

Capitol Region Watershed District



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Regular Meeting Minutes of the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Board of Managers, for **Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 5:00 p.m.** at the office of the CRWD, 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55108.

I. Call to Order at 5:02 p.m. (President, Robert Piram)

A) Attendance

Robert Piram
Joe Collins
Seitu Jones
Mike Thienes
Marylyn Deneen

Others Present

Dawn Nelson, CRWD
Forrest Kelley, CRWD
Anna Eleria, CRWD
Elizabeth Storey, CRWD
Bob Fossum, CRWD
Pat Conrad, EOR, Inc.
Dan Haak, City of St. Paul

Phil Belfiori, City of St. Paul
Shirley Reider, CAC
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 presented by consensus.

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

Mr. Jerry Wagner reiterated his past concerns about Loeb Lake and that he believes the best use of Loeb Lake is its natural ability to educate the public. There are 12 – 15 schools within a short bus ride of Loeb Lake that could have a low carbon field trip to Loeb Lake and all the District would need to do is provide the motivation.

III. Permit Applications

A) Permit # 07-006 Johnson Brothers Certificate of Completion (Kelley)

Mr. Kelley said Permit 07-006 Johnson Brothers Storage has completed the permitted activity and is ready to be closed out. A final inspection was conducted in autumn 2008. All temporary BMPs have been removed and soils stabilized. Construction as-builts were submitted and the BMPS were installed as approved. Mr. Kelley said a Maintenance Agreement for the onsite stormwater management practices was submitted to the District. Manager Jones said the District has approved these types of permits as BMP's for other projects and asked if there have been any that have received routine maintenance. Mr. Kelley said prior to being closed out they are required to do maintenance and make sure the system is functioning.

Motion 09-03-08: *Approve Certificate of Completion for permit 07-006 and authorize return of \$14,550 surety.*

Thienes/Jones
Unanimously Approved

B) Permit # 09-004 East 6th Street (Kelley)

Forrest Kelley reviewed CRWD Permit # 09-004 East 6th Street. Mr. Kelley said the project is reconstruction of East 6th Street and utilities. Mr. Kelley said this project has 1.85 acres of disturbed area,

1.85 acres of proposed impervious surface and the proposed stormwater management is sump catch basins with hoods. Mr. Kelley said the City is conducting a study throughout the whole city that will identify stormwater volume bank sites for this and other projects. Mr. Kelley said the applicant did request the volume reduction be deferred to two different projects in the amount of 6,044 cubic feet. Manager Collins suggested there be a condition including the deferral. Mr. Kelley said it is already implied by improving the permit. Mr. Fossum added that is included in the last revision of the Rules. Forrest Kelley introduced Dan Haak and Phil Belfiori from the City of St. Paul. Mr. Belfiori said there is a large effort city wide to move forward looking at potential stormwater volume bank sites and will provide the Board more information in May or June.

Motion 09-03-09: *Approve Permit # 09-004 East 6th Street with one condition.*

1. *Provide updated plan sheets with locations and details of sump manholes and hoods or tees.*

Deneen/Thienes

Unanimously Approved

C) Permit # 09-005 Jackson Street Parking Lot (Kelley)

Forrest Kelley reviewed CRWD Permit # 09-005 Jackson Street Parking Lot. Mr. Kelley said the project is demolition of an existing church building and construction of a new parking facility. Mr. Kelley said this project has 1.3 acres of disturbed area, 0.81 acres of proposed impervious surface and the proposed stormwater management is reconfiguration of existing rate control pond into surface infiltration basin. Mr. Kelley said the state is not required to obtain a permit from the District.

Motion 09-03-10: *Approve comment letter for Permit # 09-005 Jackson Street Parking Lot.*

Collins/Deneen

Unanimously Approved

Permit Program/Rules Update (Kelley)

Mr. Kelley discussed a draft workplan that would assess the permit threshold in order to achieve stormwater management on sites disturbing less than one acre. Mr. Kelley said 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. This will allow for engaging discussion with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on how to best improve stormwater management on sites not currently regulated by District Rules. Mr. Kelley said the main task is to work with consultants to conduct a feasibility study on three or four small sites. The goal of the study would be to see how much it would cost to implement regulations on sites under one acre, determine if it is feasible, and determine what the maintenance needs would be. This information would be provided to the TAC.

IV. Special Reports – Rain Gardens, Natures Vacuum, Jesse Acosta, 2006 Stewardship Grant Recipient

Elizabeth Storey introduced Jesse Acosta, a high school student at Agriculture and Food Sciences Academy. Ms. Storey noted that Jesses' start of his science project began with a stewardship grant from the District for two raingardens in May 2006. Jesse conducted a two year research project on the raingardens for his science project which won Jesse the regional competition. This advanced him to the National competition in Washington DC in October 2008. Jesse provided an overview of his science project. Manager Collins asked Jesse if his point was to have more water go into the ground deeper. Jesse said yes. Jesse also shared photos of the different activities he attended in Washington. Manager Jones asked Jesse if he compiled all the data in a format that can be shared with the Board. Jesse said yes. He had borrowed a test kit from the District. Manager Jones asked Jesse about making seed balls. Jesse said he made them over the summer. Manager Jones said he is currently making seed balls and would like to share information with Jesse and have him help him with a workshop. The Board congratulated and thanked Jesse for sharing his experience.

V. Action Items

Consent Agenda

Manager Piram asked for a motion to approve the February 18, 2009, Consent Agenda.

Motion 09-03-11:

- A) *Approve Minutes of the March 4, 2009 Regular Meeting as presented.*
- B) *Approve Accounts Payables for \$587,965.68 and the Accounts Receivable for \$2,986.31 for the month of February 2009.*
- C) *Approve Wolters Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$376.00 subject to the following conditions:*
 - 1) *CRWD and Merrily Wolters must approve and enter into a Cooperative Agreement;*
 - 2) *Any changes to project plans must be approved by the CRWD; and*
 - 3) *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*
- D) *Approve Van Sickle Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$125.00 subject to the following conditions:*
 - 1) *CRWD and Anna Van Sickle must approve and enter into a Cooperative Agreement;*
 - 2) *Any changes to project plans must be approved by the CRWD; and*
 - 3) *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*

Thienes/Jones

Unanimously approved

Discussion

E) Approve Maplewood Surface Water Management Plan (Kelley)

Mr. Kelley said all cities in the metro area are required to complete a local water management plan to address drainage and stormwater within their boundaries. City local water plans are required to comply with watershed district watershed management plans. The City of Maplewood has submitted a Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) to meet the requirements for a local water plan. CRWD received a draft of that plan on January 29, 2009. The City of Maplewood is approximately 11,560 acres in size of which approximately one square mile or 640 acres, is located in the northeastern portion of the District. Mr. Kelley said staff reviewed the draft plan and found it to be generally compliant with the CRWD 2000 Watershed Management Plan. A letter from Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) was received on February 19, 2009 and indicated several items to be addressed in order for compliance with Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410. Staff drafted a comment letter that includes the MCES comments by reference. Mr. Kelley discussed the Executive Summary of the SWMP and the draft comment letter identifying some of the strong points of the Plan as well as some recommended changes with the Board. Mr. Kelley said staff is requesting the City submit a revised Plan addressing the comments before approval by the District. Mr. Kelley added that Maplewood may need to revise, and CRWD approve, the SWMP within two years of CRWD adopting our 2010 WMP if any aspects of the Plans are found to be inconsistent.

Motion 09-03-12: Approve Maplewood SWMP Comment Letter.

Deneen/Jones

Unanimously approved

F) Approve Public Art St. Paul Stewardship Grant (Storey)

Ms. Storey said during the CRWD strategic planning process in December 2007, involvement in the development of a public art plan was established as a District goal. Public art has value for advancing improved water quality goals since artists are members of interdisciplinary teams when designing capital projects for watersheds. Resulting art works can educate and inspire the public, clean water or mitigate pollution. Ms. Storey said one effective means of meeting the District's goal to participate in public art planning is to partner with Public Art St. Paul in the development of a Public Art Plan. Established in 1987,

Public Art Saint Paul (PASP) brings artists and communities together, and also supports artists working in the public realm. The week of May 18, 2009, a public lecture and a workshop for the Boards of CRWD, Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District, Friends of the Mississippi River, and their community partners will be led by nationally recognized public artist Cliff Garten and Via Partnership, an art planning firm that has worked with organizations with missions similar to that of CRWD. The watershed lecture and workshop will lay the foundation for subsequent development of a CRWD public art policy and plan. Model projects will be highlighted in Garten's lecture, illustrating how other watersheds throughout North America have used public art as a critical strategy to achieve education and outreach objectives. CRWD staff will assist in planning for the conference by providing information about CRWD to Mr. Garten, and by helping to promote the event. Manager Jones added that Mr. Garten developed a Public Art Plan for stormwater for the city of Toronto.

Motion 09-03-13: *Approve the Public Art Saint Paul Stewardship Grant with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$2,000.00 subject to the following conditions:*

- 1) *The CRWD and Public Art St. Paul must approve and enter into Cooperative Agreement;*
- 2) *Any changes to project plans must be approved by the CRWD; and*
- 3) *All conditions must be met and the project completed by December 31, 2009.*

Jones/Collins

Unanimously approved

G) Approve District 13 Rain Barrel Program (Storey)

Ms. Storey said on February 27, 2009 CRWD received a Stewardship Grant application from the District 13 - Union Park Community Council with a request for funds to hold a rain barrel workshop for 35 residents and/or business owners of District 13. Ms. Storey said the Union Park staff proposes to hold a rain barrel workshop in which attendees will construct 35 rain barrels, one per participant. The planning council will contract with Verde Strategies to conduct a workshop; and to provide workshop supplies including rain barrel materials. Workshop attendees will pay a participation fee of \$25, and construct their own barrel with materials provided by Verde. The use of these rain barrels will reduce runoff, improve water quality, and reuse rain water. The total project cost is \$2,642.25. Staff recommends approval of the District 13 Community Council Stewardship Grant project with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$1,300.00 from fund 210 Stewardship Grants for which the 2009 budget is \$32,000. Manager Thienes noted that the Lake McCarrons Association is considering doing a rainbarrel program as well.

Motion 09-03-14: *Approve the Union Park – District 13 Community Council Stewardship Grant project with reimbursement funding not to exceed \$1,300.00 subject to the following conditions:*

- 1) *CRWD and Union Park Community Council must both approve of and enter into Cooperative Agreement; and*
- 2) *All conditions must be met and the project completed within one year after project approval.*

Jones/Deneen

Unanimously approved

H) Adopt Contract Amendment Como BMP Effectiveness (Fossum)

Mr. Fossum said in 2006 CRWD began maintenance of the stormwater BMPs constructed for the Arlington Pascal Stormwater Improvement Project. Maintenance has occurred by staff, under agreement with the City of Saint Paul and through private vendors. The District maintains eight rain gardens, eight under street infiltration trenches, the Arlington Hamline Underground facility and the Como Park Stormwater Pond. EOR, Inc. has completed the effectiveness assessment of each of the 8 rain gardens as directed. Additional work on the report to clarify some items is needed. Additionally, staff believes that this analysis should be completed for the trenches, Arlington-Hamline Underground Storage, and the Como Park Regional Pond.

Staff is recommending amending the existing engineering contract for the Como Golf Course Pond Operation and Maintenance Plan to complete this work.

Motion 09-03-15: *Approve Contract Amendment with EOR, Inc. for Como BMP Effectiveness Assessment in an amount not to exceed \$8,100.*

Collins/Deneen

Unanimously approved

VI. Unfinished Business

A) 2010 WMP Update (Fossum)

The approved 2010 Watershed Management Plan Workplan identifies the implementation section that will be completed in the first half of 2009. Staff and EOR, Inc. have completed some background work and have drafted the preliminary structure of the Implementation Section of the 2010 WMP. Mr. Fossum said according to the Board and Stakeholder Review Process, reviewed with the Board on January 6, 2009, the Board and Stakeholders would review the draft Implementation Section of the 2010 Plan in April and May. Mr. Fossum reviewed the general structure of the Implementation section and discussed the level of detail that is desired in the Implementation Section of the plan. Mr. Fossum explained that the dollars included in this implementation plan include existing costs and costs detailed in previously approved plans. In the Administration, Programs, and Projects section staff filled in the years 2010-2019 with the 2009 budget amounts plus an annual 3% increase. For the Capital Improvement Section staff included costs of items listed in the previous WMP, Lake Management Plans, and Subwatershed Studies. Manager Deneen asked Mr. Fossum how he feels about the plan. Mr. Fossum said between now and June 1st will be busy but everything is on schedule and he has received a lot of comments.

VII. General Information

A) CAC Update (Thienes)

Manager Thienes said Elizabeth Storey presented the draft Education and Outreach Plan. Bob Fossum presented the Draft Issues, Goals and Policies from the 2010 WMP. Manager Piram asked if there were any comments. Manager Thienes said there were a few comments and the CAC were informed that they had until March 25th to provide additional comments. Manager Thienes said there was also a discussion on the Loeb Lake and Willow Reserve Management Plan.

B) Ramsey Conservation District (RCD) Board Meeting (Deneen)

Manager Deneen provided Dawn Nelson with a written summary of the March 9th, 2009 RCD meeting. First on the Agenda was the swearing in of the new Supervisor, Carrie Wasley who represents Ramsey County District 3. Next was appointing a Treasurer and Secretary. Mara Humphrey agreed to fill the position to attend the CRWD CAC Meetings. Two speakers from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) provided information to the RCD. Ryan Johnson provided a Service Report on his professional contacts.

VIII. Wednesday, April 1, 2009 Regular Meeting Agenda Review

IX. Adjournment – 6:14 p.m. adjourned by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Nelson

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