

elm creek Watershed Management Commission

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Technical Advisory Committee and Regular Meeting Minutes December 13, 2017

I. A meeting of the **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** for the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was convened at 10:05 a.m., Wednesday, December 13, 2017, in the Mayor's Conference Room, Maple Grove City Hall, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, Maple Grove, MN.

In attendance were: Kevin Mattson, Corcoran; Rick Lestina and Mark Lahtinen, Maple Grove; Kaci Fisher, Hakanson-Anderson, Medina; Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; 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; and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Not represented: Champlin and Dayton.

Also present: Brad Martens, Corcoran; Doug Baines, Dayton; Dusty Finke and Elizabeth Weir, Medina; and Suzanne Jiwanni and Rita Weaver, MnDNR.

II. Elm Creek FEMA Updates.

A. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has awarded the MnDNR a **grant to update the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) in the Twin Cities HUC8 watershed**. The scope of the grant depends on individual river reaches, but in most cases includes

1. Updated hydrology, either through modeling or use of statistical methods
2. Updated river hydraulics and/or volume analyses
3. Creating the floodway and floodplain shapefiles and x-section shapefiles
4. Creating depth grids
5. Development of Work Maps
6. A project narrative describing the above activities

B. Pass-through grants can be provided so that watershed organizations can complete some or all of these tasks. FEMA would like to leverage existing data wherever possible so Twin Cities WMOs within the HUC8 watershed are being approached to see if they have any data that can support this effort. Since leveraged data will reduce overall project cost, WMOs that can provide data will be offered remaining funds allotted for that watershed to be used for such activities as flood risk reduction or communication activities.

C. A map* of the FEMA Study Areas in the Elm Creek hydrologic boundary was distributed. It shows which reaches should be studied using approximate or detailed methods.

D. Work can begin as soon as the pass-through grant paperwork with the state is completed. All deliverables must be submitted to the MnDNR by April 2020. The Scoping Document* outlines a suggested intermediate timeline.

E. Total funds for each HUC watershed have been established between FEMA and the DNR. The cost estimates are based on MnDNR staff developing new hydrologic and hydraulic models using HEC-HMS and HEC-RAS,

delineating all floodplains and x-section shapefiles, and developing the depth grids. These cost estimates will not be provided to the WMOs and the amount of the grant will not exceed the FEMA-negotiated costs for each WMO. Any unused funds can be passed through to the WMO to complete other flood risk reduction activities. These activities must be pre-approved by MnDNR staff.

F. Technical Staff will work with the MnDNR to put together a draft scope of work and cost estimate for review by the MnDNR staff. It will be brought back to the Commission at their January meeting for further discussion and a decision. Should it be decided that HCEE staff will do the work, Swenson will be the lead and overflow project review work will be performed by Weiss.

III. Rules and Standards.

In the meeting packet was a copy of a **letter* addressed to the TAC/Commission from the City of Corcoran** dated December 7, 2017, regarding proposed revisions to the Commission's rules and standards.

A. Abstraction Standards. Discussions at previous TAC meetings have resulted in the following considerations: *(proposed changes are shown in parenthesis)*

1. *Increase soil amendment credit from 0.5" to 0.75" over area amended.*
2. Land preservation through additional buffer or undisturbed forest or grassland - *increase credit from 0.5" to 0.75" over area amended.*
3. Disconnecting impervious areas.
4. Capture and reuse – volume per Ramsey-Washington Stormwater Reuse Calculator.
5. Soluble phosphorus filtration media – iron filings, etc.
6. Filtration/biofiltration at 2x abstraction volume. *(2.2" filtered volume, increased from 1:1 ratio (1.1" filtered volume)*

Objective is to prioritize abstractions that truly result in volume decreases offsite, while allowing for device to meet poor soil conditions.

B. The members also discussed Standards that would be used prior to approval of filter basin or would be handled through the city review process. Items discussed included underdrains, observation/cleanouts, utility trace wires, marking stakes and animal guards for daylighted underdrains, use of filter fabric, irrigation requirements, and actual phosphorus removals for the various abstractions.

The TAC recommended that the Commission adopt the soil amendment/preservation and buffer credit increase to 0.75", but that the filtration/biofiltration volume remain at 1.1".

IV. Capital Projects.

The City of Medina has submitted the **Hickory Drive Stormwater Improvement Project** for inclusion on the Commission's CIP. The estimated project cost is \$225,000, with the Commission's share being 25%, or \$56,250. The members agreed by consensus to move this project forward.

V. Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) LGU.

The Commission currently serves as the local government unit (LGU) for the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) for the cities of Champlin and Corcoran. Currently these cities are invoiced by the Commission for Staff time to review and service wetland violations within their boundaries.

Champlin has agreed to take over full LGU responsibility for WCA on January 1, 2018. The City of Corcoran has requested that the Commission continue in its role as LGU until January 1, 2019, since a budget to serve in this capacity has not been approved by the City for 2018. Motion by Kujawa, second by Lestina to recommend the Commission approve Corcoran taking over the LGU duties for their jurisdiction in 2019. *Motion carried unanimously.*

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VI. The meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

I. A **regular meeting** of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 11:50 a.m., Wednesday, December 13, 2017, in the Mayor's Conference Room, Maple Grove City Hall, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, Maple Grove, MN, by Chairman Doug Baines.

Present were: Sharon Meister, Corcoran; Doug Baines, Dayton; Joe Trainor, Maple Grove; Elizabeth Weir, Medina; Fred Moore, Plymouth; 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.

Not represented: Champlin and Rogers.

Also present: Brad Martens and Kevin Mattson, Corcoran; Mark Lahtinen, Maple Grove; Ben Scharenbroich, 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 Meister to approve the **minutes*** of the November 8, 2017 regular meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Motion by Moore, second by Weir to approve the December **Treasurer's Report and Claims*** totaling \$25,874.23. *Motion carried unanimously.*

II. **Open Forum.**

Martens recapped the Open House held on December 7 to present the Rush Creek Subwatershed Assessment project to local residents. He stated that approximately 60-70 attended the meeting and the information was well received.

III. **Action Item.**

Motion by Moore, second by Weir to approve **Non-Waiver of Liability Insurance Coverage**.* *Motion carried unanimously.*

IV. **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update.** *(Also refer to pages 1-2 of these minutes.)*

A. Revisions to the Commission's **rules and standards** were discussed by the TAC members. The TAC recommended that the Commission adopt a soil amendment/preservation and buffer credit increase to 0.75", and that the filtration/biofiltration volume remain at 1.1". Motion by Moore, second by Weir to approve the TAC's recommendations. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. The Commission serves as the **Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) LGU** for the cities of Champlin and Corcoran. Champlin has agreed to take on the role of WCA LGU for their jurisdiction beginning on January 1, 2018. Motion by Weir, second by Trainor that the Commission relinquish the role of WCA LGU for the City of Corcoran on January 1, 2019. *This motion was withdrawn.*

Motion by Moore, second by Trainor authorizing the Commission to invoice back to the affected city(ies) all costs related to its role as the LGU for the WCA, effective January 1, 2019. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. **Capital Projects.** The City of Medina has submitted the Hickory Drive Stormwater Improvement Project for inclusion on the Commission's CIP. The estimated project cost is \$225,000, with the Commission's share being 25%, or \$56,250. The project includes installation of a stormwater pond for a 8.3-acre drainage area and stabilization of approximately 300 linear feet of gully erosion. Motion by Weir, second by Trainor to add this project to the Commission's CIP. *Motion carried unanimously.*

V. New Business.

Project Review 2017-050 Ernie Mayer Wetland/Floodplain Violation, Corcoran.* A potential wetland violation has occurred on parcels operated by Ernie Mayer. An initial site inspection confirmed the wetland violation. An access road was constructed from Larkin Road into these parcels and appears to be constructed within MN Wetland Conservation Act jurisdictional wetlands. In addition, this work was done in the Rush Creek floodplain. A Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) met on-site on December 11. They will help the LGU (the Commission) and DNR determine the extent of the violation. The Hennepin County Soil Conservation District will then develop the restoration order for the DNR Conservation Officer to issue to the landowner for any violation that has occurred on the site. A Cease and Desist Order was issued.

VI. Grant Opportunities and Updates.

A. Internal Phosphorus Loading Control in Fish Lake project.

Vlach gave a PowerPoint presentation of the alum treatment that occurred September 18-21, 2017. Alum was applied to 120 acres of Fish Lake at depths greater than 20 feet. A total of 95,349 gallons of alum (22 alum trucks) was applied to the lake. The applicator, HAB Aquatic Solutions, set up a website (<http://fishlakealum.com>), providing daily updates of the project and an opportunity for folks to submit their questions about the project.

The Fish Lake Area Residents Association (FLARA) hosted a media event on September 20. Baines attended the event representing the Elm Creek Commission. There were approximately 10-15 homeowners in attendance. There were also presentations by HAB Aquatic Solutions and Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) about the project followed by a boat tour in order to observe the alum application. The CCX news media video is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mt1gYo5IGtw>

The next steps include collecting sediment cores to determine the alum dosage calculations in 2018 and continuing to monitor the lake to determine the effectiveness of the first treatment. The second treatment will occur in the spring of 2019. The estimated cost for two treatments is \$300,000; the first treatment cost \$176,379. Project funding sources include the BWSR Clean Water Fund Grant, the City of Maple Grove, FLARA, TRPD, and the Commission.

B. Rush Creek Headwaters Subwatershed Assessment project. In November, Wenck staff completed the first draft of analysis with ACPF (Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework; model inputs: lidar, soils, land use) and PTMApp (Prioritize resources and issues impacting them, Target specific fields to place BMPs, Measure pollutant reduction and BMPs) tools, reviewed the initial model results at a Core Team meeting, created website content, and prepared for the December open house at the City of Corcoran.

In December, Wenck staff facilitated the Open House and will complete a second round of analysis with ACPF and PTMApp tools to prioritize BMPs. They will also continue to prepare website content.

VII. Education.

A. Included in the packet was the December WMWA (West Metro Water Alliance) update.*

1. WMWA has switched over its email distribution system for the **WaterLinks** e-newsletter from Hennepin County to MailChimp. In order to keep receiving WaterLinks (or to newly subscribe), go to westmetrowateralliance.org/contact.html to sign up.

2. The Basset Creek WMO and the City of Plymouth both recently hosted **salt applicator workshops**, mostly attended by city staff and only a few private applicators.

3. WMWA is currently discussing options to assist property owners with **rain gardens and native plant conversions**. Two options being considered are 1) funding two hours of on-site technical assistance for owners who take the Metro Blooms Landscaping workshop; and/or 2) providing reimbursement for the cost of purchasing native plants up to a certain amount, say \$100. These ideas are still under development.

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4. WMWA is also planning to continue facilitating **native plant sales** by linking up native growers with community events such as festivals and farmer's markets. WMWA would pay any booth fees charged for the event and sponsor and advertise the event; the grower would be free to sell plants.

5. Wenck Staff met with Patience Caso (HCEE) and two **Master Water Steward students** who live in Robbinsdale and are interested in learning more about the watersheds and how they can help foster citizen engagement. masterwaterstewards.org/

6. **Website/Social Media.** The website Google Analytics for November 2017 as well as the Facebook insights for the last 28 days for Shingle Creek and WMWA were attached to the update.

7. The next **WMWA meeting** is scheduled for 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at Plymouth City Hall. Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

B. "Road salt is polluting our water. Here's how we can fix it," [MPR News](#).*

C. On November 14, 2017, Baines attended the *Lake Effect: Protecting Water through Innovative Collaboration*,* part of the Moos Family Lecture Series sponsored by the Freshwater Society. Speaker Kathy Lake is the Pollution Prevention Manager for the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District. She discussed her innovative approach to addressing seemingly intractable, watershed-wide pollution issues. Baines praised the presentation, which was co-sponsored by the Elm Creek Commission.

VIII. Communications.

IX. Other Business.

A. Weir inquired as to the status of the **manure management ordinance**. Barta will continue to work to create guidance on this issue.

B. The following **projects** are discussed in the December Staff Report.* ("W" denotes wetland project.)

1. 2013-046 Woods of Medina, Medina.
2. 2014-015 Rogers Drive Extension, Rogers.
3. 2015-004 Kinghorn Outlet A, Rogers.
4. 2015-030 Kiddiegarten Child Care Center, Maple Grove.
5. 2016-002 The Markets at Rush Creek, Maple Grove.
6. 2016-004 Park Place Storage Site Plans, Corcoran.
7. 2016-005W Ravinia Wetland Bank, Corcoran.
8. 2016-026 Faithbrook Church, Dayton.
9. 2016-040 Kinghorn 4th Addition, Rogers.
10. 2016-047 Hy-Vee Maple Grove #1, Maple Grove.
11. 2016-052 The Woods at Rush Creek, Maple Grove.
12. 2017-002 RDO Site Plan, Dayton.
13. 2017-013W 20417 Larkin Road, Corcoran.
14. 2017-014 Laurel Creek, Rogers.
15. 2017-016 Territorial Woods, Maple Grove.
16. 2017-017 Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Rogers
17. 2017-019 Medina Senior Living Community, Medina.
18. 2017-021 Hindu Society of MN Staff Housing, Maple Grove.
19. 2018-022 CSAH81 and CSAH101 and 13 Intersection Improvements, Rogers.
20. 2017-027W Mill Pond Restoration, Champlin.
21. 2017-028W Fehn Meadows Wetland Bank, Corcoran.
22. 2017-029 Brayburn Trails, Dayton.
23. 2017-030 Brindle Path, Medina.

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24. 2017-031 Bass Lake Crossing, Corcoran.
25. 2017-034 Plymouth Memory Care, Plymouth.
26. 2017-035 Weston Woods of Medina PUD.
27. 2017-036 Enclave at Elm Creek, Plymouth.
28. 2017-037 L-80 Lift Station MCES, Corcoran.
29. 2017-038 Bass Lake Estates, Corcoran.
30. 2017-039 Rush Creek Apartments, Maple Grove.
31. 2017-040 Capitol Beverage, Rogers.
32. 2017-044 Reserve at Medina 2nd Addition, Medina.
33. 2017-045 Fish Lake Estates, Maple Grove.
34. 2017-046W Wessell Wetland Delineation, Corcoran.
35. 2017-047W Newman Wetland Delineation, Corcoran.
36. 2017-048W Ebert Parcel Wetland Delineation, Corcoran.
37. 2017-049W Rolling Hills Wetland Delineation, Corcoran.
38. 2017-050W Ernie Mayer Wetland/floodplain violation, Corcoran.*

C. Adjournment. There being no further business, motion by Weir, second by Moore to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judie A. Anderson, Recording Secretary

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