

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

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

Managers Absent: Thomas Polasik.

Others Present: Jim Shaver (Administrator), Carl Almer (EOR), Ray Marshall (Legal), Amy Carolan (WCD), Stu Grubb (Grubb Environmental Services), Cindy Krumer (Sand Lake Association), Diane Rohan (Long Lake Association), Andy Erickson (U of MN), Dean Tharp (resident) and Debbie Meister (MMC).

Manager Kronmiller called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. Approve April Agenda—Board Action

Manager Caldecott moved to approve the April 9, 2012 agenda as amended. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Approve March 5 Minutes—Board Action

Manager Kronmiller moved approval of the March 9, 2012 minutes as presented. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Manager Tuenge presented the new format of the Treasurer's Report.

Manager Tuenge moved approval of the Treasurer's Report. Second by Manager Lennes. Motion carried 5-0.

Manager Tuenge moved approval of the April 9, 2012 bills to be paid in the amount of \$21,214.92. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Public Comments

Cindy Krumer and Diane Rohan introduced themselves and stated that they were attending to hear the sand-iron presentation and discussion.

5. Phosphorous (P) Sand Filter Presentation—Andrew Erickson of U of MN

Manager Kronmiller provided background on the Sand and Long lakes studies and the next steps of looking at the P sand filter and grant opportunities.

Mr. Erickson, a research fellow at the U of MN St. Anthony Fall Laboratory, provided an overview:

- Why care about dissolved pollutants? Urban runoff that can contain solids, nutrients, metals, chloride, hydrocarbons, bacterial/pathogens, etc, is more bioavailable when dissolved.

- Current treatment methods involve pollution prevention at the source, education and stormwater treatment using one or a combination of BMPs.
- New treatment technologies for dissolved pollutant removal include sorption, biodegradation (bacteria), phosphorus sorption with iron, sand filtration and enhanced sand.
- Sand iron field applications and results in Minnesota include the Maplewood Mall (installed in 2009), filter trenches with wet detention ponds in Prior Lake and a filter in a permeable weir installed by Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed Management Organization.

Manager Kronmiller asked about the potential application of enhanced sand for Sand and Long lakes. Mr. Erickson stated that enhanced sand at Sand Lake looks good because the site is accessible for maintenance and the filter area should dry out allowing required oxygenation. While he was not able to get to the Long Lake site, it seems like it could work. Ms. Krumer raised the concern that down the line property owners might be assessed for maintenance costs and is excited because Sand Lake is a good site. Ms. Rohan stated that she is surprised that enhanced sand is so simple and so successful. She also stated that the cost for they system should be shared, because the lake feeds other lakes.

6. Old/Other Business

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

Mr. Almer reviewed the water quality goals of the lakes and courses of action discussed in the report. Iron filtration was not recommended because of the fairly high capitol cost of the treatment and the cost of 30 years of operation and maintenance. The BMPs that were recommended take a moderate approach for both lakes. This was done because the trend of both lakes is toward water quality improvement. Manager Lennes praised the study, but stated that he cannot defend the recommendations. The estimated cost of the sand iron filter exceeds the goals by a lot and is about the same cost as all the other options, which accomplish almost nothing. Manager Kronmiller asked if all the phosphorous is removed but the weeds are still there, what have we achieved? Ms Rohan stated that there will not be a single solution. It might take a few options and the enhanced sand is a test that could help other lakes. It was agreed that Manager Lennes will edit the recommendations to indicate the options are possible solutions and the updated report will be presented at the workshop.

b. Revisions to Square Lake CWP and Letter of Support for Moratorium—Board Action

Manager Tuenge moved to submit the Square Lake Clean Water Partnership report and a letter requesting a fish stocking moratorium. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.

c. Revised Groundwater Monitoring Proposal from Stu Grubb

Mr. Grubb provided more background and context on the monitoring proposal submitted last month. In 2002-2003 EOR put together a North Washington County groundwater study that provided good baseline data. Another groundwater study, initiated by the DNR, will occur in July or August to measure seasonal differences in groundwater levels, particularly differences caused by increased groundwater pumping in the summer months. Participating in the study will allow the District to compare changes in groundwater elevation and flow over the last 10 years, help to provide a regional understanding of groundwater flow and provide more baseline data. Washington County is not certain of its involvement. The study will be discussed at the Water Consortium. While the DNR will monitor about 10 wells in the District, the District will need to cover the other about 30 wells. Administrator Shaver stated that while the study is not in the 2012 budget, it is in the plan. Manager Husveth stated while this is a unique opportunity, is it worth \$19,000? Manager Caldecott suggested that he and Administrator Shaver do a quick survey of area lake levels to get an indication of groundwater flow. If the lake levels are high, the study will not provide much information. But if the lakes are low, then he recommends doing the study.

Manager Kronmiller moved to approve \$19,000 for the groundwater monitoring study. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion failed 1-4.

It was agreed that Manager Caldecott and Administrator Shaver will look at lake levels and, based on the finding, the motion to fund the study could be reconsidered at the May workshop.

7. Permit Status Update, Permits/Violations

Mr. Almer presented three permit applications for new home construction.

Manager Dupre moved to approve permits 12-002, 12-003 and 12-004 and authorize the Administrator to issue the permits. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.

Administrator Shaver stated that he will circulate a copy of the letter he is sending to Mr. Gruber.

8. Project Status Update

Mr. Almer reported that he is responding to comments from the EPA on the draft Phase III TMDL Report. He met with the BMP Subcommittee to review the GIS Tool Phase I findings and receive input on the Phase II enhancements. The enhancements will be revised based on this input.

a. Goose Lake Review

Administrator Shaver reported that he met with both property owners to present the concept sketches. Based on input from the owners, he directed EOR to reduce the footprint of Option A. Administrator Shaver added the estimated cost of easement acquisition and agreed to talk with the Hinz about Option B, focusing on enhancements from the landscaping.

Manager Kronmiller moved to acknowledge receipt of the report and budget \$125,740 for the implementation of the Goose Lake Ravine project including holding a public hearing. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Cost Share Program Update

Ms. Carolan reported that a \$25,000 Lessard-Sams grant for buffers was received from the DNR. The District is required to provide a 10 percent match. The Cost Share Committee will work on the grant.

10. New Business

a. BWSR Grant Prioritization

Administrator Shaver reported that BWSR is holding a training session on April 30 in Arden Hills to cover grant program changes. He plans to attend and encouraged a Manager to attend. He invited Melissa Lewis to attend the Board's May workshop to answer questions about wetland buffers, plan prioritization, the grant process, the assessment tool, etc.

b. Auditor Engagement Letter

Manager Dupre moved to authorize signing the letter of engagement with Ahola, Mack and Associates, Ltd. for the 2011 audit. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

c. AIS Symposium

Manager Tuenge reported that she and Administrator Shaver attended the symposium. Based on recommendations from the symposium, she is recommending that the District establish a committee to draft an Integrated Pest Management Plan. Administrator Shaver suggested adding citizens to the committee. An IPM plan and committee will be added to the workshop agenda.

d. DNR AIS Inspection Grant Award

Administrator Shaver reported that the District received a grant for 600 hours of AIS inspections.

11. Administrator's Report

Administrator Shaver reported the following:

- a. He and Manager Dupre attended the Freshwater Society's Precision Conservation Conference that validated the District's work on doing on the Assessment Tool.
- b. Metro MAWD will be held on April 17 at CRWD.
- c. He and Manager Tuenge plan to attend the Protecting the St. Croix River Basin Protection Conference on April 24.

12. Next Meeting, Adjourn

The next board meeting is Monday, May 14, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. on the second floor

of Marine on St. Croix City Hall.

**Manager Husveth moved to adjourn. Second by Manager Dupre.
Motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.**

Submitted by

Debbie Meister, MMC Associates, LLP