

**Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District
Regular Meeting August 11, 2011**

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

Managers Absent: John Lennes.

Others Present: Jim Shaver (Administrator), Dan Fabian (EOR), Ray Marshall (Legal), Pete Young (WCD), John Bower and Jed Chesnut (residents) and Debbie Meister (MMC).

Manager Kronmiller called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

1. Approve August Agenda—Board Action

Manager Caldecott moved to approve the August 11, 2011 agenda as amended. Second by Manager Dupre. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Approve July 11 Minutes—Board Action

Manager Dupre moved approval of the July 11, 2011 minutes as amended. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.

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

a. Tilley Return of Surety, Tharp BMP Reimbursement

Administrator Shaver noted that the Tilley surety and Dean Tharp BMP reimbursements are included in the bills to be paid and, based on the Board's request, he and Mr. Marshall are reviewing easements. In response to a question about merging the surety account with the general account, Mr. Marshall recommended keeping the accounts separate because of possible future surety expenses.

Manager Polasik moved approval of the August 11, 2011 Treasurer's Report. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.

Manager Polasik moved approval of the bills to be paid in the amount of 48,749.51. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Public Comments

John Bower stated that a property owner of a small pie-shaped piece of land on Twin Lake has posted a "No Trespassing" sign. The District owns an easement, donated by the Johnsons, for most of the land and about one-third of the lake. Administrator Shaver will contact the owner to let him know the District owns most of the land and might be accessing it for maintenance, monitoring, etc. In response to Mr. Bower's question about the water level at the Turtle Lake weir, Administrator Shaver stated that he recently reviewed the management agreement with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff and levels are being managed according to the agreement. Mr. Bower submitted photos of the Big Carnelian Lake boat launch. It is in poor repair with dead trees, exotic species, oak wilt and a degraded driveway. He suggested a joint cost-share project with the DNR that could improve

the site, add signage and provide public education. Manager Polasik volunteered to contact the DNR.

Manager Dupre moved to temporarily suspend the Regular Meeting. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Public Meeting—Budget 2012

Manager Kronmiller summarized budget comments sent by Bill Voedisch, May Township Mayor. Administrator Shaver will send a letter thanking Mr. Voedisch for the input.

a. Manager Tuenge moved to approve the Budget Meeting agenda. Second by Manager Dupre. Motion carried 5-0.

b. Review of Budget Proposal

Administrator Shaver summarized the draft budget. He suggested renaming the Reserved Balance the Plan Implementation Fund and will draft a resolution for approval at next month's meeting. He thanked Manager Kromiller for drafting a budget that lowers the levy by seven percent and the overall budget by four percent. He stated that the only plan in the 2012 budget is the TMDL Implementation Plan that is funded by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Resident Cost Share of \$70,000 reflects the potential for projects on the 10 impaired lakes, LGU Cost Share of \$142,000 anticipates a BSWR Ravine Restoration grant and a decrease in permitting—which is now under Plans and Projects—reflects a drop in building projects. Administrator Shaver will be meeting with the WCD to review the water quality monitoring line item.

c. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

d. Board Comment

Administrator Caldecott asked if this budget is more in line with other watershed districts. Manager Kronmiller responded that CMSCWD is still the only district that reports all administrator expenses under general expenses, but the County is aware of this. Manager Dupre suggested, and Managers agreed, keeping the public comment period open until September 1. Manager Polaski suggested changing Local Government Unit Partnership Cost Share to Public Agencies to be more inclusive of all levels of government. Administrator Shaver will investigate name changes that include agencies, as well as, multi-property owners and non-profits and will draft a resolution for next month. Mr. Marshall clarified that state statute allows for a Planned Implementation Fund, which can be set up with a resolution transferring funds from the Reserved Balance. Managers praised the shift toward more projects and programs and the simplified spreadsheet.

e. Adjourn

Manager Tuenge moved to adjourn the Budget Meeting. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.

Manager Kronmiller reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:31 p.m.

6. Permit Status Update, Permits / Violations

a. Permit # 10-002 Tilley Surety

Administrator Shaver clarified that the Tilley property has a scenic easement and is in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, which is managed by the National Park Service. Administrator Shaver removed the District buffer requirement to agree with the more restrictive Federal requirement not to alter the shoreline and to avoid confusion between the two requirements. **Manager Tuenge moved to return the Tilley surety. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 5-0.**

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

Mr. Fabian reported that on July 11 Mr. Arndt sent a letter stating that he hired an engineer and plans would be sent. Because the plans have not been received, it was agreed that Administrator Shaver would contact Mr. Arndt. If necessary, he will have Mr. Marshall follow up.

c. Permit #16-008 Havir New Home

Administrator Shaver reported that the new owner of the previously foreclosed property says he was not aware of the District permit. Although Pete Young of the WCD provided him with a copy of the County and District permits and a letter from the WCD summarizing how to comply with the permits, the property owner ignored the stormwater and erosion requirements and sodded the lawn. Dennis O'Donnell of Washington County is looking to the District to enforce the permits. Mr. Marshall advised the District that this is a permit violation. **Manager Polasik moved to authorize the administrator and legal counsel to work with the new property owner to comply with the old permit or apply for an after-the-fact permit. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Fabian suggested establishing a process for transferring a permit when a property sells.

d. Christ Lutheran Parking Lot

Administrator Shaver reported that he and Carl Almer met with church representatives about soil boring results. He reported some confusion as to who is responsible for the ultimate design of the parking lot. Mr. Almer also presented some design ideas.

e. Gruber Property

Administrator Shaver reported that he met with Mr. Gruber's engineer one or two months ago and asked for drawings. A maintenance agreement between Mr. Gruber and his neighbor to the south will be needed.

7. Project status Update

a. Sand & Long Lakes Clean Water Partnership

Mr. Fabian reported that the second stakeholder meeting will probably be held in early September.

b. Mayberry Trail Erosion

Administrator Shaver reported that a Mayberry Trail resident called about severe erosion on the road and along a ravine outletting to an unnamed pond. The City of Scandia's engineer designed an erosion control plan using an 80-foot concrete pipe and riprap. Pete Young and Carl Almer will review the plan for water quality opportunities through the District Cost Share Program.

c. Big Marine Lake Farmer Property

Manager Kronmiller reported that there appears to be an open strip on the farm property on the north landing. He and Administrator Shaver will visit the site and Amy Carolan will contact the owner about possible cost share projects.

d. Goose Lake

Administrator Shaver reported that the City of Scandia contacted him about a dairy farm feedlot issue north of the Goose Lake landing. Administrator Shaver will draft a cost share project including water quality improvements for the feedlot.

e. Ravine Restoration Grant Application

The grant deadline is September 20 and requires a 25 percent match. **Manager Tuenge moved to authorize Administrator Shaver and Carl Almer to apply for a BWSR grant to restore ravines along the St. Croix River. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 5-0.**

8. Cost Share Program

a. New Application

There was no report.

b. Goose Lake Ravine

Jed Chesnut, a resident on the eastside of Goose Lake, contacted the District about a raingarden BMP last year and a severely eroding ravine running through his property this year. Last month the Board directed staff to look at other water quality opportunities to correct the erosion problems. Pete Young presented two options: a 24-inch HDPE pipe or rock checks. Both options would outlet to a vegetated drainage ditch. The estimated cost for the pipe is \$55,000 and the checks is \$28,000. Mr. Chesnut stated that he reviewed both proposals and could accept either one. Overall, he thinks the checks would be more aesthetically pleasing, but is concerned about the maintenance. He stated that the adjacent property owner is open to giving an easement, if needed. Discussion included using a combination of piping and rock checks, using an 18-inch pipe with an apron to fit the 24-inch culvert, making the restoration as natural as possible such as using a series of plunge pools. Next steps: Administrator Shaver will organize a meeting with Mr. Chesnut and the City of Scandia, followed by a neighborhood meeting. Mr. Young will revise the project options for presentation to the BMP Subcommittee, the City and neighborhoods.

c. Rydeen Farm

Administrator Shaver reported that the Natural Resources Conservation Service informed him that Mr. Rydeen is going out for bid on the feedlot project, with a less expensive project designed by Pete Young.

9. New Business

There was no new business.

10. Old/Other Business-

There was no old/other business.

11. Administrator's Report

Administrator Shaver reported:

- Water levels at the Big Marine Lake outlet are about two-three inches over the outlet and water is barely flowing south. Roger Rydeen is removing vegetation along the channel and should finish up tomorrow. This will, hopefully, lower water levels. If necessary, stop logs will be added at the Turtle Lake weir.
- Based on a comparison of CD rates at various banks, Administrator Shaver recommended renewing the CD at Marine Bank.

Manager Caldecott moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Second by Manager Tuenges. Motion carried 6-0.

11. Annual Meeting—Selection of Officers

Manager Kronmiller opened the Annual Meeting.

a. Approve Agenda

Manager Dupre moved to approve the Annual Meeting agenda. Second by Manager Caldecott. Motion carried 6-0.

b. Nominating Committee Report—Election of Officers

Manager Kronmiller moved to nominate the current slate of officers: Steve Kronmiller, President and Kristen Tuenge, Secretary/Treasurer. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 6-0.

Manager Caldecott praised Manager Kronmiller as an outstanding president.

12. Next Meeting, Adjourn

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, September 12, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at Scandia City Hall.

Manager Polasik moved to adjourn. Second by Manager Dupre. Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Submitted by
Debbie Meister, MMC Associates, LLP