

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION**  
800 East County Road E, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127; 651.204-6070; office@vlawmo.org

February 18, 2009

**ATTENDING:**

*absent*

Marty Long

*absent*

Marc Johannsen

Dan Jones

Bill Mample

Gem Lake

North Oaks

Lino Lakes

Vadnais Heights

White Bear Lake

White Bear Township

Stephanie McNamara

Kristine Lampert

Brian Corcoran

VLAWMO Administrator

VLAWMO Project Coordinator

VLAWMO Water Resources Technician

**I.** Call to Order was made at 7:00 pm by Chair Johannsen.

**II.** Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Long & seconded by Mample to approve the agenda as amended. Discussion: Jones requested to add the topic of Lily Pond in WBL. Johannsen asked to move up the Election of Officers as well. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**III.** Introduction of new Board

Johannsen welcomed the new Director from North Oaks, Marty Long.

**IV.** Approval of November 19, 2008 Minutes

Jones moved to approve, Mample seconded, all aye

**V.** Treasurer's Report to the Board

**A.** 2008 Summary and carry over funds – Stephanie explained that there was carry-over of certain line items such as CIP. VLAWMO was under budget on most of the categories. All storm sewer utility fees were certified for 2009. The Boundary Change petition has been noticed and the BWSR Board will consider it their meeting in March.

**B.** 2009 Budget – Stephanie reviewed the budget including the amendments made in November.

**C.** 2008 Audit – The auditors have been here and are processing it now. No significant findings are anticipated.

\*\*Director Dan Jones requested discussion on the effect of stormwater redirection has on existing storm ponds. Lily Lake is in White Bear Lake but not in VLAWMO. Residents want to keep their pond. With road reconstruction, less runoff may go into the pond and the residents are upset because they feel their homes will lose value and have talked about suing to send the runoff water into Lily Lake. Jones asked for the others if they have faced anything similar and for their insight.

Mample stated that the Township faced a similar issue and the homeowners needed to be educated on how these ponds work and that they do go up and down. Stephanie indicated that if the watershed/City is following established standards and applicable laws, the liability risk should be less.

## **VI. Technical Commission Report to the Board**

- A.** Summary of 2008 activity. All established goals for the year had been met. Additional opportunities had been pursued.
- B.** Recommended 2009 Work Plan was accepted without comment.
- C.** New reporting form – Stephanie discussed the form that was created to effectively communicate activities to the Board. Stephanie asked the BOD for comment. Jones liked the format and it was agreed that they liked it was kept to 2 pages.

## **VII. New Business**

**A.** 2009 meeting dates and Board calendar – Johannsen stated that traditionally the BOD meets quarterly and there has been discussion that perhaps the BOD should meet every other month. One option could be that we schedule the quarterly meetings but then call a special meeting if needed. Jones would rather meet every other month to help staff with the work that needs to be done. Mample and Johannsen expressed support for this. Discussion that Johannsen could cancel a meeting if there was no agenda. Jones moved to have BOD meetings every other month, seconded by Mample according to the calendar proposed by VLAWMO. All aye.

**B.** Adoption of State of MN Retention Policy – A motion was made by Jones, seconded by Mample to adopt the document retention policy as outlined by the State of Minnesota. All aye.

### **C. Other**

Office Lease. The City of Vadnais Heights has drafted a new lease for VLAWMO to accommodate the growing staff and storage needs. They the rent has increase about 65% including a new equipment overhead fee, but is still quite low compared to commercial rates. There is a graduated increase built into the lease over the next three years. Discussion that the annual increases seem pretty high but agreed that it is still a good deal. A motion was made by Mample, seconded by Jones to approve the office lease with Vadnais Heights.

## **VIII. Annual Meeting business**

**A.** Legal counsel consideration – Concern that we use the same lawyer as the City of WBL which could cause a conflict of interest. Stephanie asked for direction to pursue other firms. The Board so directed.

**B.** Designation of depository & legal notice publication – US Bank has been our bank for many years and it has been a good fiscal partner. VLAWMO moved its operating capital the 4M Fund, similar to the communities in the watershed. This allow VLAWMO to earn interest on its ‘checking account’ funds. A motion was made by Mample, seconded by Long to designate US Bank and the Minnesota Municipal Money Market as the VLAWMO depository and Press Publications as our Publication for legal notices.

**C.** Election of officers

Jones moved to elect Johannsen as Chair, seconded by Mample (3-0-1, Johannsen abstained)

Mample moved to elect Jones as Vice Chair, seconded by Johannsen (3-0-1, Jones abstained)

Jones moved to elect Mample as Secretary/Treasurer, seconded by Johannsen (3-0-1, Mample abstained)

Mample moved to elect Long as a liaison to the TEC, seconded by Jones (3-0-1, Long abstained)

**D. Appointments -**

1. Chair of Technical Commission - Johannsen/Mample appoint Paul Peterson as Chair of the Technical Commission.
2. The Policy and Personnel Committee – Mample/ Long moved to continue the appointments of Marc Johannsen and Dan Jones from the Board and Mark Graham from the TEC. Stephanie will send out meeting date possibilities for this committee.
3. Finance & Audit - Johannsen nominated/seconded by Jones to appoint Treasurer Bill Mample and Neil Franey, Finance officer from the TEC. Robert Uzpen will be asked for interest and willingness to serve on this committee.

**IX.** Administration Report no topics not already covered.

**X.** Directors Reports – Johannsen asked that the topic of road salt be discussed at a future meeting.

**XI.** Next meeting date: \_April 15, 2009.

**XII.** Public Comment - none

**XIII.** Adjourn Long/Jones move to adjourn at 8:03pm.