

**Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
Technical Commission Minutes
July 9, 2010**

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)
Chris Mann	North Oaks (NO), Interim Commissioner

Others in attendance: Stephanie McNamara, Kristine Jenson, Brian Corcoran, Eric Iverson (VLAWMO); Marty Long (VLAWMO Board, NO City Council); Joe Walton

- I. Call to Order** Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:36 am.
- II. Approval of Agenda**

Addition of item under V.C. – Water Matter Column.
It was moved and seconded by Graham & Franey to approve the agenda as amended. Vote: all aye. Motion Passed.
- III. Approval of Minutes** (June)

It was moved and seconded by Graham & Mann to approve the minutes of the June meeting of the VLAWMO Technical Commission. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- IV. New Business**
- V. Programs & Projects – possible action**
 - A. TMDL – Lambert Creek & Lakes**
 - 1. 2010 Work - Contract with MPCA**

Work Plan has been completed and is in with MN Pollution Control Agency’s (PCA) Contracts Division. We are hoping that we have some final decision by our August Board meeting.

 - 2. Retrofit analysis project update**

That work plan has also been submitted to the PCA for final approval as well.
 - B. Monitoring Program – update**

We installed 3 samplers around Wilkinson Lake to check for input/output. Otherwise the monitoring program is moving along as expected. Peterson asked if we are seeing any differences in results along Lambert Creek. Brian replied that at this point, the e.coli results are quite a bit lower coming out of Whitaker Pond but we can’t state why specifically as of yet.
 - C. Public Education Program**
 - 1. Water Matters Column**

Peterson wrote a column for the White Bear Press and we are hoping to start doing a monthly piece and rotating who will write them. Graham volunteered to write one.
 - 2. Community Events**

July 29 – Marketfest Environmental Fair, White Bear Lake

3. Blue Thumb

National Geographic's Expedition Blue Planet tour was in Minneapolis on July 4th at Powderhorn Park and Blue Thumb was a partner there as well. 3000 plants were given away and WCCO TV did a piece about it as well as the Star Tribune.

4. CAC Newsletter

5. Watershed Tour – August 18th at 5:30pm

We need to decide where we want to go for the tour. Options were presented to the TEC. It was decided that the 3 spots we would go to are Whitaker Pond, Heritage Hall, and Birch Lake. It was decided that the TEC, BOD, and CAC would be invited as well as invite the local press, SPRWS, and put it out to the PCA and BWSR contacts as well.

D. Sustainable Lake Management Plans

1. Wilkinson - We installed the 3 storm samplers around the lake. Data collection occurs throughout the summer and in the fall/winter, Kristine will start pulling information together for the SLMP. Mann stated that she has noticed that the water quality seems lower in Wilkinson. Her secchi disc readings have gotten worse and the new algae plant was pretty invasive this spring.

2. Gem – Brian and Eric went out to check aquatic plants in the lake but found no curly pondweed. There was a die off occurring of another plant which may explain why there was a jump in phosphorus readings last month.

E. Governance & Policy

F. Cost Share Program

G. Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

1. Charley Lake Restoration

Joe Walton gave a presentation about the project – showing before and after pictures. The project has been completed and will be monitored and maintained over the next couple years to ensure its success.

2. Whitaker Pond – update

The weir needs to be fixed. It is undercutting and water is going through when it shouldn't. There are leaks throughout it and a large hole in the middle. Options are being looked at to see how it can be repaired. The engineer design is sound but there are unforeseen issues can happen when working with wetlands. The soft ground can add complications to these projects. If the repairs cost over \$10,000, it will have to go for Board approval. The partners on this project are all involved as well.

3. Birch Lake Shoreline Restoration – update

The site was planted last month. Birch Lake residents came to help with the planting.

4. Lower Lambert Creek - MCC Grant

This project starts on Monday, July 12th. An MCC crew will be working on the site. Kristine will be involved throughout the summer. Eric has been ordering the supplies needed for the project.

5. Gem Lake Drainage & retrofit BMP assessment

As part of the TMDL, Gem Lake needs to be studied to see what runoff is doing to water quality and if there are opportunities for BMP implementation. Mike Goodnature from

Ramsey Conservation District will work on this study since he's been doing the same thing for Lambert Creek. We are waiting to hear what the cost will be for him to do this.

H. Report to the Board – tabled until August meeting

VI. Reports

A. Financial Report for July & authorization of payment

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

VII. Commissioner Reports

VIII. Administrator Report

IX. Public Comment

Long stated that North Oaks is joining the movement to ban coal tar sealant like the City for White Bear Lake. He asked the TEC to write a memo to all of the member Cities to encourage joining in on the ban.

It was moved and seconded by Mann & Franey to direct VLAWMO to write a letter to its member cities and State Reps to advocate for passing ordinances to ban coal tar. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

X. Next TEC Meeting: August 13; Board Meeting: August 18

XI. Adjourn

It was moved and seconded by Franey & Graham to adjourn at 8:58am. Vote: All aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Kristine Jenson.