



Capitol Region Watershed District

1410 Energy Park Dr., Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55108
Phone: (651) 644-8888 Fax: (651) 644-8894 www.capitolregionwd.org

Special Meeting Minutes of the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Board of Managers, for **Tuesday, January 6, 2009, 5:00 p.m.** at the office of the CRWD, 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Special Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order at 5:00 p.m. (President, Robert Piram)

A) Attendance

Robert Piram
Joe Collins
Seitu Jones
Mike Thienes
Marylyn Deneen

Others Present

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Bob Fossum, CRWD
Pat Conrad, EOR, Inc.
Camilla Correll, EOR, Inc.

B) Review, Amendments and Approval of the Agenda

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

The Board adopted the Agenda as presented by consensus.

II. Issue Identification and Stakeholder Recruitment (Fossum)

Mr. Fossum reviewed the goals of the meeting and summarized the process to date. Manager Thienes asked if the CRWD had received enough input during this phase of the project to move forward in the planning process. He indicated his disappointment in the attendance at the issue identification meetings. Mr. Fossum indicated he believed CRWD has received enough input to move forward with the planning process and is aware of 5 to 7 additional people who will be involved on the second round of meetings. Manager Thienes feels a good faith effort was made to engage diverse communities; however he is really disappointed with the overall attendance. The presentations to planning districts didn't result in a lot of participation. Mr. Doneux indicated he was also disappointed with the attendance but not disappointed with the effort. Mr. Conrad believes the education aspect of the presentations to a large number of people was significant. Manager Piram requested that CRWD keep sending materials to people, and as we move forward, more people may participate. Manager Jones indicated that it will take awhile to organize people around this issue of water resource management.

Mr. Fossum reviewed the next step for Issues Identification Process is to bring old issues and new issues into same list to begin drafting the issues identification section of the plan. The Managers then had a discussion of the input received through the first round of meetings and their thoughts on those issues and others.

Manager Deneen questioned how we handle things like "Daylight Trout Brook Interceptor" when one citizen thinks this is a good idea; another citizen said it is not an important issue. Mr. Conrad indicated that might be best addressed in a feasibility study that is identified in the Plan.

Manager Piram thought the following question from one of the Community Group participants was excellent: "How did we forget about our relationship with water?" Manager Collins asked about

prioritization of these issues. He indicated with limited dollars and all these issues, the CRWD would need to understand what items would get the greatest impact.

Manager Piram identified a number of issues that were not discussed in the issues matrix and would like to see them included for consideration in the Plan. Manager Piram indicated it is important to keep the issues open during the remainder of the planning process. If we hear something new we need to be open to incorporating these as we continue to develop the watershed management plan. Manager Piram also believes the plan needs to consider groundwater. Manager Piram also indicated research relative to water management and knowing what is being done in other communities/cities in the U.S. or in the world is important. CRWD should be a repository for information where individual or organization can come to learn about the water. Manager Collins agreed that the District should be a center for housing information about demonstration sites for stormwater BMPs and new technologies.

Manager Jones indicated it would be nice to do some real-time monitoring. Allow residents to go on-line and view monitoring data in an animated fashion and let people see where water goes, above ground and underground. Additionally, global climate change will need to be considered. What we are doing now impacts the issue of climate change.

Manager Collins thought the issues raised about connections to the river were important. Both the physical connection – and actual connections – can we get to the resource and learn to appreciate the resource.

Manager Thienes indicated that TMDLs specifically Lake Pepin may require watershed districts and others to address existing stormwater discharges not only on new development/re-development sites. The current development/redevelopment work is only addressing a small fraction of all the runoff. He feels we need to be much more aggressive about this. TMDL directives and standards will force partnerships and cooperation that does not exist today. Mr. Doneux pointed out that Boston has established standards that pertain to all sites above a certain size regardless of if they are reconstructing anything on their site. To coordinate a load reduction as the result of a TMDL, the CRWD is the obvious lead to facilitate this cooperation.

Manager Deneen indicated the key to making progress is getting people to take responsibility for the resources. This is something the CRWD hasn't managed to accomplish yet.

Manager Collins indicated the importance of CRWD approach to dealing with fiscal constraints over the 10 year time frame of the plan.

Manager Deneen would like to see Education & Outreach addressed earlier in the WMP. In the last plan it was towards the end.

III. WMP Review Process and Workplan Update (Fossum)

Mr. Fossum reviewed the review process for the first half of 2009 which indicated when the Board and the advisory groups would review the different sections of the 2010 WMP. The Managers commented that they believed the proposed process was reasonable and adequate.

Mr. Fossum reviewed the Quarter 2 summary and Quarter 3 workplan. Some specific workplan items have come in above budget while others are below budget and currently staff are recommending no changes to the workplan or contract with EOR, Inc. The 2010 WMP workplan is on schedule.

IV. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,