

elm creek Watershed Management Commission

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447
PH: 763.553.1144 • FAX: 763.553.9326
Email: judie@jass.biz
www.elmcreekwatershed.org

TECHNICAL OFFICE
Hennepin County
Dept. of Environment and Energy
701 Fourth Ave S Suite 700
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1600
PH: 612.348-7338 • FAX: 612.348.8532
Email: James.Kujawa@hennepin.us

Technical Advisory Committee *(beginning on page 1)* and Regular Meeting *(beginning on page 3)* Minutes - July 10, 2019

I. A meeting of the **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** for the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was convened at 10:02 a.m., Wednesday, July 10, 2019, in the Mayor's Conference Room, Maple Grove City Hall, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, Maple Grove, MN, by Chairman James Kujawa.

In attendance: Todd Tuominen, Champlin; Kevin Mattson, Corcoran; Sarah Nalven, Wenck Associates, Corcoran; Derek Asche and Mark Lahtinen, Maple Grove; Andrew Vistad, Hakanson-Anderson, Medina; Andrew Simmons, Rogers; James Kujawa, Jason Swenson, and Kirsten Barta, Hennepin County Dept. of Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); Jeff Weiss, Barr Engineering; Steve Christopher, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Also present: Ken Guenther, Corcoran; Doug Baines, Dayton; Liz Weir, Medina; and Alex Larson, Katerina Meybaum, and Fred Moore, Plymouth.

- A. Motion by Asche, second by Simmons to approve the **agenda*** *Motion carried unanimously.*
- B. Motion by Kujawa, second by Asche to approve the **minutes*** of the April 10, 2019 Technical Advisory Committee meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*

II. **Rush Creek Subwatershed Assessment.*** Barta's July 2, 2019 memo provided an update on grant progress. She reported that letters have been mailed to approximately 200 residents identified in the SWA as having livestock and/or erosion issues and who came to the open house and indicated interest in the program. Twenty-two site visits have been completed. Two residents have opted to utilize resources provided by Staff to complete projects on their own.

Four projects are under staff review/cost estimate approval; three projects are not being put under contract because residents are happy to pay the costs with staff technical assistance; three projects require cooperation from neighbors in order to be completed; and five more staff visits have been scheduled. In all, about ten projects have been identified, primarily dealing with manure management, grassed waterways, and exclusion fencing

Staff will also follow up with residents who sent in postcards from an unrelated project. Letters will be sent to residents in a larger geographical area not specifically identified in the SWA but still on the creek and who would likely have beneficial projects. Lastly, staff would work with Hennepin Environmental Health on a septic project to target failing systems in the area. This latter item would likely be supported by the MPCA who approached staff about this project.

III. **Ranchview Wetland Bank.*** Included in the meeting packet was a copy of CIP Exhibit A for the Ranchview Wetland Restoration Project. Asche provided background information for this site comprising seven parcels with four different landowners. The CIP calls for 70 acres of restored wetland with an estimated project cost of

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\$2,500,000. The City of Maple Grove has proposed a plan to create 35 acres worth of bank credits, with the City owning the credits. Development would probably not occur sooner than 3-5 years. The City would consider incremental levies so as not to exceed the \$500,000 annual cap.

The members raised questions with regard to the appropriateness of providing funding for a project that could be profitable. Asche responded that it was his impression that the funding is for wetland restoration of the 35 acres that is not set aside for banking credits.

The members inquired about the availability of credits for projects in their communities as a condition of watershed funding. Asche responded that he is open to any discussion on the topic. Commissioner Moore questioned if the wetland bank would be used as credit for any current or future TMDL requirements. Asche and Barta understood that was not possible as wetlands are not intended to be used for primary water quality treatment. Future development would be required to provide treatment prior to discharging into the wetland.

It was suggested that the City of Blaine be contacted regarding their wetland banking experiences as there may be a benefit to learning from them.

This item will continue to be discussed at future TAC meetings.

IV. Project Review Fee Schedule.*

The Commission’s current project review fee schedule for new development separates residential reviews into two categories – low and high density. Low density development is described as that which is less than forty percent impervious in area; high density as that which is greater than forty percent impervious. Density is defined as the number of units per buildable area prior to development. Buildable area is the site area excluding wetlands and floodplains.

Since the amount of review time and effort is essentially the same for both densities, Staff recommends that the Commission eliminate the low density designation and adopt the high density fees for all residential subdivisions requiring review.

Motion by Simmons, second by Tuominen to recommend to the Commission that Staff’s recommendation be adopted. *Motion carried unanimously.*

V. Abstraction Standards.*

The Commission Standards for abstraction states “Stormwater runoff volume must be infiltrated/abstracted onsite in the amount equivalent to one point one inch (1.1”) of runoff generated from new impervious surface.” Applicants and their engineers interpret “new impervious surface” to mean impervious surface added by the new development, i.e., existing impervious surface areas do not need to be treated for our abstraction rule. Staff believes, in the interest of water quality and quantity, all impervious surfaces should meet Commission abstraction requirements whenever a site is being developed or if it is a redevelopment project that disturbs greater than 50% of the site. Staff is requesting a change to the Commission’s Appendix C, Rule D. 3. C: as follows:

Stormwater runoff volume must be infiltrated/abstracted onsite in the amount equivalent to one point one inch (1.1”) of runoff generated from **new all** impervious surface

Christopher stated that the proposed change in language would be a clarification of the current language and would not require a Minor Plan Amendment.

The revision was agreed to by consensus.

VI. Cost Share Policy.

A. In its letter dated May 13, 2019,* the City of Medina requested additional information as it pertains to the **Enhanced Sweeper** proposed by the the City of Plymouth. The sweeper was added to the CIP as a 2020 project at a cost of \$350,000. The City also expressed concern that, in the past, ad valorem taxes have traditionally been spent on water quality improvement projects rather than equipment.

B. In the meeting packet was a copy of the **Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions’ Cost Share Policy for Capital Improvements.*** It was drafted as a result of the City of Plymouth’s request to add the Enhanced Sweeper to the SCWM CIP. After consultation with the Commissions’ Attorney, BWSR, and the Hennepin County Attorney, the SCWM WMOs are going forward with a Minor Plan Amendment to incorporate this new policy.

The Elm Creek Commission’s current policy* was included in the packet for comparison.

VII. The date of the next TAC meeting is indeterminate. The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

I. A regular meeting of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 11:37 a.m., Wednesday, July 10, 2019, in the Mayor’s Conference Room, Maple Grove City Hall, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, Maple Grove, MN, by Chairman Doug Baines.

Present were: Bill Walraven, Champlin; Ken Guenther, Corcoran; Doug Baines, Dayton; Joe Trainor, Maple Grove; Elizabeth Weir, Medina; Fred Moore, Plymouth; Kevin Jullie, Rogers; James Kujawa, Jason Swenson, and Kirsten Barta, Hennepin County Dept. of Environment and Energy (HCEE); Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); Jeff Weiss, Barr Engineering; and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Also present: Todd Tuominen, Champlin; Kevin Mattson, Corcoran; Sarah Nalven, Wenck Associates, Dayton; Derek Asche and Mark Lahtinen, Maple Grove; Terry Sharp, Medina; Catherine Cesnik, Alex Larson, and Katerina Meybaum, Plymouth; and Andrew Simmons, Rogers.

A. Motion by Weir, second by Moore to approve the **revised agenda.*** *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. Motion by Weir, second by Walraven to approve the **minutes*** of the June 12, 2019, regular meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Motion by Moore, second by Walraven to approve the July **Treasurer’s Report and Claims*** totaling \$12,295.38. *Motion carried unanimously.*

II. Open Forum.

III. Action Items.

A. Project Review 2019-015 Timbers Edge, Plymouth.* This project is approximately 18.7 acres in size, located on the west side of Holly Lane, across from the Hollydale Golf Course. It is currently a wooded lot with an existing parking lot. The proposed project would construct 40 single-family homes, resulting in 4.6 acres of new impervious area. Stormwater is to be managed with a stormwater pond and a sand filtration system. In their findings dated July 2, 2019, Staff recommends approval with no conditions. Motion by Moore, second by Guenther to approve Staff’s recommendation. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. Project Review 2019-016 Rogers Retail Development, Rogers.* This project is located at the SW intersection of Highway 81 and I-94. It is a 1.38-acre retail/commercial parcel that has an existing restaurant building on it. The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing building and construct two separate buildings on the lot. This project is considered a complete redevelopment of the parcel and will be reviewed for compliance with Rules D and E. In their findings dated June 19, 2019, and signed July 9, 2019, Staff recommends approval of this project contingent upon five conditions. Motion by Weir, second by Walraven to approve Staff's recommendations. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Project Review 2019-018 Peony Lane North Trailhead, Plymouth.* The City of Plymouth proposes to construct a trailhead facility along the east side of Peony Lane North near 51st Avenue. The project will span two construction seasons. During the 2019 construction season, two parking lots (north and south lots), a 12-foot wide trail connecting the two lots, a box culvert trail crossing of Elm Creek, and a playground area are proposed to be constructed. A patio area and three-season event facility are proposed to be constructed during the 2020 construction season. The Commission reviewed this site for compliance to Rules D, E and F. In their findings dated July 3, 2019, Staff recommends approval pending DNR and WCA permitting. Motion by Moore, second by Weir to approve Staff's recommendation and, further, requesting the City to particularly review the plans for wetland impacts. *Motion carried unanimously.*

D. Project Review 2019-019 Primrose School of Rogers.* This is a new daycare facility located on 2.3 acres at the SW corner of 135th Street and Commerce Boulevard. Regional stormwater facilities were designed to treat TSS and TP from this site, but with the Commission's Third Generation plan the applicant must account for abstraction from their new impervious areas (Rule D) and comply with Rule E. In their findings dated July 3, 2019, Staff recommends approval with no conditions. Motion by Weir, second by Walraven to approve Staff's recommendation. *Motion carried unanimously.*

E. Hennepin County Cooperative Agreement.* Included in the meeting packet is a revised version of the agreement that was presented at the June meeting. It has been revised per discussions at the June 26 subcommittee meeting. The revisions brought the agreement into alignment with the 2019 Operating Budget and is in the amount of \$195,285.08 for technical services and a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,000 for volunteer monitoring and education programs. Motion by Moore, second by Walraven to approve the agreement. *Motion carried unanimously.*

F. Project Review Fee Schedule.* (See item IV. of the TAC minutes on page 2.) Guenther requested that this item be placed on the August agenda for consideration. An updated schedule will be included in the meeting materials.

IV. Watershed Management Plan.

Local Plans. Rogers' 2040 Comprehensive Plan was received by the Commission in January 2019. Staff provided comments to the City. The Commission received Metropolitan Council's letter dated July 8, 2019, stating, "...it has completed its review of Roger's draft plan and that it fulfills the requirement for a local water management plan and provides a good overall framework for the city to successfully manage its water resources." At this time all member local plans have been reviewed and approval as required under MN Stat. 103B.235.

V. Old Business.

A. The 2019 Operating Budget includes funds to monitor one lake as part of **Metropolitan Council's Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP)**. A lake and a volunteer have yet to be identified.

B. The **Commissioner Handbook** is being revised and updated. Staff will bring sections of the updated handbook to future meetings.

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VI. Water Quality.

A. FEMA Floodplain Mapping. Jason Swenson has resigned from Hennepin County effective July 22.* County staff is diligently working to compile the existing working files to ensure a smooth handoff to the next party who will pick up the project and carry it forward. Staff's intentions are to deliver a draft Hydrology product to the Minnesota DNR for review prior to Swenson's departure. Staff will also compile a list of options for the Commission to consider as it moves forward in completing this project.

B. Rush Creek Subwatershed Assessment Implementation.* *(See item II. of the TAC minutes on page 1.)* No action is required by the Commission.

C. Buffer review is underway for Corcoran, Medina, and Rogers. Residents with potential violations and those residents who are receiving spot checks (unrelated to violations) will be notified by US Mail. Those residents who DO NOT have any violation or will not be getting a spot check will NOT be notified in any way. Hennepin staff will work with those residents needing assistance to get into compliance. The State has requested a list of non-compliant parcels this year even if Hennepin staff are still working with them – violation corrections are being accelerated this round.

VII. New Business.

Dayton City Staff have advised the Commission* that they are requesting their City Council to authorize undertaking a **subwatershed assessment for Diamond Lake**. Nalven reported that the Council did approve this request at their July 9 meeting. The City is requesting a Commission contribution of 25 percent of the estimated project cost of \$59,000. A formal request will be presented at the Commission's August 14 meeting.

VIII. Education and Public Outreach.*

A. Watershed PREP and Education and Outreach Events. Educators have completed spring classroom visits. The educators are finding that schools are tending to schedule them more in the fall semester than in the spring semester. A reminder that the educators are available to table at city and school events, contact Amy Juntunen at amy@jass.biz. The educators are still researching options to make a short, 3-5 minute promotional video for Watershed PREP for use both in marketing to schools in the four watersheds as well as informing other watershed organizations about the program.

B. Website/Social Media. The group will be reviewing the WMWA website to refresh and update content. Any input is appreciated. westmetrowateralliance.org/ The website Google Analytics for June 2019 are attached to Staff's memo,* as are the Facebook insights and Twitter metrics for the last 30 days. Facebook Impressions are the numbers of times a post is viewed in a feed, Engagement is an action - a click, comment, share, or reaction.

C. Special Project Discussion. Each year the four watersheds budget \$8,000 to undertake a larger project. The group continues to discuss purchasing a copy of the Blue Thumb native plant root puller display, which is extremely popular among both adults and youth. The displays educate users about one of the many features of native plants, their root lengths compared to turf grass and ornamental plants. This makes them ideal for stabilizing streambanks and lakeshores and for promoting infiltration by creating deep root channels. The display allows the user to pull out a string that is as long as the roots are deep.

D. WMWA is discussing reallocating money from the administrative and special projects budgets to contract with a **part-time coordinator** to provide enhanced general education and coordination

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across the four member watersheds. Some of the potential activities include coordinating chloride management education and outreach to private entities; restarting the lake association summit; coordinating with the Master Water Stewards in the area; and enhanced outreach to the media.

E. Blue Thumb is a valuable source of information, including educational materials, how-to guides, a plant finder tool, and more. <http://www.blue-thumb.org/public-resources/>

F. Ten Things Brochure. WMWA has received about 10,000 copies printed at no charge by Hennepin County. The brochure will be uploaded to the Commission website. Copies can be requested from the administrative office. Brochures are also being distributed to member cities through their TAC representatives.

G. The **next WMWA meeting** is scheduled for 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, August 13, 2019, at Plymouth City Hall.

IX. Communications.

X. Grant Opportunities and Project Updates.

A. Vlach reported that the **second alum treatment for Fish Lake** is scheduled for August 5-8. He will provide an update at the August meeting.

B. The **Elm Creek Stream Restoration project** is nearing completion. Ben Scharenbroich will make a presentation of the project at the August meeting.

C. Deadline for **BWSR Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant** applications is September 9, 2019.

XI. Other Business.

A. The **projects** listed on the following page are discussed in the July Staff Report.

B. Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judie A. Anderson
Recording Secretary
JAA:tim

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Item No.					Project No.	Project Name
					W Denotes wetland project	
ag				AR	2013-046	Woods of Medina, Medina.
ah.				AR	2014-015	Rogers Drive Extension, Rogers.
a.					2015-004	Kinghorn Outlet A, Rogers.
ai.				AR	2015-030	Kiddiegarten Child Care Center, Maple Grove.
aj.				AR	2016-002	The Markets at Rush Creek, Maple Grove.
ak.				AR	2016-005W	Ravinia Wetland Bank Plan, Corcoran.
b.					2016-040	Kinghorn 4 th Addition, Rogers.
c.					2016-047	Hy-Vee North, Maple Grove.
al.				AR	2017-014	Laurel Creek, Rogers.
am.				AR	2017-017	Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Rogers.
an.				AR	2017-029	Brayburn Trails, Dayton.
d.					2017-039	Rush Creek Apartments, Maple Grove.
e.					2017-050W	Ernie Mayer Wetland/floodplain violation, Corcoran.
f.					2018-014	Refuge at Rush Creek, Corcoran.
ao.				AR	2018-018	Summers Edge Phase II, Plymouth.
g.					2018-020	North 101 Storage, Rogers.
h.			R		2018-021	113th Lane Extension/Brockton/101, Rogers.
ap.				AR	2018-026	Windrose, Maple Grove.
aq,				AR	2018-028	Tricare Third Addition, Maple Grove.
i.					2018-038	Vincent Woods of Roger.
ar.				AR	2018-044	OSI Phase II, Medina.
j.					2018-046	Graco, Rogers
as				AR	2018-048	Faithbrook Church Phase 2, Dayton.
k.					2019-001	Fernbrook View Apartments, Maple Grove.
at.					2019-002	Parkside Villas, Champlin.
l.			R		2019-013	Boston Scientific Parking Lot Expansion, Maple Grove.
m.	A	E			2019+015	Timbers Edge, Plymouth.
n.	A	E			2019-016	Rogers Retail Development, Rogers.
o.			R		2019-017	French Lake Industrial Park, Dayton.
p.		E			2019-018	Peony Lake Trailhead, Plymouth.
q.	A	E			2019-019	Primrose, Rogers.
r.		E			2019-020	CSAH 50 and CSAH 10 Culvert Replacement, Corcoran.
s.					2019-021	Brenly Meadows, Rogers.
t.					2019-022	Comlink Midwest, Corcoran.

A= Action item E = Enclosure provided I = Informational update will be provided at meeting RPFi - removed pending further information
 R = Will be removed RP= Information will be provided in revised meeting packet..... D = Project is denied AR awaiting recordation

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