



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 June 26, 2019

Attendance		Present	Absent
Jim Lindner, Chair	City of Gem Lake	X	
Bill Walsh	City of White Bear Lake	X	
Rob Rafferty, Secretary-Treasurer	City of Lino Lakes	X	
Ed Prudhon	White Bear Township	X	
Marty Long, Vice Chair	City of North Oaks	X	
Patricia Youker	City of Vadnais Heights		X
Stephanie McNamara	Administrator	X	
Brian Corcoran	Water Resources Mgr.	X	
Dawn Tanner	Program Development Coord.	X	
Nick Voss	Education & Outreach Coord.	X	
Tyler Thompson	GIS Watershed Tech.	X	

Others in attendance: Paul Duxbury (VLAWMO TEC commissioner & rep.); Clark Wicklund & Tony Kaster (Specialty Manufacturing); Lindsey Carpenter & Mike Laughlin (Goose Lake); Cheryl LeClair-Sommer (Twin Lake).

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by Chair Lindner.

II. Approval of Agenda

McNamara asked to add an item “TEC Appointments” under *III. A.*, and to remove the action item under *item V. B.*

A motion was made by Prudhon and seconded by Long to approve the meeting agenda as amended.

Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

III. Visitors and Presentations

A. TEC Report to the Board, June 2019 Finance Report, and TEC Appointments

Duxbury presented the TECs operations and recommendations to the Board from their June meeting, as well as new TEC appointment recommendations as Gloria Tessier to Replace Jim Grisim as TEC Chair, and Jesse Farrell as TEC Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Long and seconded by Prudhon to authorize Gloria Tessier as Chair, and Jesse Farrell as Vice Chair of the VLAWMO Technical Commission. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. Grass Lake flooding background & RWMWD request

McNamara outlined the background of the Grass-West Vadnais flooding situation, issues RWMWD has faced and efforts they have made, and options going forward as part of a joint management of the area issues between RWMWD and VLAWMO. **Staff recommends the VLAWMO Board hold a special meeting with the RWMWD Board in later July (24th, 30th, or 31st) to discuss these issues, draft EAW, and management options, moving forward.**

Discussion: The Board discussed that it sounds like the solutions are dependent upon future weather and climate conditions and that a boundary change would be unnecessary. The Board agreed to meet with the RWMWD Board on July 30th or 31st to discuss the issue and work together to foster a plan, going forward.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes for the April 24th, 2019 Board meeting are placed on the consent agenda for approval, with corrections to be made to the attendance roster.

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Prudhon to approve the April 24, 2019 meeting minutes, as amended. Vote: all aye, Long abstains. Motion passed.

V. Business

A. WCA – Specialty Manufacturing Replacement Plan

Corcoran presented a replacement plan for Specialty Manufacturing to add an expansion warehouse in White Bear TWP. The Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) is in agreement for the replacement plan and sequencing for impact and mitigation. Mitigation will be completed in over a 2:1 ratio, with maximum mitigation occurring on-site. **Staff and the TEP recommend that the Board approves of the Specialty Manufacturing replacement plan with 2.16 acres of mitigation on site and 0.74 acres of credit bought in major watershed BSA #20 Mississippi (metro). Also approve with the following conditions; 1) All appropriate deed recording be submitted of wetland and mitigation, 2) A bond/cash surety in the amount sufficient to cover 125% of costs of mitigation be submitted prior to wetland impact, 3) minimum 5 years of mitigation monitoring and maintenance.**

Discussion:

A motion was made by Long and seconded by Rafferty for approval of the Specialty Manufacturing replacement plan as presented with 2.16 acres of mitigation on site and 0.74 acres of credit bought in major watershed BSA #20 Mississippi (metro), along with the 3 stipulated conditions. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. Joint Powers Agreement – First amendment: Liability

After amending VLAWMO's JPA to include language from the League of MN Cities, the new JPA was sent to member municipalities for ratification. As of June 13th, all members have approved the amendment and the amended JPA is considered executed and active. No further action is required.

C. Goose Lake – Science to inform; post-treatment restriction possibilities

Residents around Goose Lake were invited to the June 26 Board meeting to be involved with the presentation of scientific literature on alum treatments, specifically, motor boating restrictions. Surveys were sent to residents to collect their feedback, and these were also presented. To apply for and secure grant funding for an alum treatment of East Goose Lake, the BWSR recommended establishing ordinances to ensure the best possible outcome for alum treatment if a Clean Water Funds grant was awarded for the project. Tanner gave a presentation of the science behind alum treatments, and the practices followed to preserve their effects. **Variations of boating ordinances for Goose Lake have been drafted for adoption for the City of White Bear Lake, and staff is requesting the Board make a recommendation for their preference in restrictions and timeframe on Goose Lake. We also request that the Board formally offer this recommendation, along with the PPT/recorded presentation from VLAWMO, to the City of White Bear Lake, taking into consideration best available science and input from resident stakeholders.**

Public comment & discussion: Three residents attending the meeting. Lindsey Carpenter stated that she and her husband who own two parcels on East Goose would like to wait on alum treatment and see other projects done in the subwatershed. There was also interest in another fish survey and bullhead removal.

Board discussion: There was a request to VLAWMO staff and the City of White Bear Lake to compile more research on motor boating and alum treatment effectiveness on shallow lakes before committing to boating restrictions, to heed shoreline owners' needs in regards to boating restrictions, and research other options for clearing the lake. Long mentioned a fertilizer ban on properties

around the lake or in the subwatershed. The direction of the Board was to move forward in applying for a grant funding for alum treatment, and for further research and distribution of information on the effects of boating and alum treatments in shallow lakes.

A motion was made by Long and seconded by Prudhon to pursue grant funding for an alum treatment on East Goose Lake, as well as authorizing supplying the City with further information on boating restrictions and their effectiveness on shallow lakes treated with alum. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

D. Water Plan Amendment Adoption; Resolution 01-2019

After the comment period closed for VLAWMO's Water Plan amendment, BWSR confirmed that the amendment is considered "minor", and requested a public meeting held during this June Board meeting to present these changes, and seek Board authorization accepting these changes. **Staff requests that the Board formally adopt the amendment and authorize distribution of pages to members on the BWSR State Agencies Review Roster.**

Discussion: Cheryl LeClair-Sommer, resident of Twin Lake, asked if VLAWMO will be adding working with RWMWD to our plan. Tanner addressed that we are already working with neighboring watersheds on issues, but that specific language will not be directly added in this amendment.

A motion was made by Prudhon and seconded by Walsh to authorize the adoption of Resolution 01-2019, adopting the 2019 minor amendment to VLAWMO's 2017-2026 Comprehensive Water Plan. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

E. Education

1. Community Blue: Creative Landscaping, CB2019-02

Voss presented a Community Blue grant application for implementation of BMPs, as well as an outlined educational tour of the residence for education and presentation. **The application was recommended for approval by the TEC at their June 14th meeting, and staff is recommending approval of the grant CB2019-02 for the applied budget of \$6,369.30, leaving 40% of the 2019 CB budget remaining. No other grant applications are in the works for 2019.**

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Long to approve CB2019-02 for funding in the amount of \$6,369.30. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

2. Commons garden & invitation to other communities

Tanner worked with a youth group and Vadnais Heights Public Works to implement a native and pollinator planting at the Vadnais Heights Commons, utilizing a budget savings from the City. Signage will be placed at the site for education. Staff invites each Board member to identify an area from their municipality that could similarly be restored to advertise native plantings to their community.

F. 2020 Budget Consideration; Resolution 02-2019

McNamara presented VLAWMO's 2020 budget for consideration, with a few changes and options that have been added since the preliminary budget was introduced at the April Board meeting. This includes an optional \$10,000 addition to the Lambert Creek budget line to fund a possible loan for the Lambert Lake loan at \$40,000/year, if approved. **Staff recommends approval of Resolution 02-2019 adopting VLAWMO's 2020 budget.**

Discussion: The Board discussed that they would like to have more gradual budget increases annually, as cities do, rather than no rate increases for years and then large, sudden increases.

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Lindner to authorize the adoption of Resolution 02-2019, adopting VLAWMO's 2020 budget, as proposed. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

G. Lambert Creek

1. Lambert Lake

a.) Loan progress, project representative designation; Resolution 03-2019 and JPA Second amendment

Tanner presented that a second amendment to VLAWMO's JPA would be necessary to enable VLAWMO to accept the bond note, citing our storm sewer utility fees as our method to generate revenue to pay back the MPCA loan, and not needing our JPA cities to be cosigners. We are asking our JPA members to sign this 2nd JPA amendment, enabling VLAWMO to take on the loan, and for approval by the August 2019 Board meeting. There is also resolution 03-2019 that would designate Dawn Tanner as project representative on the Lambert Lake project, and execution of the MPCA loan. **Staff recommends the Board pass Resolution 03-2019.**

A motion was made by Walsh and seconded by Prudhon to authorize the adoption of Resolution 03-2019, authorizing Dawn Tanner as Project Representative for the VLAWMO Bacteria, Sediment, & Nutrient Reduction Project . Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Lindner and seconded by Long for authorization to go forward with a second VLAWMO JPA admendment to include language for loan funding capacity, Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

b.) SEH update on Lambert Lake

Staff is working with SEH to refine the maintenance portion of the Lambert Lake project, including west sheetpile replacement and dredging. A soil survey using Resistivity Imaging (ERIS), necessary for identifying sheetpile length, was quoted at \$5,500, but the subcontractor didn't have the necessary insurance limit to complete the work. The only other contractor was 3D Geophysics, with a cost of \$8,700. The survey was completed on June 6th. These results and other project items were discussed at a June 25th meeting with SEH.

2. DIY monitoring equipment deployment

Corcoran reported that 3 of the 4 DIY automated flow monitors have been installed on Lambert Creek, were calibrated and are live and collecting data. The 4th site will be located on the Whiter Pond storm sewer line, and installation is anticipated for July.

VI. Operations and Administration

A. Project Updates

1. Birch Lake - 4th & Otter update

Thompson reported that updated plans for the project were delivered by Barr on June 20th, and partner comments are due the week of the Board meeting. Plan finalization and release for bidding is anticipated for July. A meeting took place on June 19th between the project partners to discuss specific Operation & Maintenance items and getting the plan closer to agreement and finalization.

2. Great River Greening proposal progress with LCCMR

Tanner reported the Sucker-Vadnais Lakes Regional Parks native restoration, as part of GRG's project portfolio, performed well in the first round of review, ranked 6th overall, and is moving onto the second round of selection. More will be heard on the subject in June/early July.

3. Wetland health compiling layers; Cameras, frogs & toads, biodiversity priorities, species of concern

Staff is has been compiling and implementing several DNR data layers for use in identifying and prioritizing biologically-diverse and areas prime for restoration and protection. They are also being used in concert with updating VLAWMO's wetland health surveying efforts. Tanner has also been working to investigate invasive species sites of Yellow iris in North Oaks, and flowering rush on Amelia Lake. The DNR has been contacted for their advice for future management and prioritization.

VIII. Discussion

None.

IX. Administration Communication

None.

X. Adjourn

A motion was made by Long and seconded by Lindner to adjourn at 9:44 pm. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
Minutes compiled and submitted by Tyler Thompson.