



# Capitol Region Watershed District

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**Regular Meeting Minutes** of the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Board of Managers, for **Wednesday, January 21, 2009, 6:00 p.m.** at the office of the CRWD, 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55108.

**I. Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.** (President, Robert Piram)

**A) Attendance**

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

**Others Present**

- Mark Doneux, CRWD
- Dawn Nelson, CRWD
- Forrest Kelley, CRWD
- Anna Eleria, CRWD
- Tom Petersen, RCD
- Ryan Johnson, RCD

- Geoffry Nash, RCD
- Jerome Wagner, CAC
- David MacMillan,  
Ramsey County Attorney
- Todd Shoemaker  
Wenck & Associates

**B) Review, Amendments and Approval of the Agenda**

Manager Piram asked for additions or changes to the Agenda. There were no changes or additions to the Agenda.

*The Board adopted the Agenda as amended by consensus.*

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

No Public Comments.

**III. Permit Applications**

**A) Permit # 08-018 United Products (Kelley)**

Forrest Kelley reviewed CRWD Permit # 08-018A United Products. Mr. Kelley said the project is construction of a new warehouse building, storage lot improvements and stormwater management facilities. Mr. Kelley said this project has 2.02 acres of disturbed area, 2.02 acres of proposed impervious surface and the proposed stormwater management is off site filtration basin due to poor soils. Mr. Kelley said the stormwater standards for rate, water quality and volume control are met. Mr. Kelley said the flooding and erosion control standards are also met. Mr. Kelley said the staff recommendation is to approve the permit with one condition. Manager Deneen asked if there was anything found in the soil borings. Mr. Kelley said there was traces of contamination found and removed in the building footprint but the rest is mostly urban fill.

**Motion 09-01-10:** Approve permit #08-18 amendment with the following one condition:

1. *Receipt of revised maintenance agreement.*

Collins/Deneen

Unanimously Approved

### **Permit Program/Rules Update (Kelley)**

Mr. Kelley said the amended Rule was mailed to the Officials mailing list. The amended Rule will be effective February 1, 2009. The response to comments and amended Rule will be mailed to the TAC. Mr. Kelley said there are no permits for the next Board meeting. Mr. Kelley said the well drilling has been scheduled to begin Monday the Cleveland Randolph Groundwater Study.

### **IV. Special Reports – Ramsey Conservation District Update, RCD Staff**

Geoffrey Nash, Groundwater Specialist, Ramsey Conservation District began his presentation by discussing a few groundwater protection initiatives including the programs, regulatory and the research and education for the Groundwater Plan. Mr. Nash said RCD Staff will present the Plan to the RCD Board and Technical Advisory Committee this Friday. Manager Deneen asked about springs in the Plan. Mr. Nash said there is some information about where the springs are located.

Manager Piram asked about aquifers in the plan and how accurate is the information. Mr. Nash said that new information was not generated for this Plan however all of the existing data will be in the appendix of the Plan. Manager Piram said he would like to see detailed information about aquifers included in the Plan.

Ryan Johnson provided an update and statistics for both the Stewardship Grant Program and the Lake McCarrons Shoreline Restoration project. Mr. Johnson said there was a total of 116 sites in 2008. Mr. Johnson reported that to date, five projects have signed contracts for 75% cost share fund for the McCarrons Shoreline Restoration. Those projects will begin in spring 2009. All completed projects in 2009 will be inspected starting in 2010 for the 15 year mandatory maintenance check. Mr. Johnson said he enjoys working with the CRWD staff. The Board thanked Mr. Johnson for his report.

### **V. Action Items**

#### **Consent Agenda**

Manager Piram asked for a motion to approve the January 21, 2009, Consent Agenda.

#### **Motion 09-01-11:**

- A) Approve Minutes of the January 6, 2009 Special Meeting as presented.*
- B) Approve Minutes of the January 7, 2009 Regular Meeting as presented.*
- C) Approve 2009 U of M Macroinvertebrate Identification Agreement.*
- D) Approve 2009 St. Paul Parks & recreation Intern Agreement.*

Thienes/Collins

Unanimously approved

### **Discussion**

#### **E) Approve Memorandum of Agreement for Ramsey County Cooperative Weed Management Area (Doneux)**

Administrator Doneux said the Ramsey County Cooperative Weed Management Area (RCCWMA) is a cooperative relationship between government agencies, individual landowners, non-profit organizations, and other interested groups working towards managing non-native, invasive plants that negatively impact natural lands, parks, and open spaces in Ramsey County. Administrator Doneux said in 2008, the Ramsey Conservation District received a grant from the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) to assist in establishing a Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) for Ramsey County. There is no financial obligation to become a partner of the CWMA. The benefits of the program include: Development of strong partnerships based on cooperation among agencies, landowners and other interested partners to

control invasive species. The creation of long-term and sustainable Cooperative Weed Management Areas. The removal of invasive plant species and the restoration/reconstruction of native communities. Funding to supplement other invasive species control efforts. The Loeb Lake Management Plan has an action item to evaluate the restoration of the Willow Reserve. One of the first efforts of restoration would include removing invasive plants. Being part of a larger, County-wide, effort will allow the CRWD to bring in other resources to the Willow Reserve project and other restoration projects in the District. Manager Piram inquired about the length of the agreement. Administrator Doneux said the District can withdrawal from the agreement with a thirty day written notice.

**Motion 09-01-12:** *Authorize Board President and Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement for the Ramsey County Cooperative Weed Management Area.*

Collins/Deneen

Unanimously approved

**F) 2009 Ramsey Conservation District Service Agreement (Doneux)**

Administrator Doneux said the Ramsey Conservation District (RCD) has provided varying levels of technical assistance to the CRWD. In the past a service agreement has been signed defining the technical assistance requested. Administrator Doneux said the CRWD staff has discussed and reviewed the anticipated technical assistance needs for 2009 with the RCD staff. Technical assistance will include: Groundwater Protection, General GIS Services, Stewardship, Partner and Special Grant assistance, Education and Outreach and Lake McCarron Shoreline Restoration. Administrator Doneux said in 2007, the RCD expended \$13,956; in 2008 the RCD expended \$23,265. Funding for these technical services has been accounted for under contracted services though out the various program and project budgets. The major increases include a commitment of \$11,200 for Shoreline and Landscape Services and \$6,000 for GIS Support Services.

**Motion 09-01-13:** *Authorize Administrator and Board President to execute the 2009 Ramsey Conservation District Service Agreement for an amount not to exceed \$41,720, subject to review by the Ramsey County Attorney.*

Thienes/Collins

Unanimously approved

**G) Approve Accounts Payable/Receivables for December 2008 (Doneux)**

Administrator Doneux reviewed the Accounts Payable at \$914,237.35 and the Accounts Receivable at \$71,890.36 for the month of December 2008. Ms. Eleria reviewed the invoice from Minger Construction. Ms. Eleria said Minger Construction has completed approximately 80% of the in pipe repairs. Manager Thienes inquired about the Barr Engineering invoice and the amount issued. Ms. Nelson noted the amount requested was an error. Ms. Nelson will void the check to Barr Engineering and issue a check for the Board to sign and the next Board meeting. Manager Piram inquired about the balance of the budget. Administrator Doneux stated that he would review and revise the budget and bring it back to the Board. Discussion occurred.

**Motion 09-01-14:** *Approve the December 2008 Accounts Payable for the month of December 2008 and direct Treasurer and Board President to endorse and disperse checks for these payments minus the Barr Engineering check.*

Thienes/Deneen

Unanimously approved

## **VI. Unfinished Business**

### **A) Trout Brook Interceptor – Maryland Avenue Repairs Update (Eleria)**

Ms. Eleria provided a photo update of the progress for the Trout Brook Interceptor-Maryland Avenue Repairs. Ms. Eleria said 70% of the project is complete. Ms. Eleria said to-date, 3,000 feet of repairs have been completed and there is 500 feet of repairs remaining and medium to large cracks and voids. Ms. Eleria said the substantial completion will most likely be the first week in February. Ms. Eleria invited the Board to join staff on Friday January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am to visit the site.

### **B) Como Subwatershed #3 Update (Doneux)**

Administrator Doneux said Manager Piram, Bob Fossum and he attended a meeting with staff yesterday to discuss a letter from St. Paul Parks and Recreation. Their concerns are going to be incorporated into the report.

### **C) CRWD By-Laws Review (Doneux)**

Administrator Doneux said the Board of Managers requested to review the By-Laws. There are no specific issues regarding the By-Laws at this time, however, it is a good exercise to periodically review and update the By-Laws. Manager Piram agreed that the By-Laws need to be reviewed and updated. Discussion occurred regarding clarifications to Official Business, Public Education Officer duties and the Annual Meeting. Administrator Doneux will make changes as discussed and the Board will discuss the By-Laws again at a future meeting.

### **D) Pollutant removal cost analysis (Doneux)**

Administrator Doneux said there has been discussion at previous meetings about phosphorus and cost per pound of phosphorous removal. Administrator Doneux reviewed with the Board the method staff will be using on future projects.

### **Watershed Clean Up (Storey)**

Administrator Doneux said District 10 Planning Council community organizer Rhonda DeBough contacted District staff to inquire about collaborating to promote Como Lake activities this spring. District 10 organizer and members of the District 10 Environment Committee requested a meeting with CRWD staff and St. Paul Parks and Recreation – Environment staff Meghan Manhattan on January 14, 2009. Because of potential lake ice and snow cover, the spring Parks Clean Up scheduled for Saturday, April 11 is not expected to be a good time to do shoreline clean up of Como Lake. There was therefore strong interest in holding a lake clean up in the park in June. CRWD staff agreed to provide staffing and supplies for a clean up that has been tentatively scheduled for 9-11 a.m., Saturday, June 13. District 10 staff and members of the District 10 Environment Committee will also organize other activities on that day, including the unveiling of a series of self-guided walking tours of the park; a Tree Trek; and a raingarden tour of several of the Como 7 raingardens. It was also noted that Meghan Manhattan also offered to list Willow Reserve as a clean up site for the April 10<sup>th</sup> Parks Clean Up. CRWD staff would help recruit volunteers to remove trash from the Willow Reserve area. Manager Deneen asked if the District has an insurance policy to cover volunteers. Administrator Doneux said yes.

## **VII. General Information**

### **A) CAC Update (Thienes)**

Manager Thienes said Elizabeth Storey provided an update on the draft Education plan. Administrator Doneux provided an update on the Subwatershed 4 analysis and a photo update of Trout Brook repairs. Manager Collins asked what they thought of the Education plan. Manager Thienes said there was a lot of positive feedback.

**B) Administrator's Report (Doneux)**

Administrator Doneux said there has been discussion with the City of St. Paul, Metropolitan Council and Ramsey County Regional Rail about the concept of a Stormwater Planning workshop for the light rail project. Manager Deneen asked if other Watershed Districts are involved. Administrator Doneux said the Watershed on the other side of the river does not have rules. Manager Collins suggested researching other areas for more information. Manager Piram asked when the workshop will be. Administrator Doneux said the workshop would be a weekday sometime the end of February. The Board agreed that a workshop is a good idea.

**C) Ramsey Conservation District (RCD) Board Meeting (Deneen)**

Manager Deneen provided Dawn Nelson with a written summary of the January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 RCD meeting. The election for Board positions was held. Supervisor Eckman was elected Chair. Committee assignments were explained and appointed to other members. The staff provided an outstanding presentation of their duties and on going projects. The Supervisors agreed on a date to interview candidates for the open seat. The Supervisors approved monies to advertise for the open seat.

**VIII. Wednesday, February 4, 2009 Regular Meeting Agenda Review**

**IX. Adjournment** – 7:59 p.m. adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Nelson