

CARNELIAN-MARINE-ST. CROIX WATERSHED DISTRICT
Regular Meeting Minutes November 11, 2015

Managers Present: Dave DeVault, Kristin Tuenge, Wade Johnson, Andy Weaver, Joel Stedman and Eric Lindberg

Managers Absent: Tom Polasik

Others Present: Jim Shaver (administrator), Susannah Torseth (Lawson Law), Carl Almer (EOR), Jed Chesnut (WCD) Jeff Dahlberg, Rich Burton and Mike Blehert (Big Marine Lake Association), Mike White (resident) and Debbie Meister (MMC)

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

1) Approve Agenda

Manager Tuenge moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Manager Stedman. Motion carried 6-0.

2) Minutes from October 14

Manager Weaver moved to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Manager Stedman. Motion carried 6-0.

3) Treasurer's Report

Manager Johnson presented the Treasurer's Report.

Manager Stedman moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

a) Reserve /Cash Flow

Administrator Shaver provided an overview of the projected 2015 reserve. He reported that on the balance sheet the accountant added accounts 2910: unreserved-designated for future plan implementation and 2950: unreserved-undesignated fund. Each is 40% of next year's budget. The reserve is calculated by subtracting the 40% of next year's budget figure from the expected end-of-year cash flow figure. The auditor will provide the end-of-year cash flow figures for each of the two accounts. The projected reserve will be reported every quarter.

4) Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5) Project Updates and Work Plan Update

a) 197th Street- Wetlands Planting/Management Plan

Administrator Shaver reported that the preconstruction meeting was held and construction should be starting next week. Amy Husveth, who was unavailable this evening, will attend a future Board meeting to discuss the wetland planting plan.

b) Marine Stormwater and Ravine

Mr. Almer reported that he is in the process of prioritizing the rain gardens and survey work on the sand-iron filter site has been completed. The next steps are to meet with Public Works staff to get an OK on the rain garden sites and meet with residents interested in having a rain garden to get final commitments. Administrator Shaver reported he and Mr. Almer met with the Stormwater Committee, where they discussed a Pine Cone Trail ravine project. To participate in a project, the city will need some grant money. Manager Stedman agreed to discuss the ravine project with the main property owner. A meeting with the Pine Cone Trail Association will be scheduled in April. Plans are to submit a grant request to BWSR in August.

c) Sand/Long Implementation

Administrator Shaver reported that there is machinery on site and construction is scheduled to start on Monday. The project should be completed in a few weeks. EOR staff will be on site everyday. Interested managers can stop by or arrange for a presentation/tour. A sign will be posted stating: Another water quality project from the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District.

d) Goose Lake Implementation

Mr. Chesnut reported that the project area has been surveyed. Design work will be started shortly and plans are to go out for bid in March.

e) Willowbrook Stream Study and Implementation

Administrator Shaver reported that there is no change in the project status. Neighbors know the next steps are in their court and the District, not the Minnesota Department of Transportation, will be coordinating the project.

f) 133rd St./ Panorama Capstone

Administrator Shaver reported that the *Country Messenger* featured this project in a front-page article and will post an expanded version on-line. The District would like May Township to partner in a capital improvement and a cost-share project.

6. New Business

a) Permits

Mr. Almer reported that the permits are all buttoned up and are current. He is waiting for applicant comments on a couple of permits to be issued, is in contact with permittees with erosion issues and will conduct year-end inspections on sites that have had erosion issues. Administrator Shaver reported that he received a restoration plan from Todd Erickson for the White property and will review it. Mr. White seeded the site, put down straw and put up a silt fence shortly after the District asked him to. The District is still holding the Millbrook Development line of credit. The developer never asked to finalize this. Because more of the acreage is in the Brown's Creek Watershed District, Administrator Shaver suggested deferring to BCWD on the release.

Manager De Vault moved to release the line of credit to Mr. Lennar of the Millbrook Development, based on approval of the Brown's Creek Watershed District. Seconded by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

b) WCD Services Contract

Manager Tuenge suggested amending the contract to include the monitoring and reporting schedule. It was agreed that this would be attached to the contract as Exhibit C and presented to the Board in December.

c) MAWD Resolutions and Delegates

Administrator Shaver reported that he and four managers will be attending the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Annual Meeting and Conference. He provided a summary of proposed resolutions and stated that two managers can be appointed to represent the District at the meeting.

d) Cost Share Reimbursement

Mr. Chesnut reported that two cost share projects converting turf to prairie have been completed and inspected.

Manager Tuenge moved to reimburse Paul Keller \$1,860 and Elaine Larson \$774 for their cost-share projects. Seconded by Manager Johnson. Motion carried 6-0.

7) Old Business

a) Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) Grant Update

Mike Blehert, on behalf of the Big Marine Lake Association (BMLA), provided an update on herbicide treatments for EWM and surveys in Big Marine Lake. In 2014, the BMLA treated about 39 areas for EWM. In 2015, 19 acres were treated using an aggressive, same-day multiple treatment approach. According to consultant Steve McComas, this resulted in excellent seasonal control. Resprouting in late summer occurred. Some heavy EWM growth is likely in 2016, but areas to be treated in 2016 will likely be less than acres treated in 2015. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) surveyed the lake in August and found great plant diversity (25 native species) and determined EWM is not displacing the native species. The BMLA will continue discussions with the DNR on using an innovative mix of two approved herbicides to treat EWM next year.

Mr. Dahlberg reported that Mr. McComas has not found zebra mussels in the lake. The BMLA distributed a fact sheet to lakeshore residents asking them to check docks and boat lifts for zebra mussels. The association installed five mussel traps around the lake and none was found this fall. The DNR requires permits and insurance to treat for zebra mussels. In March 2015, Mr. McComas took 32 sediment samples to identify areas in the lake likely to support aquatic invasive species (AIS) including zebra mussels, EWM and curly-leaf pondweed. The final report should be completed in December.

Manager Weaver stated that boaters using the public landings should be asked to contribute for AIS inspections and treatments. Mr. Dahlberg stated that the association will be asking lake users to contribute to the association. This will have to suffice until the DNR decides to register boats for a specific lake. Mr. Blehert suggested that the District set aside \$20,000 for a rapid response treatment if zebra mussels are found in Big Marine Lake.

b) Shared Services with BCWD and CLFLWD

i) Board Development/Roles and Responsibilities

Administrator Shaver asked the Managers what issues they would like to address in a joint workshop with the watershed districts.

ii) Education – Watershed Wisdom Expanded through Warner

Administrator Shaver reported that he and Administrators Kill and Kinney met with Warner Nature Center (WNC) staff about expanding Watershed Wisdom to include 11 area schools and a partnership with WNC. WNC will provide a budget and attend the joint watershed districts meeting on February 2 to discuss this further.

iii) AIS Inspections

Administrator Shaver reported that he talked with Administrator Kinney about increasing inspections at boat ramps by contracting with the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District.

iv) Workshop at St. Croix Watershed Research Station- Monday, November 23

Administrator Shaver reported that he and Managers Lindberg and Tuenge plan to attend. He will notice the workshop so other interested managers can attend.

c) Log House Landing Cost Share

Administrator Shaver reported that he provided the City of Scandia copies of the concept design, estimated costs and memo that Mr. Almer prepared. The city would like the District to commit in a motion for a framework of a cost share based on this information. Administrator Shaver rounded the estimated project cost to \$40,000, after including additional costs provided by the city engineer. The National Park Service will be asked to provide funds. **Manager Tuenge moved to approve a 50% cost share with the City of Scandia for launch improvements at Log House Landing based on the concept drawing and cost estimates not to exceed \$20,000. Seconded by Manager Johnson. Motion carried 6-0.**

In response to questions, Mr. Almer stated that a sediment basin was suggested in the memo to address runoff in the northwest corner, but was not part of the cost estimate. A good contractor could add this improvement for a small amount. Administrator. Shaver noted that the clear aggregate is dappled gray and probably matches the color of concrete.

d) Revisions to Kiwanis Cost Share

Administrator Shaver reported that because of a BWSR grant the District portion of the cost share has been reduced from \$14,219 to \$8,927.50. There was a small under calculation error of \$445.95 made by the WCD. The Kiwanis asked the District to cover the cost. The Managers agreed.

8) Bills to Be Paid

Manager De Vault moved to pay the bills in the amount of \$36,259.45. Seconded by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

9) Administrator's Report

Administrator Shaver stated that he will be out of the office for about 10 days starting on January 21 for shoulder surgery.

10) Next Meetings - November 23 Workshop & December 9

11) Adjourn

**Manager Tuenge moved to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. Seconded by Manager De Vault.
Motion carried 6-0.**

Submitted by
Debbie Meister, MMC Associates