

**Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Technical Commission Minutes
January 12, 2022
Vadnais Heights City Hall, Council Chambers
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)
Bob Larson	Treasurer, North Oaks (NO)
Terry Huntrods	White Bear Lake (WBL)
Andy Nelson	Lino Lakes (LL)

Others in attendance: Phil Belfiori, Brian Corcoran, Nick Voss, Dawn Tanner (VLAWMO staff); Sara Shah (North Oaks)

I. **Call to Order – 8:00am –Chair Gloria Tessier** Tessier called the meeting to order at 8:01am

II. **Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Huntrods and seconded by Larson to approve the January 12th, 2022 TEC agenda as presented. Vote: All aye, motion passed.

Approval of Minutes (December 8th, 2021)

It was moved by Larson and seconded by Huntrods to approve the December 8th, 2021 meeting minutes, as presented. Vote: all eye. Motion passed.

III. **Administration & Operations**

A. Financial Report for January & authorization for Payment

Belfiori described current payments and activities as presented in the financial records from the January 12th TEC packet.

It was motioned by Duxbury and seconded by Larson to approve the January Treasurer's Report and authorization of payments. Vote: All aye, motion passed.

B. 2022 Technical Commission Officer Appointments

Belfiori reviewed the current officer appointments and put forth an opportunity for TEC members to continue the current appointments or nominate new ones for 2022. Tessier nominated Farrell to serve as 2022 TEC chair, Duxbury seconded. Duxbury nominated Tessier as vice chair, Tessier accepted. Duxbury nominated as Board liaison.

It was moved by Larson to proceed with the new arrangement of Farrell serving as 2022 TEC chair, and seconded by Huntrods. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

C. 2022 TEC Meeting Dates

Belfiori presented the overview of 2022 meeting dates including the recent 2021 switch from Fridays to Wednesday at 8am in the council chambers. He asked the TEC to confirm that this would continue on into 2022.

It was moved by Farrell and seconded by Duxbury to confirm the TEC 2022 meeting date of 2nd Wednesday at 8am at Council Chambers to be shared with the VLAWMO Board of Directors and displayed on the VLAWMO calendar. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

D. 2022 Working Budget Overview- Phil

Belfiori described the final 2022 working budget which was approved by the Board of Directors at their Dec 8th, 2021 meeting. Phil described the budget details according to the information presented in the TEC packet. New items in the budget included the Lambert Lake Pond and Meander loan and strategic planning efforts in 2022 going into 2023. No discussion among TEC.

IV. Programs

A. Education & Outreach –

1. Upstream (2021) program review

Voss provided a summary of the information contained in the meeting packet. He discussed the key trend as discovered in the survey results, including the point that the Upstream audience expressed stormwater as water pollution in follow-up surveys. This observation is distinct from general public surveys in that these surveys do not often recognize stormwater as “water pollution.” He discussed the opportunity gained from working with White Bear Center for the Arts in outreach activities.

2. Supplementary Education: Trailcam Adventures, Curly-leaf Pondweed

Voss introduced the videos that were linked in the TEC packet. He summarized the key purpose of message in the two videos related to Lambert Pond project and curly-leaf pondweed management.

V. Projects

A. North Oaks SWMP Review

Corcoran described stormwater management planning and review status in North Oaks based on plan drafts and comments submitted in Jan, 2021. The comments submitted from VLAWMO to North Oaks were oriented towards aligning the North Oaks plan with the VLAWMO water policy. A revised City SWMP will need to be developed per the comments provided and resubmitted to VLAWMO for review.

B. Biochar Project Update – Dawn

Tanner explained that biochar designs are currently being reviewed at a Whitaker Pond site location by the MN Pollution Control Agency. Review is being conducted in coordination with the current 319 funded grant.

C. Pleasant Lake Carp update – Dawn

Tanner described current winter conditions for tracking carp in Pleasant Lake and the shifting uncertain parameters such as weather and ice conditions that go into conducting a possible harvest. Carp aggregations are appearing near open water locations near the Charley/Pleasant Lake channel. Commercial fishers are projected to use airboats to be able to access this open water area. Coordination for permitting is being conducted by the DNR.

VLAWMO Technical Commission Meeting Minutes - January 12th, 2022

Discussion: Duxbury asked about a harvesting goal- Tanner conveyed that Pleasant Lake telemetry studies indicate 168,360 lbs of carp biomass in the lake and the shifting variables will drive the feasibility of a harvest. Duxbury asked what will be done with the harvested carp, Tanner conveyed that fishers connect to the US fish market, which fluctuates based on holiday meals and fertilizer production.

VI. Commissioner Reports

None.

VII. NOHOA

None.

VIII. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division

None.

IX. St. Paul Regional Water Services

None.

X. Public Comment

None.

XI. Next Meetings: TEC: February 9th, Board Strategic Direction Workshop: January 26th, 2022

Duxbury announced a need for absence at the February TEC meeting, an alternate from White Bear Township is being contacted. Phil reminded TEC that meeting quorum is four representatives and recommended that TEC members coordinate alternates with their municipality in advance when an absence is planned.

XII. Adjourn

It was moved by Larson and seconded by Duxbury to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 am., seconded by Duxbury, Vote: all aye. Motion passed.