

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Bayport Public Library
Minutes September 10, 2015

Present: Dan Kylo, West Lakeland Twp; Doug Menikheim, Stillwater; John Felleg, Baytown Township; Brian Zeller, Lakeland Shores; Dan Goldston, Bayport; Mike Isensee, Administrator; Jennifer Sorenson, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Susan Schueler, City of Lake St. Croix Beach; Chuck Dougherty, Oak Park Heights; Joe Paiement, Lakeland.

Call to Order – Regular Board Meeting

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

Treasurer’s Report

The treasurer’s report was presented. The remaining checking account balance is \$221,182.87. First State Bank CDs \$31,984.29. The ending balance in the RBC savings account is \$43,553.10. Bills approved this month were: \$2,777.00 Washington Conservation District (Admin) and \$8,235.50 Washington Conservation District (Tech Services); \$36,044 All Weather Services; \$3,473.33 Anoka Conservation District; \$125.80 Carmen Simonet Design; \$3,390.40 Emmons and Olivier Resources, Inc; \$1,600.00 Regents of the University of Minnesota; \$1,500.00 StanTec Consulting Services; \$1,450.00 All Weather Services.

Mr. Felleg moved, seconded by Mr. Kylo, to approve the treasurer’s report and pay the bills presented. The motion carried.

Public Comment

Jennifer Sorenson, Area Hydrologist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources attended the board meeting to introduced herself to the MSCWMO Board of Managers and further discuss the variance process in the St. Croix Riverway discussed the July 9, 2015 MSCWMO board meeting. Mr. Zeller summarized the concept of a local unit of government technical advisory board to improve consistency in the variance process. Mrs. Schueler stated this type of information would be helpful. Mr. Paiement stated a technical review would help take the pressure off local councils to interpret vague language. Ms. Sorenson presented an overview of her goals of enhancing consistent application of the St. Croix Riverway Scenic and Wild Rivers shoreland requirements Mr. Zeller inquired if the Board of Managers were supportive of continuing discussions of approaches to achieve greater consistency for variances. The board indicated Mr. Zeller, Ms. Sorensen, Jay Riggs, Washington Conservation District and Mike Isensee Administrator of the MSCWMO should continue discussions outside of the board meeting.

2015-2025 MSCWMO Watershed Management Plan Adoption

Administrator Isensee summarized the plan update process pursuant to Minn. Stat. 103B.231 including the September 3, 2015 recommendation for approval by the Board of Water and Soil Resources BWSR Metro Region Committee. Administrator Isensee also explained that the motion to adopt and distribute the 2015-2025 MSCWMO Watershed

Management Plan would take affect after the Plan is approved by the BWSR Board of Managers meeting on September 23, 2015. The board requested an email poll be sent to local partners to request the format they would prefer the plan: 1. Printed copy, 2. Digital copy on a CD or 3. Link to the plan on the MSCWMO website.

Motion by Mr. Brian Zeller, seconded by Mr. Fellegy, to adopt and distribute the 2015-2025 MSCWMO Watershed Management Plan upon the approval of the Board of Water and Soil Resources Board.

Dan Kylo, West Lakeland Twp- Aye.
Doug Menikheim, Stillwater- Aye.
John Fellegy, Baytown Township- Aye.
Brian Zeller, Lakeland Shores- Aye.
Dan Goldston, Bayport-Aye.
Chuck Dougherty, Oak Park Heights- Aye.
Joe Paiement, Lakeland- Aye.

Motion carried.

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.

2016 Draft Budget Scenarios

The board reviewed two Scenarios for the 2016 MSCWMO Final Budget

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.

Mr. Zeller polled the board members on the communities support for an increase. Lake St. Croix Beach- Scenario 4, Lakeland Shores- Scenario 4, West Lakeland Township- Scenario 3, Bayport-Scenario 4, Lakeland- on the next agenda. Mr. Zeller proposed increasing the budget to Scenario 3 then revisiting an additional increase for 2017. Mr. Fellegly stated a preference to only increase the budget once.

Motion Mr. Zeller, second Mr. Menikheim to approve the 2016 annual budget of 132,770.00. Mr. Kylo voted nay, all other board members voted aye. Motion carried.

Civic Governance Training

Administrator Isensee explained that the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization has been invited to participate with Browns Creek Watershed District in a short series of small group Civic Governance Trainings. Six two hour training sessions lead by Lynne Kolze, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will be held at the MSCWMO Office from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the third Friday of each month from October 2015 to March 2016.

Lynne has requested that one additional local leader, either from the MSCWMO board or an active supporter of the MSCWMO whose “personal values align with the ideas around civic life, democracy, leadership, and the need for a new approach to collaborative governing.”

The board extended the invitation to Chair Zeller and encouraged him to participate if he had the time available. Mr. Zeller accepted the invitation.

2014 Water Monitoring Report

Administrator Isensee reviewed the 2014 the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) Monitoring report. The MSCWMO monitored both water quality and elevation on McKusick Lake and Lily Lake. Information from the Brown’s Creek Diversion Structure site is also included in this report as this affects the water quality of McKusick Lake.

Lily Lake received a B+ lake grade in 2014. One of the fourteen samples collected exceeded the MPCA threshold for TP, and three of the fourteen samples collected exceeded the MPCA threshold for chl-*a*. Three of the Secchi disk transparency readings exceeded the MPCA threshold.

In 2014 McKusick Lake a grade of C. Four of the twelve water quality samples exceeded the MPCA shallow lake threshold for TP, and four samples exceeded the MPCA threshold for chl-*a*. No Secchi disk transparency measurements exceeded the MPCA shallow lake threshold. Samples were analyzed for metals and no results exceeded MPCA thresholds.

The Brown's Creek Diversion Structure site showed an increase in discharge in 2014. The phosphorus load decreased from 527 lbs. in 2013 to 392 lbs. in 2014. TSS also showed a decreased export to McKusick Lake, from 211,977 lbs. in 2013 to 99,532 lbs. in 2014. The total discharge was the highest recorded value since monitoring the Brown's Creek Diversion Structure began. The phosphorous load and TSS export in 2014 were the lowest recorded values since water quality has been monitored.

Motion by Mr. Menikheim, seconded by Mr. Paiement, to approve the 2014 MSCWMO Water Monitoring Report. The motion carried.

Holmer Home, New Construction- 2929 Itasca Avenue St. Mary's Point

The MSCWMO recommended approval for this site based on plans submitted in September 2014. During the city review process at the City the grading plans changed significantly and the plans had to be re-reviewed by the MSCWMO. The MSCWMO received re-submittal items on August 21, 2015. Technical review results with conditions were transmitted on August 26th. Plan revisions were submitted on August 31, 2015. Recommendation for plan approval from the MSCWMO was transmitted on September 1, 2015.

Oak Park Senior Living, New Construction- Oak Park Heights

The Oak Park Senior Living is the fourth phase of the Oakgreen Village development. Oakgreen Village was reviewed and approved by the MSCWMO on September 7, 2006. The development had undergone significant changes and the site had to be re-reviewed to verify buffers, low floor elevations and the constructed stormwater system contained sufficient capacity to meet the MSCWMO performance standards.

Technical staff recommend approval with two conditions.

Oak Park Senior Living Project Review

Motion by Mr. Menikheim, seconded by Mr. Kylo, to recommend approval of the proposed Oak Park Senior Living project with two conditions.

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 8:20 p.m.