

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Washington Conservation District
May 8, 2014

Present: Dan Kylo, West Lakeland Township; Mike Polehna, Stillwater; Brian Zellar, Lakeland; Cindie Reiter, Lake St. Croix Beach; Nancy Anderson, St. Marys Point; Chuck Dougherty, Oak Park Heights; John Fellego, Baytown Township; Mike Isensee, Administrator;

Call to Order – Regular Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the April 10, 2014 minutes was made by Mr. Dougherty, seconded by Ms. Anderson. The motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented. The remaining checking account balance is \$78,573.20. First State Bank CDs \$31,984.29. The ending balance in the RBC savings account is \$111,620.48. Bills to be approved this month are: \$1,417.50 Washington Conservation District Administration, \$5,937.75 Washington Conservation District Technical Services; 155.55 Carmen Simonet Design; 737.44 Minnesota Native Landscapes; \$2,869.00 Washington Conservation District Water Monitoring; \$1,375.00 Washington Conservation District Educator; \$2,285.00 Minnesota League of Cities Insurance.

Mr. Polehna moved, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, to approve the treasurer's report and bills. The motion carried.

Public Comments

None.

One Watershed, One Plan Lower St. Croix River Watershed Pilot

At the April 10, 2014 regular board meeting Jay Riggs, District Manager at the Washington Conservation District discussed the One Watershed, One Plan effort with the MSCWMO board. The board was provided more information and a draft letter of support for the application to participate in the pilot program in partnership with the Washington Conservation District to create a broad, collaborative plan to supplement activities being effectively conducted at the local level.

Motion by Mr. Zellar, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to submit the letter of support for One Watershed, One Plan Pilot Application.

North and East Metro Pilot Groundwater Management Area Discussion

In June 2013 the DNR announced it was designating a groundwater management area in the North and East Metropolitan Area that encompasses all of Washington, Ramsey and a portion of Anoka Counties. In October 2013, the DNR began the process of leading a planning process with DNR and non-DNR stakeholders to develop a groundwater management plan. The non-DNR advisory committee meets bimonthly and the updates from these meetings will be provided to the board.

2013 Water Quality Monitoring Annual Report

The 2013 MSCWMO Annual Report was submitted for board review. Administrator Isensee provided an overview of the findings and trends identified in the report.

Motion by Mr. Polehna, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, to accept the 2013 MSCWMO Water Quality Monitoring Annual Report.

2014 Water Quality Budget Amendment

Administrator Isensee explained that in February 2014, the MSCWMO Water Quality Monitoring budget was reduced to \$5,832.00 and \$10,579.00 was placed into savings for the investigation of the Lily Lake Outlets in 2015. During the monitoring budget adjustments, Washington Conservation District Water Quality Monitoring staff inadvertently removed the budget line item for processing and reporting 2013 data for Perro Creek, which occurs at the beginning of 2014.

The Washington Conservation District is requesting the budget be amended to add \$1,434.50 to cover the time required in 2014 to process and report Perro Creek water quality monitoring data. This will reduce the 2015 Lily lake Outlet investigation savings to \$9,144.50.

The board expressed disappointment that the estimated cost fell short of actual costs. Request the Washington Conservation District use more caution moving forward.

Motion by Ms. Rieter, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to reduce the 2015 Lily Lake Outlet Monitoring savings to \$9,144.50 and add \$1,434.50 to the 2014 water quality monitoring budget.

2014 Blue Thumb Plant Grant Consent Agenda

In March and April the MSCWMO hosted two Blue Thumb raingarden design workshop series. After attending the workshops and designing their conservation projects, twelve landowners are applying for the \$250 plant grant. The total estimated cost of the projects is \$8,120.53 to construct 5,105 square feet of raingardens, native slope stabilization projects and a native planting for a water conveyance swale. MSCWMO staff recommended approval of all twelve projects. The board requested a project that locates a native planting in the city right-of-way be coordinated with the city.

Motion by Mr. Zeller, seconded by Mr. Polehna, to approve twelve Blue Thumb Plant Grant Applications totaling \$3,000.00.

CSAH 21 & 14 Turn Lane Project Review

Washington County is proposing a turn lane project on CSAH 21 (Stagecoach Trail) at the intersection with CSAH 14. Due to the addition of St Croix Preparatory Academy to the south of this intersection and the detour routes related to the Hwy 36 and St. Croix River Crossing construction projects, the County has determined that a designated left turn lane from northbound CSAH 21 to westbound CSAH 14 is necessary.

The project adds 10,019 square feet of impervious surface on CSAH 21, while CSAH 14 will see no change (just a mill and overlay on CSAH 14 to repair rutting and redo pavement markings). The required volume retention of 417 cubic feet is exceeded through the construction of a ditch check on the East side of CSAH 21, south of CSAH 14.

MWCWMO technical staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

Motion by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Fellegly, to approve the application.

Administrators Report

A written report was provided.

Adjourn

Mr. Polehna moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Dougherty. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.