

**Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Technical Commission
Minutes
March 28, 2007**

Attending:

Paul Peterson,	White Bear Township, Chair
Neil Franey,	White Bear Lake
Donn Wiski,	Vadnais Heights, alternate
	Lino Lakes
Gretchen Artig-Swomley,	Gem Lake
John Youngstrom,	North Oaks

Others in attendance: Kristine Lampert, Brad Kuen, Heraeus; Eric Meyer, Larson Engineer, John Blackstone, SPRWS; Leanne Lemire, Water Monitoring Coordinator.

Water Matters – Leanne Lemire presented the 2006 Citizen’s Lake Monitoring Program report. This was the 10th year of the volunteer monitoring program. One new basin, West Goose Lake, transferring analysis to the Ramsey County lab and new volunteers were added last year. A training session for working with the new sampling procedures was held in the spring. Volunteers were thanked with a new VLAWMO polo shirt. There was an article in Press publications. Further review of results will be needed and are anticipated in association with the modeling. Secchi readings will still need to be added to the report.

Agenda Paul Peterson called the meeting to order with introductions added as 2 A as. A motion was made by Donn Wiski and seconded by Neil Franey to approve the agenda as amended. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Kristine Lampert was introduced the new staff person for VLAWMO. She currently works for the DNR in the Trails and Waterways division and will start April 12th with VLAWMO.

Minutes A motion was made by Gretchen Artig-Swomley and seconded by Wiski to approve the minutes of the March meeting of the VLAWMO Technical Commission. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Heraeus Exemption Deminimis request. After discussion of this Wetland Conservation Act De minimis exemption request there was a motion made by Wiski and seconded by Youngstrom to approve the De minimis exemption with the four conditions in the staff memo along with the \$7000 bond or cash surety. Vote: All aye. Motion passed. Conditions:

Required

- ◆ A spring verification of the wetland delineation is conducted by VLAWMO personnel. If changes to the delineation are recommended the owner will be

advised immediately. The planning risk of possible changes to the wetland line is born by the applicant.

- ◆ Remaining wetland is protected and any temporary disturbance is restored through the temporary impact process provided in WCA Rules (MN Rules 8420.0520). This includes reestablishment of preconstruction contours and soils, re-vegetation, a performance bond and a restoration timeline of less than 6 months.

Recommended to avoid possible WCA Enforcement action

- ◆ The pre and post drainage modeling will be submitted to the watershed to clarify the impact to wetland hydrology of the proposed drainage plan. Adjustments will be required if the Technical Evaluation Panel determines that hydrology of wetland A, protected by the Conservation Easement, will be significantly impacted. Discussion of infiltration options should be included.
- ◆ The walking path will be located in an upland area.

Financial report

A new format offered by Neil Franey for the monthly financial statement is being piloted. Further changes were recommended but commissioners commented that it was moving in the right direction. A motion was made by Franey and seconded by Youngstrom to accept the monthly finance report and authorize the payment of bills as presented. Vote: all Aye. Motion passed. Motion passed.

Work Plan 2007 – Lower Lambert and Whitaker Pond.

Lambert Lake update – John Blackstone advised the Commission that two pilot channels had been dug south of the weir. This seems to be lowering the runoff into the overflow channel. If needed, additional sheet pile will be installed to redirect flow into the wetland south of the weir.

The surveying firm of Brown Land Survey who had done previous work on the Lambert Lake site has been hired to complete an as-built survey which will include the easement area and ditch alignment.

Lower Lambert Streambank Stabilization Ramsey Conservation District has just secured a grant to pay for streambank stabilization in the subwatershed areas identified in the Lower Lambert Feasibility Study as subwatersheds 1, 4, and 9. This is north and south of the western Kohler road crossing and the rock gabion erosion site. Emmons and Olivier Resources (EOR) will be under contract to Ramsey CD for the final design engineering for this project. VLAWMO will provide construction funding for these projects possibly with other financial partners such as Ramsey County.

Flume replacement and Whitaker Pond enhancement. As EOR is doing the engineer for subwatershed 9 which is tied to Flume 3, they have been contacted to request a proposal for providing engineering for all three flume replacements. It is anticipated that a preliminary budget analysis and engineering would cost about \$2500. Final design will still be needed. A motion was made by Franey, seconded by Gretchen Artig-Swomley to include the Whitaker Pond enhancement in the proposal and request EOR to proceed with the preliminary evaluation. Vote: all Ayes. Motion passed.

Sustainable Lake Management Plans – Birch Lake

Neil Franey advised the Commission that the Birch Lake Improvement District had hired Steve McComas to do a vegetation survey and management plan options. He offered to set up a meeting with the BLID, Steve McComas and VLAWMO staff to discuss how they can coordinate their efforts. This will be done in the near future.

Equipment authorization. Stephanie McNamara discussed the purchase of two items of equipment estimated to cost \$250 each: a color printer for the new staff as her office is separate from Stephanie's and a digital camera for field work. A motion was made by Franey and seconded by Youngstrom to authorize up to \$500 for the purchase of the referenced equipment. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Education – With partnership assistance from HDR a Water Quality Summit is being planned for this summer. A variety of speakers are possible. More information will be coming.

Modeling update. Della Young, HDR has met with Dave Schuler and John Blackstone of SPRWS and more data has been secured for the model and will be incorporated.

Revenue Generation Workshop is Thursday, March 29th.

Water Plan- The final draft of the Water Plan has been sent out. Deadline for comments is April 26th.

Adjourn: 9:305 PM