



## Capitol Region Watershed District

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Approved April 9, 2014

### Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, March 12, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.

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#### **CAC Members Present:**

Gwen Willems  
Michelle Ulrich  
Steve Duerre  
Bill Barton  
Mike MacDonald  
Richard Weil  
Pat Byrne

#### **Others Present:**

Mark Doneux, CRWD  
Michelle Sylvander, CRWD  
Lindsay VanPatten, CRWD  
Nate Zwonitzer, CRWD  
Gustavo Castro, CRWD  
Mary Texer, Board Manager  
Nathan Campeau, Barr  
Engineering

#### **Members absent:**

Kathryn Swanson, w/notice  
David Arbeit, w/notice  
Janna Caywood, w/notice  
Ted McCaslin, w/notice

#### **Welcome, Announcements, and Updates**

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

Administrator Doneux noted that a “Charter” committee was formed by managers Shirley Reider, and Mary Texer along with CAC members David Arbeit, and Gwen Willems. To better define the mission, goals and responsibilities of the CAC the committee met to review the framework of the CAC. One of the key goals that came out of the meeting was to present more projects and programs before the CAC for review and comments. These projects and programs, along with CAC comments, will go before the Board of Managers for review.

#### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Willems asked for any additions or changes to the Agenda. There were no changes.

**CAC 14-037 Motion:** *To approve the CAC March 12, 2014, agenda.*

McDonald/Ulrich  
Unanimously approved

#### **Approval of the January 15, 2014 CAC Minutes**

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

**CAC 14-038 Motion:** *To approve the CAC February 12, 2014 CAC Minutes.*

Duerre/McDonald  
Unanimously approved

## **District Initiatives**

A) Feasibility Report: Trout Brook Storm Sewer Interceptor Drainage Improvements at Cottage Ave. and Farrington St., (Nathan Campeau, Barr Engineering Co.)

Administrator Doneux introduced Mr. Nathan Campeau with Barr Engineering. Administrator Doneux reviewed how an area located near Cottage Avenue and Farrington Street has occurred flooding from rainwater runoff. Mr. Campeau shared his feasibility report presentation showing this area before improvements were made. The inlet in this area would often get clogged with garbage and items being dumped. In the summer of 2013 repairs were made to the berm and large rocks were placed around the inlet. Soon after the repairs were made a large rainfall tested the improvements and showed to hold up well to amount of storm water runoff for this area. The improvements have made a difference with the flooding in this area. An area located just north east of the inlet is still experiencing some flooding in a residential backyard. Mr. Campeau reviewed four options that could be implemented to reduce the flooding problems in this area. The first option would be to replace the current inlet with a beehive style inlet. This would allow more runoff to enter the storm drain. Option number two would be to place a beehive style inlet further upstream. This option would capture more stormwater runoff before it would reach the current inlet. The third option would be to build a raingarden. This option does cost more and would not prevent flooding. The fourth option is a combination of a beehive style inlet and a raingarden. Administrator Doneux requested comments for the Board of Managers to review before approval. Mr. Barton suggested that the area is a wetland and a flooding easement be arranged with the home. Mr. Byrne suggested obtaining flooding or ponding easements rather than building a project. A lengthy discussion of options occurred. The CAC thanked Mr. Campeau for his presentation.

**CAC 14-039 Motion:** *To request a flooding easement in the area located near Cottage Avenue and Farrington Street and in the event easements are not feasible the pursue option.*

Barton/Duerre  
Opposed by Byrne

B) Stewardship Grant Program Improvements (Zwonitzer)

Mr. Nate Zwonitzer and Mr. Gustavo Castro reviewed improvements made to the current Stewardship Grant Program. The Stewardship Grant program offers financial assistance to property owners interested in implementing stormwater BMPs on their property. A typical project would receive funding for rain gardens, rain barrels, permeable hardscapes and swales. Most grant awards are under \$10,000 and cover 100% of the material costs or 50% of the total project costs. Mr. Zwonitzer and staff have been reviewing the grant program. Goals were set to identify improvements. The first goal was to provide exceptional level of education and outreach. Mr. Castro reviewed a sample packet that would be given to every property owner. The packet would include information about CRWD, Citizen Advisory Committee, upcoming events, grant program information and more details on projects identified for their property. The second goal is to improve design efficiency. A "Clean Water Plan" will be developed for every property. The plans will include basic project information such as total cost, water quality treatment ranking and whether additional design services are available. The third goal is to develop a more equitable grant award system based on project benefit. Instead of focusing on the project cost, the calculator factors in size, area treated, rainfall depth treated and provides a bonus based on the promotional or educational value of the project. Mr. Duerre

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

stated that the packet was great. Administrator Doneux replied that the forms would be available on the website as well. The CAC members were very pleased with the suggested changes. The members of the CAC thanked Mr. Zwonitzer and Mr. Gustavo for their work and presentation.

**CAC 14-040 Motion:** *To approve the recommended changes to the Stewardship Grant Program.*

Duerre/Byrne

Unanimously approved

## **CAC Initiatives**

### A) Discuss the Development of CAC Orientation Packet

Ms. Willems reviewed the development of the CAC Orientation Packet. The orientation packet committee consists of: Michelle Ulrich, Steve Duerre, and Gwen Willems. A rough draft of the orientation packet was available for review. The key areas for the CAC to focus on editing would be: CAC Framework, CAC Expectation, CAC Contribution, and CAC Bios. The framework section can be a stand-alone document to convey the overall purpose and function of the Committee. The expectations section includes the State Statue and CAC By-Laws. Additional information can be added here for CAC membership expectations. The contribution section needs a list of contributions that the CAC has made over the years. The CAC Bios section needs to include a 2-3 sentence personal bio from each CAC member. A draft will be presented to the Board. The Committee will accept comments from the CAC and bring back the next draft of the packet.

### B) Discuss basic elements of fall 2014 “Event”

The Freshwater Society has been known for having good speakers that would be able to talk about groundwater, climate or storm water reuse topics. Administrator Doneux has contacted Steve Woods with the Freshwater Society. An event is already scheduled on September 18, 2014 with the Moos Family Lecture series. The speaker has helped lead worldwide research that uses NASA satellites to measure changes in the Earth’s stores of groundwater.

**CAC 14-041 Motion:** *To request the Board of Managers to support sponsorship of an event with the Freshwater Society on September 18, 2104.*

Weil/Byrne

Unanimously approved

## **Project and Program Updates**

### A) CRWD Office Update (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux will provide an update at the April meeting.

### **CAC Observer Update**

No update was given.

## **Discussion –**

### A)New & Old Issues

There was no discussion.

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**B) Identify CAC Observer for March 19th Board of Managers Meeting and the April 2nd, 2014 Board of Managers Meeting**

No members were identified.

**C) April 9<sup>th</sup> CAC Agenda Overview**

Ellen Anderson was suggested to be scheduled for the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Administrator Doneux will continue trying to arrange a date when she can come back and speak with the CAC. A monitoring report will be presented at the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Adjourn –**

**CAC 14-042 Motion:** *To adjourn.*

Byrne/Weil

Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Sylvander

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