



The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization  
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Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization  
Technical Commission Minutes  
November 8, 2019  
Vadnais Heights City Hall, Lakes Room

**Commission Members Present:**

Jesse Farrell Vice Chair, Vadnais Heights (VH)  
Bob Larson Treasurer, North Oaks (NO)  
Tom Riedesel White Bear Township (alternate, WBT)  
Terry Huntrods White Bear Lake (WBL)

**Commission Members Absent:** Gloria Tessier (GL), Paul Duxbury (WBT)

**Others in attendance:** Stephanie McNamara, Brian Corcoran, Dawn Tanner, Tyler Thompson (VLAWMO); Susan Miller (alternate, NOHOA); Jeremy Erickson (SPRWS); Ann WhiteEagle (RSWCD); Ed Shapland, Connie Tailon (WBL), Kate Winsor (NO).

- I. **Call to Order** Vice Chair Farrell called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.
- II. **Approval of Agenda**  
Thompson requested adding items 1 under V. C. Cost Share for discussion and action.  
It was moved by Huntrods and seconded by Larson to approve the November 8, 2019 agenda as amended. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**  
It was moved by Larson and seconded by Huntrods to approve the October 11, 2019 meeting minutes, as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
- IV. **Administration & Operations**
  - A. **TEC Report for December & Financial Report for November & authorization for payment of checks.**  
McNamara presented the November 2019 Financial Report for review and authorization of payments, as well as the December 2019 TEC to Board Report.  
It was moved by Larson and seconded by Farrell to approve the November Treasurer's Report and the December 2019 TEC Report to the Board. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.
  - B. **West Vadnais EAW Update**  
At their October meeting, after a public hearing in which there was no comment, the VLAWMO Board chose a negative declaration for and Environmental Impact Statement, and to accept the final EAW for alteration of the West Vadnais Lake outlet. Notice has gone out and the determination appeared in the EQB Monitor on November 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - C. **North Oaks Local Water Management Plan review**  
Staff has reviewed and provided comments for the North Oaks Local Water Management Plan (NOLWMP), and they have been finalized, compiled and returned to the City. More will be updated when staff receives response on the comments.  
**Discussion:** none.
  - D. **Carry Over Fund balances for 2019**  
McNamara presented the proposed the program and operations carry over funds from 2019 into 2020. There are some large carry over amounts, though these are mostly grant funds for projects.  
**Discussion:** none.

It was moved by Huntrods and seconded by Larson to recommend to the Board the current 2020 VLAWMO funds balance for approval by the Board at their December meeting. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

V. Programs

A. Education & Outreach

1. CAC Report

Voss gave an update on the November 6<sup>th</sup> Citizen Advisory Committee meeting, in which, volunteer positions were a heavy topic of the meeting. The new Community Blue grant structuring and application was reviewed. Voss stated he would like assistance from other constituents of VLAWMO when reviewing applications.

2. Watershed Award

Staff is planning an annual Watershed Stewardship Award to reward and thank improvement efforts in the Watershed. This annual award will be available for any sector and the first awardee will be announced at the December 2019 Board meeting.

3. 2020 volunteer positions

The 2020 volunteer positions were discussed at the 11/6 CAC meeting. Any final comments and feedback are appreciated by the TEC between 11/8 and 11/14.

B. Wetlands updates

1. WCA Activity

Corcoran gave updates on various Wetland Conservation Act activities that are or have happened in 2019.

**Specialty Manufacturing, WBT:** a wetland credit withdrawal has been approved by BWSR and a declaration of covenants has been received and recorded.

**Hwy 96 Regional Trail, VH:** the boundary & type delineation TEP site visit has been completed for the open corner lot on Hwy 96 and McMenemy. The site may possibly be developed as future apartment complex.

**6 Preserve Trail, NO:** the B&T TEP site visit has been completed for a homeowner in North Oaks that desired a delineation of their 4.3 acre property.

**Scannell Properties, WBT:** a boundary & type, along with incidental wetlands exemption site visit and decision has been completed. Two incidental wetlands had formed on the property as a result of past site grading. A warehouse complex is to be constructed on the property.

C. Cost Share

1. Landscape Level 1 2019-10, Welsch – Native Restoration – Vadnais Heights

Ed Welsch in Vadnais Heights has an application for native restoration and regrading for standing water in his backyard, hiring Minnesota Landscapes as the contractor. The project includes regrading and soil amendment for infiltration, covering with hardwood mulch and planting with serviceberry trees, iris, oak sedge, columbine and Joe Pye weed. The total cost estimate for the project is \$4,370.50: \$1,620.50 for the native planting and \$2,750 for grading and soil amendments. This is phase 1 of 3 in an effort to return the entire backyard into native plantings. **The total cost estimate is \$4,370.50 and the applicant is applying for \$2,000.00 in Level 1 funding; staff is recommending their application for approval by the TEC.**

It was moved by Huntrods and seconded by Farrell for approval of application and funding in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the LL1 2019-10 grant application. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

VI. Projects

A. Lambert Creek, SEH schedule and revenue bond note signed

Tanner reported that SEH has prepared a schedule, going forward, for the Lambert Lake project, and also gave a summary of the 11/6 DNR meeting where permitting and relating project specifics were discussed. The revenue bond note and decision was also approved, signed and sent to the MPCA as a result of the October VLAWMO Board meeting. The note

and decision has been received by the VLAWMO attorney and is coordinating submission to the MPCA. The MPCA grant manager is also verifying the submitted budget. A further-developed budget and workplan must be approved by the MPCA before grant funds are released.

**Discussion:** Farrell commented it would be valuable to have Joe Magner present on biochar media when the project becomes more developed.

**B. Carp Project final survey run**

The final carp survey run on Pleasant Lake took place on October 31<sup>st</sup>, and Carp Solutions is preparing a report and biomass estimate. The final data collection result was presented to the North Oaks community on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The last run of the carp survey did not return any more fish, leaving the total number of fish sampled at 78. The next steps, moving forward, are tracking carp movement, and then likely removal. Miller commented that the native fish population in Pleasant is still healthy and is encouraging.

**C. East Goose Lake update**

At the October 22<sup>nd</sup> White Bear Lake City Council meeting, VLAWMO staff presented regarding boating restrictions and alum treatment on East Goose Lake. Greg Wilson from Barr Engineering also attended the meeting upon VLAWMO staff request and fielded questions from the Council. Homeowners on Goose Lake were also present to express their opposition to boating restrictions. The Council tabled a decision regarding establishing a boating restriction ordinance until a January or February 2020 meeting, after it is learned if VLAWMO receives grant funding for an alum treatment, or not. Tanner prepared a short response to points that were raised at the Council meeting that were approved by the VLAWMO Board and sent to the City for delivery to the Council and interested stakeholders.

**VII. Commissioner Reports**

Farrell mentioned the he and VH Asst. Admin attended the salt symposium and said it was a valuable and eye-opening experience.

**VIII. NOHOA**

None.

**IX. St. Paul Regional Water Service (SPRWS) Report**

None.

**X. Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Division (RSWCD) Report**

WhiteEagle announced closing of hiring for the new RSWCD GIS position, AIS workshop, and the Division staff moving to a new office space in Maplewood.

**XI. Public Comment**

Tailon thanked Tanner again for her work on Goose Lake.

**XII. Next Meetings**

TEC: December 13<sup>th</sup>; Board: December 11<sup>th</sup>

**XIII. Adjourn**

It was moved by Huntrods and seconded by Riedesel to adjourn at 8:29 am. Vote: All aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Tyler Thompson.