

**Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Technical Commission Minutes
February 12, 2010**

Attending:

Paul Peterson	White Bear Township (WBT), Chair
Neil Franey	White Bear Lake (WBL)
Mark Graham	Vadnais Heights (VH)
Marty Asleson	Lino Lakes (LL)
<i>Absent</i>	Gem Lake (GL)
Chris Mann	North Oaks (NO), Interim Commissioner

Others in attendance: Stephanie McNamara, Kristine Lampert, Brian Corcoran (VLAWMO); John Blackstone, Dave Schuler - St. Paul Regional Water Service (SPRWS); Eli Rupnow - Emmons & Olivier Resources (EOR); Marty Long (VLAWMO Board, NO City Council)

I. Call to Order Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

II. Approval of Agenda

Stephanie asked to add an item under V. B. to have Brian share information he learned from the Road Salt Symposium

It was moved and seconded by Graham & Franey to approve the agenda.

Vote: all aye. Motion Passed.

III. Approval of Minutes (January)

It was moved and seconded by Graham & Mann to approve the minutes of the January meeting as to be amended of the VLAWMO Technical Commission.

Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

IV. New Business

A. North Oaks Commissioner

John Youngstrom Recognition – John Youngstrom passed away in January. He has served with VLAWMO since 2003 and his presence will be missed.

Stephanie will draft a letter to have as a Resolution for the Board to sign recognizing his service to VLAWMO. The TEC gave direction to VLAWMO to write the letter to be presented at the February 24 Board meeting.

Chris Mann has been named as interim Commissioner from North Oaks while they open it up to the community for others to apply.

B. White Bear Basketball Center

This project was reviewed under VLAWMO's new Water Management Standards and overall it looked good however there is no pretreatment before infiltration.

Graham stated that there have been other projects where this has worked effectively. Due to land costs and availability, underground facilities are happening more often. We will pass along our comments to the City and Developers.

C. Request for Sobota Slough Restoration

A resident on Whitaker Street in White Bear Lake has approached the City, Ramsey County, and the Department of Natural Resources to ask about restoring

some of the old WBL Public Works site to wetland after the new facility is complete. There is general support for the idea although the City has some reservations because the land may have some monetary value to the City. The resident is looking for VLAWMO's support as well. Is this something the TEC is interested in? It would involve a lot of hours and funding to complete. TEC stated that we should investigate this further and keep the TEC posted. Graham stated we should wait until spring to see the area better. Stephanie also stated she would clarify what the expectations are for restoration.

V. Programs & Projects – possible action

A. Lambert Creek – Retrofit Analysis Project

Kristine has submitted the grant agreement to the PCA. There will be a meeting on March 3rd to go over more details with the PCA. The work plan for the grant is written and will be submitted shortly.

B. Monitoring Program Report

2010 cost adjustments – Brian stated that with the help of the SWAG grant, we had extra funding for our monitoring. Looking at cost effectiveness, we have looked at what the other watersheds are testing for and have learned that we can reduce the number of Nitrogen and Ammonia tests we conduct. We will still monitor lakes every other week and on the creek once per week and after storm events. The routine will stay the same but will reduce the number of tests done on the samples. We are increasing our chloride monitoring. We will also move our storm samplers to other sites.

Road Salt Symposium – Brian went to this conference last week. Monitoring standards are not set yet by the PCA but monitoring is happening. In 2010, the PCA will be releasing a list of impaired water bodies for chloride.

C. Public Education Program

1. Citizen's Advisory Committee

We had a meeting last night and we played the Watershed Game – both the Lake and Stream version. There was positive input regarding the game. One comment was to reflect back how the BMPs can be used in real life situations. We will play the game at the Shallow Lakes Workshop as well.

2. Shallow Lakes Workshop

The Shallow Lakes Workshop is on Saturday February 27th from 8:30am-1pm. It is being held at Waverly Gardens in North Oaks. Two speakers – Joe Bischoff from Wenck & Steve McComas from Blue Water Science. Kristine will also facilitate the Watershed Game with participants which will tie together much of what the speakers have talked about.

3. Education & Outreach Plan – BWSR Workshop

Stephanie attended one of the workshops where you outline and prioritize your education objectives that support the major goals of the watershed. Objectives should be measurable. A draft 1 – 5 year plan should be developed in the course of this will be a series of breakfast meetings. Stephanie will continue to attend.

4. Statistics for VLAWMO Website

Kristine reviewed the Google Analytics report for the last month. The site is getting continual visits, vast majority from the US but some interesting visits from places such as Saudi Arabia and Ghana in the last month.

5. Rainbarrel Update

We are starting to sell again. We will get info about it on the website. Ramsey County will be doing a big push this spring that we may piggyback on.

D. Sustainable Lake Management Plans

1. Gilfillan

Putting the final touches on the report and will have it ready for review after the Shallow Lakes Workshop.

2. Wilkinson

Met with Gary Eagles this week and they are very supportive of this project. NO Comp shared some reports that they have written over the years regarding Wilkinson and want to extend their help as much as possible.

E. Governance & Policy

1. Recommended policies from audit review.

We will be receiving their recommendations and we will likely need to develop policies for asset management.

2. Boundary Change

Stephanie heard that RCWD is about 2 weeks away from finalizing their legal description which will go to BWSR for the final ok. We need to have the final parcel list set by summer.

F. Cost Share Program

G. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

1. Whitaker Pond – update and photos

Eli gave an update. All the winter work should be completed next week.

a. Change Order #1

We had a change order to deal with landfill issues as well as some extra de-watering. We will likely have another change order regarding stabilization on the Township side of pond which is expected to be approximately \$1100.

b. Monitoring of project

Andy Erickson & Dr. John Gulliver from the U of M are very interested in learning how well our weir works with the iron filings as a filter. Studies have been done to monitor affects of water flowing vertically through the filter system. The Whitaker site will have horizontal flow and will have a lot more flow going through it than what has been studied. Erickson has stated to Stephanie that they will help with this project either through time, equipment or (via Long) possibly grant funding. EOR has presented VLAWMO with options for how to best monitor the weir. We hope to have the monitoring plan solidified by the March TEC meeting for their approval.

H. Report to the Board

1. Approval of Report with recommendation

Graham/Franey – move to approve the report and present to the Board.

VI. Reports

A. Financial Report for February & authorization of payment

It was moved and seconded by Graham & Franey to accept the February report and authorize checks for payment. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

B. WCA Activity

It's pretty quiet. We had a no loss application come in and had to review the WB Basketball Center.

VII. Commissioner Reports

VIII. Administrator Report

IX. Public Comment

X. Next TEC Meeting: March 12; Board Meeting: February 24

XI. Adjourn

It was moved and seconded by Graham & Franey to adjourn at 9:15am. Vote: All aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Kristine Lampert.