

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Bayport Public Library
Minutes June 11, 2015

Present: Dan Kylo, West Lakeland Twp; Doug Menikheim, Stillwater; John Fellegly, Baytown Township; Brian Zeller, Lakeland Shores; Sondra Larson Afton; Susan St. Ores, Bayport; Jay Riggs, Acting 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 March 12, 2015 minutes was made by Mr. John Fellegly, seconded by Ms. Susan St. Ores. The motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented. The remaining checking account balance is \$258,592.62. First State Bank CDs \$31,984.29. The ending balance in the RBC savings account is \$43,551.98. Bills approved this month were: \$2,858.50 Washington Conservation District and \$6,052.50 Washington Conservation District.

Mr. Brian Zeller moved, seconded by Mr. John Fellegly, to approve the treasurer's report and pay the bills presented. The motion carried.

Draft 2015-2025 MSCWMO Watershed Management Plan Public Hearing

Ms. Cindi Reiter motioned to open the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Doug Menikheim. No comments were received. Ms. Susan St. Ores motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Ms. Cindi Reiter. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Ms. Susan St. Ores provided an update on the public meeting hosted at the City of Bayport on Bighead Carp. The board discussed number of issues related to outreach and education. Bayport is ordering leaflets. Ms. St. Ores is contacting state representatives. Concern was expressed about how Minnesota and Wisconsin are not working together to manage invasive species. The board discussed management opportunities and outreach to other partners. Ms. St. Ores plans to meet with Administrator Isensee when he returns.

Mr. Zeller discussed legislation that would give authority back to Minnesota Department of Natural Resources regarding variances to local ordinances. The board discussed the idea of having the Washington Conservation District and/or Joint Powers Board make recommendations back to communities regarding variances with the goal of improving consistent application of the rules. Ms. Reiter discussed a partnership group and variance comments. Mr. Zeller stated the Washington Conservation District has credibility and could provide technical review. Mr. Fellegly suggested it be a technical review and not an advisory board. Ms. St. Ores stated it was the responsibility is with City and should go through watershed or board that is already educated and active. Mr. Zeller agreed it could

be the Watershed Management Organization. Ms. Reiter stated it sounds a lot like the partnership group – review based on ordinances and it's a pass-fail.

MSCWMO Draft Watershed Management Plan Approval

At the request of the board the following policy to provide staff review approval authority for development reviews was reviewed by MSCWMO Legal Counsel and deemed to be compliant with open meeting law requirements:

In unique circumstances, such as cases when the next scheduled board meeting is later than the statutory review period for the member community, the MSCWMO board of directors authorize staff to approve and transmit review results after notification of the circumstances and review results to the board chair. In circumstances where the project is located in the jurisdiction of the board chair, the vice chair shall be notified prior to transmitting review results.

Motion by Mr. Zeller, seconded by Ms. St. Ores to adopt the stated policy to grant alternate review approval authority to staff with notification to the board chair or vice chair prior to transmission of results.

Project Review Approval Policy

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. Kylo, seconded by Mr. Fellegly to adopt the stated policy to grant alternate review approval authority to staff with notification to the board chair or vice chair prior to transmission of results.

2016 Draft Budget Scenarios

The board reviewed budget Scenarios for the 2016 MSCWMO.

Scenario 1 Meet Minimum Cost Increases- would increase the budget by \$1,300 to cover increased annual expenses for Audit, EMWREP & BMP Tracking and Inspections Database.

Scenario 2 Restore Technical and Administrative Hours to 2012 Levels- would increase the budget \$5,950 to cover increased annual expenses for Audit, EMWREP & BMP Tracking and Inspections Database and restore administrative technical assistance hours.

Scenario 3 Restore Hours to 2012 Levels & Increase Grant Matching Funds- would increase the annual budget by \$15,950 to cover increased annual expenses for Audit, EMWREP & BMP Tracking and Inspections Database, restore administrative hours, restore technical assistance hours, and bolster grant matching funds.

Scenario 4 Restore Hours to 2012 Levels and Bolster Grant Matching Funds and Increase Technical Assistance- would increase the budget by \$23,770 to cover increased annual expenses for Audit, EMWREP & BMP Tracking and Inspections Database, restore

administrative and technical assistance hours, bolster grant matching funds and increase technical assistance hours.

Discussion of specific deliverables from this increase was had and additional information was requested for the July meeting.

Plan Reviews

None were submitted. Mr. Zeller stated a potential conflict of interest with the Miller Farms Phase IV and Phase V review and requested Ms. St. Ores and Mr. Fellegly represent the interests of the MSCWMO Board of Managers in the review process.

Martin Raingarden Grant Application

The Martins are requesting a \$250 Plant Grant to install a 200 square foot raingarden planted with native plants that will intercept roof top runoff and back yard patio drainage prior to discharging on to the street at 1112 2nd Street North in Stillwater. This project is located in the Lake St. Croix Direct Discharge Drainage Area in Stillwater.

Total Ranking Score: 24

Technical staff have met on site and reviewed the information and recommend board approval.

Motion by Mr. Zeller, seconded by Mr. Fellegly to approve the Martin Raingarden project grant application not to exceed \$250.00.

Administrator's Report

A written Administrator's report was submitted.

Adjourn

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