

Regular Meeting of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Bayport Public Library, Bayport, MN
Thursday, May 9, 2019
6:00PM

Present: Mike Runk, Oak Park Heights; Tom McCarthy, Lake St. Croix Beach; John Fellegly, Baytown Township; Lakeland; Ryan Collins, Stillwater; John Dahl, Bayport; Beth Olfelt-Nelson, St. Mary's Point; Dan Kylo, West Lakeland Township; Cameron Blake, WCD; Administrator Mike Isensee; Matt Downing, WCD; Rebecca Oldenburg, WCD

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Manager McCarthy.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the March 14th, 2019 minutes was made by Manager Runk and seconded by Manager Olfelt-Nelson. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by Manager McCarthy. The remaining checking account balance is \$30,904.35. First State Bank CDs are valued at \$32,094.13. The ending balance in the RBC savings account is \$63,196.72.

Bills to be approved this month are: Kennedy & Graven: \$54.60; Kennedy & Graven: \$540.00; Washington Conservation District (Administration): \$6,275.40; Washington Conservation District (Technical Services): \$2,655.85; Washington Conservation District (EMWREP): \$1,575.00; Washington Conservation District (Water Monitoring): \$4,652.05; Total: \$15,752.90.

Administrator Isensee explained that the checking account balance is low right now but that the MSCWMO was about to receive about \$160,000 from the State of Minnesota for a Clean Water Fund grant reimbursement and distribution.

Manager Runk moved to accept the Treasurer's report and bills, Manager Fellegly seconded, and the motion carried.

Public Comments

There was no public comment. Manager McCarthy made a motion to alter the agenda by moving the MSCWMO Watershed Annual Report and Annual Monitoring Report to after the Public Comment agenda item. The motion carried.

2019 MSCWMO Watershed Annual Report and Annual Monitoring Report- Presentation

Rebecca Oldenburg from the Washington Conservation District presented the MSCWMO Watershed Annual Report and Annual Monitoring Report to the board. Manager Fellegly asked if there was going to be any further testing for *naeglaria fowlerii* in Lily Lake. Matt Downing explained that the past testing efforts were coordinated by the Center of Disease Control and Washington County Public Health. He said the testing is not continuing as the results found that the amoeba is naturally

occurring and found in many of the lakes in the county, and that the past deaths attributed to the amoeba were unusual. Manager Fellegy asked if the data collected for Lily Lake was shared with the Lily Lake Association and Administrator Isensee confirmed that it was. Manager Fellegy asked if McKusick Lake had a Lake Association. Administrator Isensee replied that it was not as active but did exist. There was discussion around the McKusick Lake outflow and past targeted monitoring efforts and projects in Lily Lake.

Administrator Isensee answered questions regarding phosphorus and E. coli impairment for Perro Creek. The targeted monitoring for E. coli in Perro creek revealed that the system is more complex than originally thought, and confirmed the need for source testing and management efforts to be included in the next 10 year management plan. Manager Dahl asked if further efforts should be made to let the City of Bayport know that the E. coli impairment of Perro Creek is based on recreation and human health, as the creek is often played in by children. Administrator Isensee will work with Manager Dahl to bring information to the city council about the data collected and public health implications. Manager Fellegy asked for more information about the cesspool that was identified and what additional steps could be taken to mitigate its impact to Perro Creek.

There was additional discussion around Perro Creek's flow control structure and the difficulty it added to analyzing monitoring data collected. Bayport Public Works Director Kline is responsible for the control structure and relays pertinent information to the monitoring team to aid in data analysis. Manager Olfelt-Nelson asked about using historical knowledge of the town and source testing to create a strategy for addressing the impairment.

Manager Fellegy asked about current projects being implemented in Bayport to address impairments in Perro Creek. Administrator Isensee explained that there was going to be 3 projects constructed in Bayport this year as part of a 3 stage effort in the city to retrofit along with street reconstruction projects, and that this would address the impairments in the creek.

Manager Fellegy asked about stormwater BMP maintenance. Administrator Isensee explained the different categories of BMP's and responsibilities for maintenance. Administrator Isensee explained that older projects are inspected annually by the MSCWMO and the City of Bayport utilizes the WCD Maintenance Crew to assist with maintenance when needed.

Lily Lake Water Quality Improvement Projects

In 2018 the MSCWMO received \$78,760 from the Board of Water and Soil Resources from the Watershed Based Funding Grant for the watershed based funding for project implementation. On April 12, 2018, the MSCWMO Board of Managers approved the application of grant funds to design and install water quality practices in the direct drainage areas of Lily Lake and installation of water quality improvement projects on Perro Creek. The funding requires a minimum of 10% match. Two raingardens will treat 2.1 acres of residential drainage that is currently discharging direction to Lily Lake. The proposed bioretention basins are 200 ft² each providing a total of 400 ft³ water quality storage and reduce total phosphorus (TP) to Lily Lake by 1.8 pounds per year based on WinSLAMM modeling. The two basins were identified as five remaining high priority locations for raingardens in the Lily Lake Impaired Waters Desisting Roadmap. Due to the cancellation of the

April 11 regular MSCWMO Board meeting due to a snow storm and the requirement to expend grant funds by the end of 2019, the chair approved releasing the project for bids.

Manager Fellegy moved to enter into agreement with the City of Stillwater and the property owners at 905 Pine Tree Trail and 611 Lake Drive to construct, operate, and maintain the Lily Lake Water Quality Improvement Project in accordance of the terms outlined in the landowner agreements. Manager Dahl seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Manager Fellegy moved to award the Lily Lake Water Quality Improvement Projects Contract to All Weather Services for a total of \$28,465.00. Manager Runk seconded this motion and the motion carried. Manager Fellegy asked if the words “not to exceed” needed to be added, and Administrator Isensee said that should not be necessary.

Manager Fellegy moved to authorize a construction contingency amount not to exceed \$1,423.25 for the construction of the Lily Lake Water Quality Improvement project. Manager McCarthy seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Manager Fellegy moved to authorize an additional not to exceed amount of \$3,600.00 for the 2019 Service Agreement between the Washington Conservation District and the MSCWMO for time and materials for the purchase, install, water, and maintain 115 perennial plants for the Lily Lake Water Quality Improvement Project. Manager Collins seconded this motion and the motion carried. Manager Fellegy asked where the money for this motion would be coming from, and Administrator Isensee explained that it would all be from state grant funding and not the previously approved MSCWMO budget.

Stillwater Country Club Stormwater Retrofit Project

The MSCWMO, City of Stillwater, and Stillwater Country Club are proposing to enter into an agreement to construct a water quality improvement project on the southernmost parcel owned by the Stillwater Country Club. Funding for this project is provided through Clean Water Fund grants awarded in 2016 and 2018; St. Croix River Association Grant awarded in 2018; and Washington County Public Works Transportation Division cash in lieu of treatment for the CSAH 23 (3rd Street reconstruction in Stillwater) approved by the MSCWMO board on June 14, 2018. The practice will treat 9.4 acres of residential drainage that is currently discharging directly to Lake St. Croix. The proposed 7,750 ft² bioretention basin provides 11,625 ft³ of water quality storage and reduce total phosphorus (TP) loading to Lake St. Croix by 25.0 pounds per year based on WinSLAMM modeling. The 10 year cost benefit ranking of \$734.36 per lb. /yr., is #1 of 149 projects identified in the Lake St. Croix Direct Discharge Stormwater Retrofit Analysis. The MSCWMO will administer and pay for construction the project. The MSCWMO will contract with the Washington Conservation District to install plants, provide establishment maintenance for year one and two, and provide annual maintenance until such time that the Stillwater Country Club utilize their water quality credit during reconstruction of the Club House or parking lot. The Stillwater Country Club provided the land for the basin and the agreed to a drainage and utility easement that encompasses the basin and the stormwater pipe. The City of Stillwater agreed to operate and maintain the

stormwater pipe. Due to the cancellation of the April 11 regular MSCWMO Board meeting due to a snow storm and the requirement to expend grant funds by the end of 2019, the chair approved releasing the project for bids.

Manager Olfelt-Nelson asked for clarification on the funding sources for this project in relation to the MSCWMO budget. Administrator Isensee explained that the funding sources were coming from two CWF grants, a SCRA grant, and cash-in-lieu of treatment from a previous Stillwater project.

Manager Dahl moved to enter into agreement with the City of Stillwater and the Stillwater Country Club to construct, operate, and maintain the Stillwater Country Club Drainage Improvement Project in accordance of the terms outlines in the Cooperative Agreement. Manager Fellegly seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Manager Dahl moved to award the Stillwater Country Club Stormwater Retrofit Contract to Shoreline Landscape for a total of \$183,615.45. Manager Runk seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Manager Dahl moved to authorize a construction contingency amount not to exceed \$9,180.70 for the construction of the Stillwater Country Club Stormwater Retrofit project. Manager Collins seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Manager Dahl moved to authorize additional expenditures not to exceed \$12,400.00 for the 2019 Service Agreement between the Washington Conservation District and the MSCWMO for time and materials for the purchase, install, water, and maintain 2,000 perennial plants, trees, and shrubs for the Stillwater Country Club Stormwater Retrofit Project. Manager Fellegly seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Adopt A Drain Program

The Adopt-a-Drain program was created and is maintained by Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education on behalf of Watershed Partners, a metro area collaborative with 60+ partners. The program has expanded to the entire seven-county metro area. The program engages community residents in helping to prevent stormwater pollution by cleaning leaves, litter and other debris off of storm drains near their homes. Volunteers get reminders via text or email and are asked to report their actions on-line so that cities can track the program's impact. The East Metro Water Resource Education Program (of which the MSCWMO is a member) will be actively promoting this program throughout Washington County. The use of the website for volunteers is free. Partner organizations receive access to volunteer adoption and clean up data, the ability to update stormwater data, and a year-end summary of all the activity that occurred within their area. The website will also have the logo of the watershed when residents go to the site. The fee for the MSCWMO and our member communities to receive these benefits is \$500 per year. Staff is recommending participating as a partner in the Adopt A Drain Program.

Administrator Isensee explained that smaller communities in the MSCWMO can be added if they can provide GPS coordinates of their storm drains. Manager Olfelt-Nelson asked how they are

measuring the phosphorus reduction. Administrator Isensee explained that the participants participate in tracking that information. Manager McCarthy asked what folks should do with the organic material they clean from the drains. There was discussion around location of the nearest compost site and about types of storm drains. There was discussion around the benefits of being involved in the program if communities like Lake St. Croix Beach has already gotten landowners involved in adopting storm drains. Administrator Isensee explained that there were benefits to participating in the program such as ease of data access and MS4 reporting. The managers asked Administrator Isensee to request EMWREP to advertise the program additionally in the MSCWMO.

Manager Runk moved that the MSCWMO participate in the Adopt A Drain program for \$500 per year. Manager McCarthy seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Website Update Discussion

No board action. Administrator Isensee received a quote of \$3,060.00 to redesign the MSCWMO website, and is going to continue pursuing options for the board to consider.

St. Croix River Association Lake St. Croix Watershed Improvement (LSCWI) Grant

The St. Croix River Association has released a Request for Proposals for the LSCWI grant. Staff recommends applying to conduct targeting monitoring of Mulberry Ravine and stormwater outfalls to Lake St. Croix in Stillwater. This monitoring data will guide prioritization of project installations in catchments with the highest annual loading.

Manager Collins moved to apply for the 2019 St. Croix River Association Lake St. Croix Watershed Improvement Grant. Manager McCarthy seconded this motion and the motion carried.

3M Settlement Groundwater Modeling Technical Review

Staff is requesting the board of managers approve the Administrator and the MSCWMO Consultant Senior Hydrogeologist, Stu Grub participate in the development of the ground water model that will impact decision making for coming decades. The MPCA is offering reimbursement for time for participation in the technical workgroup and development of these plans. To participate, the MSCWMO must designate a signatory to approve reimbursement requests from the MPCA using the SWIFT (Statewide Integrated Financial Tool) system.

Manager Olfelt-Nelson asked about the structure of Administrator Isensee's workload and administrative budget. Administrator Isensee explained that the additional time for his workload comes through the Washington Conservation District and that there was flexibility to use admin time for these sorts of opportunities.

Manager Kylo moved to approve MSCWMO consultant and staff time to attend technical meetings, review and provide technical comments for the development of a groundwater model and a drinking water supply plan. Manager Collins seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Manager Dahl moved to authorize the MSCWMO Administrator as the signatory for the State of Minnesota SWIFT. Manager McCarthy seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Monitoring Equipment Replacement

Water quality monitoring technical staff sent the MSCWMO Area Velocity Sensor to the manufacturer testing because it was not operating within the required parameters. The manufacturer verified it was not functioning accurately and was not repairable. The replacement unit is \$1,409.00. The expenditure will be taken out of the water quality monitoring equipment savings account (RBC Savings Account). Due to the April 11, 2019 board meeting cancellation, the board chair approved the purchase and board approval is being requested after the purchase (and installation) of the monitoring equipment. Urgency was required so not to miss spring runoff water quality monitoring.

Manager Fellegy moved approve the purchase of a water quality monitoring area velocity sensor and 25.0' cord for \$1,409.00. Manager Olfelt-Nelson seconded this motion and the motion carried.

2019 MSCWMO Watershed Annual Report and Annual Monitoring Report- Board Action

Administrator Isensee said the MSCWMO was tracking to complete the projected phosphorus reduction in the 10 year management plan ahead of time. Manager Fellegy discussed his community City Council meeting in April in which the council talked about the MSCWMO's 9% budget increase for 2020 in comparison to Valley Branch Watershed District's 64% increase. Administrator Isensee explained that the VB watershed was going to embark on a large flood mitigation project from their 10 year management plan. Manager Fellegy moved to approve the 2019 MSCWMO Watershed Annual Report and Annual Monitoring Report for posting on the MSCWMO website after inclusion of edits from Manager Olfelt-Nelson. Manager Dahl seconded the motion and the motion carried.

1W1P Policy Meeting Report

Manager Fellegy reported on the 1W1P Policy meeting he attended. He said he felt it was an interesting process and that he noticed a rural/urban, north/south divide in some of the discussion. Manager Fellegy said he could not make the next meeting on May 28th but that he thought someone else should be there from the MSCWMO. Manager Fellegy said he felt it was a good thing overall, but that the meetings were tough to get through right now.

Perro Creek Shoreline Restoration Cost Share Application

Since 2018, the Bayport Girl Scouts Troop 56631 of Bayport has been working in partnership with the City of Bayport and the MSCWMO to restore native buffers on both sides of Perro Creek. In 2018 the Girl Scouts raised \$500 for native plants and installed for 100 linear feet along the Southwest side of Perro Park in Bayport. The buffers reduce shoreline erosion, block grass clippings from discharging into the creek, and re-establish native habitat along the creek corridor. Material costs for erosion control blanket, mulch and plants for the next 100 linear feet is \$1,750. Technical staff recommend allocating \$1,750.00 from the 2019 MSCWMO Cost Share for the purchase of materials to support the Girl Scouts restoration of the next 100 linear feet of Perro Creek native buffer.

The managers asked about the participants in the planting using rubber boots and hand sanitizer.

Manager Runk moved to approve expenditures from the MSCWMO Cost Share budget not to exceed \$1,750 for the Perro Creek Native Shoreline Restoration. Manager Fellegly seconded this motion and the motion carried.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Isensee said he would have more updates at the next board meeting but that he was busy lately with many different meetings.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.