



The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
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Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Technical Commission Minutes
April 13, 2018
Vadnais Heights City Hall, Lakes Room

Commission Members Present:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mark Graham | Vadnais Heights (VH) |
| Jim Grisim | White Bear Lake (WBL) |
| Kate Winsor (alternate) | North Oaks (NO) |
| Paul Duxbury | White Bear Township (WBT) |
| Gloria Tessier | Gem Lake (GL) |
| Marty Asleson | Lino Lakes (LL) |

Commission Members Absent:

Others in attendance: Stephanie McNamara, Brian Corcoran, Tyler Thompson (VLAWMO); Jeremy Erickson, Justine Roe (St. Paul Regional Water Service – SPRWS), Heidi Ferris (Growing Green Hearts, LLC.); Margaret Behrens (Ramsey Conservation District)

- I. **Call to Order** Chair Graham called the meeting to order at 7:30am.
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
McNamara asked to remove the LL2 agenda item and action under VI.B.
It was moved by Tessier and seconded by Duxbury to approve the April 13, 2018 agenda as amended. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
McNamara mentioned that the March minutes went out without proper editing and is proposing the approval of the minutes as amended. TEC decided to table approval of these until May meeting.
It was approved by consensus to table the approval of the amended March minutes for the May 2018 TEC meeting.
- IV. **Administration & Operations**
 - A. **Staff changes**
Kristine Jenson has resigned her position of Project Coordinator at VLAWMO and staff is absorbing her duties. McNamara reported VLAWMO will be exploring hiring another staff person in the future, but has yet to determine what their job description may entail.
 - B. **Watershed based funding update**
McNamara reported the 3 selected projects for VLAWMO's share of the WS-based funding will be brought to the Board for their consideration at the April meeting.
 - C. **Annual reporting & 2019 budget development**
The 2017 VLAWMO Annual Report and 2019 budget were reviewed and discussed. McNamara mentioned the Annual Report is available in digital on VLAWMO's website, as well as hard copies.
- V. **Reports**
 - A. **Financial Report for April & authorization for payment of checks.**
It was moved by Grisim and seconded by Graham to approve the April Treasurer's report and payment of checks. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
 - B. **Monitoring Report – Part 3**
Corcoran presented the 2017 monitoring results for Lambert Creek. Grisim asked if there are other comparable Creeks to compare VLAWMO's data to. Corcoran stated he will check and report back.
 - C. **TEC Report to the BOD**
TEC Report to the BOD was discussed and approved by consensus. Graham will attend and report at the April Board meeting.

VI. Programs

A. Education & Outreach

1. Community Blue Application: Connect the Drops

McNamara presented for Nick Voss, and introduced and proposed the CB application grant for Growing for Green Hearts, LLC for approval of a 2-stage allocation of CB grant funds (stage 1: \$3,800, stage 2: \$1,200) to implement a curriculum that teaches faith congregations and youth groups about watershed and water resource issues through Growing Green Hearts, LLC. Heidi Ferris introduced herself, and also spoke on this program. **Staff is recommending the Community Blue grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 be approved.**

Discussion: Erickson asked for some examples of what the program accomplishes, Ferris responded with several examples.

It was moved by Grisim and seconded by Duxbury to approve the Community Blue grant application for Connect the Drops. Vote: all aye. Motion passed

2. Stormwater plinko & other education tools for loan

VLAWMO's storm water plinko board is now available, along with others for loan to groups about watershed and water resource education within VLAWMO.

3. Volunteer Initiatives: Master Water Stewards

Staff has proposed and is seeking approval for the addition of a Master Water Steward for VLAWMO.

Discussion: Grisim asked how many MWSs are being sought. Stephanie replied 2 at the cost of \$2,500 per Steward, and mentioned VLAWMO is one of the few watersheds without the aid of a Master Water Steward.

It was moved by Grisim and seconded by Graham to approve the addition of a Master Water Steward for VLAWMO. Vote: all aye. Motion passed

B. Cost Share Program – LL1 grant application, Vadnais Heights

The first LL1 grant application of 2018, 2018-01, has been received, processed, and reviewed by staff. MIDS have also been completed for the application, and a site visit has been made with the homeowner. The homeowner is requesting \$2000 for the building of the Project by contractor.

The LL1 grant application in the amount of \$2,000.00 is being recommended for approval by staff.

It was moved by Tessier and seconded by Duxbury to approve \$2,000 for the 2018-01 raingarden grant. Vote: all aye. Motion passed

VII. Projects

A. Birch Lake – 4th & Otter Lake Rd Update

After submittal of the work plan and grant agreement, BWSR has accepted the work plan. A 25-year operations & maintenance plan is being worked on by the Project partners, and easements are being sought.

B. Goose, Oak Knoll Pond/Wood Lake Study

The technical memo for Goose Lake & OKP has been received from Barr, as well as a formatted feasibility report that fits directly into BWSR's method for review grant applications.

C. Lambert Creek, Engineering Project – Ditch Survey

The draft *RCD 14 Records Reestablishment Memo* has been received from Houston for the main trunk of Ditch 14, but does not include the branch ditches. The same work for the branch ditches would come at a cost of \$8,200. As almost all of these branch ditches are in Vadnais Heights, the City will be helping fund a portion of this to complete this work for the branches of Ditch 14.

D. Sucker Channel Restoration Update

As the main construction was completed in 2017, once the spring thaw occurs, planting, fencing and signage can occur in 2018. Billing to VLAWMO for its share of the Project will begin soon.

VIII. WCA

A. Scheuneman Road Reconstruction & De Minimis Exemption

A Boundary & Type determination was completed in 2017 on the site for the reconstruction of 1400 linear feet of Scheuneman Road in Gem Lake. A De minimis and incidental exemption WCA application has been received, reviewed and approved by the TEP and the USACE to reconstruct 1,400 feet of the road, upgrade storm sewer, sanitary and water utilities. Storm water will be directed using curb and gutter, catch basins, pipes and pretreatment will include sump and SAFL Baffle system. **Staff recommends approval of the De minimis and incidental wetland exemption for the Scheuneman Rd reconstruction. It was moved by Duxbury and seconded by Graham to approve the De minimis and incidental wetland exemption of the Scheuneman Road reconstruction. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.**

IX. Commissioner Reports

Winsor mentioned motions in North Oaks for continuing the North Oaks Capstone Project; both McNamara and Erickson also talked on this.

X. St. Paul Regional Water Service (SPRWS) Report

Erickson and Roe mentioned Water Week is coming up at the SPRWS

XI. Ramsey Conservation District (RCD) Report

XII. Public Comment

XIII. Next Meetings

TEC: May 11; Board: April 25

XIV. Adjourn

It was moved by Tessier and seconded by Duxbury to adjourn at 9:06 am. Vote: All aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Tyler Thompson.