

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**August 13, 2020**

(Action by the SCWMC appears in blue, by the WMWMC in green and shared information in black.  
\*indicates items included in the meeting packet.)

I. A joint virtual meeting of the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission and the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission was called to order by Shingle Creek Chairman Andy Polzin at 12:47 p.m. on Thursday, August 13, 2020.

Present for Shingle Creek were: Adam Quinn, Brooklyn Park; Burton Orred, Jr., Crystal; Karen Jaeger, Maple Grove; Ray Schoch, Minneapolis; Bob Grant, New Hope; John Roach, Osseo; Andy Polzin, Plymouth; Wayne Sicora, Robbinsdale; Ed Matthiesen and Diane Spector, Wenck Associates, Inc.; Troy Gilchrist, Kennedy & Graven; and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Not represented: Brooklyn Center.

Present for West Mississippi were: Alex Prasch, Brooklyn Park; Karen Jaeger, Maple Grove; Harold E. Johnson, Osseo; Ed Matthiesen and Diane Spector, Wenck Associates, Inc.; Troy Gilchrist, Kennedy & Graven; and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Not represented: Brooklyn Center, Champlin.

Also present were: Andrew Hogg, Brooklyn Center; Mitch Robinson, Brooklyn Park; Todd Tuominen, Champlin; Mark Ray, Crystal; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Liz Stout, Minneapolis; Megan Hedstrom, New Hope; Leah Gifford, Ben Scharenbroich and Amy Riegel, Plymouth; Richard McCoy and Marta Roser, Robbinsdale; and Sean Murphy, Landform Professional Services, for Project Review 2020-007.

II. **Agendas and Minutes.**

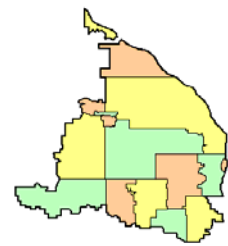
Motion by Orred, second by Schoch to approve the **Shingle Creek agenda**. \* Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Johnson, second by Prasch to approve the **West Mississippi agenda**. \* Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Schoch to approve the **minutes of the July 9, 2020 regular meeting**. \* Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Johnson to approve the **minutes of the July 9, 2020 regular meeting**. \* Motion carried unanimously.

[Quinn arrived 12:50 p.m.]



### III. Finances and Reports.

**A.** Motion by Schoch, second by Jaeger to approve the Shingle Creek **August Treasurer's Report\* and claims** totaling \$46,664.28. Voting aye: Quinn, Orred, Jaeger, Schoch, Grant, Roach, Polzin, and Sicora; voting nay – none; absent: Brooklyn Center.

**B.** Motion by Johnson, second by Jaeger to approve the **West Mississippi August Treasurer's Report\* and claims** totaling \$13,802.41. Voting aye: Prasch, Jaeger, and Johnson; voting nay – none; absent: Brooklyn Center and Champlin.

### IV. Open Forum.

#### V. Project Reviews.

**SC2020-007 Middle of the Boulevard, Brooklyn Park.\*** Demolition of two existing structures and construction of a parking area and associated landscaping on 11.5 acres. The project site is three parcels adjacent to 7417 Brooklyn Boulevard, bound by Brooklyn Boulevard and Regent Avenue. Following development, the site will be 85 percent impervious with 9.8 acres of impervious surface, an increase of 0.25 acres. This review is for the grading and erosion control plans for the site. Due to soils data received August 12, 2020, showing peat instead of the assumed sand, the stormwater management plan must be redesigned. Staff anticipates review of the updated stormwater plan before the September Commission meeting. A complete project review application was received on July 30, 2020.

The erosion control plan includes rock construction entrances, perimeter silt fence/bio-log, silt fence surrounding detention ponds/infiltration basins, inlet protection on existing outlets, rip rap at inlets, slope checks, and native seed specified on the pond slopes. The erosion control plan meets Commission requirements.

The National Wetlands Inventory does not identify any wetlands on site. The applicant meets Commission wetland requirements. There are no Public Waters on this site.

There is FEMA 100-year floodplain on the southern portion of this site. The FEMA 100-year flood elevation is 859.1 ft. No buildings are proposed. The proposed grading will result in a net storage increase of 722 cubic yards. The applicant meets Commission floodplain requirements.

The site is not located in a Drinking Water Management Area (DWSMA). The applicant meets Commission drinking water protection requirements.

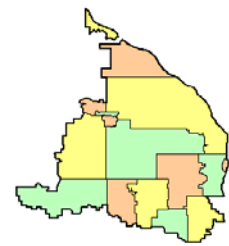
Two public hearings on the project were conducted in May 2020 as part of Planning Commission and City Council review of this project, meeting Commission public notice requirements.

A draft Operations & Maintenance (O&M) agreement between the applicant and the City of Brooklyn Park was provided.

Motion by Schoch, second by Orred to advise the City of Brooklyn Park that project SC2020-007 is approved with no conditions for the site grading and erosion control plans. *Motion carried unanimously.*

#### VI. Watershed Management Plan.

**A. 2020 Capital Improvement Program and Feasibility Studies.\*** The Commissioners have previously received Feasibility Studies or Reports for the projects proposed on the 2020 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The next step in the process is to receive and discuss those feasibility studies and call for a public hearing on those projects that the Commissions desire to move forward.



<b>Shingle Creek Projects</b>	<b>Total Estimated</b>	<b>City/ Private</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Comm Share</b>	<b>Total Levy</b>
Cost Share (city projects)	\$200,000	\$100,000	0	\$100,000	\$106,050
Connections II Stream Restoration	400,000	0	0	400,000	424,200
Plymouth Street Sweeper	350,000	275,000	0	75,000	79,540
Meadow Lake Management Plan	300,000	0	0	300,000	318,150
Bass Creek Restoration	400,000	0	0	400,000	424,200
Partnership Cost Share (private projects)	100,000	50,000	0	50,000	\$53,025
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,750,000</b>	<b>\$425,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,325,000</b>	
<b>5% additional for legal/admin costs</b>				<b>66,250</b>	
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>1,391,250</b>	
<b>TOTAL LEVY (101% for uncollectable)</b>				<b>\$1,405,16</b>	<b>\$1,405,16</b>

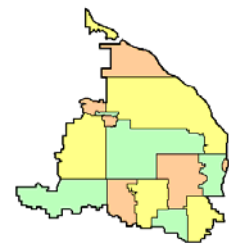
<b>West Mississippi Projects</b>	<b>Total Estimated</b>	<b>City/ Private</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Comm Share</b>	<b>Total Levy</b>
Cost Share (city projects)	\$100,000	\$50,000	0	\$50,000	\$53,025
Miss Crossings Phase B Infiltration Vault	400,000	300,000	0	100,000	\$106,050
River Park Stormwater Improvements	485,000	363,750	0	121,250	128,585
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$985,000</b>	<b>\$713,750</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$271,250</b>	
<b>5% additional for legal/admin costs</b>				<b>13,560</b>	
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>284,810</b>	
<b>TOTAL LEVY (101% for uncollectable)</b>				<b>\$287,660</b>	<b>\$287,660</b>

**B. Shingle Creek Projects.**

**1. Commission Fund for Retrofit Cost Share (City Projects).** This annual project provides cost sharing to retrofit smaller BMPs. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) developed policies and procedures to administer these funds and makes recommendations to the Commission on which projects should be funded. Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, Minneapolis, Crystal, Robbinsdale, and New Hope have all received matching funds for small voluntary BMP projects. The annual levy is \$100,000, to be matched at least one-to-one by a member city or cities. Applications are open until funds are depleted. Potential cost-share projects for 2021 will be solicited in November-December 2020, but the program is open until all funds have been used.

**2. Priority BMP Retrofits (Private Partnership Projects).** The annual levy is \$50,000, and funding does not require a match. Potential cost-share projects are open year-round until the funds are depleted.

**3. Connections II Stream Restoration.** This project in the cities of Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center will restore 1,750 linear feet of stream habitat in Shingle Creek and will reduce sediment and phosphorus pollution originating from this stretch of stream by 75-80%. Stream segments upstream



and downstream of this reach have previously been improved. Completing this segment will result in an almost 2.5 mile long corridor of restored urban stream.

**4. Plymouth Street Sweeper.** The City of Plymouth intends to purchase a regenerative air street sweeper to enhance its street sweeping program and increase the frequency of sweeping in the vicinity of impaired waters. Street sweeping is one of the most cost-effective best management practices for improving water quality and reducing pollutant loading to streams and lakes.

**5. Meadow Lake Management Plan.** This project in the City of New Hope will control invasive fish and plants and regenerate the native seedbank of the lake by completing a whole lake draw down. The project will also include the installation of some fish barriers, as well as education and outreach. Once the biology is restored, an alum treatment may be completed.

**6. Bass Creek Restoration.** This project will improve 1,500 linear feet of stream by restoring the natural shape of the channel, adding features like gravel riffles, thinning the tree canopy, and restoring understory stream buffer vegetation. This project will also reconnect the stream to its adjacent floodplain to ensure adequate conveyance of flood flows and install a flow-through filter to remove phosphorus from water leaving the upstream wetland and entering Bass Creek. The project runs from Cherokee Dr N to I-94/694 in the City of Brooklyn Park.

**C. West Mississippi Projects.**

**1. Commission Fund for Retrofit Cost Share (City Projects).** Similar to Shingle Creek, this annual project provides cost sharing to retrofit smaller BMPs. No project applications have been received to date.

**2. Mississippi Crossings Phase B Infiltration Vault.** The City of Champlin will provide regional stormwater treatment for public and private redevelopment for the Mississippi Crossings at TH 169 and the Anoka-Champlin bridge. Runoff from the site will be directed toward a series of infiltration vaults under a common parking lot that serves a mixed residential-commercial development, senior housing complex, public park, amphitheater, public docks, and event center. Private developers on this site will pay a proportionate amount of the costs to construct these vaults. The Commission's share will contribute only to the portion needed to treat the public improvements to the site.

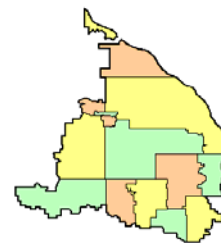
**3. River Park Stormwater Improvements.** The City of Brooklyn Park will incorporate a tiered, natural feeling stormwater pond into the planned improvements to River Park. The pond will treat 250 acres of runoff that currently discharges untreated directly to the Mississippi River. These improvements will remove an estimated 60% of total suspended sediments and 29% of phosphorus currently reaching the Mississippi River from this drainage area.

**D. Staff Recommendation.**

Staff recommends receiving their report and calling for a public hearing on the proposed projects to be held on September 10, 2020. At that time, the Commissions will also certify levies to Hennepin County, and authorize the execution of cooperative agreements with the lead cities to contract the ordered projects

Motion by Schoch, second by Grant to approve Staff's recommendation. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Motion by Jaeger, second by Johnson to approve Staff's recommendation. *Motion carried unanimously.*



A copy of the legal notice\* calling for the public hearing was included in the meeting packet.

**VII. Water Quality.**

**VIII. Grant Opportunities.**

**A. Clean Water Fund (CWF) Grant Applications.\*** BWSR is accepting applications for projects and practices through mid-August. This year there is approximately \$12 million in grant funding available and there are usually \$60 million in applications submitted. All grants require a 25% match. In 2019, grant applications were submitted for the Meadow Lake Drawdown and the Connections II projects but were not funded. Staff recommends re-submitting both projects with minor revisions and developing a grant application for the Bass Creek Stabilization project. At the July meeting the Commission authorized Staff to prepare the three grant applications at a cost of \$5,000-\$6,000.

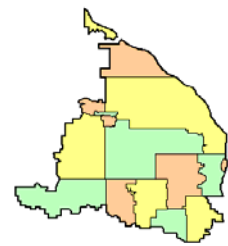
The applications for the Shingle Creek Connections II and the Bass Creek Stabilization projects are very similar. The proposed improvements and expected outcomes are also very similar. Both projects include tree thinning, buffer planting, bank stabilization, and aeration structures such as rock vanes, cover boulders, and root wads. The purpose of the projects is to reduce erosion from the banks; enhance habitat for fish and macroinvertebrates; and maximize reaeration of the stream to raise the concentration of dissolved oxygen, which is currently a stressor to aquatic life.

**1. Meadow Lake Management Plan.\*** Meadow Lake, a small, urban lake in the City of New Hope, is listed as an impaired water for excess nutrients and suffers from nuisance levels of curly-leaf pondweed and fathead minnows. Reducing watershed phosphorus (P) loading to the lake has been a priority since implementation of the lake's TMDL, and many BMPs have been installed; however, internal P loading to the lake is still significant and preventing improvement in the lake's condition. In this project, internal P loading to Meadow Lake will be reduced by approximately 110 lbs/year through a lake drawdown and two aluminum sulfate treatments.

This application is for Phase II of this project, which includes water quality, sediment, fish, and submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) monitoring following a whole-lake draw down (Phase I) in Fall 2020 and two doses of aluminum sulfate treatment to control phosphorus (P) release from lake sediments. Anticipated outcomes of the project aside from reduced lake P loading include increased water clarity, reduced chlorophyll-a concentrations, and a diverse native aquatic vegetation community. Total cost for Phase II is \$191,910. The grant request is for \$153,510, with a Commission match of \$38,400.

**2. Shingle Creek Connections II.\*** The purpose of this project is to improve water quality and biotic integrity in Shingle Creek in the cities of Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center. Shingle Creek is an Impaired Water for low dissolved oxygen, excess E. coli, and an impaired macroinvertebrate community. Approximately 1,750 linear feet between Regent/Noble Avenues N and Brooklyn Boulevard will be improved by thinning trees, establishing native vegetation in the buffer and on the banks, repairing erosion, enhancing habitat, and introducing low-flow sinuosity and reaeration opportunities with rock vanes and root wads. Reaches upstream and downstream have been restored; this is a "missing link" segment that will result a continuous 2.5-mile corridor of urban stream restoration. The outcome will be enhanced habitat for aquatic and upland wildlife, improved water quality, and improved stream aeration. The total cost of this project is \$410,000, with a grant request of \$328,000 and a Commission match of \$72,000.

**3. Bass Creek Restoration Project.\*** The purpose of the Bass Creek Restoration Project is to improve water quality and biotic integrity in Bass Creek in the City of Brooklyn Park. Bass Creek



is an Impaired Water for excess chloride and an impaired fish community. Approximately 1,400 linear feet between Cherokee Drive N and I-94/694 will be improved by thinning trees, establishing native vegetation in the buffer and on the banks, enhancing habitat, and introducing low-flow sinuosity and reaeration opportunities with rock vanes and root wads. This reach of the stream flows through Bass Creek Park with an adjacent bicycle/pedestrian trail. The project will improve aesthetics and provide an opportunity for park user education about native habitat and stream ecology. The outcome will be enhanced habitat for aquatic and upland wildlife, improved water quality, and improved stream aeration. The total cost of this project is \$420,300, with a grant request of \$336,240 and a Commission match of \$84,060.

Motion by Schoch, second by Jaeger to approve submittal of these three applications for Clean Water Grant funding. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**B. BWSR Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF).\*** Included in the meeting packet is a spreadsheet\* showing the projects submitted to date on behalf of the Shingle Creek Commission. The Commission had previously authorized submitting the Meadow Lake Management Plan and the Connections II projects. Both projects are also being submitted to the BWSR Clean Water Fund grant program. Staff used the strategy of submitting as the grant request the Commission match portion of the project cost. Should both the CWF and WBIF grants be approved, the Commission would be able to fully fund those projects from grants.

Not all the partners have yet submitted their requests on the shared Google doc. The next Convene meeting is August 24, 2020 and, in order to provide adequate time for review prior to project scoring, applicants have been requested to add their projects to the matrix by Friday, August 14. No projects from West Mississippi have yet been advanced.

#### **IX. Education and Public Outreach.**

The **West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA)** met on Tuesday, August 11, 2020. The Coordinator has been working through the survey responses and seeking fresh new ways to provide virtual education. The Educators are also refreshing the website with new content and creating a clearing house for on-line home schoolers, converting classroom presentations to on-line presentations and posting to the website. The group has also received commitments from five sources to pay for the root displays. The next (virtual) WMWA meeting is scheduled for September 8.

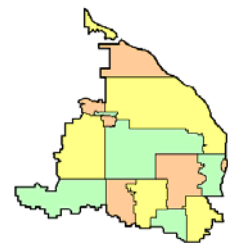
#### **X. Staff Report.\***

**A. Project Review Fees.** Staff is still researching alternative fee structures, including potentially simply charging the applicant the actual cost of the project review. The TAC has received the Elm Creek WMO recommended policy and will consider options at its August 27 meeting and bring a recommendation to the Commissions.

**B. County Levies.** The Hennepin County Board approved the Commissions' requests to set maximum levies as requested with no changes.

#### **C. Project Updates**

**1. SRP Reduction Project.** Monitoring is underway. As noted previously, monitoring results continue to be less pronounced than last year, but the incoming SRP concentrations are lower than last year as well.



**2. Crystal Lake Management Plan.** Sediment core results have been received and are being reviewed. Staff have received the DNR special permit for fisheries research to perform the carp aging study, which has not yet been scheduled but will be completed in the next several weeks.

**3. Bass and Pomerleau Lakes.** The second round of alum treatment is currently being bid and is expected to occur later this fall. Sediment core results have been analyzed to determine the effectiveness of the first dose and no adjustments are necessary. The filamentous algae bloom on Bass Lake this spring has mostly cleared up. Phosphorus concentrations in Bass and Pomerleau continue to be well below the state standard at both the surface and bottom samples.

**4. Meadow Lake Drawdown.** Staff have completed the design and are finalizing the water appropriation permit for the drawdown. They are still working with the DNR specifically in regard to a turtle conservation plan. On August 10, 2020, the New Hope City Council held the required public hearing on the drawdown. About eight residents attended the virtual meeting; most spoke in support of the drawdown. One resident submitted written comments opposing the drawdown. The Meadow Lake Watershed Association canvassed the neighborhood and received signatures of consent from 93% of the riparian property owners; state law requires a minimum of 75%.

**XI. Communications.**

July **Communications Log.**\* No items required action.

**XII. Other Business.**

Motion by Schoch, second by Grant to approve an **amendment to the Bass Pomerleau Alum Treatment Agreement** adjusting the cost of the combined treatments and using funds from the Closed Project Account to fund the disparity. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**XIII. Adjournment.** There being no further business before the Commissions, the joint meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Judie A. Anderson in black ink.

Judie A. Anderson  
Recording Secretary

JAA:tim

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