

**Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District  
Regular Meeting May 14, 2012**

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

**Managers Absent:** John Lennes.

**Others Present:** Jim Shaver (Administrator), Carl Almer (EOR), Ray Marshall (Legal), Melissa Lewis (BWSR), Amy Carolan (WCD), Jessica Collin-Pilarski (Washington County), Stu Grubb (Environmental Services) and Debbie Meister (MMC).

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

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

**Manager Caldecott moved to approve the May 14, 2012 agenda as presented. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 4-0.**

**2. Approve April 9 Minutes—Board Action**

**Manager Tuenge moved approval of the April 9, 2012 minutes as presented. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 4-0.**

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

Manager Tuenge presented the Treasurer's Report.

**Manager Caldecott moved approval of the Treasurer's Report. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Manager Tuenge moved approval of the April 10 - May 7, 2012 bills to be paid in the amount of \$57,167.25. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 5-0.**

Administrator Shaver clarified that in the Budget vs Actual Report there is a lag time for grants and tax levy revenues received and the engineering expenses are normal.

**4. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

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

Mr. Almer reported that there are no action items and he has provided coordination of and preliminary comments on small permits. Manager Shaver reported that today he received a revised engineering plan from Mr. Gruber (Big Carnelian Lake) on his plans to finish grading. The plan looks to be incomplete. The building inspector from Marine red tagged a project draining a sump-pump into a spring that is causing erosion along the St. Croix River. Comments to Scandia on the Tiller Mining Environmental Impact Statement are due by Friday. Administrator Shaver will provide draft comments to the Board before submitting the final comments. Manager Tuenge noted that Tiller Mining is being investigated because a berm failed at its

fracking sand mine operation.

## 6. Project Status Update

### a. General Updates

Mr. Almer reported that he attempted to address and incorporate a majority of Manager Lennes' comments on the Sand and Long Lakes Report. A trigger for watershed BMPs is still being drafted and is potentially a policy matter, rather than a technical issue. There has not been outreach to landowners about larger scale projects. Manager Kronmiller suggested beginning conversations with landowners about projects and triggers and asking for their input. He also suggested moving forward on Sand Lake, while continuing to monitor Long Lake. Administrator Shaver reported that Sand Lake residents would like to review and comment on the report prior to board approval.

Mr. Almer reported that he is developing criteria for evaluating suspension of trout stocking, developing a monitoring plan and investigating funding sources for monitoring. Having the University provide monitoring analysis is the most cost-effective option.

Administrator Shaver stated that the Phase III TMDL is out for public comment. He and Jay Riggs will meet in June to start on an implementation plan.

### b. Goose Lake Review

Mr. Almer reported that based on soil boring data, infiltration is not feasible. Dan Fabian, Kevin Biehn and Administrator Shaver had an on-site meeting with Mr. Dant to review a slightly smaller pond design. Next steps are to refine the plan based on city input, hold a public hearing, revise the plan based on public input, secure easements and go out for bid.

## 7. Cost Share Program Update

### a. Assessment Tool Refinement Costs—Board Action

Administrator Shaver reported that the BMP Subcommittee reviewed the next phase scope of work and was supportive, but felt it should be forwarded to the board for approval. The cost is based on a preliminary estimate of culverts to be surveyed. **Manager Husveth moved to approve the scope of work for the Resource Sensitivity and Pollutant Load Model 2012 enhancements as proposed not to exceed \$34,200. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.**

## 8. New Business

### a. BWSR Grant Program Changes-Plan Prioritization—Melissa Lewis

Ms. Lewis outlined the new grant program process to better document and back up requests to the legislature. For priority consideration of projects through the Clean Water Fund, BWSR is requiring local governments to complete a Biennial Budget Request spreadsheet. BWSR will compile the project requests and present them to the legislature. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis. BWSR will provide grants for spontaneous projects through General Funds.

Administrator Shaver noted that Jay Riggs is scheduling a meeting to try to coordinate requests.

**b. Invasive Species Committee—Board Action**

Based on recommendations of the presenters at the AIS Symposium, Manager Tuenge proposed forming an Invasive Species Committee. Ideas for the committee included developing an integrated pest management plan, talking with Minnehaha Creek Watershed District's invasive species manager, including representatives from Big Marine, Big Carnelian and Square lakes and working with the DNR. Manager Husveth stated that curly leaf pondweed is a problem in Big Marine Lake. Manager Tuenge moved and then withdrew a motion to approve the formation of a committee to draft an invasive species plan.

**Manager Tuenge then moved to approve convening a committee composed of a small group of members of the District board and of the community, to look into being proactive about invasive species. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 6-0.**

Manager Tuenge volunteered to chair the committee and Manager Caldecott volunteered to serve.

**9. Old/Other Business**

**a. Revised Groundwater Monitoring Proposal from Stu Grubb (from 3/5)**

Administrator Shaver stated that Mr. Grubb is here to provide updated information on the groundwater monitoring and Ms. Collin-Pilarski is representing the County and its commitment to the monitoring project. He and Manager Caldecott investigated water levels and felt the investigation reinforced the significant difference in water levels throughout the District. Collecting a second data set would perhaps allow the District to map those areas that are more susceptible to infiltration and to help define the types of lakes in the District related to groundwater. Mr. Grubb stated that the monitoring provides an opportunity to obtain a synoptic view of North Washington County, measure seasonal differences in groundwater levels, particularly differences caused by increased pumping in the summer months and map areas of change. These studies have been used to site underground storage tanks, determine need for flood insurance and suitability of building permits and to understand groundwater resources. Brown's Creek Watershed District is moving forward with the monitoring to investigate the impact of groundwater on Brown's Creek and on the TMDL. Washington County is providing \$3,000 toward this monitoring, would like to have a county-wide survey and is willing to provide \$2,200 to CMSCWD for monitoring.

Board discussion included: the orphan area was not included in the 2002 study, it seems a second set of data points will reaffirm what we already know, in March the Board voted to not fund the study, Washington County is responsible for groundwater plans that local governments should adopt to protect the resource, the County's current plan is policy—not implementation and bids from other

contractors are needed. Questions raised included: if the District does not collect this data will the County, how will the data be used, is this monitoring in the District implementation plan and budget? **Manager Dupre moved to direct the Administrator to prepare a memo for the June meeting on how this data will be used, where the monitoring collection is in the District Implementation Plan and where funds are available in the budget. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 6-0.**

**b. Policies—Board Action**

Manager Kronmiller reported that the Personnel and Policies Committee has reviewed these documents. The Employee Handbook needs review on several issues and is not ready for approval.

**Manager Polasik moved to approve the Internal Controls Manual, the Records Retention Schedule and the Investment Policies and Procedures and the corresponding resolutions 12-01, 12-02 and 12-03. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.**

**10. Administrator's Report**

Administrator Shaver reported the following:

- a. He and Managers Tuenge and Dupre attended the St. Croix River Conference.
- b. He will provide more information about the Metro MAWD meeting.
- c. Water levels. Blockages at the cattle crossing on Kelly Farm are being dealt with. Administrator Shaver will contract for beaver dam and beaver removal upstream between Little and Big Carnelian lakes. Water is flowing intermittently out of Big Marine weir and the level on the upstream side is five inches down. Two stop logs were removed. Down stream, the water level is down 2 ¾ inches. WCD inspected the wetlands downstream from the Big Marine weir for blockages and found none. There are vegetation changes in this wetland, but no blockages. Administrator Shaver will talk with the DNR about the vegetation and water quality of the upper wetland and the management of the Turtle Lake weir.

Managers noted the following: 1) sediment runoff from mining operations along Hwy 11 is affecting Carnelian Creek 2) a buffer is needed in Otisville along the wetland in the orphan area in Scandia 3) there is erosion on freshly tilled soil on the south side of West Boot Lake where there is potentially a need for a buffer on Gary Rydeen's farm and 4) there are plans to move forward with a project on 197<sup>th</sup> St.

**11. Next Meeting, Adjourn**

The next board meeting is Monday, June 11, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall in Marine. **Manager Polasik moved to adjourn. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by  
Debbie Meister, MMC Associates, LLP