

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: 612.596.1171 • FAX: 612.348.8532  
Email: Ali.Durgunoglu@co.hennepin.mn

### Regular Meeting Minutes August 12, 2015

I. A meeting of the **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** for the **Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission's Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)** was called to order at 10:37 a.m., Wednesday, August 12, 2015 in the Mayor's Conference Room, Maple Grove City Hall, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, Maple Grove, MN by Rich Brasch.

In attendance were Todd Tuominen, Champlin; Rick Lestina, Maple Grove; Shane Nelson, Hakanson-Anderson, Medina; Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; Ali Durgunoğlu and James Kujawa, Hennepin County Dept. of Environment and Energy (HCEE); Rich Brasch and Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); Diane Spector, Wenck Associates; John Erdmann, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA); Steve Christopher, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); Kate Drewry, Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR); and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Bill Walraven, Champlin; Fred Moore, Plymouth; and Mike Lilja, Diamond Lake Improvement Association.

The purpose of the meeting was to informally review a final draft of the **WRAPS Report\*** prior to its submittal to the MPCA for review. The WRAPS (Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies) Report summarizes the assessment and diagnostic work performed as part of the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) and outlines ways to prioritize actions and strategies for continued implementation.

The first section of the WRAPS Report describes the watershed and project area. It will include maps and information on land use, which is a major driver of future land use. It is followed by a summary of impairments. Some streams and lakes are in the Crow River Watershed but within the Elm Creek Commission's jurisdiction.

Section 2.2 (page 10) discusses water quality trends. While intensive lake water quality monitoring has been performed in recent years, none of the periods of record for any of the lakes is considered sufficient to provide the basis for reliable trend analysis. Similarly, only one of the five stream sites provides sufficient data for reliable trend analysis. Table 3 (page 12) identifies the primary stressors to aquatic life in biologically-impaired reaches in the watershed. Table 5 (pp 13-15) shows the nonpoint pollutant sources for both the lakes and stream reaches. Table 4 (page 16) identifies regulated MS4s and WWTPs. Section 2.4 (pp 17-19) shows the allocations for the seven impaired lakes and five impaired stream reaches in the watershed.

Section 2.5 (pp 19-22) discusses the six remaining lakes – two that have been determined to be unimpaired and four that have not yet been assessed. Section 3 (page 23) goes on to discuss prioritization and implementation strategies for restoration and protection. In urbanized areas these strategies can be implemented through establishing BMP policies in their NPDES permits

Brasch and Spector noted that the work identified in the TMDL and WRAPS reports is consistent with the Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan and each reinforces the others.

Moore questioned whether there is a way to prioritize restoration and protection projects. Brasch responded that this could be done as a follow-up action. Spector noted that Minnehaha Watershed District is breaking out implementation strategies/projects into focus areas and flexible areas, but they are not excluding opportunistic projects.

Alternative strategies could include abstraction for new development, analysis of infiltration, and opportunities along stream corridors. Tuominen would like removal of sediment from the Champlin Mill Pond to be included as one of the strategies. Vlach also mentioned strategies related to groundwater. Low dissolved oxygen (DO) affects fish, biota. More survey data is needed before implementation strategies can be prescribed. Loss of groundwater may affect DO. More flow and cooler water may eventually self-reoxygenate the stream.

\*in meeting packet

Erdmann was unsure whether altered flow/altered habitat and other non-TMDL parameters should be included in the Implementation Plan. He will find out.

If member cities are applying for FY2016 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants and the application is for a project that requires it to be in a state-approved plan, a special meeting of the Commission may need to be called to approve the Third Generation Watershed Management Plan prior to October 1. The Plan will be reviewed by the BWSR Metro Committee on September 3 and [approved] by the BWSR Board on September 23. Spector and Chairman Doug Baines will represent the Commission at the September 3 meeting.

Brasch will complete the tables in the report and make the minor changes discussed. He requested review and comment on the draft document by Friday, August 21, 2015, after which he will submit the report with any comments to MPCA. Brooke Asleson, MPCA Project Manager, has indicated that her agency will return informal comments on the TMDL Report within a week's time; the EPA review period for the TMDL Report could be as long as three months. Both the TMDL and WRAPS reports will come back to the TAC for an official 30-day comment period.

The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for the Elm Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

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II. A **regular meeting** of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 12:10 p.m., Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 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; Doug Baines, Dayton; Fred Moore, Plymouth; Kevin Jullie, Rogers; Ali Durgunoğlu and James Kujawa, Hennepin County Department of Environment and Energy (HCEE); Rich Brasch, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Not represented: Corcoran, Maple Grove, and Medina.

Also present: Todd Tuominen, Champlin; Rick Lestina, Maple Grove; Jesse Larson and Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; Andrew Simmons, Rogers; Kate Drewry, Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources; and Mike Lilja, Diamond Lake Improvement Association.

**A.** Motion by Walraven, second by Jullie to approve the **agenda** as revised.\* *Motion carried unanimously.*

**B.** Motion by Moore, second by Walraven to approve the **minutes**\* of the July 8 2015 regular meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**C.** Motion by Walraven, second by Moore to approve the **August Treasurer's Report and Claims**\* totaling \$39,420.97. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**D. Open Forum.**

**E. Action Items.**

**1. Project Review 2015-024 City of Champlin Trail Connection.\*** Three Rivers Park District will extend their existing Elm Creek Park Reserve trail network approximately 740 feet to connect with the trail from the Cedars of Elm Creek. Thresholds for grading and erosion controls or stormwater management will not be met on this project. The work will be done within the floodplain of Elm Creek, so the Commission's floodplain regulations for mitigation must be reviewed and approved. Site plans and earthwork calculations estimate the floodplain fill to be 44.3 CY and the floodplain cut to be 54.2 CY, a net increase of 9.9 CY in flood storage. No wetlands will be impacted by this project. Erosion and sediment controls meeting Commission requirements will be in place. Motion by Moore, second by Jullie to approve this project with no conditions. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**2. Project Review Schedule.\*** Staff updated the recently revised schedule to include two line items for development/redevelopment with mapped floodplains on site, which were inadvertently omitted when the schedule was revised earlier this year. Moore had questions regarding descriptions of and fees for linear projects. Staff will review and bring proposed language back to the Commission in September.

\*in meeting packet

**F. New Business.**

**G. Communications.**

The City of Dayton has requested a **general permit** for work described in Wenck Associates' letter\* dated July 30, 2015. That work includes: 1) Installation of walkways for pedestrian access at traffic signals; 2) Installation of riprap or bituminous flumes to control drainage and erosion; 3) Trail maintenance; 4) Utility work; 5) In-kind replacements for culverts; and 6) Parking lot maintenance. Staff determined that the work qualifies under the Commission's General Permit for Road Maintenance Projects and granted General Permit 2015-01.

**H. Education.** The West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) met on August 11, 2015 to discuss several items.

**1. Educator Update.** The educators tabled at the Plymouth Children's Environmental Fair on July 29. The event was part carnival part environmental fair, and included eco-friendly activities, insects, mascots and animals. They persuaded kids to become Storm Drain goalies and provided general water quality and environmental stewardship information.

**2. Website.** A subcommittee will begin work on developing a separate website for WMWA. Right now the site exists as a page on the Hennepin County website. The subcommittee will use a free web page maker such as WIX or Weebly to build and maintain the site. The hope is to get the site published in time for the roll out of the Special Project.

**3. Special Project.** WMWA has been working with Blue Thumb to develop the special project, formerly known as *5,000 Acres by 2025* or *10,000 Acres for 10,000 Lakes*. The group has developed four potential project names and catch phrases, and will debut them at the Eco Experience Blue Thumb display at this year's State Fair August 27 through September 7. They are included in Diane Spector's August Update.\*

An interactive exhibit in the entry to the Eco Experience will encourage Minnesotans to Pledge to Plant for Clean Water and Pollinators. Fair goers can learn how replacing part of their yards with native plants can help pollinators, save water, and keep water clean. And as a fringe benefit, once established native plants require minimal maintenance. A typical homeowner spends 40 hours a year mowing a standard ¼ acre yard. Replacing turf with natives means less mowing and more relaxation. Fairgoers can take a pledge to plant and take a photo of themselves as Clean Water and Pollinator Superheroes, complete with flying cape. The interactive display includes several popup banners, some of which are shown in the August Update. After the fair, these will be available for WMWA and city use.

**4.** The **Guidebook for Commercial Properties** has been redesigned and is being reproduced at no cost to the Commissions by Hennepin County. These will be distributed at the Commission's September meeting.

**5.** The next eNewsletter **Water Links** will be out shortly, with the next one out in mid-October. Information to post and article ideas are always welcome.

**6.** The next **WMWA** meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 8, 2015, at Plymouth City Hall.

**I. Old Business.**

At the May meeting Weiss and Spector were asked to create a whitepaper **for calculating phosphorus reductions** to ensure a better understanding and uniformity in calculations. Weiss will review the Wayzata High School and Summer's Edge projects to cost-effectively create the methodology for applying the rules, and possibly amending the rules if necessary. Findings will be forwarded to the Technical Advisory Committee for review when they become available.

**J.** The following **projects** are also discussed in the August Staff Report.\* ("W" denotes wetland project.)

1. 2012-021W Kreps Wetland Violation, Corcoran.
2. 2013-038 River Hills, Dayton.
3. 2013-040 Rush Creek Landing, Dayton.
4. 2013-041 Jomico, Corcoran.
5. 2013-046 Woods of Medina, Medina.
6. 2014-015 Rogers Drive Extension, Rogers.
7. 2014-016 Villas at Medina Country Club, Medina.
8. 2014-026 Woodland Hill Preserve, Medina.

\*in meeting packet

9. 2014-027 The Reserve at Elm Creek, Champlin.
10. 2014-029 Creative Lawn and Landscapers, Rogers.
11. 2014-033 Kinghorn Industrial Park Spec Building, Rogers.
12. 2014-038 Sawgrass, Corcoran.
13. 2014-040W Sawgrass Wetland Replacement Plan, Corcoran.
14. 2014-041 Launch Park 2nd Addition (Lot 1, Block 1), Rogers.
15. 2015-001 Highway 47, Troy Lane School, Plymouth.
16. 2015-004 Kinghorn Outlet A, Rogers.
17. 2015-006 Veit Building and Parking Lot Addition, Rogers.
18. 2015-007 Parkway Preserve, Rogers.
19. 2015-009 ALDI, Medina.
20. 2015-011 French Lake Industrial Center, Dayton.
21. 2015-012 Summer's Edge, Plymouth.
22. 2015-013 Wayzata High School, Plymouth.
23. 2015-016 Brockton PUD, Plymouth.
24. 2015-017 The Pines at Blesi Farms, Dayton.
25. 2015-018W 14023 Strehler Road, Wetland Delineation, Corcoran.
26. 2015-019 Goddard School, Medina.\*
27. 2015-020 Strehler Estates, Corcoran.
28. 2015-021 The Pines at Elm Creek, Plymouth.
29. 2015-022W Cartway Trail Wetland Delineation, Champlin.
30. 2015-023W Fox Meadows, Corcoran.

**K. Adjournment.** There being no further business, motion by Walraven, second by Jullie to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judie A. Anderson  
Recording Secretary  
JAA:tim

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\*in meeting packet