



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 22, 2014

ATTENDING:

Bob Uzpen	Gem Lake
Rob Rafferty	Lino Lakes
John Schaaf	North Oaks
Marc Johannsen	Vadnais Heights
Dan Jones	White Bear Lake
Bill Mample	White Bear Township

Stephanie McNamara	VLAWMO Administrator
Kristine Jenson	VLAWMO Program Manager
Brian Corcoran	VLAWMO Technician
Vanessa Strong	VLAWMO Education & Outreach Coordinator

Also in attendance: Margaret Sletten-Behrens, Ramsey Conservation District

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Johannsen.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Mample and seconded by Jones to approve the agenda. Vote: all ayes. Motion passed.

**III. Approval of Minutes from August 27, 2014**

A motion was made by Schaaf and seconded by Mample to approve the minutes from the August 27, 2014 Board of Directors Meeting. Vote: all ayes. Motion passed.

**IV. Technical Commission (TEC) Report to the Board**

**A. Activity Summary**

Items included:

- Community Blue projects have all been installed.
- E coli monitoring has been taking place. The regular monitoring season is wrapped up for the year.
- VLAWMO held a workshop with the MN Pollution Control Agency and MN Erosion Control Association to talk about MS4 permits. It was well attended. Jones thanked Vanessa for her work with a Girl Scout Troop in Mahtomedi.

**B. October financial report**

Stephanie presented the August Financial Report.

**V. New Business**

**A. Community Blue contract extensions for Fox Meadow (Res. 09-2014 and Lakeaires Res. 10-2014)**

Two Community Blue projects were not able to be completed by their October 1st contract deadline. Both projects are in the process of being installed and need a couple more weeks to have them completed. Therefore an Amendment to their Community Blue Contracts is needed. The Amendment will give the two grantees until October 24th to complete the projects and until December 1st to submit all necessary paperwork to close out their grants. The Board is being asked to approve the amendments.

RESOLUTION 09-2014

Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)

**October 22, 2014**

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 22nd day of October 2014 at 7:00 o'clock p.m.

The following members were present:

*Marc Johannsen, City of Vadnais Heights*

*Bob Uzpen, City of Gem Lake*

*Dan Jones, City of White Bear Lake*

*Bill Mample, Town of White Bear*

*Rob Rafferty, City of Lino Lakes*

*John Schaaf, City of North Oaks*

The following members were absent:

Director Schaaf introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 09-2014**

**Authorization to amend the Community Blue grant to White Bear Township to install a raingarden on Township property at Fox Meadow Park.**

**Whereas:** The Community Blue program was allocated Clean Water Land and Legacy Funds for the purpose of providing grant funds to schools, churches, small businesses, non-profits, and other community organizations to install raingardens and other BMPs in the Lambert Creek Subwatershed.

**Whereas:** White Bear Township was awarded a \$15,000 grant by the Board on February 24, 2014 with a deadline of project completion of October 1, 2014

**Whereas:** White Bear Township was not able to fully complete project by deadline and an amendment was required to extend the completion date to October 24, 2014

**Whereas:** The VLAWMO Technical Committee recommended approval of this amendment on October 10, 2014

**Whereas**

**Therefore, be it Resolved:** That VLAWMO Board approves an amendment to the Community Blue grant to install a raingarden on Township property at Fox Meadow Park which extends the project completion deadline to October 24, 2014.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by member Director Jones and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

*Directors: Johannsen, Jones, Uzpen, Mample, Schaaf*

and the following voted against the same:

*None*

Whereupon the resolution was declared passed and adopted.

RESOLUTION 10-2014

Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)

**October 22, 2014**

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 22nd day of October 2014 at 7:00 o'clock p.m.

The following members were present:

- Marc Johannsen, City of Vadnais Heights*
- Bob Uzpen, City of Gem Lake*
- Dan Jones, City of White Bear Lake*
- Bill Mample, Town of White Bear*
- John Schaaf, City of North Oaks*

The following members were absent:

Director Schaaf introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 10-2014**

**Authorization to amend the Community Blue grant to Lakeaires Elementary to install a raingarden on school property.**

**Whereas:** The Community Blue program was allocated Clean Water Land and Legacy Funds for the purpose of providing grant funds to schools, churches, small businesses, non-profits, and other community organizations to install raingardens and other BMPs in the Lambert Creek Subwatershed.

**Whereas:** Lakeaires Elementary was awarded a \$19,000 grant by the Board on February 24, 2014 with a deadline of project completion of October 1, 2014

**Whereas:** Lakeaires Elementary was not able to fully complete project by deadline and an amendment is required to extend the completion date to October 24, 2014

**Whereas:** The VLAWMO Technical Committee recommended approval of this amendment on October 10, 2014

**Therefore, Be it Resolved:** That VLAWMO Board approves an amendment to the Community Blue grant to install a raingarden Lakeaires Elementary which extends the project completion deadline to October 24, 2014.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by member Director Jones and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

*Directors: Johannsen, Jones, Uzpen, Mample, Schaaf*

and the following voted against the same:

*None*

Whereupon the resolution was declared passed and adopted.

**B. Request for Proposal for Sucker Lake Channel Restoration Project**

The Sucker Channel restoration project ranked highest behind only the molecular study on Lambert Creek in our recently adopted Strategic Plan. We have partnered with Ramsey Conservation District, Ramsey County Parks and the St. Paul Regional Water Service to develop a plan for the restoration of this eroding, but highly used and highly visible channel. The engineers estimate is being finalized and partner contributions are being added to the project. At this point, RC Parks is looking to allocate \$30,000 towards the project plus they have offered to provide some materials and use their Conservation Corps crew to help with portions of the project. VLAWMO, through its partner, the St.

Paul Regional Water Service will apply for a \$10,000 MDH grant. We are also looking at DNR streambank grants. The project may be completed in 2 phases. Current tentative project cost for Current budget estimates is about \$127,000. Installation would begin in fall 2015.

Staff would like to hold a pre-bid site meeting for potential contractors this fall, bid this winter when better costs might be secured, and have a contract ready for Board action at its first meeting in 2015 (February).

Recommendation: The VLAWMO Board of Directors authorizes a Request for Proposal to be sent to qualified contractors, published in our legal publication, and otherwise advertised for the Sucker channel restoration project. Action on a contractor is expected in 2015.

Get in writing that Ramsey Parks will do future maintenance

Get SPRWS to give some money to the project

A motion was made by Mample and seconded by Jones to authorize staff to send out a Request for Proposal to qualified contractors for the Sucker Lake Channel restoration project. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**C. Certification of the 2015 Storm Sewer Utility Rates – Res. 11-2014**

This is the final step in our annual process to complete the Storm Sewer Utility for 2015. The Budget with its anticipated income from the SSU was set in June, that drove the rates for residential and non-residential properties which were approved in August. Staff has been working with our SSU consultant and the counties to review property divisions and other updates since then. The charges to each non-exempt parcel are now ready to be certified as we do each October.

Please note the Parcel lists for each county will be sent electronically only as they are lengthy. The Resolution for Certification was included in the packet.

**RESOLUTION 11-2014**

Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)

**October 22 2014**

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 22th day of October, 2014 at 7:00 o'clock p.m.

The following members were present:

*Marc Johannsen, City of Vadnais Heights*

*Bob Uzpen, City of Gem Lake*

*Dan Jones, City of White Bear Lake*

*Bill Mample, Town of White Bear*

*John Schaaf, City of North Oaks*

The following members were absent:

Director Mample introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 11-2014**

**A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING STORM SEWER UTILITY CHARGES TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO BE ASSESSED ON REAL ESTATE TAXES PAYABLE IN 2015.**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Law 2008, Chapter 366, Article 6, Section 47 provides that the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization may certify to the County Auditors the amounts of storm sewer utility charges to be collected on said premises the ensuing year; and

WHEREAS, the Storm Sewer Utility (SSU) Rule of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization, provides that the watershed may certify to the County Auditors the amounts of unpaid utility charges to be collected as part of the tax levy/special assessments on said premises the ensuing year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION, AS FOLLOWS:

1. Attachments 1 and 2 attached hereto and made a part thereof by reference is a list of parcels of real property lying within the VLAWMO limits of which have surface water runoff and on which there are service charges payable in 2015
2. The Board hereby certifies said list and requests the Ramsey County Auditor and Anoka County Auditor to include in the real estate taxes/assessments due the amount set forth in Attachments 1 and 2 with taxes/assessments due and payable in 2015.
3. The VLAWMO Administrator is directed to tender a certified copy of this Resolution to the Ramsey and Anoka County Departments of Property Records and Revenue.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by member Director Uzpen and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

*Directors: Johannsen, Jones, Uzpen, Mample, Schaaf*

and the following voted against the same:

*None*

Whereupon the resolution was declared passed and adopted.

**D. Approval of agreement to install groundwater monitoring wells in the Whitaker sub-watershed**

Staff recommends approval of up to \$7200 to install 3 groundwater monitoring wells along Dillon Ditch in the Whitaker Pond drainage area.

These will be used in conjunction with the current E.coli source monitoring project. The Whitaker drainage area is highly urbanized and these wells will be used to both monitor ground water levels and also allow staff to take ground water samples. Three subwatersheds flow into the 8ft diameter Dillon Ditch pipe which discharges into Whitaker Pond. Locations for these wells were determined by field recon this spring during dry conditions with our consultant Burns & McDonnell. Groundwater leakage into the Dillon Ditch pipe is most likely a transport mechanism for our ecoli impairment but we also want to determine if the ground water is also contaminated by ecoli. These wells will allow us to determine if the groundwater is a source of ecoli and also allow us to monitor the groundwater levels to use that information in helping to track down the ecoli source.

VLAWMO has received three bids. Bids received were from Braun Intertec for \$6610, Stevens Drilling for \$6630 and Traut Wells for \$9941.50. Staff did a field visit to potential well sites with City of White Bear Lake engineering to determine easements and to confirm city as-builts to make sure potential well sites are OK for drilling. City approved potential sites and is also drafting a permit to allow the drilling. The contractor will submit the MN Dept. of Health permit application and complete the well records. The contractor will also do the utility locates.

Recommendation: Approval of up to \$7200 to install 3 ground water monitoring wells along Dillon Ditch in the Whitaker Pond drainage area.

Johannsen asked if it was possible to send a camera down into the pipes to look around. Jones mentioned the streets in that area may be getting redone within the next few years.

A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Mample to approve up to \$7200 to install 3 groundwater monitoring wells along Dillon Ditch in the Whitaker Pond drainage area. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**E. Set December meeting date and workshop**

The normal rotation for the VLAWMO Board meetings is the 4th Wednesday, every other month. The December meeting usually has to be rescheduled. This year our meeting night would be December 24th, certainly not when we would want. Staff recommends the December meeting be held Wednesday, December 3rd.

VLAWMO has an opportunity to hear directly from the Burns & McDonnell consultant, Steve Gruber that evening regarding the molecular testing for *e. coli* that was done this summer. He will be coming in from California to attend the MN Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) the end of the week.

Steve and Brian Corcoran will be presenting the first year findings at the MAWD conference on Friday. We would like to invite the TEC and other interested people to a workshop at 6 PM on December 3rd, prior to the regular Board meeting. This is a similar format to what we followed for the Strategic planning.

Johannsen stated 12/3 will not work because Vadnais Heights has its Council meeting that day. The Board of Directors decided that 12/10 was agreed to be the better day for the next Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mample and seconded by Jones to cancel meeting on 12/24

A motion was made by Mample and seconded by Jones to set the December meeting for December 10th beginning at 7pm. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**VI. Report from the Chair**

Johannsen wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**VII. Administrator's Report**

**VIII. Director's Report**

Schaaf said 3 conduits within North Oaks have been replaced recently. The conduits were very old and collapsing.

**IX. Next Meeting – December 10, 2014**

**X. Public Comment**

Behrens welcomed VLAWMO to the Ramsey County League of Local Governments. RCD co-sponsored an event with the League where Perry Jones spoke about the study regarding White Bear Lake and offered a DVD of his talk to the Board if they are interested. She also congratulated staff for all the work they do with the youth.

**XI. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Jones to adjourn at 7:48pm. Vote: all ayes. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Kristine Jenson.