

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

October 21, 2009

ATTENDING:

Robert Uzpen
absent
Marty Long
Marc Johannsen
Dan Jones
Bill Mample

Gem Lake
Lino Lakes
North Oaks
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 7:01 pm by Chair Johannsen.

II. Approval of Agenda

A request was made by Stephanie to add the following items to the agenda: V.b. Treasurer's Report – Approval of mid-month expenses and VI.f. Approval of NEMO Charter.

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

III. Approval of August 19, 2009 Minutes

A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Mample to approve the August 19, 2009. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

IV. Technical Commission Report to the Board

Paul Peterson, TEC Chair, reviewed the TEC Report and gave an update on some actions they have taken over the last couple months.

V. Treasurer's Report

A. 2010 Funding Shift

Stephanie reviewed the 2010 budget and found that we had under budgeted the cost of implementing the Storm Sewer Utility program. Stephanie is asking the Board for direction – to shift funds out of the 2010 Consultant line item to cover the anticipated red ink or to just take it from our Reserves and let that line item go “in the red”. Mample and Johannsen expressed that they think it should be adjusted so that our budget accurately reflects the planned spending. The planned spending is expected to go down.

A motion was made by Mample & seconded by Uzpen to shift to \$3000 from the Reserves to the line item for SSU program in the 2010 budget to cover the anticipated cost of implementing the SSU program. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. Treasurer's Report – Approval of mid-month expenses

Three expense items have come up that cannot or should not wait until the next TEC meeting on 11/13. Two are registrations, for a NEMO Watershed Training Class (\$35) and for the BWSR Academy (\$180) for Kris and Stephanie to attend a 3 day training in Brainerd. The other is \$550.40 to Wenck for the final payment for the Gilfillan Water Budget Report.

A motion was made by Mample & seconded by Uzpen to approve payment of the mid-month expenses. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

VI. New Business

A. 2010 Storm Sewer Utility Certification Approval

A motion was made by Mample & seconded by Jones to adopt Resolution 03-2009 (attached): A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING STORM SEWER UTILITY CHARGES TO THE COUNT AUDITOR TO BE SPREAD ON REAL ESTATE TAXES PAYABLE IN 2010. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. Whitaker Pond

1. Engineered plans, timeline & TEC recommendation
2. Whitaker Pond Project & Maintenance Agreement

A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Mample to adopt Resolution 04-2009 (attached): A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AGREEMENT WITH WHITAKER POND PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS, RAMSEY COUNTY, WHITE BEAR TOWNSHIP AND WHITE BEAR LAKE, TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN THE WHITAKER STORMWATER PROJECT. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

3. Authorization to let construction bid.

A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Mample to adopt Resolution 05-2009 (attached): AUTHORIZATION FOR THE ADVERTISEMENT OF BIDS AND CONTRACT AWARD TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BID CONTRACTOR FOR THE WHITAKER POND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

C. TMDL Work Plan amended to include Impaired lakes.

Four of VLAWMO's lakes have been put on the PCA list of Impaired Waters and it was suggested that VLAWMO include them with the TMDL work plan which was currently being crafted for Lambert Creek.

A motion was made by Mample & seconded by Uzpen to adopt Resolution 06-2009 (attached): APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) WORK PLAN. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

D. Grant Applications – scope & costs

Kristine reported that October is known as “money month” in that it is the time of year that grant opportunities are available from the PCA and BWSR. There are 4 grant opportunities being pursued at this time.

PCA Clean Water Partnership – done in conjunction with the Ramsey Conservation District. It would be used to study where to best place and use BMPs such as raingardens or streambank restoration in the Lambert Creek subwatershed to reduce degradation of the water along with some template designs which could be presented to homeowners to help implement the project. Application has been submitted with a request of \$15,000.

BWSR Clean Water Assistance – would be used to aid in a lakeshore restoration project on the northwest side of Birch Lake. Would be a partnership with VLAWMO, City of White Bear Lake and the Birch Lake Improvement District (BLID). Application due 12/1 and a best guess request estimate is \$50,000.

BWSR Runoff Reduction Grant – would be used on a streambank restoration on Lambert Creek in Vadnais Heights. A survey done with Wenck this summer found that this particular area was of high concern for erosion issues. Kristine is working with Ed Mathieson at Wenck to develop a design for restoration and apply for funding. Application due 12/1 and best guess estimate for the request is \$50,000.

PCA Surface Water Assessment Grant – would be used to implement a biota monitoring program on Lambert Creek. Kristine is working with Lorin Hatch at HDR to design the program and apply for funding. Application is due 11/6 and best guess estimate for the request is \$10,000.

E. Watershed Boundary Change

1. JPA Legal Description Amendment – status in the communities

White Bear Lake still needs to approve the amendment. Once that is completed, the Board of Rice Creek Watershed District is ready to vote its approval of the change and then it goes to BWSR.

2. Missing 98 and the petition to amend

A motion was made by Uzpen & seconded by Jones to adopt Resolution 07-2009 (attached): AMENDMENT TO THE PETITION FOR AN ORDER CHANGING THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT AND VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

F. Approval of NEMO Charter – Recommended

NEMO is Nonpoint Stormwater Education for Municipal Officials and is coordinated through the University of Minnesota Extension and a steering committee. This year they have adopted a charter for the first time to ensure that science based training of municipal officials (Planning, City Council, Environmental Commission, staff, etc.) is being used in a consistent way by the membership. There is no cost to sign the charter. VLAWMO has put \$2000 in the 2010 budget to support the program and materials. Stephanie has been attending Steering Committee meetings for the last 2 years. Local NEMO partners are essential to its health for the grass-roots input, the effort and local trainers and providing some of the support.

A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Uzpen to approve the signing of the NEMO Charter. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

VII. Report from the Chair – none

VIII. Administrator's Report – Stephanie stated that the PCA will be touring sites in VLAWMO on October 30th. Johannsen stated he will be able to join. Additionally there are conferences and training starting next week and lasting through the beginning of December. Stephanie will also be requesting a meeting of the Policy Committee in the near future.

IX. Directors Reports – Mample thanked Jones for his work on the Whitaker Pond project and having the stakeholders look at the project in a different light. Because of that, Mample feels we will have a better project that will be more sustainable and effective.

X. Next meeting date: December 16

XI. Public Comment – none

XII. Adjourn

A motion was made by Mample & seconded by Jones to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Vote: all aye.
Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Kristine Lampert