

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

November 19, 2008

ATTENDING:

Hutch Schilling	Gem Lake
George Rux	North Oaks
<i>absent</i>	Lino Lakes
Mark Johannsen	Vadnais Heights
Dan Jones	White Bear Lake
Bill Mample	White Bear Township
Stephanie McNamara	VLAWMO Administrator
Kristine Lampert	VLAWMO Project Coordinator

Other in attendance: Jeanne Vogt and Shelly Eldridge, Ehlers & Associates

- I.** Call to Order was made at 7:03 pm by Chair Johannsen. Johannsen notes that the Lino Lakes representative has missed all of the regular VLAWMO Board meetings for 2008.
- II.** Agenda
A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Mample to approve the agenda as printed. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- III.** Treasurer Report
3rd Quarter Report was included with Board packets and reviewed by the Board. Johannsen asked if there is money that will be carried over. McNamara stated that there would be carry over for projects.
- IV.** Consent Agenda
Approval of minutes from August 26, 2008
A motion was made by Jones & seconded by Mample to approve the consent agenda. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- V.** Old Business
Whitaker Pond – stakeholder meeting update
VLAWMO received a feasibility report from EOR engineering regarding this project. VLAWMO has some CIP money budgeted for Goose Lake however the TEC has recommended that \$40,000 be moved to this project as Goose Lake is the headwaters of Lambert Creek. There is no money budgeted in 2009 for Whitaker. There is 2009 money set aside for SLMP implementation as well as TMDL work. Direction from the Board is requested for how much money VLAWMO should set aside for Whitaker Pond. Administration’s recommendation is to have VLAWMO putting up

50% of the money. There is a stakeholders meeting in December to develop an agreement for this project and future maintenance. Mample states that we could put the money into a General Fund rather than to a dedicated account. Jones supports Mample's suggestion but states that Ramsey County seems to not be willing to come to the table to take part in this project. Jones and Mample will be at the stakeholders meeting and the Board would like to have County Commissioners at the stakeholder meeting as well. Schilling proposes a formula that VLAWMO takes 50% of the cost and the other stakeholders share the rest in a weighted scale.

A motion made by Mample and seconded by Jones to move \$40,000 from the Goose Lake CIP to the General Fund and to reallocate the funding once a project is finalized. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

VI. New Business

A. Storm Sewer Utility (SSU)

2009 Fee Certification to the Counties – Jeanne Vogt reviewed the changes that have occurred in 2008 and the determination of 2009 SSU rates. Resolutions 04-2008 and 05-2008 will need to be acted on tonight so that the SSU fees can be certified to the Counties.

A motion made by Schilling and seconded by Mample to approve Resolution 04-2008. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

A motion made by Jones and seconded by Mample to approve Resolution 05-2008. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Vogt discussed the reapportionment issue. Due to partial splits and combinations throughout the year, current year fees may need to be adjusted. Vogt stated that the Board needs to decide how to handle the reapportionments or direct VLAWMO staff to handle this issue. Mample raised the issue of a credit system. VLAWMO has a draft credit policy but the Board decided that they would let the SSU fees run another year before tackling the credit policy.

B. Board/TEC Workshop

McNamara discussed the idea of having a workshop with Board/TEC members to learn about NEMO and Stormwater U. Discussion regarding hosting multiple events for the focus groups (City Engineers, developers, homeowners). Board shows consensus that VLAWMO should continue public education with focus on school age (middle school) education. Schilling suggests putting more energy into website material that we can direct people to. Jones suggests that if VLAWMO does a homeowners information session that it be held on a Saturday to allow for more people to show up. Johannsen agrees with more website work and touting it to the public. Direction from the Board: look into targeted focus groups and if another person is hired then more time can be spent on public education outreach.

C. Employee Handbook

Johannsen stated that there is a draft Employee Handbook and IT policy. Board is directed to review and comment by the end of the year in order to be voted on at the February Board meeting.

D. Personnel recommendation – Stephanie McNamara

Johannsen states that McNamara has proposed hiring a 3rd position (Water Resources Technician). Johannsen recommends that the Board defer to Stephanie to check on job posting rules for public employees.

McNamara stated that VLAWMO kept one of the summer interns through the fall due to the work load. The intern's work allowed VLAWMO to meet some crucial deadlines for the State and has allowed for much more work to be completed. Our intern is interested in applying for the position if the Board approves the resolution to hire a Water Resources Technician. Productivity has gone up and there continues to be a heavy workload in the upcoming years.

A motion made by Schilling and seconded by Jones to approve Resolution 06-2008. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

VII. Administration Report –

A. Watershed Boundary Petition

All concurrences have been submitted to VLAWMO and Johannsen will be signing the application that will then be submitted to BWSR.

B. Stormwater and wetland draft rules

The rules will be written and will be presented at the February meeting for approval.

C. Grants requests summary

VLAWMO has applied for four grants and we are waiting for responses.

Johannsen has asked that VLAWMO look to be on any advisory board created for the new Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Act Legislation.

There is a meeting on December 19th for this. Johannsen thinks

McNamara should be at the meeting and one of the Board members as well. McNamara will follow up with the Board.

D. Annual Meeting

Direction is given from the Board to write letters to the communities who have gotten new elected officials so that they appoint people to the Board and Technical Committee.

VIII. Director's Reports

Jones asks if the Board is meeting frequently enough. Jones suggests that the Board go to an every other monthly meeting rather than quarterly. Johannsen states that this should be discussed at the February meeting where we will determine the meeting dates for the rest of 2009.

IX. Next Meeting Date: February 18, 2009

X. Public Comment

XI. Adjourn

A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Rux to adjourn at 8:25pm.

Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled by Kristine Lampert.