



The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization  
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Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization  
Technical Commission Minutes  
July 9, 2021  
Vadnais Heights City Hall, Lakes Room  
800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

**Commission Members Present:**

Gloria Tessier	Chair, Gem Lake (GL)
Jesse Farrell	Vice Chair, Vadnais Heights (VH)
Paul Duxbury	Board Liaison, White Bear Township (WBT)
Terry Huntrods	White Bear Lake (WBL)
Andy Nelson	Lino Lakes (LL)

**Commission Members Absent:** Bob Larson (NO)

**Others in attendance:** Phil Belfiori, Dawn Tanner, Tyler Thompson (VLAWMO); Patricia Orud, Kristie Elfering (NOHOA); Justine Roe (SPRWS)

- I. **Call to Order** Chair Tessier called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.
- II. **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda for the July 9, 2021 Technical Commission Meeting was presented for approval. Thompson asked to add an action item for V. A. 1. Tessier allowed this addition. Agenda moved for approval.

It was moved by Duxbury and seconded by Huntrods to approve the July 9, 2021 TEC agenda, as amended. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Farrell and seconded by Huntrods to approve the June 11, 2021 meeting minutes, as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- IV. **Administration & Operations**
  - A. **Financial Report for July & Authorization for Payment**

Belfiori overviewed highlights of the July Finance Report and bills.

It was moved by Farrell and seconded by Huntrods to approve the July Treasurer's Report and authorization of payments. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
  - B. **2022 VLAWMO Budget Update**

Belfiori overviewed the Board-approved 2022 budget for the Technical Commission.
- V. **Programs**
  - A. **Education & Outreach**
    1. **Community Blue: NOHOA Bioswale Renovation – MN Water Stewards**

Thompson presented the 2021 Community Blue: NOHOA Bioswale grant application for the rejuvenation of the East Oaks rain garden in North Oaks. The basin currently exhibits poor infiltration and high rates of sedimentation, so the proposed restoration would restore infiltration rates, install new sediment inlet catchments, and revegetate the basin with native vegetation. The grant application proposes \$9,840 in cash match funds from NOHOA and \$2,000 in VLAWMO Community Blue funding for replanting, mulch, and soil amendments.

**Discussion:** Tessier asked about maintenance, going forward. Elfering offered that NOHOA is now undertaking this basin for maintenance, going forward.

It was moved by Duxbury and seconded by Huntrods to approve NOHOA Bioswale Renovation Community Blue Grant for funding in the amount of \$2,000.00. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**2. Community Blue: Upstream update**

Thompson updated on the re-initiated project, after COVID-19 complications and an updated grant and schedule, earlier this year. The project has moved forward with 2 White Bear Press articles, 2 completed tea ceremonies, and attendee survey. 5 more virtual ceremonies are planned for the rest of 2021.

In other updates, newly-updated VLAWMO Cost Share brochures are available, July volunteer event planning is active, and the complete list of events can be found on the vlawmo.org web calendar.

**B. Cost Share Program**

**1. 2021 Cost Share Program Update & Budget**

Thompson updated on the current status and financials of the 4 Landscape Cost Share Programs, as well as the Bridgewood Park parking lot rain garden status, and the upcoming Birch Lake Elementary curb cut rain garden project.

**VI. Projects**

**A. 319 Update**

Tanner updated that the Board authorized several measures for staff at their June meeting, including: continuing to work with the MPCA to develop the workplan and grant contract; continue to work with North Oaks Co. and City of North Oaks on MOU & maintenance agreement, accept \$10K MDH grant, on behalf of the SPRWS; authorization for continued project investigation and development using MDH grant funds and VLAWMO 2021 Wilkinson subwatershed budget.

**B. Invasive Species Update**

Tanner gave an update on the various invasive species efforts that are ongoing within VLAWMO. Efforts include Yellow iris survey/checks and removal on Deep Lake and Japanese hedge-parsley removal at the 4<sup>th</sup> & Otter site. Coordination for carp removal in Pleasant Lake is continuing with WSB. Staff checked Tamarack Lake for curly leaf pondweed and did not find any evidence or presence.

**C. Spent Lime Project Update**

Thompson provided an update and showed photos of the Spent Lime application in Lino Lakes on the Ash Street pond. So far, both applications in VLAWMO, and on Wakefield Pond in the RWMWD are promising. Barr is expected to produce a final report with its findings. VLAWMO staff will continue to take water quality samples on the outlet of Ash Street Pond, which is tributary to Wilkinson Lake.

**D. RC Ditch Phase 2 Maintenance Update**

Thompson updated that the landowner meeting for the Phase 2 Ditch 14 maintenance project is scheduled for July 28<sup>th</sup> in the VH City Council Chambers. Landowner letters and maps were mailed out on June 30<sup>th</sup> to notify adjacent residents and ask for their interest and attendance at the informational meeting. Looking forward, staff is anticipating authorization for project bid in August and work to begin this fall.

**VII. Commissioner Reports:**

Farrell proposed exploring alternate meeting times or days for future TEC meetings. Will table for discussion at the August TEC meeting.

**VIII. NOHOA**

In person meetings are planned going forward for the summer.

**IX. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division (RCSWCD) Report**

None.

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

Testing is continuing on the pilot plant upgrade.

**XI. Public Comment**

None.

**XII. Next Meetings**

TEC: August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021; Board: August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**XII. Adjourn**

It was moved by Farrell and seconded by Huntrods to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 am. All aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Tyler Thompson.