

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

April 15, 2009

ATTENDING:

Robert Uzpen	Gem Lake
Marty Long	North Oaks
<i>absent</i>	Lino Lakes
Marc Johannsen	Vadnais Heights
Dan Jones	White Bear Lake
Bill Mample (arrived at 7:27pm)	White Bear Township

Stephanie McNamara	VLAWMO Administrator
Kristine Lampert	VLAWMO Project Coordinator
Brian Corcoran	VLAWMO Water Resources Technician

Also in attendance: Neil Franey, TEC; Tom Peterson, TEC

- I.** Call to Order was made at 7:01 pm by Chair Johannsen.
- II.** Approval of Agenda
A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Long to approve the agenda as amended.
Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- III.** Introduction of new Board
Chair Johannsen welcomed Director Uzpen from Gem Lake to the Board.
- IV.** Approval of February 18, 2009 Minutes
Jones moved to approve, Long seconded, all aye
- V.** Treasurer's Report to the Board – Stephanie reviewed the April report.
 - A.** 2008 Audit – there were a few findings but nothing significant. The report was handed out
 - B.** Draft 2010 Budget – Stephanie reviewed the draft. The Board directed Stephanie to make recommendations of where cuts could be made, if necessary but commended staff for keeping the increase under 12% even with the addition of a new staff person. Board also directed staff to generate a draft 2010 budget with no increase over the 2009 budget.
- VI.** Technical Commission Report to the Board
 - A.** Summary of recent activity – Stephanie reviewed the latest report.
 - B.** Acceptance of proposal to complete Whitaker pond restoration engineering – Stephanie reviewed the proposal. It was moved by Director Uzpen, seconded by Director Jones to accept the proposal from EOR to do final design engineering on Whitaker pond, construction oversight for \$44, 200; as well production of specifications and bid documents and construction observation for the installation of flume at a cost of \$8,800 as submitted. All aye. Motion passed.

VII. New Business

A. Boundary Change legal description – JPA amendment

Stevens Engineering submitted a proposal to complete an updated legal description of the VLAWMO watershed area. This will be submitted to the communities as an amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). It was moved by Long, seconded by Jones to accept the proposal from Stevens Engineering to produce a new legal description with costs NOT TO EXCEED \$2850, including reimbursable expenses. Mample adds that he thinks it should be sent to legal counsel for review.

It was moved and seconded by Mample/Long – to send it on to the communities once it is completed as an amendment to the JPA.

B. Adoption of new policies

1. Policy Framework

2. Stormwater Standards Long requests a Executive Summary. Johannsen suggests it be reviewed by Legal. Motion to approve Uzpen/Mample, pending review by legal counsel. All Aye.

3. Employee Handbook – Personnel committee recommends approval of the handbook. Long/Jones – motion to approve employee handbook.

4. Information Technology – Has been reviewed by the personnel committee and recommends approval. Mample/Uzpen move to approve.

C. Storm Sewer Utility(SSU) – request from churches

We have received requests from a couple of churches who do not have it budgeted to pay for SSU fees and would like the Board to revisit the SSU Credit Policy. If the draft SSU Best Management Practice credit policy is adopted, property owners could be eligible for up to a 50% reduction in their fees. Mample – don't believe in exempting them. Johannsen said he is open to looking into the credit policy but that the Board previously agreed that VLAWMO needs to build up their reserves before implementing any credit policy. Johannsen directed staff to start looking at the credit policy again. Long mentioned the LEED program and perhaps VLAWMO could implement a similar program. Johannsen said that if we reduce fees for certain people, the others end up paying more to cover. Jones said that he doesn't think there should be a credit program because it's there are public property such as roads which we all use. Jones asked us to do a comparison of three businesses and three churches against what VLAWMO would charge vs. Rice Creek or RWMWD. Johannsen said that a study was done when we started the SSU program and it was shown that the other watershed districts charge 2-3x more than VLAWMO. Johannsen says we can make a strong case for what we charge and how we charge. The difference is that RWMWD and RCWD are based on a tax levy and churches don't pay taxes so they don't support their watershed. Johannsen said that we could tell them that we don't have a policy as of now and it will be something that we may review in the future and that they are welcome to come to one of the Board meetings to discuss further. VLAWMO staff to email a list to BOD of the churches in VLAWMO and non-profits.

D. Consultant use discussion/direction – tabled to the next meeting.

E. Other

- VIII.** Administration Report
- IX.** Directors Reports
- X.** Next meeting date: June 17, 2009.
- XI.** Public Comment - none
- XII.** Adjourn Long/Mample move to adjourn at 8:20pm.