

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
VLAWMO

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December 19, 2007

ATTENDING:

Donna Carlson	Lino Lakes
Marc Johanson	Vadnais Heights
Darryl LeMire	White Bear Lake
Bill Mample	White Bear Township

Member Absent: Representatives from City of North Oaks and the City of Gem Lake.

Also Attending: Paul Peterson, TC, WBT; Mark Sather, WBL City Manager, Stephanie McNamara, Kristine Lampert.

Darryl LeMire, Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Agenda A motion was made by Johannsen & seconded by Mample to approve the agenda as printed. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Minutes A motion was made by Mample & seconded by Johannsen to approve the October 4, 2007 minutes as printed. Vote: all aye. Motion passed. A motion was made by Mample & seconded by Carlson to approve the October 24, 2007 minutes as printed. Vote: All aye. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report Stephanie summarized the report and explained that the report before the Board was not a year-end statement; just an up to date report. There will be some more payments before the end of the year. A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Mample to accept the Treasurer's Report. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Old Business

A. Water Plan

Approval of final Water Plan – Stephanie said that the Water Plan was approved as presented by BWSR at their December 19, 2007 meeting. At this time, the Board needs to make a Resolution to formally adopt the Water Plan.

A motion was made by Johannsen and seconded by Mample to approve Resolution No. 02-2007: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE THIRD GENERATION WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN TO BE DATED DECEMBER 2007.

Vote: All aye. Resolution Passed.

New Business

A. Resolution certifying delinquent fees to Anoka and Ramsey Counties

Kristine summarized the final report of the Stormwater Utility Fee payments and the Certification report which now needs to go to Anoka and Ramsey Counties. A motion was made by Johannsen and seconded by Mample to approve Resolution No. 03-2007: A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID SERVICE CHARGES TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO BE SPREAD ON REAL ESTATE TAXES PAYABLE IN 2008.

Discussion: Mark Sather, City Manager for WBL questioned certifying the \$4.00 late fees due to the confusion that he encountered with WBL residents. He suggests forgiving all late fees for 2008 due to the lack of prior information to residents and the short time frame for payment. Johannsen said that we can look at this for next year but it is too late to make changes at this time. This was the process the Board agreed to before the bills were sent out. The majority of the people have paid and those that paid late did in fact pay their late fees up front. Mample stated that he feels we should be lenient this year. Johannsen said we need to be fair and even handed with everyone. Johannsen said the bill was clear about due dates and dollar amounts due. Carlson said she could see that many people would find it confusing. Johannsen offers a compromise that we do not certify those who didn't pay their late fee but include it with their bill for 2009.

Ammended motion made by Johannsen and seconded by Mample to approve Resolution No. 003-2007 with the removal of those parcels which were going to be certified for their late fees only and to include those late fees on their bill for 2009. Vote: All aye. Resolution passed.

All Directors agree that seems like a good compromise.

B. Designate interim officers and signers

There are only 2 Directors who are continuing on the VLAWMO Board for 2009. Stephanie requests that the 2 remaining Directors take on Officer roles until the new Directors start. Both Mample and Johannsen agree to fill Officer roles such as signing checks and Chairing the meetings until the new Board is in place.

C. Direction for audit approval

VLAWMO received a proposal from our current auditor that is significantly higher than what was expected. They are the auditor for other watersheds. Stephanie said she can look for other proposals if the Board wants her to or the Board can let her move forward with the current proposal but would have to shift money in the budget to cover the higher costs.

The Board directed Stephanie to ask for other proposals (Carlson suggested 2 more) and they can address this matter at a later meeting.

D. Other

Paul Peterson wanted to speak about the SWU billing structure. He asked the Board if they have considered going to the Legislature to request VLAWMO be included with other watershed districts so that we can use County Property Taxes

for our initial billings rather than handling over 10,000 bills with our small staff. Mample stated that he has spoken with the two representatives in this area and they know it is an issue for VLAWMO. Johannsen stated that they have learned that State Senator John Marty, who represents this area, was particularly against it. Peterson said that one of Marty's complaints was not having elected officials on the Board and we have since changed that. LeMire stated that it will be up to the next Board to move on this.

Administration Report

Stephanie showed pictures of the construction that is taking place on Lambert Creek. She explained the work that has been done and what will still be done. Hopefully all will be done by Friday or the Contractor starts to lose money and they are aware of that. Kristine is working on redoing the website including contact information for the Directors and many other additions to update and modernize the website.

Directors Reports

Carlson stated John Bergeson will replace Carlson until a formal appointment is made. Johannsen wishes everyone a happy holiday and that he enjoys serving the board.

Mample seconds that.

LeMire said he is leaving and he is fine with that. And Happy Holidays.

Next Meeting Date – Tentative date (pending new Directors schedules) of February 13, 2008 at 7pm.

Public Comment

Adjourn

There was a Motion to adjourn made by Mample and seconded by Johannsen. Vote all Aye. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Submitted by Kristine Lampert