



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Meeting Minutes of the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Board of Managers, for **Thursday, July 24, 2008, 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

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. Preliminary 2009 Budget and Levy

A) Review Preliminary Budget and Levy for public comment

The Board of Managers reviewed several fiscal policies. The first policy reviewed pertained to the definition of a Capital Improvement Project. After discussing possible changes the Board agreed to maintain the current definition and add language clarifying the life cycle of the improvement would last for 10 or more years. The Board then reviewed the Fund Balance policies. The Board clarified that the Operations Fund Balance of 50% of the Operations Budget is based on December 31st total each year and may dip below that amount during the calendar year. The Capital Improvement Project Fund Balance policy of maintaining a \$2,000,000 balance was clarified to mean a minimum balance. Expenditures that would reduce the Capital Improvement Project Fund Balance below \$2,000,000 would require special Board approval.

The Board discussed long term financial planning concepts recognizing the need to plan for future capital expenditures as they relate to the tax levy, fund balance and possible future bonding. The Board asked that Administrator Doneux invite our financial planner and others to discuss long term capital project finance strategies.

The Board of Managers discussed the proposed 2009 Budget and Levy. The consensus of the Managers was to reduce the 2009 Tax Levy from a 10.6 % increase down to a 5% increase. The Board of Managers discussed numerous scenarios to achieve this reduction. The reductions included the following reductions: reducing Fund 201 Well Sealing by \$2,000, reducing Fund 211 Monitoring by \$8,000 by delaying staff increases, reducing Fund 305 Como Lake BMP Maintenance by reducing Street Maintenance by \$20,000 and East Como Blvd Maintenance by \$10,000, and reducing fund 230

GIS by \$15,500 by correcting a duplicate expenditure. The deductions to the preliminary budget totaled \$85,000.

B) Approve Preliminary Budget and Levy for public comment

Based on the Board recommended reductions the revised preliminary budget provided \$302,750 for Administration, \$773,438 for Programs, \$555,547 for Projects and \$3,557,547 for Capital Improvement Projects. This totaled \$5,189,547 for Preliminary 2009 Budget and a resultant tax levy of \$1,691,735 which is a 5.3% increase over 2008.

Motion 08-07-22: *To approve 2009 preliminary Budget and Levy as amended for public comment.*

Thienes/Jones

Unanimously Approved

Manager Piram asked to discuss the proposed “View from the River” event. After the Board considered several questions and concerns that were raised by some of the Managers it was the consensus of the Board to post-pone the event to another time.

IV. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Doneux