



**Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
March 7, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of March 7, 2018, was held at the District Office Board Room, 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada, Minnesota, at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Marj Ebensteiner, President
Dr. Pam Skinner, Secretary
Dianne Ward, Treasurer
Lawrence Swope, Manager

ABSENT:

Cliff Aichinger, Vice President

ALSO PRESENT:

Tina Carstens, District Administrator
Amanda Staple, Recording Secretary
Nicole Soderholm, Permit Inspector
Dave Vlasin, Water Quality Technician
Bruce Copley, Crestview Resident

Paige Ahlborg, Project Manager
Brad Lindaman, Barr Engineering
Bill Bartodziej, Natural Resource Specialist
Viet-Hanh Winchell, Attorney for District
Carol Stadler, Snail Lake Resident

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ebensteiner at 6:30 p.m.

2. NEW BOARD MEMBER WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

President Ebensteiner introduced the new Board Member, Lawrence Swope. Lawrence noted that he is pleased to be a part of the Board. Viet-Hahn Winchell administered the oath of office to all the Managers.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Dr. Pam Skinner moved, Lawrence Swope seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0. (Cliff Aichinger absent)

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2018

Motion: Dr. Pam Skinner moved, Lawrence Swope seconded, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0. (Cliff Aichinger absent)

5. TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL LIST

Motion: Dr. Pam Skinner moved, Dianne Ward seconded, to approve the March 7, 2018, bill list as submitted. Motion carried 4-0. (Cliff Aichinger absent)

6. VISITOR PRESENTATIONS

Bruce Copley, Crestview resident, stated that he read the minutes from the last meeting regarding the possibility of purchasing a few of the homes in the low-lying area as a possible solution. He stated that there are more homes in the Crestview addition that are impacted and provided a map which identifies the impacted homes, noting that 20 to 30 homes could be impacted. He did not think that purchasing a few homes would be the solution for this problem. He referenced the calculations that are being used by Barr Engineering for the modeling in the possible Grass/Snail lake solutions. He noted that in the 2011-2017 time period we have had four events that experienced over nine inches of rain. He stated that the comparisons being reviewed are long draw down options and if the pattern from 2017 continues, those options would not be feasible solutions. He noted that there are steadily increasing West Vadnais levels, which has the potential to shut down Rice Street, and therefore could bring forward a cost-share option with the Department of Transportation. He stated that the new culvert under the path is lower than the previous culvert, which makes it the lowest outlet from West Vadnais the culvert into Grass Lake, which could have an impact on the groundwater.

Carol Sadler introduced herself noting that she is present in representation of the Snail Lake Improvement District Board.

7. PERMIT PROGRAM

A. Applications

Permit #18-05: 3M North Parking Lot/11th Street – Maplewood

Motion: Dianne Ward moved, Lawrence Swope seconded, to approve Permit #18-05. Motion carried 4-0. (Cliff Aichinger absent)

B. Monthly Enforcement Report

During February zero notices were sent.

8. STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

A. Applications

Permit #18-02 BMP: Caulfield – Rain Garden

Paige Alborg noted that this project is on the same street as the Master Water Steward projects that were previously completed.

Motion: Lawrence Swope moved, Dianne Ward seconded, to approve Permit #18-02 BMP. Motion carried 4-0. (Cliff Aichinger absent)

B. Budget Status Update

Paige Ahlborg stated that the program is slow moving at this time of year and staff has been focused on outreach and attempting to build additional contacts and interest in the program. She reported that residents are interested in the maintenance and there is more interest being generated from the outreach.

9. ACTION ITEMS

None.

10. PROJECT AND PROGRAM STATUS REPORTS

A. West Vadnais to East Vadnais Drainage Feasibility Study

Brad Lindaman stated that a copy of the memorandum on the most recent study was provided to the Board that addresses the option of moving water between West Vadnais to East Vadnais.

He stated that the goals of this study are to look at options to lower the flood level in Grass Lake and reduce the draw down time in Grass Lake. He reviewed items that must be considered in order to meet those goals, noting that in order to move additional water from West Vadnais more quickly, they could consider discharging to East

Vadnais. He reviewed some of the considerations which include comparing existing conditions, how the discharge will occur, how much water will need to be discharged, what water quality conditions would need to be met before discharge and the permitting concerns. He provided data on the existing lake level conditions and how the levels compare between West Vadnais and East Vadnais. He stated that ideally gravity discharge would be preferred, but noted that because of many factors, the more feasible option for discharging would be pumping. He reviewed the Vadnais Lake pumping evaluation (model estimated Grass Lake draw down) and then compared that to the West Vadnais Lake to East Vadnais Lake pumping evaluation (model estimated West Vadnais Lake drawn down). He stated that if this pumping model were going to be used, he would estimate using a 20 to 40 CFS pump and the pumping times would need to be further fine-tuned.

Brad confirmed that all of the options considered as part of the Snail Lake/Grass Lake Optimization Study will be compared for the Board at the May meeting. This will include the emergency response plan option and the value of the homes impacted for consideration. He stated that the challenge in the next few months will be to continue to bring these options to the Board to digest and review. He noted that a comparison will then be done in May so that the Board can review the full choice of options, aware of the costs that would be associated.

B. Owasso Basin Improvements

Brad stated that after the Atlas 14 information was gained and the modeling was completed, one of the areas that stood out the most was the Owasso Basin area. He provided details on the location of this area and provided background information on Owasso Basin, which was constructed in 1990 to alleviate floods in the Phalen Chain. He explained that Atlas 14 modeling worked to reveal that Owasso Basin and its surrounding areas are the most impacted and provided additional details on flooding concerns. He provided data on Owasso Basin surface water elevations during different level storm events. He stated that part of this study reviewed moving the water out of this system further downstream, but noted that may cause flooding concerns. He noted that Gervais Lake has four homes with emergency management plans for flooding concerns and advised that there are additional flooding concerns downstream. Discussion was held on the potential to divert some flow away from Owasso Basin and the amount of land area needed to expand the basin and provide the flood storage necessary to alleviate the flooding concerns.

C. Ongoing Project and Program Updates

- i. Beltline Resiliency Study
- ii. Snail Lake/Grass Lake Study
- iii. West Vadnais Lake Outlet
- iv. Wakefield Park Project
- v. BMP Design Assistance
- vi. Owasso Basin Improvements
- vii. Beltline/Battle Creek Tunnel

Brad Lindaman referenced the change order which was previously approved to extend the time of the contract. He noted that the contractor is working hard to meet the timelines, but may exceed that deadline. He explained that there is a cost to the District, outside of the contract, as there is additional staff and equipment on site, for a total of \$1,500 to \$2,000 per day. Tina Carstens stated that in the past the additional time was granted because of additional work that was added to the project. She noted that if the timeline was exceeded again, the District would provide another analysis to make another determination if an extension is warranted. Manager Ward stated that the deadline would come up on March 15th while the Board does not meet again until April. Brad noted that the contractor would continue to finish the work. He explained that it is common practice for a change order to be considered after the fact, especially for this type of issue. He explained that if the contractor exceeds the deadline, staff would present the information to the Board in April and the Board would then make the determination whether to extend the contract deadline or whether the contractor exceeded the deadline of their own fault and penalty.

- viii. Frost/Kennard Project

ix. CIP Maintenance/Repairs 2018

x. Willow Pond CMAC

xi. Natural Resources Program

Bill Bartodziej provided additional information on recognition that he has received for his work on shallow lakes.

xii. Education Program

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Meetings Attended

No comments.

B. Upcoming Meetings and Dates

No comments.

C. Website Update

Tina Carstens reported that the new website has gone live and encouraged the Managers to take an opportunity to explore the new site. Manager Skinner stated that she is still spending time navigating and trying to find certain elements, but is enjoying the different features. Tina provided information on how to find the interactive maps. She stated that if Managers are having problems finding features, she welcomes calls and can help navigate to the desired features.

D. Watershed-Based Clean Water Funding

Tina Carstens noted that information was provided for the Clean Water Fund money that is going through BWSR in this pilot program that distributes the funds countywide. She stated that she has attended meetings in both Ramsey and Washington counties on this topic, noting that municipalities are also eligible entities. She noted there is still a competitive grant program that the District can continue to apply for. She confirmed that the District has projects identified that staff can submit applications for.

12. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

No comments.

13. REPORTS OF MANAGERS

No comments.

14. ADJOURN

Motion: Dr. Pam Skinner moved, Dianne Ward seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. Motion carried 4-0. (Cliff Aichinger absent)

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Pam Skinner, Secretary

Formatted: Font: Calibri, 11 pt