PCA through the WCD. **Manager Dupre moved to sign the contract for the TMDL Implementation Plan. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 5-0.**

9. Old/Other Business

a. Policies-Committee to Review—Board Action

At Manager Kronmiller's suggestion, it was agreed that the Personnel Committee will review the policies and bring recommendations to the Board.

b. Meeting Schedule Revision—Board Action

Mr. Marshall stated that changing the District's principal place of business is a lengthy process. He suggested trying the new meeting location in Marine on a temporary basis and revisiting this decision in June or July. At that time, if the Board wants to change the location, the Board can authorize publishing a formal notice and revise its bylaws and rules. In the meantime, a weekly notice should be published.

c. 2012 Revised Work Plan

Administrator Shaver reported that after some discussion with board members, he revised the work plan, which will be reviewed in six months. Manager Kronmiller stated that he likes the new format.

d. Stu Grubb Memo

Administrator Shaver presented Mr. Grubb's memo and proposal for regional groundwater level measurements and mapping. He noted that the DNR will be monitoring a fair number of the wells on Mr. Grubb's list so the proposal reflects a maximum cost. He recommended contracting for Items 1 and 2, but not 3. Discussion included: groundwater planning is the County's responsibility; other agencies— US Geological Survey, DNR, MN Department of Health—should be responsible; this has not been discussed at the Groundwater Committee; Brown's Creek Watershed District is contracting for Items 1 & 2 but not 3; the information will benefit the District especially because of Little Carnelian Lake water levels; if the District does not contribute, it has no

say in what will be addressed and Brian Davis of the Metropolitan Council is presenting a report at the April Water Consortium, which concludes that Washington County has adequate groundwater supplies through 2030.

Manager Dupre moved to table this item until April. Second by Manager Husveth. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Administrator's Report

Administrator Shaver reported the following:

- a. Protecting the St. Croix River Basin Conference is April 24 at UW-River Falls.
- b. MN Erosion Control and Stormwater Conference is March 8-9 in Nisswa.
- c. MN Association of Watershed Districts is hosting a meeting for district administrators on March 7.
- d. MN Aquatic Invasive Species Symposium is March 19-20 at Kelly Inn in St. Paul. Call Administrator Shaver to carpool.
- e. The Cost Share Subcommittee will meet prior to the Square Lake Public meeting on March 26 in Marine.
- f. Freshwater Society's Precision Conservation Conference is March 29 in St. Anthony. Administrator Shaver will attend.

11. Next Meeting, Adjourn

The next board meeting is Monday, April 9, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers in Marine on St. Croix City Hall. The public will be noticed of the date and location change.

Manager Dupre moved to adjourn. Second by Manager Lennes. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Submitted by
Debbie Meister, MMC Associates, LLP