



Capitol Region Watershed District

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February 17, 2021 Board Meeting
APPROVED

Regular Board Meeting of the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Board of Managers, for **Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 6:00 p.m.** (Regular Meeting) at the office of CRWD, 595 Aldine Street, St. Paul, Minnesota.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

I. A) Call to Order of Regular Meeting (*President Joe Collins*)

Managers

Joe Collins
Hawona Sullivan Janzen
Shawn Murphy, absent w/notice
Rick Sanders
Mary Texer

Staff Present

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Bob Fossum, CRWD
Mark Houle, CRWD
Elizabeth Hosch, CRWD
Anna Annim-Wilson, CRWD
James Mogen, Ramsey County Attorney

Public Attendees

Bob Simonet, CAC

B) Review, Amendments and Approval of the Agenda.

Motion 21-021: *Approve the Agenda of February 3, 2021.*

Texer/Sanders
Unanimously Approved

II. Public Comment

No Comments

III. Permit Applications and Program Updates

A) 20-035 North End Community Center (Hosch)

Ms. Hosch reviewed permit #20-035 for North End Community Center. The applicant, St. Paul Parks and Recreation will be constructing a new community center. The applicable rules are Stormwater Management (Rule C), Flood Control (Rule D), and Erosion and Sediment Control (Rule F). The disturbed area of this project is 5.5 acres with 1.76 acres impervious surface.

Motion 21-022: *Approve Permit #20-035 North End Community Center with 4 Conditions:*

1. *Provide a copy of the NPDES permit.*
2. *Provide a SWPPP that includes the following:*
 - a. *Dewatering provisions (if any).*
 - b. *Perimeter control for stockpiles.*
 - c. *Plan for temporary and permanent stabilization.*
 - d. *Silt fence or fabric placed under the grate is not an approved form of inlet protection.*
 - e. *Installation of infiltration practices shall be done during periods of dry weather and completed before a rainfall event. Placement of engineered soils shall be on dry native soil only.*
 - f. *The bottom excavation surface of infiltration areas shall be level without dips or swales.*
 - g. *During construction, stormwater must be routed around infiltration areas until all construction activity has ceased and tributary surfaces are cleaned of sediment.*
 - h. *Excavation of infiltration areas shall be completed using a backhoe with a toothed bucket.*
 - i. *Native soils in infiltration areas shall be de-compacted to a minimum depth of 18 inches.*
3. *Provide a landscape plan.*
4. *Provide details for soil amendments in the plan where grading occurs. Comment responses indicate that soil amendments will be implemented, but this is not documented in the plans.*

Texer/Sanders

Unanimously Approved

B) 20-037 Cleveland Avenue Reconstruction (Hosch)

Ms. Hosch reviewed permit #20-037 for Cleveland Ave. reconstruction. The applicant, Ramsey County Public Works will be reconstructing Cleveland Avenue from Como Avenue in St. Paul to Larpenteur Avenue in Falcon Heights. The applicable rules are Stormwater Management (Rule C), Flood Control (Rule D), and Erosion and Sediment Control (Rule F). The disturbed area of this project is 10.99 acres with 7.27 acres impervious surface.

Motion 21-023: *Approve permit #20-037 Cleveland Avenue Reconstruction with 4 Conditions:*

1. *Provide a copy of the NPDES permit.*
2. *Revise plan to address the following:*
 - a. *Revise infiltration basin detail on Sheet 136 to address the following:*
 - i. *Add note stating that fabric shall be excluded from the bottom of the infiltration practice.*
 - ii. *Revise underdrain detail to include two inches of choking stone on the sides of the #57 stone or verify that the choking stone shown extends across the entire cross-section of sand. Alternatively, provide 5 inches of 1/2 inch washed angular rock surrounding the drain tile.*
 - b. *Revise Infiltration System B design to prevent surcharging of the system. System outlet (954.62' – MH 401 W INV) is approximately 3 feet above the top of the rock system (951.66').*
3. *Provide specifications/special provisions to verify the following:*
 - a. *Rock specification for the underground infiltration system on Sheet 139.*

- b. *Underdrain perforations and orientation for filtration system on Sheet 141.*
- c. *Clean washed sand specification for filtration system on Sheet 141.*
- 4. *Provide calculations or model results to verify rate control is satisfied.*

Texer/Sanders
Unanimously Approved

IV. Special Reports – 2020 Lakes Update (Houle)

Mr. Houle provided an update for the Board of Managers. Mr. Houle reviewed CRWD’s Monitoring Methods, 2020 Climate, Results from Monitoring, Accomplishments in 2020 and 2021 Initiatives. There are five lakes within the boundaries of CRWD: Como Lake, Crosby Lake, Little Crosby Lake, and Loeb Lake in St. Paul, and Lake McCarrons in Roseville. Each lake is collaboratively monitored by Ramsey County Public Works (RCPW), the Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and CRWD to evaluate overall health, assess compliance with water quality standards, and determine if each lake supports its designated uses for swimming, fishing, and/or aesthetics. Data has been collected annually on each lake for varying periods of record, with the Como Lake dataset being the longest, dating back to 1984.

In 2020, CRWD, in partnership with RCPW and the Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division, collected chemical, physical, and biological data from all five District lakes. Data collected included: dissolved oxygen, total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, temperature, Secchi depth, phytoplankton, zooplankton, macrophyte samples, biovolume surveys of vegetation, and continuous water level data.

All the lakes data collected in 2020 have been analyzed and summarized. Historical lake data and summer average total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and Secchi depth calculations are also available online via the CRWD Water Data Portal. An update will be given on 2020 lake monitoring, 2020 lake quality in comparison to the historical data record, 2020 accomplishments, and 2021 initiatives.

President Collins inquired about Crosby Lakes condition and being able to treat like McCarron and Como Lake. Mr. Houle replied that the flex of flooding and run off from the Mississippi River, Crosby Lake cannot be treated like McCarrons and Como. Manager Texer asked if another herbicidal treatment will be done at Como Lake this year. Mr. Fossum replied that the next board meeting will include more details amount treatment to Como Lake. President Collins asked about chloride in Como Lake. Mr. Houle replied that continuing education of proper application is best way to treat chloride runoff into the lakes. Managers thanked Mr. Houle for his presentation.

No Action Requested

V. Action Items

- A) AR: Approve Minutes of the January 20th Regular Meeting (Sylvander)

Motion 21-024: *Approve the amended Minutes of the January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting.*

Texer/Sanders
Unanimously approved.

B) AR: Approve 2021 Lake Monitoring Agreement with Ramsey County (Wein)

Mr. Houle provided a review for the board of managers. Ramsey County Public Works (RCPW) has been conducting in-lake water quality testing on all Ramsey County lakes, including CRWD's five District Lakes (Como, Crosby, Little Crosby, Loeb, McCarrons). At each lake, water quality data is collected twice monthly from May to September. The data collected includes chemical, physical, and biological parameters that are measured along a depth profile at set sampling locations on each lake. The data is provided by RCPW to CRWD for analysis and reporting. CRWD has provided financial support to RCPW for lake sampling services since 2005.

With assistance from the Ramsey County Attorney, RCPW has developed an annual cooperative agreement for all services related to CRWD Lake monitoring. This annual contract from RCPW is being proposed for all 2021 lake water quality sampling and requires approval. The estimated cost for 2021 Baseline and Extended Baseline sampling is \$39,447.42.

Motion 21-025: *Approve 2021 Lake Monitoring with Ramsey County and authorize Administrator to execute service agreement.*

Texer/Sanders

Unanimously approved.

C) AR: Appoint Lauren Wheeler to the Community Advisory Committee (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux shared that on January 19, 2021 CRWD received an application from Lauren Wheeler with a request to become a member of the Community Advisory Committee. Ms. Wheeler has two years of experience within water resources/drainage engineering and as part of this role, have helped submit various watershed permits on behalf of development projects. As a civil engineer, she is interested in pursuing water resources engineering, and excited at the opportunity to learn more about the watershed process and to gain experience in this area. She believes it is also important to be an active community member and contribute to the health of the neighborhood, and the CAC seems like a great way to do so.

Motion 21-026: *Appoint Lauren Wheeler to the Community Advisory Committee.*

Texer/Sanders

Unanimously Approved

VI. Unfinished Business

A) 2020 Financial Recap (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux reviewed for the Board of Managers the 2020 budget. The 2020 estimated actual revenue was within 1% of the original adopted budget while the expenses were 32% lower than that of the adopted budget. Most of the reduction in expenses was in the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), where projects did not begin or were delayed. One major concern was for the tax levy. Planning for 2021 was amended assuming a lower-than-normal tax levy revenue. At the end of 2020, the final levy revenue was within 1% of the budgeted amount. This is good news considering the 2021 tax levy represents approximately 88% of total revenue. The year end fund balance for both operations and CIP

was better than budgeted and better than late 2020 estimates. The operations fund balance is starting the year above the 50% policy level, however, looks to drop to about 39% at the end of 2021. The CIP fund balance is starting 2021 at just under \$5.5 million, well above the \$2 million policy amount, though many ongoing CIP commitments lie ahead for the District in the coming years. Overall, the 2021 financial outlook is favorable, nevertheless, we must be thoughtful as the District ramps up our efforts coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and to the level anticipated in the Watershed Management Plan.

No Action Requested

VII. General Information

- A) Board of Managers' Updates

Manager Texer shared that the Legislative Training Session will be on March 17th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The focus of this year's training will be on how to educate the Legislators.

VIII. Next Meetings

- A) Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:00 PM – CAC Meeting – **Electronic Only** Manager Mary Texer will be attending.
- B) Wednesday, February 17, 2021 6:00 PM- Regular Meeting – **Electronic Only**

IX. Adjournment

Motion 21-027: *Adjournment of the February 3, 2021 Regular Board Meeting at 6:55 P.M.*

Texer/Sanders
Unanimously Approved

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Sylvander