CARNELIAN-MARINE-T. CROIX WATERSHED DISTRICT
Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes May 19, 2020

Members Attending by Remote Attendance (Zoom and/or Telephone): Steve Dibb, Pam Arnold, Jim Schoeller, John Bower, Scott Alexander

Others Attending by Remote Attendance: Wade Johnson (CMSCWD President), Mike Isensee (Administrator), Bobbie Law (CMSCWD Admin. Assistant), Barb Bickford (Meeting Facilitator – Bickford Collaboration)

Meeting begins at 6:37 p.m.

1) Introductions
CMSCWD Board President Johnson introduced himself, welcomed and thanked CAC members. Barb Bickford led the group through an introduction activity.

Getting to know one another – The CAC members were given two questions: What big challenge do you bring to the CAC? What do you hope to give to the people of the watershed? Barb Bickford led the group through a series of breakout sessions. During these members talk in smaller groups of 2-3 members and voiced their ideas. The group came together and input the main points from the conversations into the chat box.

Answers from the chat include:
Scott Alexander: One challenge I bring is to think about groundwater driven water resources.
Mike Isensee: Coordinating, prioritizing, and addressing issues in the District through transparent and responsive governance.
Pamela Arnold: Scandia faces the beginning of the next comp plan; I have already heard conversations from residents re. Their development plans. I am concerned about the ability of the city and the Watershed to enforce good stewardship practices as part of the permitting process
Steven Dibb: To hear the concerns of the folks in the watershed and actively engaging in addressing their concerns
Pamela Arnold: I hope to be an ambassador if not an advocate for understanding and value for impact.

2) Roles
CMSCWD Organization – Administrator Isensee gave a summary of the District organizational flow chart.

Roles - Administrator Isensee reviewed the roles of the board of managers, staff, and CAC. Board Managers make decisions based on priorities in the Watershed Management Plan and are the Approving body for expenditures, contracts, grants, agreements. Staff roles include, public communications and education, permitting program including inspections and enforcement, capital projects, technical assistance and cost share, and operations and maintenance. The role of the CAC is to support the mission and the goals of the District, raise issues of concern from the
public and serve as a liaison for our area. The CAC will also assist in review and development of educational events/materials.

Goals - Administrator Isensee also provided goals for the CAC in the 1st year. The goals are to learn about the District and some of the projects that are currently ongoing, gather input for the management plan update and provide stakeholder input and provide recommendations to the board.

Engagement Scale – CAC members reviewed the IAP2 Engagement scale. A pole was conducted to determine where the CAC believes they should be on this scale. There was one vote for inform, two votes for involve, and two votes for collaborate.

3) Overview of the Watershed District
Administrator Isensee gave an overview of the Watershed District. The overview included details on the size of the Carnelian Marine St. Croix Watershed District, the number of lakes, streams, and miles of the St. Croix River it encompasses, the Districts ten year management plan update, flood control, water quality, and other District programs. Administrator Isensee displays the watershed management plan update sheet. This document depicts common questions stakeholders might have about the plan update. Isensee requested members voice their questions, comments, or concerns regarding this document.

Chat:
Steven Dibb: No questions on the sheet - all understandable -
Pamela Arnold: I would love to know the history of previous management plans and their impacts as well as the commutative impacts. How successful have the plans been in their execution?
Steven Dibb: Good point, Pam; What are the actualized accomplishments over the past 8 plus years?

4) CAC 1st Task Introduced
Gathering input – Barb Bickford leads the group through an activity on gathering input from the public. Staff step away and leave the conversation to the CAC. The questions given to the CAC are: Who would you talk with? Where would you go? When would you go? What might you do?

Answers from the chat include:
Jim, Pam, Wade: homeowners associations, other boards,
Scott, Steve, John: Lake associations, Facebook pages, passive - print materials

5) Next Meeting Date
The Citizens Advisory Committee Members were given two choices for a date and voiced their opinions on date of the next meeting vocally or by using the chat box.

6) Adjourn
Meeting Adjourned at 8:12
Submitted by: Administrator Mikael Isensee