

Regular Meeting of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Bayport Public Library, Bayport, MN
Thursday, June 14, 2018
6:00PM

Present: Brian Zeller, Lakeland Shores; Mike Runk, Oak Park Heights; Nancy Karras-Anderson, St. Mary's Point; Tom McCarthy, Lake St. Croix Beach; Patrick McGann, Bayport; Doug Menikheim, Stillwater; John Fellegly, Baytown Township; Lakeland; Cameron Blake, WCD; Administrator Mike Isensee.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Brian Zeller.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the May 10th, 2018 minutes was made by Brian Zeller, seconded by Nancy Karras-Anderson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Report of savings account, assets for June 14, 2018

Approve payment of bills for June 1, 2018

Received City of Lakeland 2016 second half payment of \$6,601.99

The treasurer's report was presented by Administrator Isensee. The remaining checking account balance is \$298,133.36. First State Bank CDs are valued at \$32,094.13. The ending balance in the RBC savings account is \$48,757.03.

Bills to be approved this month are: Carmen Simonet Design: \$85.00; Chuck Meyer: \$250.00; Emmons & Oliver Resources: \$2,791.70; Wenck Associates: \$2,187.30; Washington Conservation District (Administration) \$2,500.00; Washington Conservation District (Technical Services) \$8,234.79; Washington Conservation District: \$4,795.75; Total: \$20,844.54.

Brian Zeller requested a budget tracker review. Administrator Isensee reported administrative costs were about 50% which was a little over and technical assistance costs were at 64%.

A motion to approve the items in the treasurer's report was made by Brian Zeller, seconded by Mike Runk. Motion passed.

County/Watershed Joint Meeting Summary

Administrator Isensee presented a summary of the County Watershed Joint meeting. The three major themes he identified were presented by County Commissioners were transparency, communication, and collaboration. The direct requests were: to meet with the county commissioner once annually, to report progress to cities once a month, to record meetings, to copy county commissioners on board packets, and to keep good relationships with city staff. Patrick McGann agreed this was a good

summary. Brian Zeller discussed feedback from commissioners included a concern about the scope and mission creep of the watersheds which is why they are asking for more transparency and open communication about agendas. He believes the MSCWMO will not be impacted by this as much due to not having taxing authority and therefore being limited in mission creep. Doug Menikheim questioned if the Washington Conservation District is also having mission creep and discussion occurred about this and other watershed districts between Brian Zeller and John Felleggy. Administrator Isensee stated that the WCD has a wide breadth of expertise and the watershed districts use WCD technical staff to implement watershed programs and priorities. Brian Zeller stated that Administrator Isensee is contracted halftime through the WCD.

Administrator Isensee presented a thank you letter from the City of Stillwater to the MSCWMO for the letter of support for the City's legislative request to fund the Lake St. Croix Stabilization and Integrated Trail project. Doug Menikheim agreed this funding was a big deal and that the city had hired a public lobbyist to help Stillwater succeed in getting this funding.

Washington Conservation District Monitoring Program Update

Administrator Isensee reported that the MSCWMO contracts with the WCD in order to do water quality monitoring on Lily Lake, Lake McKusick, and Perro Creek. He explained that there is usually one annual report but the WCD is starting to send updates more often and will be sending updates for April and May. John Felleggy asked Administrator Isensee if he had seen information about water quality monitoring done by private citizens. Administrator Isensee explained that in the past the MSCWMO had used the CAMP program run through the Met Council but due to data inconsistency the board had elected to utilize the WCD to conduct the monitoring on high priority water bodies (Lake McKusick, Lily Lake, Perro Creek).

Perro Creek Native Shoreline Restoration Cost Share Application

Administrator Isensee reported that the Bayport Girl Scouts Troop 56631 of Bayport are working in partnership with the City of Bayport and the MSCWMO to restore native buffers on both sides of Perro Creek for 100 linear feet along the Southwest side of Perro Park in Bayport. Technical staff recommend allocating \$1,000 from the cost share budget for the purchase of materials, site preparation (herbicide, hard raking and erosion control blanket installation), native planting event coordination, post planting watering and weed control.

A motion to approve expenditures from the MSCWMO Cost Share budget not to exceed \$1,000 for the Perro Creek Native Shoreline Restoration was made by John Felleggy, seconded by Patrick McGann. Motion passed.

Grace Fix Raingarden Application

Grace Fix is requesting a MSCWMO Water Quality grant to install a 200 square foot raingarden on the west side of her property located along Lake St. Croix at 1975 Quant Avenue in West Lakeland Township. Staff recommends approval. A motion to approve reimbursement of expenses not to exceed \$500.00 for the Fix Raingarden was made by Brian Zeller, seconded by Nancy Karras-Anderson. Motion passed.

Lakeland Native Slope Stabilization Application

Sally Arneson has completed the year-long Master Water Steward training and is now working on her Capstone Project. The project is working in partnership with the City of Lakeland to stabilize an eroding slope located on the west side of Quixote Avenue, upgradient of the iron enhanced sand filter. Currently, the toe of the slope is eroding as water flows down along the pavement and the slope. The capstone project proposes to install native plants and erosion control blanket where needed to more effectively stabilize the 3,500 square foot slope. The City and the Ms. Arneson are requesting the \$500 water quality improvement grant. Total project costs are estimated at \$1,500, for the purchase of erosion control blanket and 1,300 native plant plugs. Staff recommends approval of a \$500.00 water quality improvement grant.

Brian Zeller asked if this was city property. Administrator Isensee said it was but that private septic homeowners near the project have been collaboration with the plan with the city. Brian Zeller expressed concern about residents interfering historically with raingardens nearby. Administrator Isensee said he had not experienced issues while working with these homeowners in the last 3-4 years and is not concerned about working with them on this project. A motion to approve reimbursement of expenses not to exceed \$500.00 for the Lakeland Native Slope Stabilization Project was made by Tom McCarthy, seconded by Nancy Karras-Anderson. Motion passed.

Meyers Cost Share Reimbursement

Motion to reimburse \$250 for the 8,000 square foot turf to prairie restoration at 3491 Pete Miller Avenue, Baytown Township was made by Brian Zeller, seconded by John Felleggy. Motion passes.

Stillwater 2018 Streets Improvements, Stillwater

Administrator Isensee reviewed the Erosion and Sediment Control plans for the mill and overlay work as part of the Stillwater 2018 Streets Improvement project and recommends approval.

A motion to approve this was made by Brian Zeller, seconded by Doug Menikheim. Motion passes.

CSAH 23 (3rd Street) Reconstruction, Stillwater

The Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) received required submittal items on May 25, 2018 for the proposed CSAH 23 (3rd Street) Reconstruction, Stillwater located within MSCWMO boundaries and in the city of Stillwater.

Due to steep grades, the fully developed downtown area including several historic properties, and presence of shallow bedrock in some areas, the project qualifies for flexible treatment option 3. Washington County Public Works, Transportation Division, proposes to install three underground hydrodynamic devices that achieve 18.14% reduction in particulate phosphorous and provide cash in lieu of treatment for the remaining 1.9 lbs. per year of total phosphorous to be treated. The total cash in lieu of treatment amount is \$118,720.00, to be utilized to implement water quality practices within the Stillwater portion of the Lake St. Croix Direct Discharge Subwatershed.

Administrator Isensee reported that the retrofits will consist of three hydrodynamic separators that will reduce TP and TSS by 20% at key intersections on 3rd street. Brian Zeller asked what this would

look like and Administrator Isensee replied it would look like a manhole sump and works by dissipating energy in order to drop out sediment with a baffle system so it doesn't recirculate. Brian Zeller asked for clarification on where the cash in lieu of treatment could be spent. Administrator Isensee explained that this would fund other retrofits in the Lake St. Croix Direct Discharge Watershed that are currently being design as part of the Lake St. Croix Direct Discharge Retrofit effort. Brian Zeller asked when these treatments could be installed, and John Fellegly asked if a filter could be added to improve performance. Administrator Isensee explained it was a cost benefit and that installing them during the street construction saves money. Brian Zeller expressed concern that this could set a precedent for contractors to pay for in lieu of treatment rather than to treat stormwater. Administrator Isensee explained that the County is doing the maximum treatment they can in an area with multiple restrictions. The cash in lieu treatment was the result of the "Flexible Treatment" alternatives process in the MSCWMO performance standards.

Brian Zeller asked if there was resolution with an erosion issue with an office renovation on 3rd street. Discussion occurred regarding the potential future redevelopment of that area.

Tom McCarthy asked about the maintenance of the hydrodynamic separators and Administrator Isensee explained the County is obligated to maintain them, which entails removing accumulated sediment with a vacuum truck.

A motion to approve the CSAH 23 (3rd Street) Reconstruction Review results and accept \$118,720 from Washington County in lieu of treatment was made by Brian Zeller, seconded by Tom McCarthy. Motion passes.

1076 Quixote Shoreline Stabilization

The MSCWMO recommends approval of the Sandra Boe and Scott Johnson Shoreline Stabilization at 1067 Quixote Ave N with one condition: The 500 cubic foot infiltration basin that was approved in 2016 is installed per plan.

A motion to approve the 1067 Quixote Shoreline Stabilization project was made by John Fellegly, second by Nancy Karras-Anderson. Motion passed.

SCRA Grant

Administrator Isensee reported that the MSCWMO received notice of a \$30,000 grant award for water quality improvement projects in the lower St Croix.

A motion to accept this grant was made by John Fellegly, seconded by Tom McCarthy. Motion passes.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Isensee reported that there were no specific highlights. 8 different funding sources are currently being utilized and many projects are being done. John Fellegly asked about the Orchards at Cahanas Review and Administrative Isensee said this would be on the August meeting agenda but there were not too many water quality concerns after 3 pre-application meetings. Joh Fellegly

expressed concern that managing stormwater could be difficult due the sites topography and Administrator Isensee agreed it was a complicated but the preliminary design and modeling was going well.

Doug Menikheim said the next One Watershed One Plan meeting is on August 27th.

Brian Zeller moved to adjourn the meeting and John Felleggy seconded. Motion passed at 6:54 p.m.