

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 21, 2010

ATTENDING:

Robert Uzpen	Gem Lake
Rob Rafferty	Lino Lakes
Beth Cliffe	North Oaks - alternate
Marc Johannsen	Vadnais Heights
Dan Jones	White Bear Lake
<i>Absent</i>	White Bear Township

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

Others in attendance: Chris Mann VLAWMO TEC

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

II. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Uzpen & seconded by Rafferty to approve the agenda. Vote: all aye.
Motion passed.

III. Approval of February 24, 2010 Minutes

A motion was made by Uzpen & seconded by Johannsen to approve the February 24, 2010 Meeting Minutes. Vote: 3 aye; 1 abstain (Rafferty). Motion passed.

IV. Technical Commission Report to the Board

Chris Mann, TEC, presented the report to the Board.

a. Activity Summary

i. Whitaker Pond construction, monitoring & planting

The project is 85% complete. Johannsen suggests that VLAWMO do some public relations for this project once it is complete to promote VLAWMO. He suggests an Open House event and news releases.

ii. 3 small grants have been secured to enhance this project – Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for native vegetation (75% - 25% match), MN Conservation Corps (two days of crew time – staff in-kind match), Upper Mississippi River Source Water Protection Project (UMRSWPP) to help with monitoring

iii. Birch Lake pilot project restoration

Staff is working with the stakeholders to do a spring installation of the pilot project on the northwest shore. A second native vegetation grant is funding the planting materials.

iv. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Lambert Creek, Gem, Gilfillan, Goose, & Wilkinson Lakes

Stephanie met with the MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) recently, along with our consultant Rebecca Kluckhohn from Wenck to discuss the work plan and budget issues. Strategies are being formed to get the work done with the available funding. An updated work plan will be submitted.

v. Several community events and planting projects

b. Financial Summary

V. Treasurer's Report

- a. Draft Budget – 2011 - introduction
The draft shows a 2% increase. The Board should review it and be prepared to act on in June.
- b. April Financial Report was accepted.

VI. New Business

- a. Designation of Legal Counsel

We sent out a notice of seeking representation. We received proposals from 2 firms. Stephanie recommends the Board appoints Kennedy & Graven due to their experience with other watershed districts. Additionally, their attorney Charlie LeFevere knows water law and has worked with VLAWMO with our Storm Sewer Utility law. Discussion among the Board shows support of the recommendation A motion was made by Uzpen & seconded by Jones to appoint Kennedy & Graven as Legal Counsel. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

- b. 2009 Annual Report – approval and direct distribution

The only comment was a name correction by Marc Johannsen.

A motion was made by Jones & Uzpen seconded by to authorize the Board to submit the 2009 Annual Report, as amended, to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

- c. Request for alternative buffer standards – Labore Rd site

A motion was made by Cliffe & seconded by Uzpen to table this item due to the request being rescinded.

VII. Report from the Chair – no report

VIII. Administrator’s Report

VLAWMO will look into planning a tour later in the summer to show some of our projects and orient new members to VLAWMO projects. May 3rd our summer intern, Eric Iverson will begin.

IX. Directors Reports

Uzpen asked about annual audits. VLAWMO does have an annual audit and our findings have generally been that due to our small organization, we have limited segregation of duties. We do the best we can with the limited staff size. Cliffe stated that North Oaks gets the same findings due to their small staff size.

Jones asked Stephanie to discuss the Birch Lake Restoration project. This project is for about 125 feet of shoreline restoration and has been moving forward. We have secured a native vegetation grant and committed some VLAWMO money. The total budget is approximately \$21,000. The Birch Lake Improvement District will give \$3000. With VLAWMO’s money, we are still \$5826 short. Jones will bring it to White Bear Lake and will support this project. The Board supports the idea of WBL paying the remainder of the budget and would like Jones to pursue buy-in from the City of WBL.

Uzpen asked about the parcel of land on the border of VLAWMO that is listed with RWMWD and requested that a drainage study be done to prove that the parcel is indeed in RWMWD rather than VLAWMO. Stephanie stated that Barr Engineering did an intensive study on the boundary for RWMWD and will ask them for the information regarding that parcel.

X. Next meeting date: June 16th in Lakes Room at VH City Hall

XI. Public Comment –

XII. Adjourn

A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Uzpen to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Kristine Jensen.