



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Approved
January 15, 2014

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, December 11, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Gwen Willems
Michelle Ulrich
Steve Duerre
David Arbeit
Bill Barton
Ted McCaslin
Richard Weil
Janna Caywood

Members absent:

Katheryn Swanson, w/notice
Pat Byrne
Mike MacDonald, w/notice
Richard Weil, w/notice

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Michelle Sylvander, CRWD
Mary Texer, Board Manager
Shirley Reider, Board Manager
Joe Collins, Board Manager
Seitu Jones, Board Manager
Mike Thienes, Board Manager

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Ms. Willems opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a request for introductions and any announcements.

Public Comments

Janna Caywood mentioned that the City of Saint Paul has installed experimental blades on some of the plow trucks. In addition to the experimental blades the City has also installed sensors for detecting the temperature of the pavement.

Approval of Agenda

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

CAC 13-028 Motion: *To approve the CAC December 11, 2013 agenda.*

Duerre/Ulrich

Unanimously approved

Approval of the November 13, 2013 CAC Minutes

Ms. Willems requested any changes or corrections to the minutes. There was one correction on page 2.

CAC 13-029 Motion: *To approve the CAC November 13, 2013 CAC Minutes with correction.*

Arbeit/Duerre

Unanimously approved

Items for Review and Comment Requested By Board of Managers

- A) Review of Survey Results for CAC Initiatives

Administrator Doneux reviewed the survey taken from ideas gathered at the October 16th, 2013 CAC meeting. There was much discussion about the survey results. Many of the ideas will be worked into the schedule for 2014 meetings.

CAC Members felt the most important topic of the survey results was the overall recruitment of new CAC Members and to develop and implement an orientation process with a packet of relevant materials.

It is very important to the CAC Members that more guest speakers present at CAC meetings and to invite the public to attend. The members of the CAC enjoyed the presentation from the tree guy. Discussion continued on sharing speakers with other groups such as the Fresh Water Society and inviting neighborhood groups.

The CAC Members felt very strongly about more interaction with local governments and their pertinent departments, such as Public Works and Parks and Recreation Department, was warranted.

CAC Members felt it would be very beneficial to sponsor an awards program to recognize outstanding water and soil projects in the district (e.g., a program modeled on the LEAP Awards).

CAC Members felt attending conventions and seminars would be beneficial to help improve their understanding of other pertinent organizations, such as MAWD and BWSR, and to be able to report back to CAC members.

CAC Members would like to attend more tours of projects/features in the CRWD, increasing the number of tours in the watershed to at least two per year with the second tour focused on a particular project or facility.

CAC Members would like to participate in legislative activities that impact the district (e.g. attend MAWD legislative briefing at CRWD or invite local legislators to speak at CAC meetings).

B) Discussion and Review of CAC Initiatives with Board and CAC Members

Manager Collins recommended that CAC members attend the meetings of other watershed districts. This could help strengthen CRWD by comparing projects and issues to those of other watersheds. Topics of interest could include those such as the water levels in White Bear Lake.

The Members of the CAC felt better communication such as sharing the Board of Managers Meeting Agenda with the members of the CAC.

Administrator Doneux discussed a Community Capacity Assessment being done by May Davenport, a Social Scientist with the University of Minnesota. Ms. Davenport is partnering with other watersheds to examine individual actions and behaviors to engage in clean water. Much discussion occurred.

C) Develop Outline of 2014 Meetings

Discussion on this topic has been moved to the January 15th, 2014 CAC Meeting.

D) Discuss the Development of CAC Orientation Packet

Discussion on this topic has been moved to the January 15th, 2014 CAC Meeting.

E) Recommendations for 2014 CAC Reappointments

Staff and Program Updates

- A) A look ahead to 2014 (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux reviewed the following project and programs planned for 2014.

Rule revisions	Highland Ravine
BMP Database	Lowertown Ballpark
Impervious Surfaces data set	Upper Villa Park
New Safety training	Central High School
Aquatic Plant Management at Lake McCarrons	Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary
Monitoring Program Improvements	Irrigation for the new Ball Park.
Curtiss Pond	

CAC Observer and Board of Managers Update

The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc. (MAWD) held its annual trade show on December 5-6, 2013 at the Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria, MN.

Discussion –

A) New & Old Issues

There was no discussion.

B) Identify CAC Observer for December 18th Board of Managers Meeting and the January 8th, 2014 Board of Managers Meeting

The Annual Meeting and Regular Board of Managers Meeting will be held on December 18th, with a social hour from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. All CAC members are welcome to attend, there will be a special recognition for Jerome Wagner.

There were no volunteers for the January 8th Board of Managers Meeting.

C) January 15, 2014 CAC Agenda Overview

At the January 15, 2014 CAC meeting, Joe Bischoff from Wenck Associates, Inc. will be presenting his Statistical Analysis of Lake Data in the Capitol Region Watershed District.

Adjourn –

CAC 13-030 Motion: *To adjourn.*

Caywood/Ulrich

Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Sylvander