



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – August 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
 August 26th, 2020

Attendance		Present	Absent
Jim Lindner, Chair	City of Gem Lake	X	
Marty Long, Vice Chair	City of North Oaks		X
Rob Rafferty, Secretary-Treasurer	City of Lino Lakes	X	
Ed Prudhon	White Bear Township		X
Dan Jones	City of White Bear Lake	X	
Patricia Youker	City of Vadnais Heights	X	
Phil Belfiori	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: Emily Jennings (SEH); Paul Duxbury (VLAWMO TEC)

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 pm by Chair Lindner.

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the August 26, 2020 Board meeting was presented for approval, Chair Lindner asked for any additions or corrections.

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Jones to approve the August Board meeting agenda, as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

III. Visitors and Presentations

A. Public Visitors – non-agenda items

None.

IV. Consent Agenda

Chair Lindner asked if any Board members wished to speak on the project updates; none.

A. Approval of Minutes: June 24, 2020

The minutes from the June 24th, 2020 Board meeting are placed on the consent agenda for approval, as presented.

B. Project Updates

Staff prepared updates for projects and programs in the August Board meeting packet. No comments or discussion.

C. Ramsey County GIS Users Group 2021-2025 JPA

The 2021-2025 RCGISUG JPA was placed on the consent agenda for approval, as presented.

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Jones to approve the August Board meeting consent agenda, as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

V. Business

A. Administration

1. Approval of storm sewer utility rates for 2020 – Resolution 04-2020

Belfiori presented the proposed 2021 storm sewer utility rates for discussion and approval. Staff recommends for the approval of Resolution 04-2020, setting the storm sewer utility rates for 2021.

Discussion: Jones appreciated the presentation and asked to see a similar presentation in 2021.

A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Youker to approve Resolution 04-2020, approving VLAWMO’s Storm Sewer Utility Rates for 2021. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 04-2020

Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)

August 26, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization met in a regular meeting at the Vadnais Heights City Hall on Wednesday, the 26th day of August, 2020 at 7:00 o'clock p.m.

The following members were present: *Lindner, Jones, Rafferty, Youker*

The following members were absent: *Long, Prudhon*

Resolution 04-2020 was moved by Director Jones and seconded by Director Youker :

RESOLUTION NO. 04-2020

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE STORMSEWER UTILITY RATES FOR 2021.

WHEREAS, the 2021 Budget of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) has been approved by the VLAWMO Board of Directors and

WHEREAS, Storm Sewer Utility (SSU) Rule of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization, has been applied to the properties within the boundary,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION, The SSU Rates for 2021 will be as follows:

Classification	Total Amount	R.E.F.	Rate
Residential 1- 3 units	\$543,568.08	1.00	\$53.16/ Unit
Residential 4 or more	\$36,193.30	2.72	\$77.04/ Acre

Commercial	\$135,527.32	4.23	\$77.04/ Acre
Industrial	\$118,470.93	3.30	\$77.04/ Acre
Institutional	\$77,714.80	3.30	\$77.04/ Acre
Golf courses	\$12,670.93	0.74	\$77.04/ Acre
Agricultural	8,547.83	0.25	\$77.04/ Acre
Vacant/Road/RR/Water	\$0	Exempt	\$0.00

The resolution was declared passed and adopted.

James Lindner, Chair

Date

Attest:

Phil Belfiori, Administrator

Date

2. Consider WBCA – Watershed Boundary Petition

Belfiori presented the request for boundary change from the Rice Creek Watershed District for relinquishing of parcels 14-30-22-11-0049, 14-30-22-11-0051, 14-30-22-11-0050, and 14 30-22-11-0052 to RCWD for the purpose of parcel combination and development. Staff recommends the VLAWMO Board concur in the proposed boundary change between the VLAWMO and RCWD.

Discussion: Youker asked for more information on the project and the current parcels' land use.

A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Rafferty to move that for the reasons stated therein, the Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed Management Organization (VLAWMO) concurs in the petition of the Rice Creek Watershed District, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §103B.215, to adjust the common boundary between the VLAWMO and RCWD so that the following parcels are moved from the VLAWMO to the RCWD: 14 30 22 11 0049, 14 30 22 11 0050, 14 30 22 11 0051, 14 30 22 11 0052. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

3. Consider East Mississippi River Collaborative Project List

VLAWMO staff has been actively involved in discussion with other metro watersheds, SWCDs, counties, and cities for the implementation of BWSR Watershed-Based Funding for fiscal year 2020/21. After much discussion, the Group is planning to recommend to BWSR that the funds be equally distributed to the seven watersheds within the Mississippi East Watershed. Staff agrees and recommends this funding strategy. If this funding recommendation is approved by BWSR, VLAWMO staff recommends using VLAWMO’s funding to implement activities identified in the Wilkinson Lake Feasibility Study. Belfiori noted that this project list could change based on final findings of the feasibility report and or BWSR feedback. Staff recommends that the VLAWMO Board approve the Mississippi East Collaborative Project List table and authorize submittal of the table to BWSR.

Discussion: None.

A motion was made by Youker and seconded by Rafferty to approve the attached Mississippi East Collaborative Project List table and authorize the submittal of the table to the BWSR with any non-material changes. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. Projects

1. Consider approval of the Lambert Lake Project Plans and Spec and consider authorize of staff to go out for Bid – Resolution 05-2020

Tanner presented the project plans and specs have been finalized, final permits have been secured from the MnDNR and USACE, and the project is now ready to be released for bid for implementation and construction. Due to the unique nature of the project and environmental and habitat sensitivity, a pre-bid meeting will be held on September 23rd for all interested bid applicants. Applying contractors are asked to provide reference projects of sheetpile installation and meander construction to be considered qualified bidders as part of their formal bid. Staff is recommending the Board ratify Resolution 05-2020 and authorize staff to release for bid for construction the Lambert Lake Pond sheetpile replacement and meander project.

Discussion: Youker asked about the anticipated start date. Tanner answered preliminary work is anticipated to begin fall 2020.

A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Youker for the approval of Resolution 05-2020 ratifying the order accepting plans and specifications; directing the solicitation of bids, and allowing costs for construction of the Lambert Lake Pond sheetpile replacement and meander construction. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Resolution 05-2020

Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)

Order accepting plans and specifications; directing the solicitation of bids, and allowing costs for construction of the Lambert Lake Pond sheetpile replacement and meander construction

Resolution 05-2020 was moved by Director Jones and seconded by Director Youker :

Whereas, the Board of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (the “Board”) is proceeding with the Lambert Lake VLAWMO Bacteria, Sediment, and Nutrient Reduction Project as agreed upon in the grant and loan contracts agreed upon and signed with MPCA in 2019;

Whereas, the Board approved the Finding of Fact for the Lambert Lake VLAWMO Bacteria, Sediment, and Nutrient Reduction Project Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) with Resolution 03-2020 on June 24, 2020;

Whereas, pursuant to the Board’s direction, the Project Engineer has prepared plans and specifications, including the full contract section, for the construction of the project;

Whereas, the Board’s practice is to review and approve the plans and a summary of specifications prior to directing the solicitation of bids for any project;

Whereas, the Board has reviewed anticipated project costs as part of the June, 2020, Board meeting; the plans and a summary of specifications in the current/August, 2020, Board packet; and the Engineer’s recommendation;

Whereas, VLAWMO’s attorney has reviewed and approved contract language included in the specifications;

Whereas, based upon the Board’s review, the Board finds the plans and summary of specifications for the project to be complete and to represent the Board’s intent for the Lambert Lake Pond Project;

Whereas, in conjunction with the development of plans and specifications, the Board’s staff and engineer have worked with various state and federal agencies to secure regulatory approvals for the project;

Therefore be it resolved that the VLAWMO Board accepts the plans and specifications from 8/20/2020 for the Lambert Lake Pond sheetpile replacement and meander construction and directs the solicitation of bids according to the Engineer’s recommendation for implementation of the project as required by law.

The Board authorizes modifications of the construction plans and specifications by the Engineer, including delay of bidding, contract award or notice to proceed, as may be required during the bid submission timeframe.

The Board further authorizes expenditures for sheetpile replacement and meander construction.

The question was on the adoption of the resolution and there were 4 yeas and 0 nays as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<i>Dan Jones</i>	√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Ed Prudhon</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	√
<i>Rob Rafferty</i>	√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Marty Long</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	√
<i>Patricia Youker</i>	√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Jim Lindner</i>	√	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

_____ Board Chair Date

_____ Attest Date

2. Birch Lake 4th & Otter Project - Summary of Project Outcomes and Project Completion Actions

Thompson presented the completion of the Birch Lake iron-enhanced sand filter, and the items necessary for approval to begin closing out the project and to begin receiving final grant and partner assistance funds.

A. Authorization of final payment to Blackstone Contractors, LLC

Construction of the IESF was completed on June 9th, 2020, with final construction and punch list items taken care of. Barr Engineering has issued a project completion memo, as-builts, and final project cost. With this, staff is recommending approval of payment to Blackstone Contractors, LLC for completion of the Birch Lake IESF and construction costs in the amount of \$114,703.00.

Discussion: none.

A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Rafferty to approve final payment to Blackstone Contractors, LLC in the amount of \$114,703.00 for construction and completion of the Birch Lake 4th & Otter Iron-Enhance Sand Filter. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. Consider Operations & Maintenance Agreement Approval

Along with project completion, staff has worked with the City of White Bear Lake and Ramsey County to produce an Operations & Maintenance Agreement that includes those partners and the Birch Lake Improvement District. To assist with the 25-year maintenance that is mandated by BWSR within the grant agreement and workplan for accepting Clean Water Fund dollars, this O&M strengthens and provides funding assistance to maintain the project during its 25 year life. The Agreement has been reviewed by VLAWMO's attorney, Kennedy & Graven, and suggested changes have been adopted. Staff is recommending entering into the Agreement and execution of the Birch Lake 4th & Otter Iron-Enhance Sand Filter Operations & Maintenance Agreement (PW2019-14) with any non-material changes and upon advice of counsel.

Discussion: Board members questioned specifics of O&M tasks and which parties are responsible.

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Jones to enter into Agreement, signing, and execution of the Birch Lake 4th & Otter Iron-Enhance Sand Filter Operations & Maintenance Agreement (PW2019-14) with any non-material changes and upon advice of Counsel. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

C. Consider MAWD Award Application

The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts has released its application for the 2020 Project of Year Award. Due to unique partner involvement, funding resources, and significance of the project for VLAWMO, staff is recommending Board consideration and approval to submit the Birch Lake 4th & Otter IESF application for the 2020 MAWD Project of the Year.

Discussion: Rafferty questioned if there was an application cost. Belfiori answered the award application has no cost and the award program is included in VLAWMO's MAWD annual dues, of which, VLAWMO is an active member. No formal motion for approval, though Board gave approval to submit the application for MAWD Project of the Year.

3. Consider Appointment of Subcommittee to Update Cost Share Program Policy

Staff is recommending the Board authorize and appoint members to a Cost Share Program Policy Review & Update subcommittee. After June Board discussion, staff has been researching regional watershed cost share grant programs, and will prepare policy comparisons for the Subcommittee to make policy change recommendation to the Board for adaptation. Staff is recommending the Board authorize the Cost Share Program Policy Review & Update Subcommittee creation and member appointment for meeting in September 2020.

Discussion: Jones discussed organizing a meeting of the Policy & Personnel Committee to meet on this, along with interested TEC Commissioners, in lieu of a Subcommittee formation. A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Lindner for the authorization for the meeting of the VLAWMO Policy & Personnel Committee, along with interested TEC Commissioners for the review and recommendations for Cost Share Program Policy and updating. Vote: all aye. Motion Passed.

VI. Operations and Administration

1. Whitaker Wetland Report Summary

Corcoran gave a summary of the LCCMR-funded Whitaker Treatment Wetlands project that was designed and contracted with Burns & McDonnell, and partnered with the UMN to design and build artificial treatment wetlands for stormwater treatment. Corcoran summarized the results of the final report.

Discussion: Lindner asked if further partnership with the UMN for student learning or experience could be a possibility. Corcoran answered yes, that's a possibility, as part of the partnership.

VII. Discussion/Updates

A. Update on Spent Lime Research Project

Belfiori updated on Barr Engineering's spent lime research project. Belfiori also wanted to thank Director Youker for making it to the meeting for a quorum, as she was originally not going to be able to make the meeting, due to a scheduling conflict.

VII. Administration Communication

Belfiori updated on MAWD Resolution ideas and status of the annual meeting. Belfiori proposed audio taping of meetings to better clarify minutes and improve communication.

Discussion: Jones and Lindner agreed that audio taping of the meetings would be beneficial and gave their recommendation to proceed with future Board meetings.

XI. Adjourn

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Youker to adjourn at 8:52 pm. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
Minutes compiled and submitted by Tyler Thompson.