



## Capitol Region Watershed District

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### Community Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:00 p.m.

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

Nicole Soderholm, remote  
Bob Simonet, remote  
David Arbeit, remote  
Mary Lilly, remote  
Mike MacDonald, remote  
Richard Weil, remote  
Cheryl Braun, remote  
Steve Duerre, remote  
Gwen Willems, remote  
Michelle Ulrich, remote  
Tom Elko, remote

#### **Others Present:**

Mark Doneux, CRWD  
Mary Texter, CRWD, remote  
Jessica Bromelkamp, CRWD, remote  
Mark Houle, CRWD, remote  
Bob Fossum, CRWD, remote

#### **CAC Members Absent:**

Pat Cavanaugh, excused

### **I. Welcome, Announcements, and Updates**

Ms. Willems opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. by videoconference. Ms. Willems asked for any announcements or updates. Mr. Doneux announced two new members will be joining the CAC: Lauren Wheeler and Devin Driscoll. Ms. Soderholm added that regarding CAC recruitment measures the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District has enlisted targeted social media adds for recruitment of CAC members in that watershed district.

### **II. Public Comment for Issues Not on the Agenda**

Ms. Willems asked for comments not on the agenda. There were none.

### **III. Approval of Agenda**

**CAC 21-006 Motion:** *To approve the CAC February 10, 2021 agenda*

Simonet/MacDonald  
Unanimously approved.

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

A. January 13, 2021 CAC Meeting Minutes

**CAC 21-007 Motion:** *To approve the January 13, 2021 CAC Meeting Minutes.*

Weil/Duerre  
Unanimously approved.

#### **V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment and Recommendations**

A) 2020 Lakes Update (Houle)

Mr. Houle presented an update on the District's 2020 monitoring results for each of the five lakes within the District's boundaries. As part of his report Mr. Houle reviewed the District's Monitoring Methods, 2020 Climate, Results from Monitoring, Accomplishments in 2020 and 2021 Initiatives. There are five lakes within the District's boundaries: Como Lake, Crosby Lake, Little Crosby Lake, Loeb Lake in St. Paul and Lake McCarrons in Roseville. Each lake is collaboratively monitored by Ramsey County Public Works, Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division, the Department of Natural Resources and the Capital Region Watershed District, 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. Mr. Houle explained that in 2020 the District and its collaborators collected chemical, physical and biological data from all five District lakes. In response to Ms. Lilly's question, Mr. Houle clarified that this data is specific to the District's geographical area, or established watershed district boundary. Regarding climate results Mr. Houle reported that 2020 was drier than normal, with fewer intense precipitation events, and lower than average snowfall. Regarding 2020 lake monitoring results Houle stated that although Como Lake did not meet state standards, it has made significant improvement. In response to Mr. MacDonald's question if this improvement trend will continue, Mr. Houle responded that he expects to see lower phosphorous levels going forward in Como Lake. Crosby and Little Crosby did not meet state standards, most likely an effect of Mississippi River flooding. The 2020 monitoring results show that Loeb Lake and McCarrons Lake met state standards. Regarding 2020 accomplishments Mr. Houle highlighted the Lake Como water quality projects, adoption of Lake McCarrons' management plan, and sampling for hypolimnetic chloride in Como Lake. Lake initiatives for 2021 include: expanding lake data accessibility, implementation of Como Lake and Lake McCarrons' management plans. Mr. Arbeit joined by all CAC members thanked Mr. Houle for his presentation.

#### **VI. CAC Initiatives**

A. Final Revisions to CAC Bylaws (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux explained the Board of Managers approved the CAC's updated Bylaws, with a request for the CAC to adopt the updated Bylaws with minor clarifications as now proposed by the Board. Upon motion by Ms. Soderholm, seconded by Mr. Weil, the CAC unanimously voted to adopt the Bylaws as amended.

#### B. 2020 Watershed Steward Awards Update (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux provided an update of the 2020 Watershed Steward Awards upcoming ceremony on February 25, 2021. Mr. Arbeit has volunteered to facilitate the virtual awards ceremony. CAC members are encouraged to attend and RSVP to obtain the link for virtual attendance.

### **VII. Project and Program Updates**

Mr. Doneux provided a program update regarding a townhome development proposal on McCarrons' Lake. District review of this permit application indicates none of the run-off from the proposed project will go to the lake. Mr. Doneux will email CAC members a status update on the District's review process for this proposed project. Mr. Doneux advised the CAC of additional program updates including revising the District's employee policy manual, implementing a "crisis go" app for District staff, updating the District's document management system and District contracting and procurement guidelines.

### **VIII. CAC Observer Update**

CAC Observer

Mr. MacDonald reported on attending the Board's January 20, 2021 regular meeting, pointing out the Board closed out a number of permits at this meeting as well as engaged in a discussion of the upcoming Steward Awards ceremony.

Mr. Simonet reported on attending the Board's February 3, 2021 regular meeting, highlighting the 2020 Lakes update report provided by Mr. Houle and appointment of new CAC member Lauren Wheeler.

### **IX. Discussion**

A. New & Old Issues

None

B. CAC Observer for February 17, 2021 and March 3, 2021 Board of Managers Meetings.

Ms. Lilly volunteered to attend the February 17, 2021 meeting; Mr. Weil volunteered to attend the March 3, 2021 meeting.

### **X. Adjourn**

**CAC 21-008 Motion:** *To adjourn the February 10, 2021 CAC Meeting.*

Arbeit/Lilly

Unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Ulrich

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