

elm creek

Watershed Management Commission

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MINUTES Regular Meeting November 9, 2022

I. A meeting of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 11:37 a.m., Wednesday, November 9, 2022, in the Aspen Room, Plymouth Community Center, 14800 34th Avenue North, Plymouth, MN, by Chair Doug Baines.

Present were: Bill Walraven, Champlin; Ken Guenther, Corcoran; Doug Baines, Dayton; Dan Riggs, Maple Grove; Terry Sharp, Medina; and Catherine Cesnik, Plymouth. Not represented: Rogers.

Also present: Heather Nelson, Champlin; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Matt Danzl, Hakanson-Anderson, Medina; Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; Andrew Simmons, Rogers; Diane Spector and Erik Megow, Stantec; James Kujawa, Surface Water Solutions; Kevin Ellis, Hennepin County Environmental Services (HCEE); and Judie Anderson, JASS.

A. Motion by Walraven, second by Cesnik to approve the **agenda**.* *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. Motion by Walraven, second by Sharp to approve the **Minutes*** of the October 12, 2022, regular meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Motion by Guenther, second by Walraven to approve the November **Treasurer's Report and Claims*** totaling \$96,207.50. *Motion carried unanimously.*

II. Open Forum.

III. Project Reviews.

A. **Project 2021-025 Hackamore Road Reconstruction, Corcoran/Medina**.* The cities of Corcoran and Medina plan to reconstruct 1.3 miles of Hackamore Road from just west of CR 116 to CR 101. The project will add 4.4 acres of new impervious surface by widening the roadway and adding turn lanes, pedestrian facilities, and utility improvements. To meet the Commission's stormwater requirements, the project will largely rely on adjacent developments (existing and proposed) to incorporate BMPs (best management practices) to provide rate control, volume control, and water quality control. Staff reviewed the early application and provided comments to the applicant. Staff has reviewed various recent submittals for an interim reconstruction and stormwater plan and has worked with the applicant to determine interim impacts and how the impacts will be mitigated in the future. Findings dated November 2, 2022, stating how the applicant will meet the Commission's rules when future developments are constructed, are included in the meeting packet.

After much discussion, motion by Guenther, second by Walraven to table action on this project to the December meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.* It was agreed that the members should hear from the applicant cities as well as representatives from the contiguous cities regarding the BMPs proposed for this linear project.

[Riggs arrived 11:46 a.m.]

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B. Project 2022-035 Rush Hollow, Maple Grove.* The project is located on 161.5 acres, resulting in 49.01 acres of impervious surface, and triggering Rules D, E and I. In their findings dated November 1, 2022, Staff recommends approval contingent upon 1) final application escrow fee reconciliation; 2) an operation and maintenance plan approved by the City.

Motion by Walraven, second by Sharp to approve Staff recommendations. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Project 2022-043 Meander Park and Boardwalk, Medina.* This project is a proposed commercial planned unit development located on the north side of Highway 55, 900 feet east of Arrowhead Drive on Lake Medina. Wetlands surround the 18-acre site on the west and south, leaving approximately 7 acres of developable land. The project will disturb 6.3 acres of the site and result in a 4.0 acre increase in impervious surface. The project triggers Rules D, E, F, G and I. In their findings dated November 2, 2022, Staff recommends approval contingent upon 1) final application escrow fee reconciliation; 2) an operation and maintenance plan approved by the City of Medina, 3) addition of Emergency Overflows (EOF's) to the grading plan for basins East Filtration and the North Retention Basin. The low floor elevations must be at least one foot above the EOF for the stormwater pond. Secondary outlet devices potentially modeled as EOFs are reported as 987.27 for the North Retention Basin and 993.0, the elevation of the roadway, for the East Filtration Basin, 4) Jurisdictional determination for LGU WCA replacement or exemption. LGU and WCA approval is required prior to any wetland impacts if required by LGU, and 5) addition of approved wetland monument signs to the plan set.

Motion by Guenther, second by Sharp to approve Staff recommendations. *Motion carried unanimously.*

D. Project 2022-046 CSAH 12 Culvert and Guardrail Replacement and Ravine Stabilization, Dayton.* This project area runs along the CSAH 12 ROW from 2500' northwest of Lawndale Lane and continues approximately 3.1 miles southwest to near Pioneer Parkway. The project will consist of mill and overlay work on an existing section of CR12. Construction plans show removal of 9-11" of bituminous pavement and 12" of aggregate base and replacing it with recycled or new materials. Additionally, six sections of this corridor have failing slopes that threaten the road embankment. Culverts will be replaced where needed and six (6) gully areas will be stabilized between the road and the Mississippi River. In their findings dated November 1, 2022, Staff recommends approval contingent upon 1) final application escrow fee reconciliation and 2) Jurisdictional determination for LGU WCA replacement or exemption. LGU and WCA approval is required prior to any wetland impacts if required by the LGU.

Motion by Sharp, second by Guenther to approve Staff recommendations. *Motion carried unanimously.*

IV. Old Business.

V. New Business.

VI. Chloride Management Requirements for Project Applicants.*

The Elm Creek Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Commission have a thorough understanding of how road salt (chloride) use for winter safety can negatively impact water bodies. Road salt can contaminate drinking water, have negative impacts on aquatic organisms, and corrode infrastructure, among other impacts. Both Elm Creek and South Fork Rush Creek are impaired for chloride.

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To help minimize sources of chloride in the watershed, the TAC and Commission have been more frequently recommending development projects to the cities pending submittal of a chloride management plan from developers. The purpose of a chloride management plan is to ensure that proper winter maintenance BMPs are used for developments in the watershed to minimize the amount of excess chloride applied to pavement and to reduce the amount of chloride that makes its way to water bodies in the watershed.

There are some difficulties with requiring chloride management plans from project applicants. The entity submitting project plans for permitting often doesn't have a strong relationship with the entity who will ultimately be doing winter maintenance, making it difficult to ensure management plans are upheld and implemented. Winter maintenance crews are often contracted out, especially in the case of large developments. Conversely, requiring chloride management plans may help increase awareness of chloride issues in the watershed and be an additional tool to educate people on the negative impacts of salt use.

Stantec researched chloride management plan requirements from various cities and watershed organizations in the Metro Area to understand what is currently being done, what is working well, and what options there are for the Commission to require a chloride management plan with project applications. Stantec reviewed chloride management requirements from Nine Mile Creek and Coon Creek Watershed Districts, Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, and the cities of Edina, Bloomington, and Plymouth. Stantec also reviewed the draft Winter Maintenance Management Plan templates created for the Hennepin County Chloride Initiative (HCCI) by Fortin Consulting.* Chloride management plans as a requirement for development is a relatively new idea and haven't been implemented in many places, so there was not much overall feedback from the watershed organizations and cities on how this requirement has been going.

Based on their review, Stantec proposes four potential options for the Commission to implement a chloride management requirement with project submittals ranging from 1 (easier to implement) to 3 (more difficult/resource intensive to implement):

1. Do not add a chloride management plan requirement; instead continue efforts on chloride education and outreach in the watershed.
2. Require project applicants to name an individual or multiple individuals responsible for winter chloride management onsite.
3. Require project applicants to submit a Chloride Management Plan using the templates provided in the Winter Maintenance Management Plan created by Fortin Consulting. Project applicants will use the calculator to choose which template to use: basic, intermediate, or detailed.
4. Add chloride management requirements to the Operations and Maintenance agreements between the site owner and the City.

Staff recommend Option 1, that the Commission refrain from adding any additional requirements to project review submittals and continue to focus on chloride education and outreach in the watershed. At their meeting earlier today, the TAC approved this option by consensus.

The Commission concurred. This topic will be addressed in the Fourth Generation Plan.

[Sharp departed 1:00 p.m.]

B. MPCA Climate Resilience Grants.*

The MPCA is currently taking applications for the Planning Grants for the Stormwater, Wastewater, and Community Resilience program. \$395,000 is available to support climate-planning projects in communities across Minnesota. This funding will help communities assess vulnerabilities and plan for the effects of Minnesota’s changing climate in three areas:

1. Improving stormwater resilience and reducing localized flood risk
2. Improving the resilience of wastewater systems
3. Adapting community services, ordinances, and public spaces

This was a new grant program last year, and the TAC considered applying for a grant in 2021 to use the HUC8 model to estimate the potential impacts of future precipitation patterns. At that time the TAC believed the model was not yet ready to be used for that purpose. Given the updates made to the model earlier this year, Staff expect it to be now more useful for planning.

Last year the Shingle Creek WMO submitted a grant application, but was unsuccessful. It is expected they will reapply this year. Staff recommend that the Elm Creek Commission consider the same general work plan as Shingle Creek. Last year the grant program funded grants to a few other WMOs and cities to undertake essentially the same activities:

1. Model and map midcentury precipitation scenarios to create projected flood inundation areas for the 1%+ 24-hour rainfall event and the 1%+ 10 day event. A ‘plus’ is a rainfall depth taken from the 90th percentile estimate for the given rainfall frequency. FEMA often evaluates not only the 1% storm event but also the 1%+ storm event as a way to provide perspective on the range of values one COULD expect in the 1% event. The State Climatology Office also suggests using the 90th percentile as a proxy for midcentury precipitation.

2. Identify potential future flooding risks in the watershed by reviewing known flooding areas, infrastructure, structures, and emergency vehicle routes in or in close proximity to predicted future hazardous flood conditions.

3. Develop policy recommendations for using the scenario data. For example, this modeling could be used to help the cities and county better understand how to properly design new infrastructure such as culverts, bridges, etc., that would be expected to have a mid-century useful life.

The cost of undertaking the Shingle Creek workplan activities was estimated as just under \$25,000, with a grant request of ~\$22,000 and a 10% local match of ~\$2,500. Staff believe completing the same work for Elm Creek will likely be approximately the same but haven’t yet updated that estimate.

Applications are due January 12, 2023. If the TAC recommends and the Commission approves pursuing this grant, Staff will bring a draft workplan and application to the Commission at the December 14, 2022, meeting. The level of effort to prepare the application and associated documents will be minimal since much of what was prepared for Shingle Creek last year can be reused.

Discussion at the TAC meeting regarding submitting an application in January was mixed; some suggesting waiting for the next round of funding, while others indicating an application could be prepared for consideration at the December meeting. Staff will prepare an application.

VI. Communications.

A. Staff Report.* Staff reports provide updates on the development projects currently under review by Staff. The projects listed in the table beginning on page 7 of these minutes are discussed in the November 3, 2022, report.

B. Hennepin County Staff Report.*

1. Program updates.

a. Lake Jubert Agricultural BMPs. Construction has begun on five grassed waterways. Grading has been completed and the contractor is currently identifying the locations of the tile. Construction should be completed within the next three weeks

b. 13861 129th Ave N., Dayton. Roof of manure bunker is currently being constructed by landowner. Full structure will be completed before the end of calendar year 2022.

c. 9945 Sundance Road. Construction has begun on livestock waterer and barn gutters. Hennepin County Staff are currently working to find an appropriate site for the manure bunker. Projects will be completed by the end of calendar year 2022.

d. Diamond Hill Stables. Hennepin County will assist landowners with installation of gutters on barn/stables that will help curb erosion in high traffic alleyways surrounding the building. Landowners are working with NRCS to apply for EQIP funding for pasture management and fencing upgrades.

e. 10000 Ebert Road. The landowner has signed a state cost-share contract to restore wetlands and prairie areas and the area has been fall-seeded with native species. Hennepin County staff are working on engineering and permit applications for potential project installs in 2023. Full plan sets will be finalized over winter 2022.

2. Hennepin County is recruiting residents to become [Minnesota Water Stewards](#) in 2023. The Water Stewards program certifies and supports community leaders to prevent water pollution and educate community members to protect our waterways. Learn what it takes to become a Water Steward by attending an information session. Sessions are virtual and run 45-60 minutes. [Register for an upcoming session](#). Sessions are scheduled for Tuesday, November 1, at 5 p.m., Tuesday, November 15, at noon, and Tuesday, November 29, at 5 p.m. You can submit an application after you attend an information session. Applications are due November 30. Contact Alex Van Loh at avanloh@freshwater.org for more information.

3. Hennepin County hosts the [Natural Resource Interactive Map](#) to make imagery, land cover information and classifications, and water resource data available to the public. The map allows users to review details related to specific parcels, print and share maps, and draw and measure.

The County is gathering feedback to inform map improvements. [Complete a survey](#) to provide input on the presentation of natural resource layers and suggest ways to improve user experience. The survey takes about three minutes to complete and will be open until November 30.

4. Applications for **Good Steward Grants** are being accepted through November 15, 2022. These grants typically support smaller, community-based or single applicant projects, such as constructing rain gardens, stabilizing stream banks, restoring native vegetation, installing vegetated filter strips, or implementing other best management projects. The typical funding amount is \$5,000-\$15,000.

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See the [Good Steward Grant Guidelines \(PDF\)](#) for more information. Application materials are posted on the [Hennepin County Supplier Portal](#), and all applications must be submitted through the Supplier Portal.

Two optional **online workshops** are being held for potential applicants to learn more about the program, application requirements, and how to submit their application using the Supplier Portal. [RSVP to get the meeting invite](#): Thursday, October 6 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Tuesday, October 11 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. For those unable to attend, a recording of these workshops will be posted to the [Natural Resource Grants website](#).

VII. Education and Public Outreach.

A. The **West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA)** will meet via Zoom at 8:30 a.m., December 13, 2022.

B. At the November meeting the members discussed the shared employment individual's duties. The County Board will consider this position at their meeting at the end of November, after which time a job description will be written.

C. It was reported that the WMWA educator, Jessica Sahu Teli, has been busy with classroom and community-based activities. She is a passionate individual and has been very enthusiastically accepted by her audiences.

VIII. Grant Opportunities and Project Updates.

A. MPCA Climate Resilience Grants. See Item V.B. on page 4 of these minutes.

B. Dayton Cost Share Project.*

At the October meeting, the TAC and Commission discussed an issue with erosion in a channel between the homes at 16630/16750 Dayton River Road that is expected to be exacerbated when a culvert under CSAH 12 is replaced as part of an upcoming County project. Erosion is contributing excess sediment to the Mississippi River. At the October meeting the TAC and Commission discussed sharing the cost of stabilizing this channel.

1. Good Steward Grants. This is a Hennepin County grant program that County staff recommend as a good source for a County contribution to the cost of channel stabilization. The City of Dayton will prepare and submit a grant application. Grants are due November 15.

2. Commission Cost Share. The City of Dayton is in the process of completing an updated cost estimate and Cost Share Program application. A draft application* was included in the meeting packet. Staff recommends approval of the Cost Share application. The TAC members agreed by consensus to recommend approval of this application to the Commission.

C. Watershed Based implementation Funding (WBIF)* Hennepin County has submitted a workplan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for the shared Education and Outreach coordinator. The Commission can now submit an application and work plan to BWSR for the balance of the grant. As previously discussed, that work plan will include \$175,000 for implementation of BMPs identified in the Rush Creek and Diamond Creek subwatershed assessments and \$92,774 for priority assessments. Staff will include, as example, assessments the proposed South Fork Rush Creek SWA, the Diamond Lake outlet channel, and the Rush Creek meandering near Stieg Woods as potential priorities. They are still developing options and cost estimates for each of those for further Commission consideration.

[Riggs departed 1:22 p.m.]

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IX. Other Business.

X. Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judie A. Anderson
Recording Secretary
JAA:tim

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Project No.	Project Name
W=wetland	
2014-015	Rogers Drive Extension, Rogers.
2015-030	Kiddiegarten Child Care Center, Maple Grove.
2016-005W	Ravinia Wetland Bank Plan, Corcoran.
2017-014	Laurel Creek, Rogers.
2017-050W	Ernie Mayers Wetland/floodplain violation, Corcoran.
2018-046	Graco, Rogers.
2019-021	Brenly Meadows, Rogers.
2019-026	Interstate Power Systems, Rogers.
2020-009	Stetler Barn, Medina.
2020-017	Meadow View Townhomes, Medina.
2020-032	Enclave Rogers - Commerce Boulevard, Rogers.
2020-033	Weston Woods, Medina.
2020-036	Balsam Pointe, Dayton.
2021-007	Birchwood 2nd Addition, Rogers
2021-016	Territorial Lofts, Rogers.
2021-020	Crew Carwash, Maple Grove.
2021-021	Territorial Triangle, Dayton.
2021-023	Maple Grove Medial Office Building (MOB).
2021-024	Riverwalk, Dayton
2021-025	Hackamore Road Reconstruction, Medina/Corcoran.
2021-027	Xcel Energy Elm Creek Substation, Maple Grove
2021-029	Tri-Care Grocery / Retail, Maple Grove
2021-031	Cook Lake Edgewater, Maple Grove
2021-034	BAPS Hindu Temple, Medina.
2021-035	Mister Car Wash - Rogers
2021-036	D & D Service, Corcoran.
2021-037	Marsh Pointe, Medina.
2021-038	Bellwether 6th/Amberly, Corcoran.
2021-039	1-94 Logistics Center, Rogers.
2021-040	Napa Auto, Corcoran.
2021-041	Carlson Ridge, Plymouth.
2021-043	Northwood Community Church Maple Grove.
2021-044	Balsam II Apartments, Dayton.
2021-046	Len Busch Roses, Plymouth

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2021-047	CR 10 Box Culvert Replacement, Corcoran
2021-048	Bellwether - Newman West, Corcoran
2021-049	Dayton Interchange Business Center, Dayton.
2021-050	Evanswood, Maple Grove.
2021-051	Fields of Nanterre Drainage Improvements, Plymouth.
2021-052	Norbella Senior Living, Rogers.
2021-053	Towns at Fox Creek, Rogers.
2021-054	Stotts Family Farm Grassed Waterways, Corcoran.
2021-055	Morningside Estates 6th Addition, Champlin.
2022-001	Dayton Field 2nd Addition, Dayton.
2022-002	Summerwell, Maple Grove.
2022-003	Fox Briar Ridge East, Maple Grove.
2022-005	Bellwether 7th, Corcoran.
2022-006	Hamel Townhomes, Medina.
2022-007	Weston Commons 2nd, Maple Grove.
2022-008	Bechtold Farm, Corcoran.
2022-009	Dunkirk Lane Development, Plymouth.
2022-010	Unity Tool Building Addition, Dayton.
2022-011	Arrowhead Drive turn Lane expansion,
2022-012	Graco Building 2, Dayton.
2022-013	Dayton 94 Industrial Site, Dayton.
2022-014	Aster Mill, Rogers.
2022-015	County Road 47 Phase I Reconstruction, Plymouth.
2022-016	Rogers Activity Center, Rogers.
2022-017	City Center Drive, Corcoran.
2022-018	Big Woods, Rogers.
2022-019	Grass Lake Preserve, Dayton.
2022-020	Skye Meadows Extension, Rogers.
2022-022	Cook Lake Highlands, Corcoran.
2022-023	Asguard, Rogers.
2022-024	Bridge No. 27J70, Maple Grove.
2022-025	Harvest View, Rogers.
2022-026	Archway Building, Rogers
2022-027	Edison at Maple Grove Apartments.
2022-028	Elsie Stephens Park, Dayton.
2022-029	Hayden Hills Park, Dayton.
2022-030	Garages Too, Corcoran.
2022-031	Corcoran II Substation.
2022-032	EC Stream Restoration Phase 5, Champlin.
2022-033	Pet Suites, Maple Grove.
2022-034	CSAH 101 Improvements, Maple Grove.
2022-035	Rush Hollow, Maple Grove.
2022-036	West French Lake Road Improvements, Maple Grove.
2022-037	CSAH13 CR203 Culvert replacement, Dayton.
2022-038	Tavera North Side, Corcoran.
2022-039	Garland Commons, Maple Grove.
2022-040	Karinieimi Meadows,

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2022-041	Elm Creek Swim Pond Culvert, Maple Grove.
2022-042	Walcott Glen, Corcoran.
2022-043	Meander Park and Boardwalk, Medina.
2022-044	Trail Haven Road Bridge Replacement, Corcoran.

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