

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

August 26, 2008

ATTENDING:

Hutch Schilling	Gem Lake
George Rux	North Oaks
John Bergeson- absent	Lino Lakes
Mark Johannsen	Vadnais Heights
Dan Jones	White Bear Lake
Bill Mample	White Bear Township

Stephanie McNamara	VLAWMO Administrator
Brian Corcoran	VLAWMO Intern
Brian Henderson	VLAWMO Intern

Also present: Terry Noonan Ramsey County Public Works

Business Meeting

- I.** Call to Order was made at 5:02 pm by Chair Johannsen.
- II.** Agenda
 - A motion was made by Johannsen & seconded by Schilling to approve the agenda as printed. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- III.** Treasurer Report
 - A.** 2nd Quarter Report
 - A motion was made by Mample & seconded Jones by to receive the 2nd Quarter Financial Report. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- IV.** Consent Agenda
 - A.** Approval of minutes from June 30, 2008 & documentation of the August 13, 2008 meetings.
 - A motion was made by Schilling & seconded by Mample to approve the consent agenda. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- V.** Old Business
 - A.** Watershed Boundary Adjustments Update
 1. Concurrence from all the communities and watersheds should be approved after the Gem Lake meeting tonight. Once the concurrence statements have been received the complete Petitions will be forwarded to the Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR).
 2. Amendment to the JPA. The Board felt the amendment to the JPA updating the legal description should be sent to the members for approval contingent upon BWSR approval of the boundary changes. This will expedite completion of the process.

3. The timeline was discussed. Approval at the October 22nd meeting will only be possible if BWSR has complied with the statutory notice requirements (two notices in the local paper + 60 days). The next BWSR meeting is in early December. The 2009 Storm Sewer Utility Certification to the counties must take place by November 30, 2008. Timing will require VLAWMO to use the current parcel list as the new list will not yet be approved. Director Mample asked if using old (current) boundary will expose VLAWMO to risk of lawsuit or other action because the watershed will be certifying an SSU fees using the 'old' parcel list that will be changing sometime before or during 2009. McNamara responded that VLAWMO will be using a current legal boundary at the time of certification, however that question could be posed to the VLAWMO attorney. The Board so directed.

VI. New Business

A. Storm Sewer Utility (SSU)

1. Credit Policy. After discussion the Board deferred action on the proposed credit policy. VLAWMO reserves are considered too low at this to time (roughly 38% of the annual budget) to refund a portion of main watershed revenue source.
2. The rate analysis done by Jeanne Vogt, Ehlers and Associates was received. Residential lots, 1 -3 units will pay \$24.72. A motion was made by Schilling & seconded by Rux to approve the Storm Sewer Utility Rate for 2009 as identified in the Ehlers report of 8/13/08 to fund the 2009 VLAWMO budget. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

- B. W Vadnais outlet project – Wetland conservation Act amendment. The channel providing an outlet to West Vadnais Lake is being constructed. The original approval was September 2004 for 620 square feet of wetland impact with 1400 square feet of on-site mitigation. This amendment to the original plan will change the impact area to 700 SF, increasing the length of the channel to 87 feet, but only 8 feet wide. A motion was made by Rux & seconded by Jones to approve the Wetland Conservation Act West Vadnais outlet amendment as submitted with the condition of receiving construction plan sheets showing the change. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

- C. Cost Share Policy Updates – discussion of changes approved at the Technical Commission meeting, no action needed.

- D. Personnel recommendations – Chair Johannsen presented the recommendation of the Policy and Personnel Committee. A salary and vacation benefit adjustment for the administrator is being recommended by the Committee, with the personnel evaluation to be filed. A motion was made by Rux & seconded by Mample to approve modification in salary and vacation benefits as per the Personnel and Policy Committee memo dated August 13, 2008. The modification will be retroactive from January 1, 2008. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

- E. Wetland Conservation Act – Discussion included an upcoming large replacement plan and four current enforcement actions.

VII. Administration Report –

- a. Partnership Summit will be September 25, 2008. The Board is encouraged to come.
- b. The Whitaker pond feasibility report was received by the Technical Commission. The administrator highlighted the findings, alternative analysis and associated costs. The Board felt VLAWMO should not be avoiding the more critical sediment (tier 2 or 3 ‘hot spots’) because of expensive and difficult disposal. Direction from the Board: pursue additional cost information to be presented to the Technical Commission; hold another stakeholder meeting with additional information and bring funding options to the November Board meeting.

VIII. Director’s Reports Dan Jones noted the Governors Fishing opener will be held in White Bear Lake next May. He suggested VLAWMO might like to be a part of the activities surrounding the event. After discussion, the Board felt VLAWMO could have an educational role, focusing on children of all ages. Exploring ‘bugs’ and ‘muck’ can heighten awareness and appreciation for the importance of water resources.

IX. Next Meeting Date: November 19, 2008

X. Public Comment

XI. Adjourn

A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Rux to adjourn at 6:08 pm. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled by Brian Henderson & Stephanie McNamara.