



Capitol Region Watershed District

1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4 • Saint Paul, MN 55108
T: (651) 644-8888 • F: (651) 644-8894 • capitolregionwd.org

Approved

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, April 8, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Pat Byrne
Steve Duerre
Mike MacDonald
Rick Sanders
Nicole Soderholm
Kathryn Swanson
Michelle Ulrich
Richard Weil
Gwen Willems

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Michelle Sylvander, CRWD
Shirley Reider, CRWD Board
Manager
Glen Champion, DNR

Members absent:

David Arbeit, w/notice
Bill Barton, w/notice
Ted McCaslin

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Ms. Willems opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Willems requested any announcements. Ms. Willems made an announcement that she attended a presentation at the Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts. At that meeting recognition was given to CRWD for exceeding the MIDS, Minimal Impact Design Standards.

Public Comments

Ms. Willems requested any public comments. No public comments were made.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Willems asked for any additions or changes to the Agenda. No additions or changes were made.

CAC 15-012 Motion: *To approve the CAC April 8, 2015, agenda.*

MacDonald/Ulrich
Unanimously approved

Approval of the March 11, 2015 CAC Minutes

Ms. Willems requested any changes or corrections to the minutes. Ms. Swanson noted that she was absent with notice and Ms. Ulrich noted a change on page two.

CAC 15-013 Motion: *To approve the March 11, 2015 CAC Minutes with corrections.*

Duerre/MacDonald

Unanimously approved

District Initiatives

A) North and East Metro Groundwater Management Plan, (Glen Champion, DNR)

Ms. Willems introduced Glen Champion with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to share the North & East Metro Groundwater Management Area Plan.

Mr. Champion reviewed the area covered by the management plan. It has been identified that the north and east metro area has a risk for contamination and overuse. The goal of the DNR is to maintain sustainability and proper issuing of permits. By law the DNR has primary responsibility and authority for groundwater management. The plan focuses on what DNR can and will do over the next five years. The action items in the draft plan include:

- Monitoring of water use and ground water resources and make this information more widely available.
- Improve DNR's management of groundwater permits and its participation in municipal water supply planning.
- Improve support for better water conservation by all users
- Improve DNR's role in reducing groundwater contamination.
- Improve DNR's ability to prevent well interferences and resolve water use conflicts.
- Improve DRN's ability to ensure compliance with groundwater permit requirements.

The plan does not include city management plans. The DNR relies on self-reporting by cities of water usage. The plan is targeted to high end water usage users such as golf courses

Ms. Texer asked if the plan addresses White Bear Lake. Mr. Champion replied that the plan does not address White Bear Lake. Mr. Champion explained that White Bear Lake is showing similar conditions to that from the 1988 drought season. Administrator Doneux asked how this plan would effect CRWD. Mr. Champion replied that this should have minimal effect on CRWD.

Mr. Byrne asked if permits include water discharge. Mr. Champion replied that the permits are issued for water usage. The DNR does not monitor the discharge.

The CAC thanked Mr. Champion for sharing the management plan.

B) CRWD 2010 Watershed Plan Mid-Term Review

Administrator Doneux discussed a special meeting for the CAC on April 29, 2015 at 6:00pm to review the watershed mid-term plan.

CAC Initiatives

A) CAC Bylaws Review

Ms. Ulrich reviewed edits suggested by the Bylaws subcommittee of Ms. Ulrich and Ms. Willems. The CAC discussed clarifications and edits of the Bylaws. Administrator Doneux recommended the Bylaws be presented to the Board of Managers for review and comment.

"Our mission is to protect, manage, and improve the water resources of the Capitol Region Watershed District."

CAC 15-014 Motion: *To forward the Bylaws with edits to the Board of Managers for review and comments.*

Ulrich/MacDonald
Unanimously approved

B) Election of Officers

Ms. Willems requested the nomination for two co-chair positions and secretary. According to the by-laws each position is a one year appointment with an election every April.

Ms. Ulrich nominated Ms. Willems to be the Co-Chair. Ms. Willems accepted the nomination. Mr. Duerre made the motion to nominate MacDonald as Co-Chair. Mr. MacDonald accepted the nomination.

CAC 15-015 Motion: *To appoint MacDonald and Willems as the Co-Chairs.*

Weil/Ulrich
Unanimously approved

Ms. Willems made the motion to nominate Ulrich as the Secretary. Ms. Ulrich accepted the nomination.

CAC 15-016 Motion: *To appoint Ulrich as the, Secretary.*

Weil/Sanders
Unanimously approved

C) Student Worker

Ms. Kathryn Swanson reviewed that the University of Minnesota offers a student worker program. The idea is that the student worker spends 3 hours a month working with the CAC on a project. The CAC, would provide direction and supervision. Members of the CAC discussed ideas of projects that a student worker could perform. Ms. Swanson will contact someone at the U of M for more information on the student worker program.

The CAC discussed a list of recommended projects available for a proposed student:

1. Translate CAC packet into Mong, Spanish, etc. (Language Student)
2. Meet with community leaders and report back to CAC about opportunities to reach underrepresented target areas
3. Participate on 1 CAC committee — i.e. grants etc
4. Attend a different Watershed's CAC meeting and report back to the CAC
5. Write an article about the CAC for a local paper
6. Man/women a both at one of our events
7. Man/women a both at the University of Minnesota's activity fair
8. Research current literature on the role of citizen participation in water management — summarize literature and identify things we are doing right and were we could change.

“Our mission is to protect, manage, and improve the water resources of the Capitol Region Watershed District.”

D) 2015 Awards Program

Administrator Doneux reviewed the Blooming St. Paul Awards. CRWD will no longer be providing the staff time to the Blooming St. Paul awards but will continue to provide financial support. Administrator Doneux requested feedback from the CAC on adding an additional award for a project. The CAC discussed adding an additional award. Administrator Doneux will work with Mr. Arbeit and Mr. MacDonald on drafting a new award criteria for review at a future CAC meeting.

E) Fall CAC “Event” Update

Administrator Doneux has meet with the Freshwater Society. They will be providing a list of potential speakers. Administrator Doneux will share the list as soon as it becomes available.

Project and Program Updates

A) 2015 CRWD Events

Administrator Doneux reviewed a list of upcoming events with CRWD. A number of events are coming up in May and June that need additional support. Mr. Sanders offered to help at the Landscape Revival from 11:00-2:00.

CAC Observer Update

Mr. Duerre attended the March 18th Board of Managers meeting. A discussion took place on chloride runoff. An update was provided on the Lowertown Ballpark. Manager Reider updated the CAC that there will be weed harvesting this year at Lake McCarrons. Ms. Reider is serving on a subcommittee for the Lafayette Park Stormwater Improvement Plan and engineering proposals are being reviewed. A lease amendment has been approved to expand CRWD’s office. A building committee is continuing to look for a new space.

Discussion –

A) **New & Old Issues**

No new or old business.

B) **Identify CAC Observer for the April 15th and May 6th Board of Managers Meetings.**

No one was identified.

C) **May 13th CAC Agenda Overview**

Items for the May 13th CAC Agenda include:

- Willow Reserve
- Lafayette Park
- Watershed Plan Mid-Term Review
- Awards Program
- Event Planning
- CAC Tour Planning

“Our mission is to protect, manage, and improve the water resources of the Capitol Region Watershed District.”

D)2015 Meeting Schedule

CRWD Staff is seeking help from the CAC to attend events. Please contact Lindsay if you are available.

- Citywide Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 18th 9-11:30
- Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary Grand Opening Sat. May 30th 1-3
- St. Paul Arbor Month Celebration Sat. May 30th 10-2
- Landscape Revival Native Plant Expo, Saturday, June 7th 9-3
- Great River Greening Rain Garden Plantings, date to be announced

Adjourn –

CAC 15-017 Motion: *To adjourn the April 8, 2015 CAC Meeting.*

Duerre/MacDonald
Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Sylvander

W:\05 Citizen Advisory Committee\Minutes\2015\April 8, 2015 Draft Minutes.doc