



Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Technical Commission Minutes
June 12, 2020

WebEx Teleconference Open Meeting: <https://meetingsamer9.webex.com/meet/tyler.thompson>
By Telephone: dial +1-408-418-9388 and enter the access code: 626 368 138, followed by #

Commission Members Present:

Gloria Tessier	Chair, Gem Lake (GL)
Jesse Farrell	Vice Chair, Vadnais Heights (VH)
Bob Larson	Treasurer, North Oaks (NO)
Paul Duxbury	White Bear Township (WBT)
Andy Nelson	Lino Lakes (LL)

Commission Members Absent: Terry Huntrods (WBL)

Others in attendance: Phil Belfiori, Brian Corcoran, Dawn Tanner, Nick Voss, Tyler Thompson (VLAWMO); Gary Eagles (North Oaks Company); Justine Roe (SPRWS); Connie Tailon (WBL); Diane Gorder (NO); Ed Shapland (CAC).

- I. **Call to Order** Chair Tessier called the meeting to order at 7:33 am. A roll call was made for attending Commissioners of the electronic meeting: Farrell: present Larson: present Duxbury: present Huntrods: absent Nelson: present Tessier: present.
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
The agenda for the June 12, 2020 Technical Commission Meeting was presented for approval, as presented.
It was moved by Larson and seconded by Farrell to approve the June 12, 2020 TEC agenda, as presented. Vote: Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye Motion passed.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
It was moved by Duxbury and seconded by Larson to approve the May 8, 2020 meeting minutes, as presented. Vote: Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye Motion passed.
- IV. **Administration & Operations**
 - A. **TEC Report to the Board, Financial Report for June & Authorization for Payment**
Belfiori presented the June 2020 Technical Commission Report to the Board and the June Financial Report for review and authorization of payments.
Discussion:
It was moved by Larson and seconded by Duxbury to approve the June Treasurer's Report and authorization of payments. Vote: Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye. Motion passed.

It was moved by Larson and seconded by Duxbury to approve the June TEC Report to the Board. Vote: Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye. Motion passed.
- V. **Programs**
 - A. **Education & Outreach**
 1. **General update: Summer projects and programs**
Voss gave a rundown of dates for scheduled projects and programs for Education & Outreach, going into summer 2020. Some of the workshops will be in-person, but some many have transitioned into teleconference format for adapting to COVID-19 measures. Master Water Stewards will be leading the VLAWMO cost share tour this

summer, with attendees driving themselves to project sites at different times, to allow for social distancing.

B. Cost Share

Thompson updated that the Landscape Level 2 2020-04 Lower Lambert Creek restoration was approved at the May 27th Special Meeting of the Board and is moving forward, and the Landscape Level 2 grant fund has been exhausted for 2020. Before committing funding to the applications for the June TEC meeting, \$11,345 remains in the LL1 cost share fund for allocation in 2020.

1. Landscape Level 1: 2020-09 Crosby Raingarden, WBL

A LL1 application was received for a small raingarden by a resident in White Bear Lake for routing, infiltration, and treatment of their rooftop drainage (252 sq feet) with a basin totaling 35 square feet. The applicant will be doing the project themselves, resulting in low project cost and has been estimated to be \$721. The applicant is requesting \$540 (75% project total) in Landscape Level 1 cost share funding. Staff is recommending approval of LL1 2020-09 for funding in the amount of \$540.00

Discussion: none.

It was moved by Farrell and seconded by Larson for approval of application and funding in the amount of \$540.00 for LL1 2020-09, as presented. Vote: Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye. Motion passed.

2. Landscape Level 1: 2020-10 Johnson Pond Shoreline Restoration, WBL

After staff conducted a site visit with the Johnsons for cost share grant opportunities for a shoreline restoration around their pond to include pollinator habitat, they reached out to Natural Shore Technologies for a bid to restore the shoreline. The bid proposes restoring a 2-foot buffer around the circumference of the pond, including mulch in planted areas, and planting plugs at 1.5-foot spacing. Included in NST's proposal, but not included in the Johnson's asked cost share funding match is necessary maintenance for the 2021 growing season. The total estimated project cost (not including 2021 maintenance) is \$2,223, and the applicant is requesting \$1,667.25 (75%) in Landscape Level 1 cost share funding. Staff is recommending approval of LL1 2020-10 for funding in the amount of \$1,667.25.

Discussion: none.

It was moved by Duxbury and seconded by Larson for approval of application and funding in the amount of \$1,667.25 for LL1 2020-10, as presented. Vote: Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye. Motion passed.

3. Landscape Level 1: 2020-11 Kelsey Native & Drainage Restoration, VH

An application was received from the Kelseys for removal of existing landscaping and replacement with a 700 square foot native plant restoration. The project will improve drainage and increase infiltration to reduce sheet-flow drainage to their backyard and a wetland behind the property. Northland Grounds & Landscaping is being hired for removal of current landscaping and site preparation for the Kelseys, along with family & friends, to plant the area with native plugs. The project will be concurrently sequestering drainage that is making its way to the backyard and into a wetland. The total estimated cost of the project is \$3,200, and the applicants are requesting \$2,000 (62.5%) in Landscape Level 1 cost share funding. Staff is recommending approval of LL1 2020-11 for funding in the amount of \$2,000.00

Discussion: none.

It was moved by Larson and seconded by Duxbury for approval of application and funding in the amount of \$2,000.00 for LL1 2020-11, as presented. Vote: Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye. Motion passed.

C. WCA

1. Anderson Woods wetland replacement plan

Corcoran reported that North Oaks Company is proposing a 21.43 acre, 9-lot, single family residential development, known as Anderson Woods South. The project will include a street and utilities. The site does not include any existing structures. Stormwater management practices will provide treatment of runoff before discharge to wetlands after development.

Anderson Woods South will require 0.1925 acre of permanent impact to one wetland. The need for a safe, efficient and functional site access street consistent with land use guidance and accepted engineering practices renders proposed wetland impacts unavoidable. The project has been designed to minimize wetland impacts to the extent practicable and includes construction practices to reduce or eliminate secondary wetland impacts.

Permanent wetland impacts will be replaced by withdrawing 0.3850 acre of wetland credit from the North Oaks Company wetland bank, Account #170. This wetland bank is owned by the Applicant and located within the same County, Major Watershed, and Bank Service Area as the wetland impact. Staff is recommending approval of proposed impacts and recommendation to the Board for consideration at their June 24th, 2020 meeting.

Discussion: none.

It was moved by Farrell and seconded by Duxbury for recommendation to the VLAWMO Board for approval of proposed 0.1925 acres of wetland impacts by use of 0.3850 acres of existing wetland banking credits from North Oaks Company wetland bank, account #170. Vote:

Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye. Motion passed.

VI. Projects

A. East Goose Alum Grant Update

Belfiori summarized that the Board of Directors' decision at their special May meeting to pursue "option 2" which was to authorize staff to take the necessary steps to pursue the "Adaptive Lake Management program" for East Goose Lake. He identified that the Board also • directed staff to stop the negotiation process with BWSR and send communication to BWSR notify them that the VLAWMO Board has decided to not to continue to pursue the Clean Water Funds grant for the East Goose Lake Alum Treatment.

He noted that this Board decision was made consistent with a consensus recommendation from the special subcommittee to the full Board to pursue "option 2". As background, Belfiori provided an overview of how "option 2" Adaptive Lake Management program would work including how the lake management of East Goose Lake would be adapted through time by analysis of Lake treatment results. He also highlighted the tentative timeline to implement the approved adaptive lake management program and explained the projected cost estimates of the program.

Discussion: Farrell asked about the possibility of spent lime for in-lake treatment of East Goose and other lakes as a more cost-effective alternative. Belfiori answered that spent lime is currently being studied for its effectiveness and feasibility for treating internal loading and if it is found to be feasibility could be considered as a more cost effective alternative to alum for future treatments to reduced internal phosphorus loading.

B. Lambert Lake Update

Tanner updated that staff continues to work with SEH, and commenting on the EAW runs until 6/17, and 2 comments have been received from 2 agencies and have been in support of the project. The stakeholder meeting was held on 5/20, and staff appreciates the help from VH City staff. Staff has and is responding to public comments and questions. SEH is working to amend DNR and USACE permits. Cost estimate tables are being prepared, and preparation for bidding has begun to try and mitigate cost uncertainty due to current state of affairs.

C. Carp Project West Vadnais Lake Update

Tanner noted that the carp barrier is being checked on West Vadnais several times per week, the barrier is working well and no removals has been warranted yet with these smaller populations that have been evident. Carp tracking continues on the North Oaks chain, carp numbers are small, and removal is being planned for fall 2020.

D. Pleasant Lake Sedimentation Study: Core Samples & Bathymetry

Staff has been coordinating with SPRWS and Barr, and internal loading core samples have been spread evenly throughout Pleasant to get a better scope of internal loading distribution within the Lake. Tanner asked if SPRWS has any updates for funding assistance for 2021 sediment study operations. Roe reported nothing has been decided, either way, on funding support.

E. Wilkinson Feasibility Study Update

Tanner noted that SEH has identified 40 possible sites for BMP implementation in the Wilkinson subwatershed, with 11 of them being high priority. Staff is reviewing these documents for refining and suggestions of these targeted projects, based on field conditions and site possibilities. Staff will be meeting with SEH on June 22nd to refine the study.

F. Birch Lake 4th & Otter Update

Thompson reported that the Birch Lake iron-enhanced sand filter construction has been completed and Barr engineering is working on final finishing items, cost calculations, and preparing as-built drawings. The backflow-prevention valve was installed the week of the TEC meeting and the filter is now on-line and treating incoming stormwater. Staff will begin working on water quality sampling for the filter. Tanner noted that the native plant restoration on site has been on-going with coordination with the Bacon's and Connie Tailon. The property owner is interested in extending native plantings onto his immediate backyard, and the neighbors have all taken interest in their own yards for moving forward with interest in continuing restoration onto their property.

VII. Commissioner Reports

Farrell noted that future reconstruction of the 4th & Otter intersection project could open the door to expansion and building on the 4th Street & Otter Lake Road IESF. Tessier noted she prefers to carry on teleconference meetings for future TEC meetings, but proposed exploring use of the City of Vadnais Heights council chambers for a possible meeting.

VII. NOHOA

Tanner noted that yellow iris removal took place on Deep Lake in 2019 and a permit is held to do more planned removals.

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

Roe noted that the majority of staff that is able has been working remotely and customer service will reopen on June 29th to the public.

X. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division (RCSWCD) Report

None.

XI. Public Comment

Tailon confirmed that she will transmit Farrell's comments on to the White Bear Lake City Engineer.

XII. Next Meetings

TEC: July 10th, 2020; Board: June 24th, 2020

XII. Adjourn

It was moved by Farrell and seconded by Larson to adjourn at 8:44 am. Vote: Tessier: aye Farrell: aye Larson: aye Duxbury: aye Nelson: aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Tyler Thompson.