



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 August 13, 2014

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, July 16, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Gwen Willems
Bill Barton
Mike MacDonald
Richard Weil
Michelle Ulrich
Steve Duerre
David Arbeit

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Michelle Sylvander, CRWD
Nate Zwontizer, CRWD
Mary Texer, Board Manager
Samantha Kreibich, Ramsey
Conservation District
Ann Marie Fox
Catherine Zimmer

Members absent:

Pat Byrne, w/notice
Ted McCaslin, w/notice
Kathryn Swanson

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Mr. MacDonald opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a request for any announcements. Mr. MacDonald asked for an update on the June tour. Members were very pleased with the tour.

An announcement was made that Janna Caywood has resigned. Kathryn Swanson will be moving out of the district but would like to remain on as a non-voting member.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. MacDonald asked for any additions or changes to the Agenda. No additions or changes were made.

CAC 14-053 Motion: *To approve the CAC July 16, 2014 agenda.*

Arbeit/Duerre
Unanimously approved

Approval of the May 14, 2014, and June 11, 2014 CAC Minutes

Ms. Willems requested any changes or corrections to the minutes.

CAC 13-054 Motion: *To approve the CAC May 14, 2014 and June 11, 2014 CAC Minutes.*

Willems/Arbeit
Unanimously approved

District Initiatives

A) East Kittsondale Subwatershed-Urban Stormwater Retrofit Assessment (Zwontizer)

Mr. Zwontizer reviewed that in 2013, CRWD contracted with the Ramsey Conservation District (RCD) to complete a stormwater retrofit analysis of the East Kittsondale subwatershed. Monitoring data shows that water quality of stormwater runoff in East Kittsondale is consistently the poorest in the watershed. The goal of the retrofit analysis is to identify potential water quality improvement opportunities, develop preliminary cost estimates, model pollutant removals, and generate a prioritized list of project opportunities based on cost-effectiveness.

Ms. Samantha Kreibich with Ramsey County Conservation District reviewed the East Kittsondale Subwatershed Urban Stormwater Retrofit Assessment. A variety of projects were identified in the report. Some of the projects are very site-specific, and some are general concepts (alley treatments) that could be applied throughout the subwatershed. The next step is for CRWD staff to further explore and pursue the high priority opportunities. Since CRWD does not own land, staff will need to develop partnerships with property owners where projects are identified. The results of the report allows CRWD staff to pursue projects that provide the biggest “bang for the buck” systematically, and it provides much needed information when applying for grants. The information provided in the report is tremendously helpful for planning District activities, and additional areas for stormwater retrofit analysis are being considered.

Mr. Zwontizer and Ms. Kreibich requested feedback on the East Kittsondale Stormwater Retrofit Assessment and approach. The committee shared recommendations that will be shared with the CRWD Board to consider funding for implementation of identified projects and future stormwater retrofit assessments. Mr. Zwontizer thanked the Committee for their feedback.

CAC Initiatives

A) Adoption of CAC Orientation Packet

Administrator Doneux reviewed the development of the CAC Orientation Packet. The orientation packet committee consists of: Michelle Ulrich, Steve Duerre, and Gwen Willems. Ms. Willems stated that the committee has made a few minor changes to the packet. A final version of the orientation packet will be presented at the August meeting.

B) Discuss the September 18th Event with Freshwater Society, Dr. Jay Famiglietti, Dwindling Groundwater Reserves as Viewed from Space.

Administrator Doneux reviewed the event planned for September 18, 2014. CRWD will partner with Freshwater Society. Barr Engineering will also be co-sponsoring the event. Administrator Doneux stated that CRWD will have two tables at the event. One of the tables will be for the CAC to use for recruitment from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm. The other table will be for CRWD educational displays. Mr. MacDonald, Ms. Ulrich and Mr. Duerre volunteered to staff the CAC recruitment table. The event will be free but you do need to register.

C) Discuss 2014 Awards Program

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

As part of the survey results from CAC members on initiatives, members felt it would be very beneficial to sponsor an awards program to recognize outstanding water and soil project in the district. At the annual meeting in 2013, Jerome Wagner and Manager Mike Thienes were recognized for their work with Capitol Regional Watershed District. A sub committee was formed by Mike MacDonald and Janna Caywood. Ms. Caywood has resigned from the CAC. Mr. MacDonald stated that he will continue to help with the awards program. Administrator Doneux suggested the award topics as: project, partner and citizen. Funding for an awards program has been planned in the budget. Members discussed keeping the awards simple and creating formal guide lines. Additional discussion to take place at the August meeting.

Project and Program Updates

A) 2014 CRWD Construction Project Updates (Doneux)

The Curtiss Pond project will start construction after the State Fair. The Highland Ravine project will start in September as well.

CAC Observer Update

No update was given.

Discussion –

A)New & Old Issues

There was no discussion.

B)Identify CAC Observer for the July 23rd and August 4th Board of Managers Meeting

No members were identified.

C)August 13th CAC Agenda Overview

Administrator Doneux reviewed that the August 13th, 2014 meeting will include a review of the 2015 budget, an update on the Upper Villa Improvement Project, Awards Program and CAC Recruitment.

D)2014 Meeting Schedule

The Committee made suggestions to update the 2014 Meeting Schedule.

Adjourn –

CAC 14-056 Motion: *To adjourn.*

Weil/Duerre

Unanimously approved

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM.
Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Sylvander

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