



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, July 13, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

David Arbeit
Bill Barton
Pat Cavanaugh
Steven Duerre
Mike MacDonald
Rick Sanders
Nicole Soderholm
Michelle Ulrich
Gwen Willems

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Belinda Gardner, CRWD
Jessica Bromelkamp, CRWD
Joe Collins, CRWD Board
President

Members absent:

Kathryn Swanson, w/notice
Claudia Hochstein, w/notice
Richard Weil, w/notice

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Ms. Willems opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Willems asked for any announcements or updates.

Mr. Doneux announced that CRWD won the Public Service Award from Friends of Parks and Trails of Ramsey County for the work supporting Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary.

III. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Willems asked for any additions or changes to the Agenda.

Mr. Doneux added to the agenda Website Project Page to section V.C.

CAC 16-018 Motion: *To approve the CAC July 13, 2016 agenda with additions.*

Soderholm/Arbeit
Unanimously approved

IV. Approval of Minutes

A) May 11, 2016 CAC Meeting Minutes

Nicole Soderholm will be added to the May 11, 2016 attendance list.

CAC 16-019 Motion: *To approve the May 11, 2016 minutes with amendments.*

Duerre/Arbeit

Unanimously approved

B) June 8, 2016 CAC Meeting Minutes

Tour guests will be added to the June 8, 2016 minutes attendance list.

CAC 16-020 Motion: *To approve the June 8, 2016 minutes with amendments.*

Arbeit/Duerre

Unanimously approved

V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment and Recommendations

A) CRWD History Study, Pat Cavanaugh

Ms. Cavanaugh provided an update on the CRWD history study. The project will enhance and support the expanding outreach and education efforts in general. In addition, the background of the researcher will ensure sensitivity to any threads related to diversity and inclusion in support of the development of CRWD diversity planning.

The project has potential to function as a pilot and model for further research into water policy and create a deeper understanding of Minnesota's varied watershed districts, underscoring CRWD's high standards in water management. Although the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources has initiated the *One Watershed, One Plan* program, the governance of water will always be complex. Documenting, interpreting, and understanding the historical development of watershed districts can only assist in these efforts.

The working historical structure for the project consists of three periods: pre-watershed district (WMO); the formation period; and the period before paid staff (1998-2003).

Funding the project through a Legacy Grant has several benefits: 1) the MHS protocols structure the project and ensure its compliance with the highest standards of historical research; 2) CRWD use of the Legacy Amendment logo on our future materials provides recognition by the public, other agencies, and similar that CRWD has a holistic, broad-based approach to water management, outreach, and education; 3) it provides an additional revenue stream (albeit a small one).

Mr. Arbeit recommended Susan Jane Cheney for the project, her experience and insight will add value to the History Study.

CAC 16-021 Motion: Authorize Administrator to apply for a \$10,000 Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant for an Oral History project and commit \$500 in matching funds.

B) Targeted Watershed Program-Urban Lakes Renewal

Administrator Doneux noted that the Urban Lake Renewal Project is an excellent candidate for the Targeted Watershed Program because Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) has completed detailed analysis of the subwatersheds, has already implemented a variety of projects that provide measurable benefits, and the actions needed to meet subwatershed pollution reduction goals are known. Funding for this project will result in significant measurable progress towards meeting pollution reduction goals for impaired Como Lake, and will reverse a declining water quality trend in Lake McCarrons.

Adding to this project's candidacy is CRWD's extensive knowledge on the current quality of these lakes and causes of impairment from years of monitoring. CRWD has proven expertise in installing water quality improvement projects such as the Arlington-Pascal stormwater BMPs and the Villa Park wetland restoration, and water quality improvement activities are well supported by the communities. Projects resulting from the Urban Lake Renewal Project funded through the Targeted Watershed Program will improve water quality in impaired Como Lake, and protect the quality of unimpaired Lake McCarrons. Since both of the lakes ultimately drain to the Mississippi, the River will benefit from this project as well.

C) CRWD Website Project Page

Ms. Bromelkamp reviewed the current CRWD Project Page. The goal is to improve the content and overall graphics of the Project Page. CAC members were given a questionnaire to complete and asked to provide feedback about what they would like to have available on the CRWD website Project Pages.

VI. CAC Initiatives

A) 2016 Service Learning Student Update

Mr. MacDonald attempted to contact, however no response or contact from the service learning student.

VII. Project and Program Updates

A) Snelling Midway Redevelopment Project Update

Mr. Doneux reviewed the Snelling Midway project and that CRWD will continue pushing for a comprehensive approach to the project. The District wrote a letter and on June 10, 2016 Mr. Doneux testified at the planning commission. The planning Commission approved the site plan with some conditions. The City Council public hearing is on August 3rd.

Mr. Arbeit asked about the logistics of the project. Mr. Doneux stated that at a minimum they would need to follow the permit rules.

B) Trout Brook Stormwater Interceptor 5 Year Inspection and Repair Plan

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

Mr. Doneux provided an update and reviewed the repair plan. The Trout Brook project will have a budgetary impact and bundling the three later improvements is an option.

Mr. Barton asked if there's an opportunity to treat the water and request grant money. Mr. Doneux replied that grant money would only pay for treatment but not the repair. Mr. Arbeit asked if there are other maintenance projects on the horizon. Mr. Doneux stated no major improvements after this work.

C) McMurray Field Transportation Improvements Project Update

Mr. Doneux provided an update on the McMurray Field improvements project.

VIII. CAC Observer Update

Ms. Cavanaugh provided an update from her observation that the Board is working on a District Diversity Plan.

IX. Discussion

- A) New & Old Issues
- B) CAC observer for July 20, 2016 and August 3, 2016 Board of Managers Meetings
- C) 2016 Meeting Schedule

A) New & Old issues

Ms. Cavanaugh asked about the impact of 9 inches of rain. Mr. Doneux discussed possible impacts, but the design for most systems is not set up to handle 9 inches of rain.

Mr. Doneux replied that Ms. Bromelkamp will present a Crisis Communication Plan to the Board of Managers.

B) CAC Observer for the Board of Managers Meetings July 20, 2016 and August 3, 2016.

Ms. Soderholm volunteered to observe at the next Managers meetings.

C) 2016 Meeting Schedule

Ms. Willems reviewed the agenda for the remaining meetings in 2016.

X. Adjourn

CAC 16-022 Motion: *To adjourn the May 11, 2016 CAC Meeting.*

Soderholm/MacDonald
Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.
Respectfully submitted,
Belinda Gardner

