

Capitol Region Watershed District



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Regular Meeting Minutes of the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Board of Managers, for **Wednesday, February 4, 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

Mike Thienes

Marylyn Deneen

Others Present

Mark Doneux, CRWD

Bob Fossum, CRWD

Dawn Nelson, CRWD

Anna Eleria, CRWD

Elizabeth Storey, CRWD

Steve Duerre, CAC

Jerry Wagner, CAC

Sarah Stai, Westwood

Professional Services, Inc.

Pat Conrad, EOR, Inc.

Greg Brick, Presenter

B) Review, Amendments and Approval of the Agenda

Manager Piram asked for additions or changes to the Agenda. Manager Piram requested Action Item D follow the Draft Education and Outreach Plan special report. Manager Deneen requested adding MAWD discussion under Unfinished Business.

The Board adopted the Agenda as amended by consensus.

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

No Public Comments.

III. Permit Applications

Permit Program/Rules Update

There were no permit applications or update.

IV. Special Reports

A) Draft Education and Outreach Plan (Elizabeth Storey & Sarah Stai)

Ms. Storey noted that the final draft Education and Outreach Plan now includes a program implementation framework for resource allocation and scheduling, as well as recommended evaluation approaches. Ms. Stai explained that the program implementation depends on scheduling, budgeting, staffing needs, and partnerships. A series of tools has been developed for linking of the strategic process (audiences, messages, and formats) to annual work plans. Yet, because outreach is a dynamic process, programming is expected to evolve. In order to facilitate decision-making as the Plan is implemented, a suitability tool was developed. The tool outlines several steps in the decision-making process and refers to schedule and budgeting considerations described in Tables 8a and 8b. Use of the suitability tool helps to ensure that strategic objectives are met throughout implementation, and it highlights that there is often a trade-off between programming possibilities and available resources. Even when a program fulfills an objective and fits into sequence with other programs, for example, it may require expansion of the educational infrastructure: expanded people resources such as volunteers and interns, or other means through which available funds can be leveraged most effectively.

Scheduling is also a key consideration for Plan implementation. The length of time needed for development, implementation, and assessment varies by program. Some programs are tied to specific seasons, and some need to occur in particular sequence with others.

Manager Piram stated that specific program costs should be included in the plan. Ms. Storey stated that budgeting and the allocation of resources such as staff, volunteers, interns, and partners are also essential considerations for Plan implementation. Although detailed cost estimates are beyond the scope of this Plan, costs can ultimately be assigned to all resources to account for staff salaries, coordination time required for volunteers and interns, and in-kind contributions from partners. Ms. Storey continued by stating that once costs have been tallied, an overview of key resources can help the District track whether resources are being allocated in a manner consistent with how the objectives of the Plan have been prioritized.

Administrator Doneux suggested developing a one page summary of each program to provide enough information to say who is involved and how much it will cost. Manager Piram said the Board needs to know that information prior to accepting the Education Plan to know if it is going to be a success. If there are not enough funds, time or participation, the plan will not be successful. Ms. Stai said that information is in a workplan which is the next step. Ms. Storey said the approval for distribution of the Draft Plan will allow staff to distribute the plan and receive valuable feedback from partners identified in the Plan.

D) Authorize Distribution of Draft Education and Outreach Plan (Storey)

Administrator Doneux said he understands that the Board wants some conceptual cost and descriptions of the programs. Administrator Doneux explained that staff are seeking authorization to distribute the draft Education and Outreach Plan to the CAC and meet with Partners to get some input on the Plan. Manager Collins said he felt it was a great idea to distribute the Plan to the CAC for their input but wait until cost and descriptions are in the Plan before distributing it to the municipalities.

Motion 09-02-01: *Authorize distribution of draft Education and Outreach Plan to the Citizen's Advisory Committee for review and comment.*

Collins/Thienes

Unanimously approved

B) Historic Waters of the Capitol Region Watershed District, Greg Brick

Mr. Fossum reminded the Board that a work item included in the 2010 Watershed Management Plan (WMP) workplan was to document historic water resources of the District. EOR, Inc. has retained the services of Greg Brick to document the historic resources of CRWD. Mr. Brick has worked on historic water resources of the Twin Cities for several years and was able to compile a good amount of previous work for our use.

Mr. Brick reviewed and discussed the work that has been completed relative to the historic water resources of the District. Mr. Brick said he has been tracking information about Capitol Region Watershed District springs for many years. Mr. Brick said he has an advanced degree in Geology and he taught Environmental Geology at Normandale. Mr. Brick said Carver's Cave is a spring cut cave in the St. Peter Sandstone, formed by the eroding away of sand grains by flowing water, a process called piping. Mr. Brick said Carver's Cave has undergone repeated episodes of naturally sealing itself with debris from the cliffs above and then it is open again by individuals. The Cave had sealed itself again and was relocated and dug open in 1977 by the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department. As an official Bicentennial project. Afterwards it was sealed with still doors to restrict access. Manager Piram said at one time you could actually canoe into Carver's Cave because the water level was actually at the same level as the Cave entrance. Mr. Brick said another historical cave is Fountain Cave which still exists but is inaccessible because the highway department sealed it during the construction of Shepard Road in 1960. Fountain Cave is more than 1,000 feet long with four rooms. Mr. Brick said springs in CRWD tend to be found along spring lines at discrete

elevations, depending on the bedrock contacts, where there are perched water tables. The springs are organized by spring-line, starting with the stratigraphically most elevated one. The most coherent spring-line in St. Paul is that marking the contact of the glacial drift with the underlying Decorah Shale, along the edges of the Decorah Shale highlands. This is called the third type of spring which is defined as springs at contact of unconsolidated material with solid rock. Water seeps down through porous material until meeting an impervious layer and is then shed laterally to the river gorge. Mr. Brick said he found an ornate lamppost in 1993 with water gushing from their bases, which were swathed with filamentous green algae, suggesting an on-going, rather than merely temporary situation which was the Grand Avenue Springs. Mr. Brick said most springs he has found flow approximately one gallon a minute. Mr. Brick described Sunny Slope Lane spring where he encountered a rivulet flowing in the street and he traced it back to a private residence. Mr. Brick it looked as if a garden hose had been left running in the front yard. After contacting the owner Mr. Brick had learned that there was a trapdoor in the basement that could be lifted to view the spring. Manager Jones asked how fast that was flowing. Mr. Brick said he was not able to access the spring. Mr. Brick said the largest spring in St. Paul is the Fish Hatcheries which flows 400 gallons per minute. Mr. Brick said he walked the length of Trout Brook in the 1980's. Manager Jones asked about daylighting Trout Brook. Mr. Brick said north of 35E going south towards downtown St. Paul is where the land is wide open, Trillium Site. Mr. Wagner said the District should have a map that shows where the edge of the Decorah Shale is. Mr. Wagner asked if groundwater is usually short on oxygen. Mr. Brick said groundwater is usually very low on oxygen, 8 milligrams per liter.

Administrator Doneux noted that Mr. Brick has an extended version of his presentation that he will be presenting next Wednesday at the Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting.

The Board thanked Mr. Brick for his presentation.

V. Action Items

Consent Agenda

Manager Piram asked for a motion to approve the February 4, 2009, Consent Agenda.

Motion 09-02-02:

- A) Approve Minutes of the January 21, 2009 Regular Meeting as presented.*
- B) Approve Barr Engineering payment of \$38,221.70 and direct Treasurer and Board President to endorse and disperse check for payment.*
- C) Authorize the Administrator to advertise and fill two, full-time temporary Water Resource Technician positions.*

Thienes/Jones

Unanimously approved

E) Authorize Special Meeting for Watershed Management Plan (Fossum)

Mr. Fossum noted that at the January 6th board meeting the Managers reviewed the workplan. The process included a separate review process for each section of the plan. Mr. Fossum said during the drafting of the Issues Identification Section of the Plan, it became apparent to staff that review of this section would need to be done concurrently with the Goals and Policies section. It will be most valuable and effective for all involved to review and discuss these two sections together and staff would propose they be combined into one section in the plan. To accomplish this change staff suggested combining the issues identification review process into the goals & policies review process. Mr. Fossum said per the review process, the Board is to hold a special meeting the week of February 9th to review the draft sections. Mr. Fossum said staff suggests a 5:00 to 6:30 pm meeting on February 10th, 11th or 12th. After some discussion the Board agreed to hold a special meeting Thursday, February 12th.

Motion 09-02-03: *Set a Special Board Meeting for the purpose of discussing the 2010 Watershed Management Plan on February 12, 2009 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.*

Collins/Jones

Unanimously approved

F) Authorize Change Order for Trout Brook Interceptor Repair (Eleria)

Ms. Eleria said Minger Construction, Inc. has completed the placement of a new 200-foot box culvert under L'Orient Street Bridge, foundation stabilization of 260 feet under Maryland Avenue, and over 3,000 feet of concrete repairs. It is anticipated that the project will be substantially completed by February 3, 2009 and TBI will be hydraulically and structurally functional. Ms. Eleria said based on the discovery of an additional defect to TBI during concrete repair work and the substantial completion of the project ahead of schedule, Ms. Eleria presented two new repair items consideration by the Board of Managers. Ms. Eleria said as mentioned at a previous Board meeting, defects to the outside of TBI were discovered early on in the construction schedule. A 12-foot section of tunnel located below I-35E and near Mississippi Street lacks soil cover and has been exposed to the surface resulting in weak and eroded concrete on the outside of TBI. Barr Engineering has recently investigated the extent of the deterioration and is recommending that any weak concrete be removed and replaced with new concrete to ensure the structural stability of TBI.

Motion 09-02-04: *Authorize TBI Repair Project change order to repair a 12-foot section of TBI located below I-35E and near Mississippi Street not to exceed \$60,000.*

Jones/Deneen

Unanimously Approved

Ms. Eleria noted that since the project is ahead of schedule, Barr Engineering has suggested that CRWD consider conducting additional concrete repairs in TBI upstream of the northwest end of the project. CRWD, Barr Engineering and Minger Construction, Inc. staff investigated a 1,650-foot section of TBI that extends from St. 96+20 to St. 112+69, which is located just east of Jackson Street and underneath the Insurance Auto Auctions property. This TBI section is in fair condition with the following defects: poor inlet connections, small circumferential cracks and fractures, a hole in the tunnel liner, several invert defects, and missing/broken/corroded manhole steps. Ms. Eleria said because most of the pipe defects are above the water line, Minger Construction, Inc. does not need to dewater the tunnel with large hydraulic pumps and instead would control water as necessary with sandbags and smaller pumps. Minger Construction, Inc. anticipates that these repairs could take 8 to 10 days to complete as long as water levels remain low in TBI.

Ms. Eleria said although these repairs do not appear to be critical regarding the immediate stability of TBI, opportunity exists to perform additional concrete repairs at a price that would be significantly lower than performing these repairs under a future contract. A cost estimate for construction and engineering for the concrete repair work was received. It is estimated that the work will cost \$75,000 to \$100,000. The construction costs include an initial mobilization/demobilization fee of \$5,000 for water control, equipment mobilization and demobilization, and site cleanup during and upon completion of work and a daily rate of \$1,200 for providing electrical services and personnel for the second egress manhole.

Motion 09-02-05: *Authorize TBI Repair Project change order to conduct concrete repairs in a 1,650-foot section of TBI located from St. 96+20 to St. 112+69 at a cost not to exceed \$100,000.00.*

Jones/Thienes

Unanimously approved

G) Approve Human Resources Consulting Agreement with Noah & Associates (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux said the Personnel Committee identified the need for additional Human Resources consulting. Administrator Doneux said Sarah Noah submitted a proposal for \$3,600.

Motion 09-02-06: *Approve Human Resources Consulting Agreement in the amount not to exceed \$3,600, subject to the review and approval of the Ramsey County Attorney.*

Thienes/Jones

Unanimously approved

H) Adopt Loeb Lake Management Plan (Eleria)

Ms. Eleria reminded the Board that the draft management plan was presented on October 15, 2008 to the Board who provided comments on the plan and authorized its distribution to the public for their review and comment. Ms. Eleria said in November and December 2008, CRWD solicited comments on the plan at three meetings that were held for CRWD's Citizen Advisory Committee, state, city and county agencies, and elected officials and local residents. Comments were received for direct changes to the plan as well as on the future implementation of the plan especially as it pertains to Willow Reserve. Ms. Eleria said CRWD and Wenck Associates considered all comments received and made appropriate changes to the plan. Ms. Eleria summarized the comments received, CRWD's response to the recommended changes and the respective changes to the plan. Manager Deneen said she would like to some of the language changed in the Plan that would be written in a more positive format. Administrator Doneux noted that Manager Deneen had also requested Action Item 11 in the Plan begin in 2009. Administrator Doneux said staff will make the changes and bring the Plan back in two weeks.

Motion 09-02-07: *Table Loeb Lake Area Management Plan until the February 18, 2009 Board Meeting.*

Deneen/Collins

Unanimously approved

VI. Unfinished Business

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

Ms. Eleria said it is anticipated that the project will be substantially completed by February 3. Ms. Eleria said Minger has taken this week off but the staff will return Monday to do some rough grading. Ms. Eleria said all the repairs will be completed by the end of February. They will return in March and April to restore the wetland area.

B) MAWD Legislative Breakfast

Manager Deneen asked if everyone received the MAWD 2009 Legislative Breakfast registration form and noted that is on Wednesday March 18th and Thursday morning March 19th. Manager Piram said he had not received it. Manager Deneen said she will be attending the meeting Wednesday night rather than the Board meeting. After discussion the Board decided the March 18th Board Meeting will be 5:00 to 6:30 pm. Manager Jones noted he would not be at the March 4th Board meeting. Administrator Doneux also stated he would not be at the March 18th Board Meeting.

VII. General Information

A) Administrator's Report (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux noted that a flyer was mailed to the Board announcing that the District 10 Environment Committee is hosting a workshop about saving energy and money in your home on February 5th, 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Administrator Doneux distributed an announcement that Ramsey County League of Local Government is having a special meeting on the Ramsey County Groundwater Protection Plan on Thursday, February 26th at 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Administrator Doneux said the Board should see a presentation

also because the District will draft comments. Manager Jones noted that he attended a District Council award ceremony where both Marylyn Deneen and Jerome Wagner both received awards that were presented by Council Members Kathy Lantry and Russel Stark. Manager Jones said he took pictures and emailed them to both District 10 and CRWD.

VIII. Wednesday, February 18, 2009 Regular Meeting Agenda Review

IX. Adjournment – 8:25 p.m. adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Nelson

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