

Regular Meeting of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Washington Conservation District, 455 Hayward Ave N
Thursday, October 12th, 2023
6:00PM

Present: Brian Zeller, Lakeland Shores; Carly Johnson, Oak Park Heights; Tom
McCarthy, Lake St. Croix Beach; Beth Olfelt-Nelson, St. Mary's Point; Annie Perkins, Afton;
Administrator Matt Downing; Amanda Herbrand, WCD; Cameron Blake, WCD
Audience: Dawn Bulera, John Dahl

Call to Order

Manager Zeller called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.

Approval of Agenda

Manager Johnson motioned to approve the agenda, Manager McCarthy seconded the motion.
The motion carried with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes

Manager Zeller motioned to approve the draft September 14th, 2023 board meeting minutes, and
Manager McCarthy seconded the motion. Manager Olfelt-Nelson abstained from the vote. The
motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Manager Olfelt-Nelson presented the treasurer's report. The remaining checking account balance
on October 12th was \$391,146.37. First Bank CD's were valued at \$38,549.15. The ending value
on the RBC savings account from September was \$91,825.47. Manager Perkins motioned to
approve the report of the savings account and assets for October 12th, 2023. Manager McCarthy
seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Bills to approve this month are one bill to Peterson Company for \$4,000.00 and five bills to the
Washington Conservation District for Admin, EMWREP, Grant, Technical Services, and Water
Monitoring totaling \$15,161.59. Manager Johnson motioned to approve payment of bills for
\$19,161.59 for October 12th, 2023. Manager McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion carried
with all in favor.

Public Comment

Dawn Bulera thanked the board for their cost share and stated satisfaction with her native
planting.

Old Business

None

New Business

Water Management Plan Update Contract

Administrator Downing presented an updated contract from the Washington Conservation
District for the Water Monitoring Plan update for board approval. Manager Zeller motion to

approve the updated contract, Manager Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

2023 BMP Inspections and Maintenance Summary

Cameron Blake from the Washington Conservation District presented a summary of maintenance activities performed by the WCD during the 2023 season.

2024 Meeting/Submittal Dates and Location

Administrator Downing presented the dates for project application deadlines and board meetings for 2024. Administrator Downing also asked the board if they would like to change the location for board meetings. Board members agreed the current location is working and makes remote attendance easier due to the space already being set up for hybrid meetings. Manager Zeller reminds board members that they have to inform Administrator Downing in advanced if they will be participating remotely. Manager Perkins clarified that remote attendance with no notice is acceptable twice if the participant is sick.

Manager Zeller motioned to approve the 2024 Meeting/Submittal Dates and Location, Manager McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Grant and Cost Share Applications

S. Bulera Native Planting Reimbursement

On June 8th the MSCWMO board approved cost share encumbrance of up to \$250 for the Stacey Bulera Pollinator Pocket Planting project located at 16787 16th St S in Lake St. Croix Beach, MN. This project partially shares a border with the Dawn Bulera Pollinator Pocket Planting at 16777 16th St S next door. This project also received support from the Washington Conservation District “Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood” grant in the amount of \$750. The landowner has submitted receipts for work (installation of native perennials) conducted in July and August of 2023, totaling \$427.77 in material costs. WCD staff have verified eligible expenses and have determined that the project meets design intent. WCD staff recommend approval of the final payment request.

Manager Zeller motioned to approve reimbursement of \$250.00 cost share for the installation of the Stacey Bulera Pollinator Pocket Planting. Manager Johnson seconded the request. The motion carried with all in favor.

S. Moosai Infiltration Basin Reimbursement

On August 11th 2022 the MSCWMO board approved cost share encumbrance of up to \$5,000 for installation of a 1,500 ft² bioretention basin located at 661 Quixote Ave N, Lakeland, MN 55043. This project also received support from the state cost share funding sources in the amount of \$10,000. The landowner has submitted receipts for work conducted in July of 2023, totaling \$19,770.00 in material and labor costs. WCD staff have verified all expenses and determined that the project meets design and performance standards. WCD staff recommend approval of the final payment request.

Manager McCarthy motioned to approve reimbursement of \$5,000.00 cost share for the installation of the Moosai Bioretention Basin. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Forester Infiltration Basin Reimbursement

On June 8th the MSCWMO board approved a Water Quality Improvement grant request of \$1,500 for the Forster residence Curb-cut Raingarden and Native Planting area. The goal of the project is to intercept runoff from Driving Park Road before it is directed to Lily Lake. The garden was installed in September of 2023. This project also received support from State Cost Share funding in the amount of \$3,200. The landowner has submitted a paid invoice and WCD staff have inspected the site and recommend approval of the final payment request. Manager Zeller motioned to approve reimbursement of \$1,500.00 cost share for the installation of the Foreseter Infiltration Basin. Manager Olfelt-Nelson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Thiets Native Planting Reimbursement

On September 14th the MSCWMO board approved cost share encumbrance of up to \$250 for the Thiets Pollinator Pocket Planting project located at 4950 Ordell Lane N Stillwater, MN. The landowner has submitted receipts for native seed that will be hand broadcast over the project site later this fall (after November 1st for fall dormant seeding). Native seed purchases total \$222.28 to date.

Manager Zeller motioned to approve reimbursement of \$222.28 cost share for the installation of the Thiets Pollinator Pocket Planting. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Sunnyside Condos Native Planting Reimbursement

On March 3rd, the MSCWMO board approved cost share encumbrance of up to \$500 for the Sunnyside Condos Pollinator Pocket Planting project located at 6375 St. Croix Trail N in Stillwater, MN. HOA committee representatives have submitted receipts for materials and labor totaling \$5,050.03. WCD staff have verified all eligible expenses and have determined that the project meets design intent. WCD staff recommend approval of the final payment request. Manager Perkins motioned to approve reimbursement of \$500.00 cost share for the installation of the Sunnyside Condos Pollinator Pocket Planting. Manager Olfelt-Nelson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Swanson Native Planting Reimbursement

On June 8th, the MSCWMO board approved cost share encumbrance of up to \$500 for the Swanson Landscaping for Habitat project located at 4425 Odegard Ave N in Baytown Township, MN. Charley Swanson has submitted receipts for material purchases in the amount of \$1,474.86 to date, which include native seed, low-maintenance turf seed, straw mulch, soil amendments, and landscape edging. Installation is expected to continue into 2024. WCD staff have verified all eligible expenses and have determined that the project meets design intent. WCD staff recommend approval of the final payment request.

Manager Perkins motioned to approve reimbursement of \$500.00 cost share for the installation of the Swanson Landscaping for Habitat project, Manager Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Plan Reviews/Submittals

Cates Fine Homes Office – INFORM

A partial application for construction of an office building was received on June 23rd. Additional submittal materials and the review fee has been received, however, the initial staff review

revealed that the site was located in a high vulnerability drinking water source management area (DWSMA) and public water supply well emergency response area (ERA) where the proposed infiltration practices are not appropriate and prohibited. MSCWMO staff has requested that applicant revise and resubmit.

Orner Shoreline – ACTION

An application for a shoreline stabilization at 499 Quinlan Ave S in Lakeland was received on September 19th. MSCWMO staff recommended approval with two conditions on September 26th and a minor revision addressed one of the conditions with MSCWMO staff recommending approval with one remaining condition on September 29th:

1. Project involves filling below the FEMA base flood elevation (692.00 feet NAVD88) and must comply with City of Lakeland Floodplain Ordinance requirements.

Manager Zeller motioned to approve the project with the one condition, Manager Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Greeley Street Retail – INFORM

An application for project review for a proposed carwash facility at 14130 60th St N in Stillwater was received May 24th, 2023. Shortly after the initial staff review and request of additional submittal items the ownership of the property changed hands and the project was put on hold. The new owner has since re-engaged with the design consultant to resume the process for project review and additional submittal items have been received, however the review fee has not yet been received and MSCWMO staff are awaiting receipt of the review fee before initiating further review.

Quinn Barn Project – DISCUSS

An application for project review was received on September 9th for an “after-the-fact” project consisting of 2975 sf of new/reconstructed concrete surfacing around an existing barn structure at 2269 River Rd S in St. Mary’s Point. Initial materials submitted were insufficient to complete a project review and additional materials were requested and received on September 29th. The revised materials proposed a rain garden with a volume control capacity of 177 cf capable of treating the required 1.1” of runoff from only 1,930 sf of new/reconstructed impervious. Additionally, only about 1,100 sf of the new/reconstructed impervious will drain to the proposed rain garden and the remaining 1,875 sf of new/reconstructed impervious will drain offsite unmitigated. A potential solution to meet the MSCWMO performance goals would be to expand the rain garden capacity to a minimum of 273 cf and direct at least 2,975 square feet of impervious surface to the rain garden by treating the existing roof runoff to offset the unmitigated impervious surfaces that discharge offsite. MSCWMO staff are requesting board discussion and recommendations for this unique situation.

Manager Zeller proposes sending a response to the community that summarizes the problems with the site, proposes a list of solutions that include potentially removing concrete, and emphasizes being clear with the wording in the response so that there is no room for interpretation. Manager Olfelt-Nelson asks about adding a drain to the end of the driveway to avoid water draining to the road, Manager Zeller and Administrator Downing agree that it would be a solution but would be difficult now that the concrete for the driveway is already in place.

Erosion and Sediment Control Inspection Reports

None

Staff Report

Administrator Downing presented the staff report.

The Lily Lake Phosphorus Reductions for Delisting CWF Grant has been closed out, Administrator Downing will be presenting about the project at the Minnesota Water Resources Conference this fall. The Phase II Lake St. Croix Small Communities Phosphorus Reduction Grant work is underway, Lake St. Croix Beach has been reimbursed for the bluff toe project.

U.S. SiteWork has begun construction of the Lakeland Beach restoration/stabilization project, which utilizes the remaining funds under LSC Direct

Phase II. Work is expected to run through October and be completed before the November meeting.

Water monitoring for the season is wrapping up, a report of the season's activities can be expected in the spring. No erosion and sediment control inspections were conducted this month, but a fall reminder will be sent out to remind active projects to prepare their sites for winter. In addition, Administrator Downing attended several meetings in September and early October.

1W1P Updates

None

Other

None

Adjourn

Manager Zeller motioned to adjourn the meeting, Manager Perkins seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:53.