

MINUTES

January 13, 2022

A virtual meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions was called to order by Chair Richard McCoy at 11:05 a.m., Thursday, January 13, 2022.

Present: Andrew Hogg, Brooklyn Center; Mitchell Robinson, Brooklyn Park; Heather Nelson, Champlin; Mark Ray, Crystal; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Katie Kowalczyk, Minneapolis; Nick Macklem, New Hope; Amy Riegel, Plymouth; Richard McCoy, Robbinsdale; Ed Matthiesen, Diane Spector, Katie Kemmitt, and Todd Shoemaker, Stantec; and Amy Juntunen and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Not represented: Osseo.

Also present: Burt Orred, Jr., Crystal.

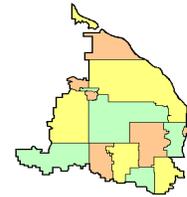
- I. Motion by Riegel, second by Ray to **approve the agenda**.* *Motion carried unanimously.*
- II. Motion by Ray, second by Hogg to **approve the minutes*** of the December 9, 2021, meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*
- III. **Fourth Generation Watershed Management Plan.**

A. Staff provided an overview of the progress on the Fourth Generation Plan. Since the December meeting, Staff have updates on the following initiatives:

1. Potential Maintenance and Resiliency Funding to address ongoing maintenance-type work.
2. Rules and Standards Update to align the watersheds' project standards with the 2020 MS4 General Permit, the Minnesota Stormwater Manual, and the City and surrounding watershed requirements.
3. Online story map to visualize watershed data, projects, and history.

B. Maintenance and Resilience Funding.* Staff drafted a Maintenance and Resiliency Funding policy* for TAC and Commission review. The policy addresses the types of work that may be eligible for funding, including any work resulting from capital projects that doesn't fall neatly into either operations or brick and mortar projects.

After considerable discussion, members agreed that activities identified in Section 2, Actions to maintain lake internal load reductions, would be the Commissions' responsibility; actions in Sections 1 and 3, Maintenance, repair or replacement of CIP projects and Actions to maintain watershed resiliency would be the city's responsibility; and actions in Section 4, Other actions not falling within sections 1-2-3, would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the TAC. They also agreed that the proposed \$50,000 annual allocation for this funding would not be sufficient for the types of projects identified. Based on the discussion, Staff will return to the February meeting with revised guidelines.



C. Public Input and Review. Staff will contact the member cities to determine which of their active commissions would best serve as a Citizen Advisory Committee to provide review and input during the draft Fourth Generation Plan development process. Staff will also inquire as to the commissions' schedules for the next six months in order to coordinate this planning effort.

[Nelson arrived 11:20 a.m.]

IV. HUC8 Study.* Shoemaker's January 6, 2022 memo provided an update on this project:

The Minnesota DNR initiated the process to update FEMA flood risk maps in 2017. One component of that process is to update the hydrologic and hydraulic computer model for each participating Twin Cities Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 8 watersheds (i.e., Shingle Creek, Coon Creek, Minnehaha Creek).

Stantec completed the Shingle Creek HUC8 model update and submitted it to the DNR for review in March 2021. The DNR subsequently held a "Flood Risk Review" (FRR) meeting on April 1, 2021, to discuss model results and implications to property owners and local floodplain administrators. There were two key outcomes from the FRR:

1. The effective (current) floodplain map and profile differ by up to ten feet. This is a mapping error in either the effective map or profile not a calculation error; regardless, it may create a perceived increase and discrepancy compared to the updated model. The DNR is aware and must be prepared to educate data users.

2. There is an increase in flood elevation upstream of Noble Avenue in Brooklyn Center that causes encroachment to properties along Unity Avenue. Structures here appear to have been permitted by elevating above the effective flood elevation and receiving approval through FEMA's Letter of Map Change process.

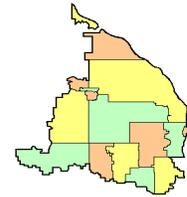
The DNR paused the flood risk map update in mid-2021 due to staffing shortages, but we were informed on December 21, 2021, that the process is now resuming. Stantec has confirmed the DNR has the most current Shingle Creek model submitted as a result of the 2021 Ryan Lake Subwatershed Assessment. At this time, final review of the Shingle Creek model and updated flood risk maps are scheduled to be completed by September 1, 2022.

V. Crystal Lake Management Plan.*

Carp removals on Crystal Lake in 2021 were extremely successful, with over 3,900 carp removed (an estimated ~33% of the lake's population), moving the lake closer to improved water quality. Because of the success of the carp removals, Staff recommend another field season of carp removal efforts in 2022 to bring the lake's carp population below harmful levels. The grant's carp removal task budget has been expended. In addition, one of two alum doses was successfully applied to the lake in September 2021. The alum treatment came in under budget at \$52,776.69. The second alum treatment will be applied in 2022 and is expected to cost a similar amount.

Staff suggest moving some of the projected excess funds from the alum treatment task to the carp removal task to fund 2022 carp removals in the project grant work plan. The suggested change will have no impact on the scope and total cost of the project but will allow additional efforts of carp removal on the lake.

Motion by Asche, second by Riegel to recommend to the Shingle Creek Commission approval of a change order to this project to adjust funding in order to pay for additional carp removal in 2022. *Motion carried unanimously.*



VI. Bass Lake Vegetation Improvements.*

The Shingle Creek Commission has successfully improved water quality and clarity on Bass Lake in Plymouth through the Bass and Pomerleau Lakes Alum Project. Water quality is the best it has been in decades; however, the native aquatic plant community appears to be limited. Curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) is still present in the lake in significant areas, and overall native species diversity is low.

In January, Staff met with the DNR and the Bass Lake Improvement Association (BLIA) to discuss lake vegetation management options moving forward. The DNR was supportive of continued herbicide spot-treatments of CLP and recommended native plant introductions from a donor lake to increase plant diversity in the lake. The BLIA would like to prioritize CLP management and was supportive of increasing native plant diversity through plant introductions of plants that won't impede recreation. The DNR provided a list of recommended plants to introduce and will be providing Staff with the permitting requirements associated with plant translocation.

Staff discussed pursuing a DNR Conservations Partners Legacy Grant (CPL) in February 2022 for available funds in May 2022 to fund native plant introductions and monitoring efficacy. The DNR CPL grant would fund up to two plant harvest and translocation events and the related pre- and post- monitoring to evaluate efficacy. The BLIA expressed support for pursuing the grant and would be willing to provide volunteer time and designate undisturbed areas of the lake for plant introductions. The DNR would also provide staff support during the translocation events but would not be available to provide all the staff work, which would need to be supplemented by volunteer and Commission staff time.

This would be a relatively low-cost project (<\$25,000) based on the DNR's estimate of the overall level of effort for the plant collection and translocation and follow-up monitoring. The CPL grants require a 10% match. Time spent by volunteers is eligible to serve as a portion of that match as in-kind services. There should be sufficient funds left over in the aquatic vegetation management reserve to provide any additional cash match. If approved, Staff will prepare a draft grant application for review at the February 10 meeting. The grants are due by February 21.

Motion by Asche, second by Hogg to recommend to the Shingle Creek Commission approval of a motion to direct Staff to prepare the grant application. *Motion carried unanimously.*

VII. Other Business.

Macklem presented preliminary plans for a storm sewer improvement project in his city proposed for the Liberty Park area. He was inquiring as to whether this is a project the members would consider as a cost-share project. He was advised to bring more details and a request for funding to the February meeting.

VIII. The next meeting is scheduled for 11:00, February 10, 2022, prior to the regular Commission meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judie A. Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Judie A. Anderson, Recording Secretary
JAA:tim