

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Technical Commission Minutes
April 17, 2009

Attending:

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

Others in attendance: Stephanie McNamara, Kristine Lampert, Brian Corcoran, VLAWMO; Geoff Nash, Margaret Behrens, Ramsey Conservation District (RCD); John Blackstone (SPRWS); Chris Mann, NO TEC Alternate & NOHOA Environmental Board

- I. Call to Order** Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.
- II. Approval of Agenda**

Addition of item 5.,A.,c – Discussion of flumes. It was moved and seconded by Graham & Franey to approve the agenda as amended. Vote: all aye.
Motion Passed.
- III. Minutes**

It was moved and seconded by Youngstrom & Franey to approve the minutes of the March meeting of the VLAWMO Technical Commission. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- IV. New Business**
 - A. Ramsey Groundwater Plan Implementation – Geoff Nash, RCD**

Nash gave a presentation of his work to date. It is currently in the 60 day review process. The plan should be finalized in 2010. Ramsey County is dependent on groundwater and uses more than is regenerated in the aquifer. Even with this fact, wide spread water shortages are not imminent. Although we are a water-rich area, local areas could experience shortages in the future. The majority of the water usage is for potable water. The WMO's involvement would fall mainly with education activities and investigation of Phase 1 Environmental Reviews for developments to ensure that infiltration practices are not in contaminated soils. VLAWMO Water Standards Policy will be reviewed for a possible update.
 - B. Legal Description Authorization**

Stephanie showed the proposal from Stevens for new legal boundary description. Franey/Graham – move approval of up to \$5000 for the new legal description update including review by VLAWMO attorney.
 - C. Internship Update**

The ad went out in the paper and Gold Pass. Te plan is to have an intern hired by about May 1.
 - D. Report to Board** – no update, off month.
- V. Programs & Projects – possible action**
 - A. Lambert Creek**

a. TMDL – Workplan Update

VLAWMO recently received the workplan. Copies were handed out to TEC and BOD. The workplan was given to the PCA for review and comment. There is a possibility that we could receive funding later this summer.

b. Creek Assessment with Wenck and RCD

We have a three task proposal for hiring consultants from Wenck to provide assistance with our Gilfillan SLMP and Lambert Creek. For Gilfillan, we would like to work with Wenck on creating a water budget for the lake and facilitating our first meeting with Gilfillan homeowners. For Lambert Creek, Wenck staff would work with VLAWMO to do a physical assessment of the creek in conjunction with RCD's proposed study of the creek. Youngstrom/Graham - Authorization to hire Wenck as proposed.

c. Flume Discussion

Brian reviewed what it would take to get the computers and equipment at the flumes up and running. Met Council and Wenck have offered to help with this. It may cost less than \$100 for parts. Met Council recommended that we get one up and running. Wenck recommended getting all three up and running. We would probably hold off on Flume 2 until it is replaced.

B. Public Education Program

a. Citizen's Advisory Committee

- 1) **Earth Day at Tamarack Nature Center – April 18**
- 2) **Governor's Fishing Opener – May 8**
- 3) **Raingarden Workshops – April 9 & May 6; videotape session**
- 4) **Watershed Tour**

b. Blue Thumb Partnership

C. Policy Implementation – Community Workshop – April 23

The workshop has been postponed for a month due the hectic schedule. The April 23 date was tentative and wasn't advertised.

D. Whitaker Pond Project – Update

The BOD authorized working EOR. The hope would still be for a December/January installation.

E. Sustainable Lake Management Plans

- 1) **Birch Lake –**
- 2) **Tamarack & Fish –**
- 3) **Gilfillan –** VLAWMO is hosting an informational meeting on April 22. Would like to Wenck's assistance with this meeting in order to get organized and manage homeowner's expectations.
*Deep Lake has created an active group recently and has come to VLAWMO with questions and may want to have their SLMP done sooner than 2014.

V. Reports

A. Financial

1. April Report: Stephanie reviewed the April report.

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

B. WCA Activity – Mr. Buckley in North Oaks is applying for a wildlife exemption for his wetland work and is working with EOR. He has been very cooperative and the application may be at the next meeting.

VI. Commissioner Reports

VII. Administrator Report – Watershed boundary update; 2010 budget
Stephanie reviewed the budget and footnotes. The BOD received it at their last meeting and will approve the final draft in June. There is an increase. Stephanie will create a budget with a 0% increase to see what could be cut out. However, all items in the budget are part of the work plan and the increases are conservative.

VIII. Public Comment – Blackstone stated that SPRWS will be setting up a wellhead protection plan meeting in May that VLAWMO will be invited. Graham stated he can go to represent both VLAWMO and VH if needed. SPRWS is working with VLAWMO to apply for an Upper Mississippi Source Water Protection Grant for the Whitaker Pond Project.

IX. Adjourn

It was moved & seconded by Franey & Youngstrom to adjourn at 9:30 am. Vote: All aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Kristine Lampert.