



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Regular Meeting Minutes of the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Board of Managers, for **Wednesday, April 7, 2010, 6:00 p.m.** at the office of the CRWD, 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55108.

I. Called to Order at 6:00 p.m. (President, Bob Piram)

A) Attendance

Robert Piram
Joe Collins
Seitu Jones
Mike Thienes
Marylyn Deneen (absent w/notice)

Others Present

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Bob Fossum, CRWD
Forrest Kelley, CRWD
Dawn Nelson, CRWD
Elizabeth Beckman, CRWD
Anna Eleria, CRWD

Jerome Wagner, CAC

Todd Shoemaker
Wenck & Associates
David MacMillan,
Ramsey County Attorney
Kevin Flynn, Resident
Beth Kunkel, Kimley Horn and
Associates
Ashley Fosmo, Kimley Horn
and Associates

B) Review, Amendments and Approval of the Agenda

Manager Piram asked for additions or changes to the Agenda. Administrator Doneux added a Special Report on a residential green roof project to be presented by Kevin Flynn. Manager Thienes asked for an update on Manager Marylyn Deneen under general information.

The Board adopted the Agenda as amended by consensus.

II. Public Comment – For items not on the Agenda.

Jerome Wagner submitted the following written statement for the Board of Managers to consider “for an agency that has the mission of protecting and improving water quality in an urban/suburban environment, it could well be cost-effective to use a frog species as water quality monitors. In our artesian bowl of geology, it may be especially wise to choose a cold water frog as that monitor.”

III. Permit Applications

A) Permit # 10-002 Highway 36 and Rice Street Interchange Reconstruction (Kelley)

Mr. Kelley said the Highway 36 and Rice Street Interchange project proposal includes impacts to multiple wetlands within the legal boundaries of Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD) and the legal and hydrologic boundaries of CRWD. Mr. Kelley said District staff attended a meeting of the Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) to discuss the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) and District Wetland Rules. Mr. Kelley discussed with the Board a Wetland Impact comment letter from staff, a response to comments from Kimley-Horn and Associates, and a figure identifying the proposed wetland impacts. Mr. Kelley noted that as outlined in the March 15, 2010 letter from Kimley-Horn and Associates, the applicant has adequately addressed the WCA sequencing that requires projects to avoid, minimize, or replace wetland impacts. The impacts to wetlands C and D will be fully mitigated through the BWSR Road Replacement Program as allowed by State law. However, CRWD Rules require that wetlands be replaced within the District and there are no wetland credits available in Ramsey County. Mr. Kelley said in order to satisfy this requirement the applicant must provide additional information. In addition to providing the stormwater function on-site, staff have included a condition of approval that Ramsey County request that BWSR create

wetland bank credits within CRWD. Mr. Kelley explained that it is the intent of CRWD to actively seek and identify potential sites for wetland creation, and involve Ramsey County and BWSR staff early in the location and design in order to gain support for approval of funds from the Road Replacement Program. Mr. Kelley said staff feel that the combination of providing equivalent stormwater function on-site, full mitigation for wetland impacts through the BWSR Road Replacement Program, and Ramsey County support of CRWD efforts to locate wetland sites for banking credits meets the intent of the Rule requirement to replace wetlands within the District.

Motion 10-04-01: *To approve Permit #10-002 Highway 36 and Rice Street Interchange with four conditions.*

1. Receipt of maintenance agreement.
2. Determine volume amount to be deposited in the CRWD and RWMWD volume retention banks.
3. Request that the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources restore wetland within CRWD for this project and coordinate with CRWD and BWSR to identify potential locations for wetland creation to obtain credits within the CRWD through the BWSR Road Replacement Program.
4. Satisfy conditions identified in RWMWD permit.

Jones/Thienes

Unanimously Approved

B) Permit #10-004 Anderson Student Center (Kelley)

Forrest Kelley reviewed CRWD Permit # 10-004 Anderson Student Center. The applicant is the University of St. Thomas and the project is removal of an existing parking lot and construction of a new student center building. Mr. Kelley noted that the proposed project is the second of two phases. Phase 1 included a new athletic and recreational building, while phase 2 includes a new student center and stormwater management for both phases. Mr. Kelley noted that the Board approved plans for Phase 1 at the April 16, 2009 Board meeting. Mr. Kelley said the applicable rules are Stormwater Management (Rule C), Erosion Control (Rule F) and Floodplain Management (Rule D). Mr. Kelley said this project has 6.9 acres of disturbed area, 2.76 acres of proposed impervious surface and the proposed stormwater management will include underground infiltration and swirl separators for pre-treatment. The staff recommendation is to approve the permit with no conditions.

Motion 10-04-02: *To approve permit #10-004 Anderson Student Center without conditions.*

Thienes/Jones

Unanimously Approved

C) Permit #10-005 City of Saint Paul – Seventh and Douglas RSVP (Kelley)

Forrest Kelley reviewed CRWD Permit # 10-005 City of Saint Paul – Seventh and Douglas. The applicant is the City of Saint Paul Public Works and the project is reconstruction of select streets and utilities near West Seventh and Douglas Streets. Mr. Kelley noted that the location is between I-35E and Shepard Road from Webster to Chestnut. Mr. Kelley said the applicable rules are Stormwater Management (Rule C), Erosion Control (Rule F) and Floodplain Management (Rule D). Mr. Kelley said this project has 5.34 acres of disturbed area, 5.34 acres of proposed impervious surface and the proposed stormwater management will include sump catch basins with hoods and the applicant requested volume bank deferral. The staff recommendation is to table the permit with four conditions. Discussion occurred.

Motion 10-04-03: *To table permit #10-005 City of Saint Paul – Seventh and Douglas RSVP subject to the following four conditions:*

1. Submit all plan sheets for review. Plan sheets 3-6 were not included in the submittal. Ensure that a typical detail or cross-section of the street is included.
2. Evaluate potential and document feasibility of installation of stormwater BMPs at the following locations in the attached photographs:

- a. NE corner of West Seventh and Forbes
 - b. NW corner of Harrison and Garfield
 - c. South of Railroad tracks near Erie/Randolph at Shepard Road
 - d. Pervious pavement street sections throughout the project.
3. Provide hoods or tees in catch basins to achieve gross pollutant removal
 4. Provide a plan for implementation of projects to provide positive banking credits.
- Thienes/Collins
Unanimously Approved

CCLRT Update (Kelley)

Forrest Kelley said on March 19, 2010, CRWD received a permit application for the CCLRT project. Mr. Kelley said the permit application was deemed incomplete and a letter was sent March 26, 2010 identifying the submittal items required to complete the permit review. Mr. Kelley said Metropolitan Council has requested CRWD to consider granting volume reduction credits above and beyond the actual storage volume provided within the BMP based on estimates of the capacity of the soils to infiltrate stormwater. Mr. Kelley noted that the submittal includes calculations of contributing drainage areas that are outside the University Avenue or adjacent Right of Way. Mr. Kelley said the application includes the Operation and Maintenance Facility. This portion of the project is not considered linear, and is not eligible for cost cap consideration.

D) Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Stormwater Volume Credits (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux said in November of 2009 CRWD staff met with the City of Saint Paul Public Works staff and their consultants to consider alternative methods to calculate volume reduction credits. WSB & Associates provide a report that evaluated the CRWD method and their own interpretation of the Minnesota Stormwater Manual. Administrator Doneux said since that meeting staff responded on February 8, 2010 and received a follow-up letter from the City on March 23, 2010. Administrator Doneux said the WSB report listed the CRWD method as having 125,937 acre-feet of storage and using their interpretation either 413,904 or 516,884 acre-feet should be credited. Administrator Doneux stated that this proposed approach would increase credits 228-310 % more than currently allowed. CRWD staff responded to the City's request on February 8th and outlined the reasons and concerns with the City's approach. Staff did not agree to any changes to the current CRWD method for calculating volume credits for CCLRT or any other project. Administrator Doneux said the core of the City's approach is running large, 2-3" rain events through a model with high infiltration rates that count infiltration during a storm. Staff recognizes that some amount of infiltration may be occurring during a storm event. However, to believe that this can be calculated, credited and be assured that it will occur over the expected life time of the practice is not possible. Administrator Doneux said staff strongly recommend that CRWD stay with the current sizing of stormwater BMP's. The end result of using the City approach would be a significant reduction in stormwater volume and water quality treatment. The Board agreed with the current approach and expressed concerns about using a method that could lead to smaller BMPs and less treatment. Administrator Doneux noted that staff met with the District's consultant team as well as staff and engineers from Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District in developing our February 8th response. The Board reviewed and provided comment on the draft response letter. Administrator Doneux said he has set up a meeting with John Mazcko and would withhold sending the letter pending the outcome of their meeting.

IV. Special Reports

Stewardship Grants & Residential Green Roofs

Mr. Flynn said he is an architect and a resident in the St. Paul's Highland neighborhood. Mr. Flynn said his project is his home and his architecture practice, EcoDEEP. Mr. Flynn's project will seek Minnesota GreenStar Gold level certification for their home, which incorporates renewable energy systems, nontoxic building materials, and innovative stormwater management techniques in the landscape. Mr. Flynn said his

family purchased the home and began construction immediately during January of 2008. Mr. Flynn said the family moved into the home the weekend of July 4th 2008 so the construction was completely fairly quickly. The Board thanked Mr. Flynn for his presentation.

V. Action Items

Consent Agenda

Manager Piram asked for a motion to approve the April 7, 2010 Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion 10-04-05:

- A) *Approve Minutes of the March 17, 2010 Regular Meeting as presented.*
- B) *Approve Minutes of the March 25, 2010 Special Meeting as presented.*
- C) *Approve Williams Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$500 subject to the following conditions:*
 - 1. *CRWD and Guy Williams must approve and enter into a Cooperative Agreement;*
 - 2. *Any changes to project plans must be approved by CRWD; and*
 - 3. *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*
- D) *Approve Kloos and Wolff Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$430 subject to the following conditions:*
 - 1. *CRWD and Eric Kloos and Maria Wolff must approve and enter into a Cooperative Agreement;*
 - 2. *Any changes to project plans must be approved by CRWD; and*
 - 3. *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*
- E) *Approve Jorgenson Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$340 subject to the following conditions:*
 - 1. *CRWD and Steve Jorgenson must approve and enter into a Cooperative Agreement;*
 - 2. *Any changes to project plans must be approved by CRWD; and*
 - 3. *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*
- F) *Approve Truitt and Langer Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$370 subject to the following conditions:*
 - 1. *CRWD and Peter Truitt and Margaret Langer must approve and enter into a Cooperative Agreement;*
 - 2. *Any changes to project plans must be approved by CRWD; and*
 - 3. *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*
- G) *Approve Schneider Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$865 subject to the following conditions:*
 - 1. *CRWD and Katheryn Schneider must approve and enter into a Cooperative Agreement;*
 - 2. *Any changes to project plans must be approved by CRWD; and*
 - 3. *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*

Thienes/Jones
Unanimously approved

Discussion

H) Work Plan for the Crosby Lake Management Plan (Eleria)

Ms. Eleria noted that as a recipient of a Clean Water Assistance Grant from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Capitol Region Watershed District is required to prepare a work plan for the development of the Crosby Lake Management Plan. CRWD staff presented the draft work plan to the Board of Managers at their March 3rd Board meeting and have provided it to the project's contributing sponsors which include the City of Saint Paul, Ramsey County Public Works, Ramsey Conservation District, National Park Service and others. Ms. Eleria said staff received a comment letter from the City of Saint Paul on the draft work plan in mid-March. This letter was presented at the March 17th Board meeting to obtain guidance from the Board on how to respond to several substantive comments. Ms. Eleria said staff has addressed the City's comments appropriately and prepared a response letter for the Board's review. Ms. Eleria said staff also

received comments from the National Park Service and updated the project budget based on financial information from the project's contributing sponsors. Ms. Eleria noted that upon approval of the work plan by the Board, staff will submit the plan to MPCA for their review and approval, which may take up to 60 days. Ms. Eleria said no work on the project can commence until MPCA has approved the work plan. Manager Thienes noted that everything the Board has discussed has been incorporated into the Plan and said staff did a good job.

Motion 10-04-06: *Approve Work Plan for Crosby Lake Management Plan.*

Jones/Thienes

Unanimously approved

I) Mitrione Stewardship Grant (Eleria)

Ms. Eleria said staff received a Stewardship Grant application from Steve Mitrione for a raingarden in his boulevard located at 1806 Hubbard Avenue in Saint Paul. Mr. Mitrione is proposing to construct a 500 square-foot raingarden in the boulevard to capture runoff from the street, sidewalk and other impervious areas. Runoff from nearly 19,000 square-feet of impervious surface will drain to the raingarden. The raingarden will infiltrate over 1,000 cubic feet of water from the one-inch storm. Ms. Eleria said the raingarden will have two cells connected by a perforated drain tile. Water will enter the first cell through a three-foot curb cut and then flow into a pre-treatment chamber that will prevent trash and coarse debris from entering the raingarden. Ms. Eleria said staff recommends approval of funding for the Mitrione project not to exceed \$3,100. Ms. Eleria noted that this requested amount exceeds the maximum award amount of \$2,000 for Stewardship Grant projects by single-family homeowners. However, Mr. Mitrione's raingarden project is unique and larger in scale than a typical single-family homeowner project as it will infiltrate and treat stormwater runoff that extends beyond his property boundaries including public Right of Way. Manager Piram asked if there is a curb cut. Ms. Eleria said there is not currently but Public Works has granted permission for a curb cut.

Motion 10-04-07: *Approve the Mitrione Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$3,100 subject to the following conditions:*

1. *CRWD and Steve Mitrione must approve and enter into a Cooperative Agreement;*
2. *Any changes to project plans must be approved by the CRWD; and*
3. *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*

Thienes/Jones

Unanimously approved

J) Contract Amendments for CCLRT Consultants (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux reported that since 2009, CRWD staff and its three engineering consultants, Barr Engineering, EOR and Wenck Associates, have been working with Met Council, the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County on the development of sustainable stormwater best management practices (BMPs) in the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) project area. The first project task was a stormwater design workshop held in late June 2009. The engineering consultants assisted with the planning of the workshop, developed workshop materials, attended the workshop and prepared a summary report of the workshop. Administrator Doneux said the second task was the review and comment on the integrated stormwater tree trench system along University Avenue designed by Met Council. The engineering consultants attended various meetings, evaluated the system design and locations and estimated its performance. Administrator Doneux said the third task was the development of plans for additional green infrastructure practices in CCLRT project area. The engineering consultants evaluated the University Avenue project area for its suitability for infiltration based on various criteria and designed six green infrastructure practices that included three stormwater planters, one raingarden and two infiltration trenches. Administrator Doneux reviewed a complete project budget for CCLRT stormwater BMPs with the Board that includes all expenses and revenue for the three project tasks. Project expenses include CRWD staff, engineering consultants,

construction and miscellaneous expenses. Revenue sources include stormwater impact fund for the workshop, Met Council's financial obligation to meet CRWD Rules, City of Saint Paul tree trench system contribution and BWSR Clean Water Legacy Grant for the additional green infrastructure practices. Administrator Doneux also reviewed the project budget for CCLRT engineering consultants with the Board noting that the Board approved a budget for the consultants for \$151,900. To date, the consultants have spent \$182,600 for the three project tasks, which exceeds the authorized budget by \$30,700. Additional consultant work was needed to complete the stormwater design summary report and prepare the additional green infrastructure practice plans, specifications and cost estimates for direct incorporation into the CCLRT Civil East bid package. The original scope of work for the additional green infrastructure practices included only development of preliminary designs not development of final plans, specifications and cost estimates. CRWD staff did not obtain prior approval from the Board for this additional work because this project was on-going and under a tight schedule to meet Met Council's bid package deadline, which required quick responses and actions on the BMP designs and plans. Administrator Doneux reviewed the project and engineering consultant budgets with the Board and requested an additional \$31,000 for CCLRT engineering consultant work. Manager Thienes asked that the Board be given a heads up that a project may run over budget prior to actually spending all the funds.

Motion 10-04-08: *Approve contract amendment for CCLRT engineering consultants not to exceed \$31,000 subject to the approval by the Ramsey County attorney.*

Thienes/Collins

Unanimously approved

VI. Unfinished Business

A) NPDES – MS4 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Update (Eleria)

Ms. Eleria said since 2006, CRWD has identified an illicit discharge problem in the East Kittsondale storm sewer from its stormwater monitoring data. Last year, CRWD monitored stormwater in East Kittsondale more frequently for bacteria and added other parameters to aid in distinguishing between the four illicit discharge types: sanitary wastewater; washwater; natural water; and tap and/or irrigation water. Ms. Eleria said staff provided the City of Saint Paul periodic updates on bacteria results in the East Kittsondale storm sewer in 2009. Ms. Eleria reviewed a letter that was sent to the city that summarized the 2009 water quality and flow monitoring results and visual observations. The 2009 results and observations illustrate that there remains frequent illicit discharges contaminated with bacteria into the East Kittsondale storm sewer. Ms. Eleria provided an update on the City's activities used to track and eliminate illicit discharges into East Kittsondale storm sewer. Manager Piram noted that the District first contacted the City of St. Paul three years ago. Manager Piram said staff should meet with the City of St. Paul staff and show them the presentation that shows the bacteria and growth.

B) Education and Outreach Update – K-12 Education Initiatives (Beckman)

Ms. Beckman explained that when the CRWD Education Plan was developed, homeowner, municipal staff, and contractor audiences were targeted for outreach because they were identified as primary stormwater polluters in the District. Although students were not identified as significant polluters, the Education Plan also states that CRWD staff will coordinate and/or provide classroom and field education in order to increase understanding of basic watershed, stormwater, and water pollution among K-12 students. Ms. Beckman said staff seeks additional guidance prioritizing this broad directive related to the promotion of school based visits. The District currently accommodates requests for classroom presentations using two volunteers. The District also has available for checkout the Enviroscope™ tabletop nonpoint source pollution model and a water quality education teacher guide with accompanying activities and supplies. Ms. Beckman said classroom visits to the more than 100 schools in the District offer an audience with a represented cross-section of the watershed population, but presentation content is generalized and it is difficult to measure even short term outcomes. While the District will continue to respond to teacher requests for presentations using

volunteers, one full time position has not been adequate for promoting classroom programming to a large number of schools, nor has it allowed time to create meaningful linkages between coursework and water pollution prevention activities. One way of being more intentional about impacting youth in the District is to foster a limited number of partnerships where more meaningful training and evaluation components are designed for each learning groups. Like classroom contacts, these partnerships would help CRWD meet its goal of reaching out to the District's diverse population, and would have other benefits like exposing students to career opportunities and offering guided field experiences. Ms. Beckman said a new potential ongoing partner is Community Design Center of Minnesota's Youth Conservation Corps. Ms. Beckman noted that St. Paul Parks and Recreation funds youth interns aged 14 through 18 and in addition to learning basic job skills, interns are directly involved in habitat restoration, stormwater management, and environmental stewardship projects on the city's East Side. Along with a stewardship grant for program support, CRWD staff could offer opportunities to help with events, and a guided field experience for the 43 youth involved in the program. Ms. Beckman said by evaluating the learning resulting from water quality education portions of the interns' work, we increase our potential to measure the impact of our efforts. Staff recommends developing more strategic partnerships for focused K-12 education and continuing to accommodate classroom presentation requests. Manager Thienes said all the projects and programs for Education are a good idea and it is hard to say no but not everything can be done. Manager Piram said if there is a way staff can do this while minimizing staff time then the District should do it.

C) St. Paul Fire Department Green Roof Signage Update (Beckman)

Ms. Beckman explained that on December 5, 2008 Board Managers approved a City of St. Paul 2009 Special Grant request for reimbursement funding for an amount not to exceed \$88,000 for the Green Roof Interpretive Center and Garden Classroom at the City Fire Station Headquarters Building. In October 2009 the Board approved an additional \$32,500 for green roof education and project monitoring. This includes \$20,000 for interpretive stations and signage, \$10,500 for printed guides and classroom materials, and \$2,000 of CRWD staff time serving on an education subcommittee. Ms. Beckman said District staff has attended regular meetings of the St. Paul Fire Station Green Roof Education Subcommittee which also includes St. Paul Fire Department education director Paula Peterson, RWMWD education coordinator Sage Passi, Parks and Recreation environmental specialist Meghan Manhatton, and City of St. Paul employees Dave Nelson and Phil Belfiori. CRWD staff created the draft sign text in cooperation with American Society of Landscape Architects staff Keith Swann. Text was reviewed by the Subcommittee as well as Minnesota Green Roofs Council board member Chris Wegscheid. St. Paul Real Estate Department graphic designer Joan Chinn will design and layout the signage, and Vacker Sign of Roseville will fabricate the sign pieces. Ms. Beckman noted that the next steps for the subcommittee are the creation of classroom and tour materials in advance of a late summer 2010 grand opening event.

D) City of Saint Paul Water Resources Work Group (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux said there was a meeting April 6th and another one scheduled for May 4th.

VII. General Information

A) Administrator's Report

Administrator Doneux gave the Administrators Report and noted the following events and announcements:

- 1) The 2009 District Audit is underway and should be completed in the next week.
- 2) 2010 Seasonal staff Andrea Bolks and Christopher Lundeen started March 22nd.

- 3) The CRWD has been notified that the Arlington Pascal Stormwater Improvement Project is one of the finalists for the Minnesota Environmental Initiative awards. The Awards Ceremony is Thursday, May 27th from 5:00 – 9:00 PM. Details will be made available as they are known.
- 4) The Bid opening for the Gottfried's Pit project is Friday, April 9th.
- 5) Staff will be presenting the District's Stream Corridor and Wetland Restoration Plan to the St. Paul Port Authority.
- 6) Metro MAWD will meet on April 20th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM at the CRWD office. Manager Thienes will assume the chair position with Metro MAWD.
- 7) District staff has been selected to give presentations in Denver the week of April 26th at the National Water Monitoring Conference. Matt will give a presentation on the District's Water Monitoring Program and Melissa will present the BMP Effectiveness report.
- 8) The March 29, 2010 MAWD Legislative Report was included in the packet for the Boards information.
- 9) The April Education and Outreach Program Activity Report for April was included in the packet for the Board's information.

Manager Marylyn Deneen Update (Nelson)

Dawn Nelson reminded everyone that Manager Marylyn Deneen was in a car accident a couple of months ago and has been on bed rest with a broken sternum. Ms. Nelson said she speaks to Manager Deneen at least once a week and she is in good spirits. District Staff Anna Eleria and Mark Doneux had a visit with Marylyn last Friday at her home for an hour and agreed that Marylyn was doing well and looking forward to returning to the meetings soon.

VIII. Meeting Agenda Review

Wednesday, April 21, 2010 Regular Meeting Agenda Review

IX. Adjournment – 9:00 p.m. adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Nelson

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