



APPROVED April 8, 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

March 11, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

David Arbeit, William Barton, Bill Downing, Steven Duerre, Paul Kammuller, Michael MacDonald, Ted McCaslin, Ole Olmanson, Shirley A. Reider, Michelle Ulrich, Jerome Wagner

Members absent with notice: James Cotner, Judith Monson, Brandon Wiarda (*absent until spring 09*),

Others Present:

CRWD Manager Mike Thienes
Bob Fossum, CRWD Staff
Elizabeth Storey, CRWD Staff
Dawn Nelson, CRWD Staff

1. Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

David Arbeit opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. with a request for announcements. Mr. Arbeit announced a Spring Parks Clean-up on Saturday, April 11th, 9-11AM with a kick-off at 8:30 at the Como Lakeside Pavilion. Elizabeth Storey said there is a poster in the reception area with times and locations of several events. Mr. Arbeit announced a forum to learn more about hostas on Thursday, April 2nd from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. at the CRWD office.

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

Mr. Wagner said he still believes Loeb Lake should be classified as a groundwater lake and not a recharge lake.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Arbeit asked for additions or changes to the agenda. There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

CAC 09-03-01 Motion: *To approve the CAC March 11, 2009 agenda as presented.*

Reider/Downing
Unanimously approved

4. Approval of the February 11, 2009 CAC Minutes

Mr. Arbeit asked for additions or changes to the February 11, 2009 CAC Minutes. There were no additions or changes to the February 11, 2009 Minutes.

CAC 09-03-02 Motion: *To approve the February 11, 2009 CAC Minutes as presented.*

Reider/Duerre
Unanimously approved

5. Review and Comment Requested by Board of Managers

Draft Education and Outreach Plan – Elizabeth Storey

Ms. Storey noted that the Citizens Advisory Committee reviewed a draft Education and Outreach Plan at the January 14th meeting. Ms. Storey said since that meeting revisions made to the Education and Outreach Plan include budget estimates, program descriptions, and minor narrative edits. At their March 4th meeting, the CRWD Board authorized the distribution of the Plan in its current form to members of the Citizen's

Advisory Committee, city officials and other partners for feedback, primarily on the Implementation and Workplan sections for a comment period. Mr. Arbeit asked how long the comment period is for. Ms. Storey said it is a 30 day comment period and the comment period ends March 25th. Staff will bring the Education Plan back to the Board April 1st. Ms. Storey highlighted the areas and programs that the CAC are invited to be involved in. The Committee had general questions regarding the plan. Ms. Storey stated staff would take any additional comments from individual members through March 25th. The Committee thanked Ms. Storey for the update.

Draft Issues, Goals and Policies for Watershed Management Plan, Bob Fossum

Mr. Fossum said the District has developed draft Issue Statements, Goals and Policies for review by the CAC and other advisory groups. In compiling over 400 issue comments staff has drafted Issue Statements, Goals, and Policies that staff feel reflect all of the comments included in the issue matrix including previous issues and ones identified during the 2010 WMP process. Mr. Arbeit asked why one document had 21 issues and the larger document had 435 issues. Mr. Fossum explained that the 435 issues are broken down into the 21 main issues. Mr. Fossum said at the February 12th board meeting the Managers reviewed and commented on the draft Issues, Goals, and Policies section of the 2010 WMP. The Board authorized distribution, with the recommended changes, to the advisory groups. Mr. Fossum said staff made the changes to the draft Issues, Goals, and Policies section that were requested at the meeting. Mr. Fossum discussed a list of 4 advisory group meetings that are scheduled for the draft Issues, Goals, and Policies section. Mr. Arbeit noted there is a poor connection between Issue 1 and Goal 1.1. The issues state that CRWD needs to be aware of opportunities and the Goal incorporates innovative stormwater management techniques. Mr. MacDonald suggested acknowledging the need to look for new ideas/techniques both regionally and nationally and work with partner's nation wide. Ensure the District continues to work with external partners nationally. Mr. MacDonald asked what is meant by researching. Mr. Fossum said most of it might be monitoring of BMPs and some literature research. Mr. Arbeit said the District needs to demonstrate that money is needed for its work and what is gained/what is done with the money. If people know where and why their money is being spent, they are more willing to support it. Mr. Barton said the goals don't mentioned restoration of natural features which don't match back with the Issue very well. Mr. Fossum noted it is mentioned under Policy 21.1.b. Mr. Arbeit suggested including a statement in the first paragraph acknowledging the importance of maintaining public support for levying/raising taxes for water quality improvement. Mr. Arbeit asked for clarification on how the issues matrix was used to develop the draft Issues, Goals and Policies Section. Mr. Fossum clarified how it was used. Mr. Arbeit asked for clarification on what a policy is. Mr. Arbeit said currently some are written as objectives, action steps, or strategy. Mr. Fossum indicated that at this point the term policy will need to be worked on and the structure. Mr. Arbeit said in general, the document is very linear and easy to follow. Mr. Barton asked where the CAC comments from previous meetings are. Mr. Fossum pointed out where in the table those comments are written. Mr. MacDonald asked if the order of the document reflected a prioritization. Mr. Fossum said no they are in no specific order. Mr. Fossum noted that documents discussed are available on the District website. The Board thanked Mr. Fossum for the update.

6. Discussion

Loeb Lake and Willow Reserve Management Plan – Follow Up

Mr. Fossum noted that Jerry Wagner displayed concerns at the last CAC meeting about Loeb Lake and requested the District conduct a second review of the Loeb Lake plan pertaining to the hydrogeology of Loeb Lake. Mr. Fossum said staff contacted the Ramsey Conservation District to have their hydrogeologist, Geoff Nash review the report. Mr. Nash has reviewed the report and concurs with the assumptions, findings and conclusions in the report regarding the groundwater influence on Loeb Lake. Mr. Fossum said the Board approved the Loeb Lake and Willow Reserve Management Plan two meetings ago and now the staff are moving forward to implement the Plan. Mr. Barton said he respects Mr. Wagner and his passion for Loeb Lake but stated that the CAC has talked about the Plan as much as they could. Mr. Barton suggested Mr. Wagner continue his quest with outside agencies.

7. Staff and Program Updates

1. District Council Rain Barrel Program

Mr. Fossum said District 10 Environment Committee is hosting its second rain barrel workshop May 9th and the Board thought the District should notify other Community Councils in the District the availability of program funds. Mr. MacDonald explained how the District 10 conducts the workshops. The committee said they would spread the word about the program.

8. Board of Managers and CAC Observer Update

Manager Thienes reviewed recent Board actions including a permit and grant update. Manager Thienes said the Board adopted the Loeb Lake and Willow Reserve Management Plan and a Salary Administration Policy. The By-Laws were amended. Manager Thienes said Dave Callister of Ehlers & Associates, Inc. discussed the District's long term financial planning.

9. Discussion - New & Old Issues

10. April 8, 2009 Agenda Overview

11. Adjourn - Committee agreed to adjourn at 9:02 by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Nelson

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