

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Bayport Public Library
Minutes March 12, 2015

Present: Dan Kylo, West Lakeland Twp; Doug Menikheim, Stillwater; Nancy Anderson, St. Marys Point; John Fellego, Baytown Township; Brian Zeller, Lakeland Shores; Mike Runk, Oak Park Heights ; Richard Bend, Afton; 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 January 8, 2015 and February 12, 2015 minutes was made by Mr. John Fellego, seconded by Ms. Nancy Andersen . The motion was carried.

Treasurer’s Report

The treasurer’s report was presented. The remaining checking account balance is \$198,603.98. First State Bank CDs \$31,984.29. The ending balance in the RBC savings account is \$43,550.20. Bills approved this month were: \$382.50 Carmen Simonet Design LLC.

The board reviewed the monthly budget update and the savings account summary.

Mr. John Fellego moved, seconded by Ms. Nancy Anderson, to approve the treasurer’s report and bills. The motion carried.

Public Comments

The recent article in the Stillwater Gazette about the Valley Branch Watershed District commissioner comments was discussed. An opinion about taping public meetings was discussed.

2015 Project Review Fees and Inspections Subcommittees Report

The MSCWMO appointed Development Review Subcommittee met and reviewed the 2014 project review fee schedule; project review fees, actual costs and structures of similarly adjoining watershed districts. The results were shared and discussed by the board of managers. The board of managers also discussed the process and cost of inspections during and post construction.

Motion by Mr. Fellego, seconded by Mr. Zellar, to modify the 2015 fee schedule to increase the based fee from \$250 to \$350 and require denied projects to submit a new application and review fee. Motion carried.

Lake St. Croix Grant Application

Staff is requesting the board consider the draft grant application for the Lake St. Croix Watershed Improvement Grant application. If received, the grant will accelerate the monitoring of the Lily Lake, Perro Pond and Perro Creek outfalls to more effectively

target the type, location and scale of water quality improvement practices to reduce phosphorous discharges to Lake St. Croix.

Motion by Mr. Fellegy, seconded by Mr. Menikheim to submit the application for the Lake St. Croix Watershed Improvement Grant.

Request for Qualifications for Legal Services

Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.227, Subdivision 5, require MSCWMO to solicit proposals every two years to provide consulting services. Staff is presenting this draft RFQ for board consideration prior to releasing the request.

Motion by Mr. Fellegy, seconded by Ms. Anderson to distribute the Request for Qualifications.

Valley Branch Proposed Boundary Changes

The Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD) is reviewing its legal boundary. The first step is to verify the hydrologic boundary.

VBWD are requesting the MSCWMO compare their proposed boundary and notify them if we agree or disagree with the new hydrologic boundary. The revised boundaries are based on MnDNR 2011 LiDAR data, development files, and the limited storm sewer data

Once they determine the hydrologic boundary, they will look at the parcel data to make any corrections necessary to have the legal boundary best match the hydrologic boundary.

Motion by Mr. Fellegy, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to have the Administrator review the proposed hydrologic boundaries & member community staff feedback to determine the correct hydrologic boundary. Motion carried.

MIDS Grant Contract for Services with U of M Extension

Administrator Isensee presented a contract for professional services with University of Minnesota Extension to provide assistance for the development, design and organization of review sessions and community outreach services in accordance with the MSCWMO 2014 Clean Water Fund Accelerated Implementation Grant. The contract terms identify completion of tasks association with ordinance revisions and hosting technical ordinance review sessions for up to 13 communities not to exceed \$4,800. This contract expires June 1, 2016.

Motion by Mr. Fellegy, seconded by Ms. Anderson to approve the technical services contract with the University of Minnesota Extension not to exceed \$4,800.00.

North and West Groundwater Management Plan Comment Letter

The Board of Managers reviewed and discussed the draft North and East Metro Groundwater Management Area Draft Plan and MSCWMO comments to be submitted jointly with the Washington Conservation District on or before April 3, 2015.

Motion by Mr. Fellegy, seconded by Mr. Bend to approve the draft comments for the North and East Metro Groundwater Management Area Plan as modified by a designated subcommittee made up of Mr. Menikheim, Mr. Zeller and Ms. St. Ores.

Dairy Queen, Stillwater

The proposed project is the reconstruction of an existing parking lot in the southwest corner of the Valley Ridge Mall for the purpose of constructing a new Dairy Queen commercial building a parking lot. The project is grading more than 10,000 square feet and qualifies for a review by the MSCWMO. Staff has met with the owner and reviewed the submittals and has determined they meet the standards of the 2006 MSCWMO Watershed Management Plan.

Dairy Queen Stillwater Review

Motion by Mr. Fellegy, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve Dairy Queen Stillwater project application.

Bayport Fire Station, Bayport

The Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) received a re-submittal of items on February 13, 2015 for the proposed Bayport Fire Station, located within MSCWMO boundaries and in the City of Bayport. The proposed project qualifies for full review under the MSCWMO 2006 Watershed Management Plan (WMP).

The MSCWMO Technical staff recommended approval with project with six conditions and one recommendation:

1. Reduce Maximum ponding depth to a maximum of 21.6 inches. The maximum ponding depth for infiltration basins is determined by the design infiltration rate for SM soils as identified in the soil borings. The maximum ponding depth to achieve the 48 hour drawdown requirement for the infiltration basin is 21.6.
2. Pretreatment is required prior to discharge into the infiltration basins.
3. Do not replace soils in the infiltration basins. Recommend incorporating 3” of compost into the top 12” of native soil. Reasoning: Soil borings B-1, B-2 and B-5 show water at 7.5 feet approximate elevation of 745. Bottom of infiltration basin is planned at 750. The infiltration must maintain at least 3.0’ separation from surficial groundwater.
4. Add construction guidance to keep excavated infiltration basins kept off line until the contributing drainage areas have been constructed and fully stabilized.
5. Add notes that the infiltration basin must be
 - a. Excavate during dry conditions to prevent smearing of the soil, which has been shown to reduce the soil infiltration rate
 - b. Excavate the final lift of the infiltration basin with and excavator with a toothed bucket. It is highly recommended to rake the soil with the teeth of the bucket to loosen any compaction. Smooth bucket blades smear soils and restrict infiltration rates.

6. Modify the planting pallet at the bottom of the infiltration basin to a native seed that will survive 48 hours of inundation and long dry periods. Blue will not survive in the inundation zone of the infiltration basins.

And one recommendation:

1. Infiltration basins should be designed with a high flow bypass or have the high flow outlet as close to the inlet as possible. High flows through infiltration basins increase erosion, plant mortality and decrease the functional life of the facility.

Motion by Mr. Zellar, seconded by Mr. Kylo, to approve the technical review results for the proposed Bayport Fire Station.

Met Council Waste Water Treatment Plant Outfall, Oak Park Heights

The St. Croix Waste Water Treatment Plant is starting excavation and reconstruction of the water treatment plant outfall pipe into the St. Croix River. A project review is required due to the nature of the work requiring grading within a public water. The City of Oak Park Heights nor the MSCWMO were notified of the project. Both are working with Met Council to ensure the work does not result in sediment releases to Lake St. Croix. Information only.

Oak Park Heights 2015 Street Improvement Project – Area D

Technical staff are working with the City of Oak Park Heights Engineering to meet the permanent stormwater management requirements for the Area D Street Reconstruction. Information only.

Replacement of monitoring equipment

Middle St. Croix area velocity was tested and found to be nonfunctional. The device was sent to the vendor and tested again and found to be non-repairable. The purchase price of the replacement monitoring sensor is quoted is not to exceed \$1333,00.

Ms. Andersen moved, Mr. Fellegly second to replace the nonfunctional area velocity sensor needed to conduct water quality monitoring in 2015.

Administrator's Report

A written Administrator's report was submitted.

Adjourn

Mr. Zeller moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Fellegly. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.