



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Approved June 11, 2014

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, May 14, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Gwen Willems
Bill Barton
Mike MacDonald
Richard Weil
Janna Caywood
Ted McCaslin
Michelle Ulrich
Steve Duerre

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Michelle Sylvander, CRWD
Lindsay VanPatten, CRWD
Britta Suppes, CRWD
Bob Fossum, CRWD
Mary Texer, Board Manager

Members absent:

David Arbeit, w/notice
Pat Byrne, w/notice
Kathryn Swanson

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

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

Administrator Doneux shared that he was contacted by Mr. Arbeit about a foamy substance seen on Como Lake. Administrator Doneux will have staff follow up on this report.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda

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

CAC 14-049 Motion: *To approve the CAC May 14, 2014 agenda.*

Caywood/MacDonald
Unanimously approved

Approval of the April 9, 2014 CAC Minutes

Ms. Willems requested any changes or corrections to the minutes. A couple of corrections were noted.

CAC 13-050 Motion: *To approve the CAC April 9, 2014 CAC Minutes with corrections.*

Barton/Weil
Unanimously approved

District Initiatives

A) 2013 Stormwater and Lakes Monitoring Reports (Suppes)

Ms. Suppes reviewed that since 2005, CRWD has been collecting and analyzing water quality data through the District Monitoring Program. During the 2013 monitoring period (January-December), stormwater monitoring sites located throughout six of the sixteen major subwatersheds were monitored for flow and water quality. Water quality samples were analyzed for a variety of parameters including nutrients, solids, metals, bacteria, and chloride. Conclusions and recommendations from 2013 will help guide monitoring performed in 2014.

For the first time this year, there will be two monitoring reports: Stormwater Monitoring Report and Lakes Monitoring Report. Ms. Suppes reviewed the Stormwater Monitoring report with the CAC highlighting key findings from the monitoring efforts. Ms. Suppes reviewed graphs with record high precipitation in 2013. On June 21, 2013 an intense storm measured 1.13 inches of rain in 15 minutes, with a total of 2.85 inches in 24 hour period. This storm accounted for twenty five percent of the annual rain fall. Two new monitoring stations have been added to the Trout Brook area. Ms. Suppes shared annual e coli average or loading, Sarita subwatershed showed a very high increase. This area is located near the Minnesota State Fair Grounds and typically does have higher pollutants due to the number of livestock in the subwatershed. Ms. Suppes noted that for the first time Chloride was evaluated in the spring primary snow melt. Ms. Caywood suggested further education and discussion on the topic of chloride.

The CAC thanked Ms. Suppes for her presentation.

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. Administrator Doneux reviewed comments and changes made by the Board of Managers. On the Roster page a note will be added that members are appointed by the Board of Managers. A statement of Expectations page will also be added. Members discussed adding a geographic map of the current CAC members to help focus on recruitment efforts.

CAC 14-051 Motion: *Adopt CAC Orientation Packet.*

Ulrich/MacDonald

Unanimously approved

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. Elizabeth Beckman will be contacting Freshwater Society for information about having an educational table at the event and a few minutes to talk about CRWD. Ms. Texer suggested inviting City Officials and other watershed districts.

C) Discuss 2014 Awards Program

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. CRWD currently partners with the City of St. Paul for the Blooming St. Paul Award. Ms. Caywood suggested an award that is somehow linked to the mission statement. A sub committee was formed by Mike MacDonald and Janna Caywood.

D) Discuss June Tour Sites

Administrator Doneux reviewed plans for the June 11th Annual CAC site tour. This years' theme will be the Trout Brook Valley area. The tour will start at CRWD office at 5:30 with a presentation on the history of the Trout Brook Valley area. The tour will include a tour of the Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary, Trout Brook Monitoring site, 35E Realignment Project, and the Lowertown Ballpark.

Project and Program Updates

A) 2014 CRWD Construction Project Updates (Doneux)

The Curtiss Pond project is currently out to bid and has nine bidders at this time. The Highland Ravine is also out to bid with three bidders.

CAC Observer Update

Ms. Texer gave a brief update on the May 7th Board of Managers Meeting where the Curtiss Pond project and Lowertown Ball Park were main topics of discussion. The Curtiss Pond project has gone out to bid. This project involves a storage tank and pumping system. The level of the pond will be lowered prior to rainfall events. The Lowertown Ball Park would reuse stormwater from the roof of the Metro Transit building. The water would be stored and used for irrigation and flushing toilets. A system like this would be the first of this kind.

Discussion –

A) **New & Old Issues**

There was no discussion.

B) **Identify CAC Observer for the May 21st and June 4th Board of Managers Meeting**

No members were identified.

C) **June 11th CAC Agenda Overview**

The June 11th meeting will be the annual CAC tour. This years' theme will be the Trout Brook Valley area. The tour will start at CRWD office at 5:30 with a presentation on the history of the Trout Brook Valley area. The tour will include a tour of the Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary, Trout Brook Monitoring site, 35E Realignment Project, and the Lowertown Ballpark.

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

D)2014 Meeting Schedule

Adjourn –

CAC 14-052 Motion: *To adjourn.*

MacDonald/Weil

Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Sylvander

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