



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – May 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
 May 27th, 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: Paul Duxbury (VLAWMO TEC Commissioner & rep.); Bob Larson (VLAWMO TEC Commissioner); Greg Wilson (Barr Engineering); Dan Fabian (BWSR); Rick Johnston (WBL EAC); Connie Tailon (City of White Bear Lake).

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Chair Lindner, and a roll call was made for the Board Directors for the electronic video conferencing meeting, also available by telephone call-in.

Roll call: Lindner: **Present** Long: **Present** Rafferty: **Present** Jones: **Present** Prudhon: **Present** Youker: **Absent** (with prior notice)

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the May 27th, 2020 Special Board meeting was presented for approval, Chair Lindner asked for any additions or corrections; none requested.

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Jones to approve the May Special meeting agenda, as presented. Vote: Lindner: aye Rafferty: aye Jones: aye Prudhon: aye Long: aye. Motion passed.

III. Visitors and Presentations

A. Public Visitors – non-agenda items

None.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes: April 22, 2020

The minutes from the April 22nd, 2020 Board meeting are placed on the consent agenda for approval, as presented.

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Jones to approve the May Special Board meeting consent agenda, as presented. Vote: Lindner: aye Rafferty: aye Jones: aye Prudhon: aye Long: abstain. Motion passed.

V. Business

A. Projects

1. Goose Lake Alum Treatment Grant

Administrator Belfiori provided the Board with a presentation with the background, analysis, options and recommendations (from both Board members Lindner and Jones

as well as from staff) related to the proposed East Goose Lake Alum Treatment Grant and Project.

Staff first provided a summary of the meetings held with BWSR and that the BWSR required assurance as identified in the assurance agreement were summarized as follows:

“If WMO lake water quality monitoring data collected for East Goose Lake indicates that lake surface water quality does not fall within 20% of the state water quality standard for total phosphorous of <72 µg/L and either the chlorophyll-a (<20 µg/L) or secchi depth (>1 m) criteria, for three out of any five years for the effective 15 year life of the PROJECT, the WMO agrees to undertake additional actions (including additional alum treatments if needed) at the WMO’s expense to reduce internal and external phosphorous load reductions to achieve the PROJECT annual numeric surface water quality target identified for East Goose Lake.”

Based on the numeric project assurance standards identified by BWSR, project engineer Wilson (Barr Engineering) then summarized his scientific background related to the proposed Alum project and discuss his technical findings on the proposed project assurance standards. Belfiori then presented two possible options for Board Consideration: Option 1- Approve the BWSR assurance agreement and corresponding grant agreement and work plan, and Option 2- approve and authorize staff to pursue an “adaptive lake management” program on East Goose Lake.

Belfiori then provided a financial breakdown and a summary of the budget Implications of the proposed options including summarizing the rough estimate 15 year VLAWMO project costs. In summary, it is estimated that the VLAWMO cost for ongoing operation of the whole lake management approach for option 1 (approve the BWSR grant /assurance agreement) would in the range of \$435,000 – over \$600,000 depending on how many VLAWMO additional alum applications are required during the mandated 15 year period.

Belfiori provided the Board a summary of Board Chair Lindner and Board Member Jones discussion and identified that the two appointed Board members discussed the possible options to recommend to the full Board.

Discussion: Lindner agreed option 2 would be the best option, moving forward for the future of VLAWMO and VLAWMO Boards not being tied to these assurances. Jones and Rafferty concurred. Rafferty thanked the subcommittee for their time and effort on this issue.

Staff then also provided the Board with its recommendation which was also to pursue option 2 (the adaptive lake management program) for East Goose Lake.

After further discussion the Board approved the following two motions:

- A motion was made by Long and seconded by Rafferty to authorize staff to take the necessary steps to pursue the “Adaptive Lake Management program” for East Goose Lake as described in the Board packet materials for the 5/27/20 special board meeting as “Option 2”. Vote: Lindner: aye Rafferty: aye Jones: aye Prudhon: aye Long: aye. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Prudhon and seconded by Rafferty to direct staff to stop the negotiation process on the BWSR proposed project assurance agreement and therefore authorize staff to send communication to BWSR notify them that the VLAWMO Board has

decided to not approve the 15 year proposed assurance agreement or the required grant work plan/ grant agreement for the East Goose Lake Alum Treatment grant. Vote: Lindner: aye Rafferty: aye Jones: aye Prudhon: aye Long: aye. Motion passed.

B. Administration

1. LMCIT VLAWMO Insurance Renewal

Belfiori presented the League of Minnesota Cities (VLAWMO's insurance) liability coverage waiver form, which the Board must make an annual determination on to either wave or do not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statute 466.04. VLAWMO's insurance broker, Justin Bullis (Bullis Insurance Agency, LLC.) recommended not waiving the monetary limit on municipal tort liability. The Board has voted to not waive monetary limits on municipal tort liability in the past, and staff is recommending this same action for 2020.

Discussion:

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Prudhon for the authorization of VLAWMO to not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes, Section 466.04 to the extent of the limits of the liability coverage obtained from the LMCIT. Vote: Lindner: aye Rafferty: aye Jones: aye Prudhon: aye Long: aye. Motion passed.

C. Cost Share

1. Landscape Level 2 Grant App: 2020-04 Monda Lambert Creek Restoration Ext, VH

Thompson presented a Landscape Level 2 grant application for a streambank restoration on Lower Lambert Creek. The homeowner applying for the grant is looking to extend the creek restoration that was completed on part of their property by VLAWMO in 2017 further down onto their property, to restore with native vegetation and to halt further degradation and erosion on the streambank. The total project cost is \$8,003.33, and the applicant is applying for \$4,416.30 in Landscape Level 2 cost share funding, which would expend the Level 2 funds for 2020. The project and application has been recommended for approval by staff and the Technical Commission at their May 8, 2020 meeting in the amount of \$4,416.30.

Discussion: Rafferty asked if this project is a priority and how match funding would be adjusted if more Landscape Level 2 grant funding was available. Prudhon asked if this part of Lambert Creek is a priority. Thompson answered that Lower Lambert Creek has been one of VLAWMO's priority areas due to steep and high banks that are especially prone to erosion and soil loss, and he would recommend this application for a greater funding match from VLAWMO if more funds were available. Rafferty asked if it would be advisable to pull from 2021 LL2 budgeting for this project, and if other landowners on the Creek have been reached out to, and stressed the continuation of reaching out to these landowners. Thompson advised against pulling from the 2021 budget for 2020 grant projects, and agreed that he will continue to reach out to residents on Lower Lambert Creek to continue to spread these restorations.

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Prudhon for the approval of the Landscape Level 2 2020-04 grant application for funding in the amount of \$4,416.30. Vote: Lindner: aye Rafferty: aye Jones: aye Prudhon: aye Long: aye. Motion passed.

VIII. Discussion/Updates

Tanner gave an update that the Lambert Lake EAW is still out for comment and staff is working with SEH on retrofits and possible projects in the Wilkinson subwatershed.

Voss updated that the Blue Thumb resilient yard webinar will be held on June 11th, and overviewed the Lawns to Legumes program.

Rafferty voiced that he would like to see an in-person meeting for the June VLAWMO Board of Directors meeting. Jones mentioned the governor's orders to still keep meetings to 10 people or

less. The Board agreed to review and update the June Board of Directors meeting format dependent on local and state direction within the month of June.

IX. Administration Communication

None.

X. Adjourn

A motion was made by Rafferty and seconded by Jones to adjourn at 7:56 pm. Vote: Lindner: aye Rafferty: aye Jones: aye Prudhon: aye Long: aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Tyler Thompson.