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MINUTES

April 14, 2022

A meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions was called to order by Acting Chair Mark Ray at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, April 14, 2022, at Crystal City Hall, 4141 Douglas Drive, Crystal, MN.

Present: Mitchell Robinson, Brooklyn Park; Heather Nelson, Champlin; Mark Ray, Crystal; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Liz Stout, Minneapolis; Nick Macklem, New Hope; Amy Riegel, Plymouth; Diane Spector, Ed Matthiesen, and Ali Stone, Stantec; and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Not represented: Brooklyn Center, Osseo, and Robbinsdale.

Also present: Burt Orred, Jr., Crystal; Karen Jaeger, Maple Grove; Ray Schoch, Minneapolis; John Roach, Osseo; Andy Polzin, Plymouth; and Kris Guentzel, Hennepin County Dept. of Environment and Energy (HCEE).

- I. Motion by Riegel, second by Stout to approve the agenda.* Motion carried unanimously.
- **II.** Motion by Riegel, second by Robinson to **approve the minutes*** of the March 10, 2022, meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*
- **III. Fourth Generation Watershed Management Plan.** Included in Staff's April 8, 2022, memo* were three items regarding public outreach:
- **A.** Equity in Watershed Management Workshop, Monday, April 25, 6-8 pm at the Crystal Community Center. Hennepin County Commissioner Irene Fernando will be the host. Several speakers will talk about strategies for enhanced inclusion and equity in our work as stewards of natural and water resources in the watersheds, and there will be an opportunity to break out into small groups to share thoughts and ideas.
- **B.** Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Meetings. Cities have started holding their first meetings with citizen commissions. The initial meeting is focused on providing an overview of the WMOs and what they do and have achieved, to explore the issues residents think are important, and get feedback about preferred methods of communication. The second meeting, in a few months, will review and get feedback on the specific strategies and actions cities will be focusing on over the next ten years.
- **C. Other Public Input.** Over the next several weeks Staff will be developing and publishing a series of short online surveys to obtain further input. Their plan is to disseminate the links to these surveys using city websites and social media, as well as social media and email lists that lake associations use to stay connected.
 - **1.** What are some things you'd particularly like to know?
 - 2. Do you have some suggestions for obtaining additional feedback?

The memo also included a listing of future CAC meetings.

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IV. Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Staff's April 8, 2022, memo* includes tables showing the Commissions' current CIPs and suggested revisions. For each of the Commissions, most of the projects are either generic placeholder projects that await further definition when something comes up, or they are projects that still are not ready for implementation and just keep getting pushed back year to year.

Currently, the projects definitely going forward are the Cost Share and Partnership Cost Share Programs. There has been some interest in pursuing the following, although nothing specific is pending:

- **A.** The Minneapolis Park Board (MPRB)may be interested in partnering on some Shingle Creek restoration projects along Shingle Creek and Creekview Parks, from the Queen Avenue bridge to 49th Avenue N, or even down to Webber Park. The MPRB has improvements scheduled in those parks in the next five years, which may be an opportune time to proceed.
- **B.** There has been some interest in a stabilization project on Bass Creek in New Hope and Brooklyn Park, from TH 169 to Cherokee Drive.
- **C.** We've also had some very early talks with Brooklyn Park about a natural channel design project on Shingle Creek in Brookdale Park, from the end of the Connections project to Xerxes Avenue.
- **D.** The next lake likely in line for internal load management is Eagle Lake, which could be combined with improvements on Pike Lake, which is connected to Eagle via a channel. However, no feasibility study has been done to determine what those improvements might be.

Each of these are consistent with the generic stream restoration or lake internal load projects and could be initiated likely without a minor plan amendment because they are in the text of the Plan as "possible locations." Unless any of the cities or the Commissions have an additional project to be added to the CIP, at this point it appears that there will be no need for a Minor Plan Amendment to revise the CIP this year.

V. 2022 Rules and Standards Minor Plan Amendment. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) previously reviewed proposed revisions to the Commissions' Rules and Standards at several past meetings. Staff's April 8, 2022, memo*contains a final review of the proposed revisions to the Commissions' Third Generation Plan. These revisions necessitate a proposed Minor Plan Amendment (MPA).

The proposed Amendment would revise Appendix C of the Plan - the Rules and Standards - to (1) make the rules consistent with the most recent Minnesota General Stormwater Permit; and (2) make other various housekeeping revisions to the Rules.

If the TAC chooses to recommend to the Commissions to go forward with the Minor Plan Amendment, Staff recommend setting May 12, 2022, as the public meeting at which it would be discussed. At that May 12 meeting, the Commissions would discuss and act on the proposed revisions. If approved, the revised Rules could go into effect June 1, 2022, or some other date if preferred.

The proposed Notice of Minor Plan Amendment is included in Staff's memo. The Commissions must send a copy of the proposed MPA to the member cities, Hennepin County, the Met Council, and the state review agencies for review and comment, and must hold a public meeting (not a hearing) to explain the amendment. This meeting must be public noticed twice, at least seven and 14 days prior to the meeting.

Motion by Ray, second By Stout to recommend to the Commissions the commencement of the MPA process as described above. *Motion carried unanimously*. On page 15 of the packet, in the first line of (iii), the words "not feasible" will be replaced with the words "not advisable."



VI. 2022-2023 Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) Convene Meeting.

- **A.** Present were Riegel and Robinson representing the member cities, Schoch, representing the Shingle Creek Commission, Jaeger, representing the West Mississippi Commission, Guentzel, representing Hennepin County as the Soil and Water Conservation District, and Spector, serving as the facilitator.
- **B.** At this meeting members continued to discuss potential opportunities for funding and began to develop priorities and strategies to guide the selection process. Funding inputs from a subgroup of city representatives and a table of potential general activities was included in Staff's April 8, 2022, memo.*

The amount allocated to the Shingle Creek Watershed Area is \$95,501, and to West Mississippi is \$75,000, which will become available July 1, 2022, and expire December 31, 2025. Funding must be focused on prioritized and targeted cost-effective actions with *measurable water quality results* that were identified in the implementation section of a state-approved and locally adopted comprehensive watershed management plan. A ten percent match is required for each activity.

- **C.** For Shingle Creek, it was suggested to allocate \$60,000 funding for subwatershed assessments, including lake feasibility studies, and \$35,501 funding for education and public outreach. For West Mississippi, funding for subwatershed assessments of \$65,000 and funding for education and public outreach of \$10,000 was suggested. Motion by Riegel, second by Schoch to recommend these funding amounts to the Commissions. *Motion carried*.
 - **D.** There being no further business, the Convene meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

VII. Other Business.

- **A.** The **next meeting** is scheduled for 11:30 a.m., May 12, 2022, prior to the regular Commission meetings.
- **B** There being no further business, the Technical Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judie A. Anderson Recording Secretary

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