

**Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District  
Regular Meeting January 9, 2012**

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

**Others Present:** Jim Shaver (Administrator), Dan Fabian (EOR), Ray Marshall (Legal), Amy Carolan (WCD), Joel and Christine Johnson (residents), Nick Arnt (BTG & BTG-II Mining), Sally Leider (Watershed Wisdom) and Debbie Meister (MMC).

Manager Kronmiller called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

**Manager Lennes moved to approve the January 9, 2012 agenda as amended. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 6-0.**

**2. Approve December 5 Minutes—Board Action**

**Manager Tuenge moved approval of the December 5, 2011 minutes as amended. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 7-0.**

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

Manager Tuenge presented the Treasurer's Report.

**Manager Polasik moved approval of the Treasurer's Report. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 7-0.**

**Manager Tuenge moved approval of the January 9, 2012 bills to be paid in the amount of \$30,895.03. Second by Manager Dupre. Motion carried 7-0.**

**4. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**5. Project Status Update**

**a. Goose Lake Timeline Review**

Administrator Shaver introduced Joel and Christine Johnson who are interested in getting involved with Goose Lake projects. Mr. Fabian presented the timeline for the Goose Lake Ravine project, which starts at Ozark Lane, drops down a steep wooded slope and ends opposite the boat landing. A public meeting will be needed once a project design is approved by the landowners, the City of Scandia and the District Board. Before the next Board meeting, EOR plans to investigate directional borings. The landowners will be invited to the next meeting to hear about and discuss design sketches and cost estimates. Project easements, maintenance and project ownership agreements, City response time, a revised cost and tree removal were identified as issues that can delay the project. Managers strongly urged setting an ambitious timeline so another construction season is not lost. Suggestions for moving the project along included meeting with Scandia

City Council in February, working to confirm costs, awarding a bid in May and scheduling an extra monthly Board meeting, if necessary.

In response to Mrs. Johnson's questions, Administrator Shaver stated that the District will be working with property owners, on a voluntary basis, to identify and implement other water quality improvement projects on Goose Lake. Groundwater is not part of the study or implementation plans. While high phosphorus levels cause algae blooms, they do not make fish unsafe for eating.

**b. Watershed Wisdom Update—Sally Leider**

Ms. Leider presented a summary of the Watershed Wisdom Program. This year the program expanded to partner with Milkweed Editions, a nonprofit publisher and COMPAS, an arts organization, to add literature, author visits and art residencies related to water and the natural environment. Ms. Leider provides four watershed lessons in five classrooms at three schools—Marine, Withrow and Scandia. The literature, author visits and arts residencies strengthen the watershed message and eco-literacy. Curriculum topics include native species, connections to home, permeable and non-permeable surfaces, nonpoint source pollution and macroinvertebrates. A community component is part of the partnership including participation in the Da Vinci Festival and Mill Stream Day. Discussion included possibly expanding to other schools next year such as Stonebridge, other resources and partnership opportunities. Managers praised the program for providing kids with the time to reflect and develop a sense of ownership. Ms. Leider invited managers and staff to attend her workshops.

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

**a. Permit #06-019 Tii Gavo Major Subdivision**

Mr. Fabian reported that he just received a report on the wetlands mitigations at Tii Gavo. He noted that some alterations to the culvert design have yet to be made, as well as some other conditions of his review from last year.

**b. Permit #08-001 BTG & BTG-II May Township Mining Operation**

Mr. Fabian introduced Nick Arnt and presented nine recommended permit stipulations. Under Stipulation 2, it was agreed that the District be listed under May Township's performance bond and require a copy of the bond be provided to the District. Under Stipulation 8, it was agreed that the annual report may be submitted to the District at the same time as reports to May Township and Washington County are sent, generally in December or January. Under Stipulation 9, it was agreed to add that the permit will be renewed every five years.

In response to Manager's questions it was noted that the restoration plan calls for planting grasses, a District permit would be needed for further site development after restoration and if an annual report is not received, the permittee is in violation of the permit.

**Manager Lennes moved to authorize Administrator Shaver to issue the permit with the revised stipulations. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried, 6-0-1. Manager Dupre abstained.**

**c. Xcel Energy Project**

Xcel Energy is planning to install utility poles along Hwy 95 and requested the location of District pipes in the easement. Mr. Marshall stated that there were as-built record drawings, but the exact locations are probably not known. Mr. Fabian reported that EOR might have coordinate shots on some of the buried pipes, he will look at the plan for depth measures but thinks the relative locations will be changed since Hwy 95 was rebuilt. Mr. Fabian will get a copy of the Xcel plans and work with Administrator Shaver and Mr. Marshall to provide Xcel with any available information.

**d. Rydeen Farm Project Review**

Administrator Jim presented an overview of the project. The pasture adjacent to East Boot Lake will be closed out and the north lot will be abandoned. NCRS has approved the project, which is ready to go. Mr. Rydeen will maintain the clean water pipe. NCRS estimates the project improvements will eliminate 2.6 pounds/year of phosphorus and 65 pounds/year of biological oxygen dissolves from East Boot.

**7. Cost Share Program Update**

Ms. Carolan reported that the Detolo farm project that was approved last month was completed. Administrator Shaver stated that Pete Young (WCD) hopes have the site selected for a Discovery Farms Minnesota project to monitor loads off the farm. This could help with the St. Croix TMDL goals and show cause and effect.

**8. New Business**

**a. Review of Potential Monthly Financial Reporting Statements**

Administrator Jim presented sample Quickbook reports that were strongly suggested by the auditor and accountant to replace current reports and comply with the Board's fiduciary responsibility. He recommended replacing the first page of the Treasurer's Report with the Non-0 Account Balance Sheet, updating the fixed asset account, replacing the Bills to Approve with the Transaction Detail by Account report and providing Budget vs Actuals reports starting in April. The Managers agreed to move forward with the transition to Quickbook.

**b. 2012 WCD Service Agreement—Board Action**

**Manager Dupre moved to approve the service contract with WCD. Second by Manager Lennes. Motion carried 7-0.**

**c. Water Consortium "Shared Vision" Discussion**

Administrator Shaver reported that he and Manager Caldecott attended two visioning discussions to identify what the Consortium should focus on for the next three to five years.

**d. 2011 Engineering Review for February—Discussion**

Administrator Shaver reported that Cecilio Olivier (EOR) asked if he could schedule a performance review with some managers or the board. Manager Kronmiller suggested that he, a few managers and Administrator Shaver meet with Mr. Olivier and report back to the Board. Managers Lennes and Dupre volunteered. Administrator Shaver will schedule the meeting.

**9. Old/Other Business**

There was no old business.

**10. New Business**

Manager Husveth thanked the District for its well-written article featuring him in the winter newsletter. He and Administrator Shaver noted that the budget pie chart had inaccurate numbers. Updated budget information will be included in the spring newsletter. Administrator Husveth stated that he will be giving a presentation to WCD staff on rare plants of Washington County on January 25 at 8 a.m. at the WCD office and invited District Managers and staff to attend.

**11. Administrator's Report**

Administrator Shaver reported the following:

**a. Meeting with LGUs/Marine**

The City of Marine provided the District with a list of questions on the revisions to its Water Management Plan. The City of Scandia and Stillwater Township will get started on their plans.

**b. Regular Meetings**

If the location and date(s) of the regular meeting are changed, the by-laws will need to be revised, the public noticed and the rules updated on the website and when they are reprinted.

**Manager Tuenge moved to authorize Administrator Shaver to make arrangements to change the regular meeting date to the second Monday of the month, schedule a second regular meeting—subject to cancelation with notice—on the fourth Monday of the month and secure locations for the meetings, with the new schedule to beginning in April 2012. Second by Manager Dupre. Motion carried, 7-0.**

**c. Trout Restocking in Square Lake**

Andrea Plevan (EOR) has asked to make a presentation on a study on trout eating daphnia in lakes and the potential affects on water clarity. Following this, she would like to present a resolution supporting a three-year moratorium on stocking trout in Square Lake. If the Board chooses to endorse the resolution, a public meeting with the Square Lake Association and Department of Natural Resources is recommended.

**d. Arcola Mills**

St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Superintendent Chris Stein proposed to May Township the idea of using Arcola Mills as the National Park Service (NPS) visitor center. To make this feasible, other groups may need to rent space at Arcola, because the NPS has no funding. Administrator Shaver suggested moving the District office to Arcola. Manager Polasik stated that he has talked to Mr. Stein about the visitor center and feels this location will not service the NPS purpose to monitor and enforce boating activity and lacks parking and a sewer system. Federal funding is being sought to build a visitor center at the boom site where interpretive displays can be added. He stated that he could support Arcola as an interim center until the boom site is developed. Manager Caldecott stated that being associated with the high bridge could become political.

**e. Watershed District Handbook and Binder**

New handbook materials will be provided to all Managers and new binders are available, if needed.

**12. Next Meeting, Adjourn**

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, February 6, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at Scandia City Hall.

**Manager Tuenge moved to adjourn. Second by Manager Dupre. Motion carried 7-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Submitted by  
Debbie Meister, MMC Associates, LLP