



APPROVED May 13, 2009

# Capitol Region Watershed District

1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4 St. Paul, MN 55108

Phone: (651) 644-8888 Fax: (651) 644-8894 www.capitolregionwd.org

## Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

April 8, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

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### CAC Members Present:

David Arbeit, Jim Cotner, Steven Duerre, Jerry Kafka, Michael MacDonald, Ted McCaslin, Shirley A. Reider, Michelle Ulrich, Mara Humphrey and Nick Quade

**Members absent with notice:** Paul Kammueler, Judith Monson, Brandon Wiarda (*absent until spring 09'*).

### Others Present:

CRWD Manager Mike Thienes

Mark Doneux, CRWD Staff

Dawn Nelson, CRWD Staff

Geoff Nash, Ramsey Conservation District

Tom Peterson, Ramsey Conservation District

Pat Conrad, EOR, Inc.

### 1. Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Shirley Reider opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. with a request for announcements. Ms. Reider introduced Mara Humphrey and Nick Quade, Ramsey Conservation District liaison for the CAC. Mr. Duerre reminded everyone that the Spring Park Clean-up is on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 9-11AM at the Como Lakeside Pavilion.

### 2. Public Comment – For items not on the Agenda.

No public comments.

### 3. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Reider asked for additions or changes to the agenda. There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

**CAC 09-04-01 Motion:** *To approve the CAC April 8, 2009 agenda as presented.*

Arbeit/Duerre

Unanimously approved

### 4. Approval of the March 11, 2009 CAC Minutes

Ms. Reider asked for additions or changes to the March 11, 2009 CAC Minutes. Mr. Arbeit said he had minor corrections and provided them to Dawn Nelson.

**CAC 09-04-02 Motion:** *To approve the March 11, 2009 CAC Minutes as amended.*

Duerre/Arbeit

Unanimously approved

### 5. Items for Review and Comment Requested by Board of Managers

#### Revised Ramsey County Groundwater Plan – Geoff Nash, Groundwater Specialist, Ramsey Conservation District

Mr. Nash said on behalf of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, the Ramsey Conservation District has prepared a revised draft Ramsey County Groundwater Protection Plan in an effort to protect the vital drinking water and industrial water resources of Ramsey County. Mr. Nash said the previous plan was published in 1996. Because groundwater is not limited by political boundaries, a County Groundwater

Protection Plan is needed to coordinate groundwater protection policies and activities on a wider basis than the municipal level.

This Plan conveys the message of aquifer vulnerability in the face of current and future land use, as well as the sense of how little is known about the quality and quantity of groundwater in Ramsey County. Management of this vital resource is not possible without investment. This Plan sets out to rectify this deficiency. Ramsey Conservation District, as the author of this Plan, has the capacity to be the center of the Plan's implementation. Following plan approval, implementation is the phase that will put the recommendations in place and provide the institutional structure for protecting Ramsey County's groundwater.

Mr. Nash said RCD has cost share funding for sealing abandoned wells. Ramsey Conservation District will reimburse 50% up to \$750 per well or \$1,500 per property for multiple wells. If residents want to keep their well in use for watering their lawns, they must pay a \$160 permit fee.

Mr. Nash said the Ramsey County Groundwater Protection Plan is currently in the 60-day review period. The review period closes on May 7, 2009. Administrator Doneux said the Board will be approving formal comments on the plan at the April 15<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The Committee thanked Mr. Nash for his presentation.

### **Inventory and Assessment Section - Watershed Management Plan, Pat Conrad, Emmons Olivier and Resources, Inc.**

Mr. Conrad reviewed the draft Inventory and Assessment Section of the Plan with the Committee. Mr. Conrad explained that the inventory and assessment section is a required element for Watershed Management Plans. The draft section is based on the required elements listed in MN Rule 8410 which was also reviewed with the Committee as it defines all statutory components of the WMP Plan. The Committee thanked Mr. Conrad for his presentation.

## **6. Discussion**

**No items for discussion**

## **7. Staff and Program Updates**

### **1. Permit Program Update**

Administrator Doneux said Forrest Kelley will provide a Permit Program update at the May CAC meeting. Administrator Doneux said staff are developing a more detailed Workplan that would assess the permit threshold in order to achieve stormwater management on sites disturbing less than one acre. Staff refined the workplan for developing enhanced stormwater standards for small sites to focus on gathering the necessary information about small sites throughout the District.

Mr. Arbeit asked about the status of the Central Corridor Light Rail. Administrator Doneux said staff have had regular discussions with Met Council staff regarding structure, facilitators and the schedule for the workshop. Administrator Doneux said the workshop will likely be held May 14 or 21. Mr. Arbeit said he could attend May 14<sup>th</sup> but not the 21<sup>st</sup>. Steve Duerre said he could attend May 21<sup>st</sup> but not the 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **2. 2009 CAC Elections**

Ms. Reider announced that it was election time. The committee will elect 2 co-chairs and a secretary. Ms. Reider explained that she and David Arbeit have been co-chairs for quite some time and it was a great experience. Ms. Reider said the Secretary serves as a second set of eyes to review the minutes prior to being mailed. Ms. Reider said anyone is welcome to volunteer to be an officer. Mr. Arbeit said he would like to step down as co-chair and he nominated Paul KammueLLer. Mr. KammueLLer is absent today so his

nomination is contingent on him accepting the position. Ms. Reider agreed to remain a co-chair. Michelle Ulrich agreed to continue as Secretary.

**CAC 09-04-03 Motion:** Shirley Reider and Paul Kammuehler elected as co-chairs, subject to Paul Kammuehler accepting the nomination.

Cotner/Arbeit

Unanimously Approved

**CAC 09-04-04 Motion:** Michelle Ulrich was re-elected as Secretary.

Arbeit/MacDonald

Unanimously Approved

## **8. Board of Managers and CAC Observer Update**

Shirley Reider attended the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Reider reported that the Special Report was given by Jesse Acosta. Ms. Reider reminded the committee that Jesse was the stewardship grant recipient who gave a presentation on his science project in 2007 that won him the regional competition and advanced him to the National competition in 2008. Mr. Arbeit asked staff if there have been other young people interested in getting involved with the District. Manager Thienes said the District has had student interns from a local high school.

Manager Thienes reviewed recent Board actions including a permit and grant update. Manager Thienes said the Board reviewed the Draft Issue Statements, Goals and Policies section of the 2010 Watershed Management Plan (WMP). Manager Thienes said the Board also reviewed the Draft Inventory and Assessment section.

## **9. Discussion - New & Old Issues**

Mike MacDonald noted that the District 10 Environment Committee lecture series last lecture has been rescheduled May 7<sup>th</sup> and will be at the CRWD office.

## **10. May 13, 2009 Agenda Overview**

**11. Adjourn** - Committee agreed to adjourn at 8:55 by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Nelson

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