

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – OCTOBER 23, 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Attendance		Present	Absent
Jim Lindner, Chair	City of Gem Lake	x	
Grover Sayre	City of North Oaks		x
Rob Rafferty	City of Lino Lakes		x*
Ed Prudhon	White Bear Township	x	
Andrea West	City of White Bear Lake	x	
Kelly Jozwowski	City of Vadnais Heights	x**	
Phil Belfiori	Administrator	x	
Brian Corcoran	Water Resources Mgr.	x	
Dawn Tanner	Program Development Coord.	x	
Lauren Sampedro	Watershed Tech & Program Coord.	x	

*= with prior notice

**= alternate

Others in attendance: Terry Huntrods (TEC).

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Lindner.

II. Approval of Agenda 🐦

The agenda for the October 23, 2024 Board meeting was presented with the proposed additions of a request for payment under VI.A.2. and a new item VI.B.2: Request from 3400 Arcade applicant for a special Board meeting in November.

Chair Lindner requested the second proposed addition to be a new VI.C. on the agenda.

A motion was made by Director West and seconded by Director Prudhon to approve the revised October Board meeting agenda. Vote: Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, West: aye, Jozwowski: aye. Motion passed.

III. Approval of Minutes 🐦

The minutes from the August 28, 2024 Board meeting were placed on the agenda for approval.

Director West asked if the directors who attended the August meeting were present. Chair Lindner noted only two were present and stated the approval of the minutes will be tabled until the December Board meeting.

The minutes from the June 26, 2024 Board meeting were placed on the agenda for approval, as motioned at the August 28, 2024 Board meeting.

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director West to approve the June 26, 2024 Board meeting minutes.

Vote: Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, West: aye, Jozwowski: abstained. Motion passed.

IV. Visitors and Presentations

A. TEC Report to the Board for October & Finance Report

Commissioner Terry Huntrods provided an overview of the October TEC Report to Board. He highlighted the TEC reviewed the September and October financial reports and recommended approval and discussed the East Vadnais Lake Subwatershed Resiliency Study, Oak Knoll spent lime applications, the 2025 carp program, Tamarack Lake alum project, grant projects, and the Watershed Management Plan draft review process among others.

B. Public Visitors - Non-agenda items

None.

V. Consent Agenda 🐦

Chair Lindner asked if any Board members wished to speak on any of the consent agenda items. No requests were made from directors.

Consent items on the agenda and included in the October Board packet were as follows:

- A. Oak Knoll Spent Lime Demonstration Project Interim Memo/Report
- B. Consider Engineering Services for 2025 and 2026 🐦
- C. Consider Health Insurance Benefit Renewal for 2025 🐦
- D. Update on Communication and Outreach Coordinator Hiring Process
- E. Consider Authorizing VLAWMO Subcommittee to Approve MPCA Grant Applications and Potential Partnership Funding with the City of Vadnais Heights 🐦

Discussion:

None.

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director West to approve the consent agenda.

Vote: Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, West: aye, Jozwowski: abstained. Motion passed.

VI. Business

A. Projects and Studies/Plans

1. Update on Watershed Management Plan Development and Draft Sections Review Process

Tanner presented the proposed review process for the next cycle of the Watershed Management Plan and the TEC+ process that will begin in November. She discussed that staff have been working with Houston Engineering, Inc. on draft sections 1 and 2 of the Watershed Management Plan, which were provided in the packet.

Tanner described the proposed structure for the TEC+ meetings, which would involve the TEC and local and state review authorities. The goal is to allow for as much input as possible during the plan update process so feedback can be more efficiently incorporated into the

plan. She said written comments will be requested from meeting participants so the comments can be built into the plan sections that will be brought to the Board meeting in December for requested approval.

Tanner stated the first TEC+ meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Vadnais Heights City Council Chambers. She discussed that the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Board Conservationist for VLAWMO will be attending a meeting with staff after the TEC+ meeting to go over her feedback in more detail to ensure she is closely involved in the update process since BWSR is the final approval authority of Watershed Management Plans. Tanner said one of the next steps after the TEC+ meeting is to work on a draft of plan section 3 and possibly bring it forward to the December TEC meeting for review.

Discussion:

None.

2. Update on Tamarack Lake Alum Project and Consider Request for Payment

Administrator Belfiori provided handouts that were not available at the time of packet preparation, including a memo from Barr Engineering requesting authorization of payment to Lake Restorations, Inc (LRI). and updated PowerPoint slides. Tanner presented an update on the completion of phase 1 of the project, which completed on October 16, 2024. She provided pictures of the project progress.

Tanner highlighted phase 1 included applying 20,000 pounds of alum to Tamarack Lake, which was a quarter of the dose that will ultimately be applied over the full project. She said the temporary access agreement with Ramsey County is in the process of being renewed, and the next phase of the project is anticipated to resume after ice out in the spring, dependent upon monitoring results collected in the spring.

Chair Lindner asked when the photos at the end of the presentation were taken. Tanner responded they were taken at the end of phase 1, which was last Wednesday, October 16. Director West asked for the definition of secchi disk. Tanner replied that it is a white and black disc that is a standard way to measure water clarity.

Tanner stated LRI provided an invoice for phase 1 of the project for \$25,580 and Barr Engineering and staff recommended payment.

Director Prudhon asked how the alum is spread on the lake and if it is mechanical and similar to a fertilizer spreader. Tanner confirmed it is a similar process that uses lake water to mix with the alum on the boat before it is applied to the lake.

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director West to authorize payment of phase 1 of the Tamarack Lake alum project to LRI in the amount of \$25,580.

Vote: Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, West: aye, Jozwowski: aye. Motion passed.

B. Financial/Administrative

1. Consider Resolution 05-2024 Regarding Approval of Storm Sewer Utility Certification List for 2025 🐦

Administrator Belfiori presented the final phase of the Storm Sewer Utility (SSU) certification process for 2025. He provided the background of the certification process, which started with setting the budget at the June Board meeting and approving resolution 04-2024 at the August Board meeting. He stated there are 11,696 parcels ready to be certified, which were provided to the Board in a separate email communication. He recommended approval of resolution 05-2024.

RESOLUTION 05-2024

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING STORM SEWER UTILITY CHARGES TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO BE ASSESSED ON REAL ESTATE TAXES PAYABLE IN 2025.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Law 2008, Chapter 366, Article 6, Section 47 provides that the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization may certify to the County Auditors the amounts of storm sewer utility charges to be collected on said premises the ensuing year; and

WHEREAS, the Storm Sewer Utility (SSU) Rule of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization, provides that the watershed may certify to the County Auditors the amounts of unpaid utility charges to be collected as part of the tax levy/special assessments on said premises the ensuing year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION, AS FOLLOWS:

1. Attachments 1 and 2 attached hereto and made a part thereof by reference is a list of parcels of real property lying within the VLAWMO limits of which have surface water runoff and on which there are service charges payable in 2025.
2. The Board hereby certifies said list and requests the Ramsey County Auditor and Anoka County Auditor to include in the real estate taxes/assessments due the amount set forth in Attachments 1 and 2 with taxes/assessments due and payable in 2025.
3. The VLAWMO Administrator is directed to tender a certified copy of this Resolution to the Ramsey and Anoka County Departments of Property Records and Revenue.

The question was on the adoption of the resolution and there were 4 yeas and 0 nays as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<i>Andrea West</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Ed Prudhon</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Rob Rafferty</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
<i>Grover Sayre</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
<i>Kelly Jozwowski</i> <i>Katherine Doll Kanne</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Jim Lindner</i>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

_____ James Lindner, Chair	10-23-24 _____ Date
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VADNAIS LAKE AREA WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

I, the undersigned, Administrator of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization, hereby certify that I have carefully compared and attached the foregoing extract of minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said watershed held on the 23rd day of October 2024, with the original thereof on file in my office.

WITNESSED BY the Watershed Administrator this 23rd day of October 2024.

Phil Belfiori, Administrator

Discussion:

Director Prudhon asked if the Rice Creek Watershed District boundary change will change the number of parcels. Administrator Belfiori confirmed, but noted the boundary change has not yet been approved by BWSR, which could happen next year. Director Prudhon asked if the boundary change would be an advantage to VLAWMO. Administrator Belfiori responded that it will depend on the number of parcels and the land use type of the transferred parcels.

Director Prudhon clarified that the parcels that would be approved and sent to the counties this year would not need to include the boundary change parcels, but those transferred parcels would be provided to the counties early next year. Administrator Belfiori confirmed. Director Prudhon asked what the SSU percentage increase was. Administrator Belfiori responded it was a 5% increase.

It was moved by Director West and seconded by Director Prudhon to approve Resolution 05-2024 certifying the VLAWMO storm sewer utility charges to the county auditor to be assessed on real estate taxes payable in 2025.

Vote: Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, West: aye, Jozwowski: aye. Motion passed.

C. Consider Request from 3400 Arcade Applicant for a Special Board Meeting in November

Chair Lindner introduced the agenda item, which is a continuation of the Wetland Conservation Act replacement plan application discussion from the August Board meeting. He explained the applicant is requesting a special Board meeting because their financial agents have stipulations that need to be met if they want the project approved in 2024. He stated the proposed special meeting to consider would be on November 20, 2024.

Administrator Belfiori added this date was chosen because it would work for Attorney Gilchrist and BWSR Technical Evaluation Panel member Ben Meyer, whom he strongly recommends to be present at the meeting. He noted it is the same proposed week as the possible Subcommittee meeting on the next agenda item, and Director Doll Kanne confirmed November 20th would work with her schedule.

Chair Lindner added that the Board is not obligated to hold a special meeting, but it would be a courtesy to the applicant. He noted it would be a single agenda item meeting. Administrator Belfiori suggested the Subcommittee meeting could be held directly before a special meeting on November 20th at 6 or 6:30 p.m. Chair Lindner added the December meeting would still be held on December 11, 2024.

Director Prudhon asked if the applicant is providing new plans. Corcoran responded and confirmed that VLAWMO staff have received a new WCA replacement plan from the applicant. Chair Lindner asked if the TEP has reviewed the new plan. Corcoran replied the TEP has provided comments to the applicant on the new plan and are waiting for the applicant to respond. Director Prudhon asked if staff are more comfortable with the proposed, revised plan. Corcoran confirmed and noted a TEP recommendation would be provided to the Board at the special meeting.

It was moved by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director West to approve scheduling a special Board meeting on November 20, 2024 for consideration of the TEP recommendation on the Updated Vadnais Heights Apartment Replacement Plan.

Vote: Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, West: aye, Jozwowski: aye. Motion passed.

VII. Discussion/Admin communication – Discussion on Possible VLAWMO Subcommittee Meeting for November 18, 20, or 21

Chair Lindner asked if Subcommittee member Director Prudhon could attend a Subcommittee meeting on November 20th. Administrator Belfiori added the meeting would likely be at 6:00 p.m. Chair Lindner and Director Prudhon confirmed November 20th for the Subcommittee meeting.

Chair Lindner asked for an update on the Communication and Outreach Coordinator position. Administrator Belfiori explained there were forty-one applicants and staff ranked them and selected five applicants to interview. He said staff have reached consensus on a recommended applicant and a recommendation was provided to the personnel Subcommittee.

Director Prudhon asked when the new hire would start at VLAWMO. Administrator Belfiori responded it depends on their current employer situation, but he would try to expedite the hiring process.

XI. Adjourn

A motion was made by Director Prudhon and seconded by Director West to adjourn at 7:36 pm.

Vote: Lindner: aye, Prudhon: aye, West: aye, Jozwowski: aye. Motion passed.