

elm creek

Watershed Management Commission

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Regular Meeting Minutes April 9, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER. A meeting of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 11:40 a.m., Wednesday, April 9, 2025, in the Plymouth Community Center, 14800 34th Avenue North, Plymouth, MN, by Vice Chair Joe Trainor.

Present: Gerry Butcher, Champlin; Joe Trainor, Maple Grove; Terry Sharp, Medina; Catherine Cesnik, Plymouth; and David Katzner, Rogers.

Not represented: Corcoran and Dayton.

Also present: Steven Touney, Champlin; Lauren Letsche, Corcoran; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; Mike Albers, Rogers; Erik Megow and Diane Spector, Stantec; Rebecca Carlson, Resilience Resources; Kevin Ellis, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); and Judie Anderson, JASS.

II. AGENDA. Motion by Cesnik, second by Sharp to approve the agenda.* *Motion carried unanimously.*

Motion by Cesnik second by Butcher to approve the Consent Agenda:

Minutes of the March 12, 2025, meeting.*

April Treasurer's Report* and claims totaling \$57,765.38.

Motion carried unanimously.

III. OPEN FORUM.

IV. PROJECT REVIEWS.

A. 2025-002 Dayton Creek Addition, Dayton.* This is a 68.3-acre site located on the north and south sides of Dayton Parkway between I-94 and Brockton Lane North. The site is comprised of two parcels. Land use on the two parcels is a mixture of forested, cultivated lands, and grass lands. There is no existing impervious on the site. The parcel is located within the Rush Creek subwatershed. The applicant proposes a plan for a new development. At this time, the proposal covers only construction of a new roadway which will run north and south of existing Dayton Parkway and will add 2.25 acres of new impervious. Two stormwater BMPs and an existing pond are proposed to meet Commission requirements for the roads only. BMPs required for future phases of development will be designed later and will require review. The only element of this development currently under review is construction of the proposed roadway. The applicant also proposes private ownership and maintenance of the future BMPs. In their findings revised March 26, 2025, Staff recommendation is approval with three contingencies. Motion by

RULE D - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
RULE E - EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL
RULE F - FLOODPLAIN ALTERATION

RULE G - WETLAND ALTERATION
RULE H - BRIDGE AND CULVERT CROSSINGS
RULE I - BUFFERS

*indicates enclosure

CHAMPLIN - CORCORAN - DAYTON - MAPLE GROVE - MEDINA - PLYMOUTH - ROGERS

Cesnik, second by Butcher to approve this project with those conditions. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. 2025-011 DCM Farms, Dayton.* This is a 95.55-acre site located on the west side of Fernbrook Lane, south of 117th Avenue North. The site is comprised of two cultivated parcels, with a farmstead on each parcel. Proposed project is located mostly in the Elm Creek subwatershed, with the westernmost 19 acres in the Rush Creek Subwatershed. The applicant proposes construction of residential housing and commercial buildings. The development will include new roads and six ponds. In their findings revised March 31, 2025, Staff recommend approval with three contingencies. Motion by Cesnik, second by Sharp to approve this project per Staff's recommendations. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. 2025-013 Boston Scientific Weaver Lake 4 Expansion, Maple Grove.* This is an approximately 2.7-acre development within the Maple Grove city limits. The development is located north of Weaver Lake Road and directly east of 83rd Place North/Niagara Lane North. The proposed site is on a ~68.1-acre property, with 2.7 acres proposing to be disturbed. The new development will include a new building expansion with updated parking lot and walkways and will be constructed in an area where the existing parking lot is located. Because of the location and proposed improvements of the expansion, the proposed project will not create any new impervious surface on the site. The project only triggers the Commission's Erosion Control rule and was approved by Staff on March 28. A findings of fact memo dated March 28, 2025, is included in the meeting packet for information.

V. OLD BUSINESS.

Website Platform. Discussion of this topic has been tabled to the May meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS.

A. Motion by Trainor, second by Cesnik to accept the **2024 Annual Activity Report** pending revisions received by Friday, April 18, 2025. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. 2025 CIP. Included in the meeting packet is the **preliminary CIP*** and corresponding **Appendix As.***

The City of Dayton has proposed a revision to a project added to the CIP for 2025: a Diamond Lake drawdown/alum treatment. The revision eliminates the option for a whole lake drawdown and focuses only on alum treatment and associated SAV management and monitoring.

The City of Maple Grove requests consideration of a project to restore a reach of Rush Creek from Rush Creek Hollow to Fernbrook Lane. This is adjacent to the Rush Creek at Rush Creek Hollow project ordered in 2024.

The City of Corcoran has requested adding to the 2025 CIP cost share to purchase a new street sweeper. The Commission's Cost Share Policy allows this if the equipment provides enhanced street sweeping as a BMP. The policy provides up to 25% cost share if the equipment

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is brand new or an addition. If the request is for an upgrade, for example, replacing a simple broom sweeper with a much more efficient regenerative air sweeper, only the cost of the upgrade is eligible for cost share.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	Location	2024	2025	2025 Rec.	2026
Cost Share Program	Varies	200,000	200,000		200,000
Commission Contribution		100,000	100,000		100,000
Local Contribution		100,000	100,000		100,000
Partnership Cost-Share BMP	Varies	50,000	50,000		50,000
Commission Contribution		50,000	50,000		50,000
Rush Ck Resto Rush Hollow	Maple Grove	1,600,000			
Commission Contribution		400,000			
Local Contribution		1,200,000			
Diamond Lake Drawdown/Alum	Dayton		1,104,670 <u>660,000</u>	<u>330,000</u>	<u>330,000</u>
Commission Contribution			276,170 <u>660,000</u>	<u>330,000</u>	<u>330,000</u>
Local Contribution			828,500 <u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Rush Cr- Rush Hollow to Fernbrook</u>	<u>Maple Grove</u>		<u>800,000</u>	<u>800,000</u>	
<u>Commission Contribution</u>			<u>200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>	
<u>Local Contribution</u>			<u>600,000</u>	<u>600,000</u>	
<u>Corcoran Sweeper</u>	<u>Corcoran</u>		<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>	
<u>Commission Contribution</u>			<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	
<u>Local Contribution</u>			<u>300,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>	
Recon Bridge at Cartway & E Creek	Champlin				2,160,000
Commission Contribution					250,000
Local Contribution					1,910,000
<u>Maple Grove Sweeper</u>	<u>Maple Grove</u>				<u>400,000</u>
<u>Commission Contribution</u>					<u>100,000</u>
<u>Local Contribution</u>					<u>300,000</u>
TOTAL PROJECT COST		1,940,000	2,110,000	1,530,000	3,140,000
TOTAL COMM SHARE		572,500	1,110,000	630,000	830,000
TOTAL CITY SHARE		1,367,500	1,000,000	900,000	2,310,000

If the Commission proceeds according to the CIP as submitted, the potential levy in 2025 would be \$1.1 million, exceeding the annual \$750,000 maximum guideline. At a minimum, Staff recommends no levy in 2025 for the cost share programs as those have adequate fund balances. That would reduce the proposed levy to \$960,000. An option to consider is to levy the Diamond Lake project over two years. This would reduce the levy to \$630,000, as shown in the 2025 Recommended column.

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These CIP revisions would require a Minor Plan Amendment. If the Commission wishes to proceed, the members should proceed with the MPA process and set the next meeting, May 14, 2025, as the date to discuss the proposed Minor Plan Amendment.

Following adoption of the Minor Plan Amendment, the Commission will establish a maximum levy for 2025, and the Hennepin County Board will consider the proposed amendment and maximum levy, typically in July. The Commission will then call for a public hearing in September on the 2025 projects. If approved, the Commission would certify a levy to Hennepin County at the same time.

At their earlier meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee recommended proceeding with the projects in the 2025 Recommended column for the 2025 levy and to proceed as outlined above.

Motion by Cesnik, second by Butcher to approve this recommendation. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Hennepin County 2025-2026 Cooperative Agreement.* Ellis summarized the proposed two-year agreement which is in the amount of \$400,079. Tasks 1 and 2 include administrative tasks, conservation promotion, and technical assistance and are in the amount of \$25,000 annually. Task 3 is in an amount not to exceed \$350,980 or 80% of documented project costs, whichever is lower, and is for Rush Creek and Diamond Creek subwatershed project implementation. The agreement is still under County review and members asked that Task 3 be more fully described. Motion by Cesnik, second by Katzner to approve the agreement. *Motion carried unanimously.*

VI. FOURTH GENERATION WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.*

A. A **second draft** of the plan and the appendices is available and has been uploaded to the website at elmcreekwatershed.org/watershed-management-plan.html. It is anticipated that the draft plan should be ready to be sent out to the cities for INFORMAL review at the May meeting. This is an opportunity for cities to submit comments for consideration before the formal 60-Day Review period begins in June. Staff are also prioritizing obtaining public review and input in April-May. Members are asked to take time before the May meeting to read the documents and note their questions and comments. They can be forwarded to the Administrative office at any time.

B. Rules. Two TAC members volunteered to review the proposed housekeeping changes to the Rules and pointed out provisions that they'd like to discuss further. They are included in Staff's April 3, 2025, memo. The marked-up rules are available at [Minutes & Meeting Packets - Elm Creek Watershed](#).

C. CAC Meetings. Staff have met with the Dayton Parks and Recreation Commission. Five more meetings are scheduled in April, with the final meeting scheduled for May 13 in Medina. CAC members are encouraged to use the comment form on the website to convey questions and input.

D. Public Survey. As part of the public outreach for the Plan, an online survey will be made available. Included in the meeting presentation is a rough draft of some survey questions. Members were asked to review and suggest revisions or other questions for inclusion. Many valuable comments were made and additional questions suggested at the meeting.

VII. WATER QUALITY.

VIII. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES.

IX. EDUCATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH.

A. Grace Barcelow’s April Update was not available for the meeting.

B. West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) will meet via Zoom at 8:30 a.m., May 13, 2025.

X. COMMUNICATIONS.

A. Staff Report.* The Staff Report provides updates on the development projects currently under review by Staff.

B. Hennepin County Staff Report.*

1. Bottema Wetland Restoration. Staff are awaiting a Hennepin County Board Action decision later in April on a budget amendment for an extended deadline and an additional \$20,000 budget for the project to provide construction contingency and additional funds for seeding. Seeding will be done on areas that were not well established in 2023-2024. Final construction on this project is still projected to occur later this spring or early summer.

2. Christian Sediment Basin. The Contractor has finished work on the basin. Hennepin County staff are currently scheduling a time for the technical assistance provider to perform an inspection on the earthwork and rip rap that has been completed. Once approved, seeding will take place later in the Spring and the project will be fully inspected and closed out.

3. The Project Funding Table and other **County programming** complete the report.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS.

The Commissioners were reminded of **appointments**. Unless otherwise noted in their Cities’ resolutions, these appointments are for one year and must be renewed annually. Appointments have been received from Maple Grove, Medina, and Plymouth.

XII. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judie A. Anderson
Recording Secretary

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