



APPROVED

Capitol Region Watershed District

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Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

David Arbeit, Bill Barton,
Wade Johnson, Michael
MacDonald, Jerry Kafka,
Shirley Reider, Michael
Trojan, Jerome Wagner, Gwen
Willems

Members absent with notice:

Ted McCaslin, Michelle Ulrich

Others Present:

Mike Thienes, CRWD Manager
Joe Collins, CRWD Manager
Mary Texer, CRWD Manager
Mark Doneux, CRWD Staff
Ed Matthiesen, Wenck &
Associates

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Shirley Reider opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with a request for announcements. Ms. Reider announced a presentation by Dr. Engstrom titled “The Dirt on Sediment Pollution: Water Quality in the Mississippi River” to be held at the Science Museum of Minnesota on November 17, 2011 at 7:00 PM.

Introductions were made.

Public Comment – For items not on the Agenda.

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda

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

CAC 11-11-01 Motion: *To approve the CAC November 9, 2011 agenda as provided.*

MacDonald/Arbeit

Unanimously approved

Approval of the October 12, 2011 CAC Minutes

Ms. Reider asked for additions or changes to the October 12, 2011 CAC Minutes. Gwen Willems noted a correction to her name in the minutes.

CAC 11-11-02 Motion: *To approve the CAC October 12, 2011 CAC Minutes as provided.*

Willems/Trojan

Unanimously approved

Items for Review and Comment Requested by the Board of Managers

No items for review or comment.

Presentation: Porous Pavement Paired Intersection Study

Ed Matthiesen, an engineer from Wenck & Associates, presented “Porous Pavement Paired Intersection Study,” a talk, which he delivered at this year’s Minnesota Water Resources Conference. Mr. Matthiesen explained the purpose of the study is to compare the effects of porous asphalt (without salt) on residential streets to traditional pavement that had been salted. The goal of the study is to determine if porous pavement can be used as a substitute for salted, traditional pavement. Mr. Matthiesen acknowledged the support of the

EPA, MNDOT, PCA, and the City of Robbinsdale, which allowed a section of its streets to be used in the study.

Mr. Matthiesen noted that the first year of the study the project was installed on a sand subgrade and in the second year the project was installed on a clay subgrade. Each type of subgrade has a different infiltration rate. Mr. Matthiesen said that the surface with sand subgrade retained heat more effectively than the clay. In addition to examining the effectiveness of the two types of pavement surfaces in winter, the study is also investigating factors including durability, maintenance costs, and impact on water quality. Mr. Matthiesen reported that data collected after two years show that performance is similar for both porous asphalt and traditional pavement surfaces. The study will continue for one more winter. Mr. Matthiesen passed around samples of the types of pavement (pervious concrete, porous asphalt, ballast rock, and choker course) referred to in his talk. He also answered questions from those in attendance. The CAC thanked Mr. Matthiesen for an interesting presentation.

Appointment of two CAC members to Special and Partner Grant Review Committee

Administrator Doneux stated that whereas in the past, the District has conducted separate reviews of applications for Special and Partner grants, this year one committee will review both grant types. Administrator Doneux explained the change was made after talking with applicants, noting the similarity in application deadlines, and noting the need for the committee's flexibility to determine whether an application was best categorized as a Special or Partner Grant. Administrator Doneux announced that this year the District would like to invite two CAC members to serve on the committee along with two Board members. The Grant Review Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 28th. It is expected to be a one-time meeting to review and evaluate 10-12 applications and to make recommendations for which projects should receive funding. Wade Johnson and Michael MacDonald volunteered to serve on the committee, and David Arbeit agreed to be an alternate.

Discussion

Victoria Park Wetland Restoration Project

Administrator Doneux reported that the City returned to CRWD with a request to fill additional wetland area at the old Coke Mobil site along West Seventh Street in St. Paul. Mark noted the Board previously authorized filling the area between Central Corridor and the railroad. Administrator Doneux further noted that since wetland impacts have been addressed at this site, we can move forward with wetland restoration plans.

Trout Brook Interceptor-Interstate 35E Cayuga Project

Administrator Doneux explained that CRWD has met with Burlington-Northern Railroad and MNDOT to discuss various options for realigning the Trout Brook storm sewer to facilitate MNDOT's construction of the 35E Cayuga interchange. The best long-term solution the District prefers, explained administrator Doneux, is realignment that follows the along the Metropolitan Council interceptor sewer, thus keeping the Trout Brook storm sewer system away from the railroad tracks and bridge piers as much as possible. Other options proposed have the Trout Brook storm sewer snaking between bridge piers near the railroad. Administrator Doneux noted that realignment so close to the existing railroad and bridge piers presents significant maintenance difficulties for the storm sewer.

Staff and Program Updates

Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Update

Administrator Doneux stated that the Aldine storm water planter had been completed. He explained the difference between the storm water planter and the rain garden installed at Pillsbury. For next month's CAC meeting, he will put together a slide show of the completed BMPs underway for CCLRT.

Trillium Site Water Resource Study Update

Administrator Doneux explained that the consultant Interfluve is moving from discussion and analysis of how to get water into the site to preparing preliminary design plans. Administrator Doneux also reported that as the planning has progressed they have discovered the possibility of restoring wetland around Sims Agate pond as an added amenity to the project.

Board of Managers and CAC Observer Update

Manager Mike Thienes reported that at the October 19th Board of Managers meeting, there was a special report on Villa Park Wetland Restoration project, particularly the results of the natural resource inventory and options for drying out the site to allow for dredging. Manager Thienes also said the Board received an update on 35E-Trout Brook Interceptor project and the Cleveland-Randolph Groundwater Study Phase 2.

At the November 2nd Board of Managers meeting, stated Mr. Thienes, there were two special reports. One presentation focused on the Trillium site and strategies for bringing bring water to the site. Another presentation given by Christine Baeumler on public art in the watershed addressed ways to integrate art into the design of projects. She emphasized working with artists earlier in the design and decision making processes, rather than near the end of a project's completion. CAC members expressed interest in having Ms. Baeumler give a presentation on art in the watershed at one of their future meetings.

Discussion - New & Old Issues

CAC members were reminded of the annual MAWD to be held December 1-3 in Alexandria, MN. The District will cover hotel, registration, and meal costs for any CAC member interested in attending.

Administrator Doneux responded to a question about explanations for the perceived clarity in Como Lake this year. He explained one theory that reasons the lack of algal growth is due to late snow cover on the lake, which blocked or stunted the growth of a particular weed species.

Jerry Kafka raised a question about the large number of migrating geese on Como Lake.

December 14, 2011 Agenda Overview

Slide show of BMPs completed along the Central Corridor.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Doneux