



Capitol Region Watershed District

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August 9, 2023
CAC Meeting
APPROVED

Community Advisory Committee Meeting **Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

CAC Members Present:

Gwen Willems
Mike Trojan
Mary Lilly
Bob Simonet
Steve Duerre
Mike MacDonald
Richard Weil

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD Manager
Joe Collins, CRWD Board
Jessica Bromelkamp, CRWD Staff
Elizabeth Hosch, CRWD Staff
Maricella Xiong, CRWD Staff
Edric Robbins, CRWD Intern
Isabella Bassat, CRWD Intern

CAC Members Absent:

Lauren Wheeler (unexcused)
Andrew Montain(unexcused)
Cheryl Braun, (excused)
Michelle Ulrich, (excused)
Tom Elko, (unexcused)

I. Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Ms. Willems opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Willems asked for any announcements or updates. There were none.

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 Motion 23-016: *To approve the CAC August 9, 2023, Agenda.*

Simonet/McDonald
Unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- A) Approval of the *May 10, 2023, CAC Meeting Minutes*

CAC Motion 23-017: *Approve the May 10, 2023, CAC Meeting Minutes.*

Duerre/Weil

Unanimously approved.

VII. Project and Program Updates

- A) Right Track/Water Corps Update (Bromelkamp)

Edric Robbins and Isabella Bassat gave reports on their internship experiences with CRWD this summer. They both spent a couple of weeks in each CRWD department, which they really enjoyed and thought gave them a better understanding of the scope and mission of the district. This also gave more staff the time to work with them and get to know them. They both stated this has positively influenced them in their future career decision-making efforts.

For informational purposes only. No motion was requested.

- B) Community Engagement Refresher (Xiong)

Ms. Xiong talked about communicating with the Public about the mission and the work of CRWD. She provided tips and talking points to help with that, then dragged the CAC members out of their comfort zone to participate in a role-playing exercise to explain to someone what the CRWD is and what it does. She then showed us the table displays used by CRWD at neighborhood events.

For review and comment only. No motion requested.

- C) C&E Upcoming Events Update (Xiong)

Ms. Xiong highlighted upcoming community events at which CRWD will have a display table. Among them are the Summer Block Party (Rice Larpenteur Alliance), Climate Carnival (Frogtown Farm), and Marydale Festival (North End Neighborhood Organization). CAC members were encouraged to sign up for shifts to assist with the tabling activities.

For review and comment only. No motion requested.

V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment, and Recommendations

- B) Regional Transportation Planning Update (Hosch)

Ms. Hosch reported on the regional transportation projects starting construction within our district or are in the planning stages. There are an unusual number of them occurring right now and some present unusual problems or opportunities for stormwater management. Projects include Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit, Rethinking I-94, Reconnect Rondo, Purple Line Bus Rapid Transit/Phalen Creek daylighting, and the Riverview Corridor.

For review and comment only. No motion requested.

A) 2024 Preliminary Budget and Levy Update (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux reported on the proposed budget and levy for 2024. There are 104 unique projects proposed for next year. The proposed levy is \$9,921,975, which is 6.05% greater than in 2023. The Board approved the preliminary budget and levy to go out for Public Comment. It will be sent out to interested parties, posted on the website, and published in the St. Paul Pioneer Press prior to a Public Hearing on August 16, 2023.

CAC Motion 23-018: Support the 2024 Preliminary Budget and Levy

Simonet/Duerre

Unanimously approved.

VI. CAC Initiatives

A) CAC Tour Recap (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux requested feedback on the annual CAC Watershed Tour held on July 19, 2023. The sites visited included the construction site at Ramsey County 46/ Cleveland Avenue, Como Lake Subwatershed, Springboard for the Arts and Allianz Field. Despite a brief thunderstorm that necessitated a windshield tour of the Como site from the bus, all the CAC members had high praise for the tour and the sites visited.

For informational purposes only. No motion requested

VIII. CAC Observer Update

Mr. Simonet attended the 8/2/2023 CRWD Board Meeting. Highlights of the meeting were the Ford site wetland restoration and the budget.

IX. Discussion

A) New & Old Issues

Discussion on recognition for David Arbeit who recently stepped down from the CAC after many years of faithful service.

B) CAC Observer for August 16, 2023, and September 6, 2023 Board of Managers Meetings.

Mr. McDonald volunteered to attend the August 16 meeting.

Mr. Simonet volunteered to attend the September 6 meeting.

X. Adjourn

CAC Motion 23-019: *To adjourn the August 9, 2023, CAC Meeting.*

MacDonald/Simonet

Unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted, Steven Duerre