# MINUTES Regular Meeting and Public Hearing September 10, 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 12:45 p.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2020.

Present for Shingle Creek were: David Vlasin, Brooklyn Center; Steve Chesney, Brooklyn Park; Burton Orred, Jr., Crystal; Karen Jaeger, Maple Grove; Ray Schoch, Minneapolis; Bill Wills, 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.

Present for West Mississippi were: David Vlasin, Brooklyn Center, Steve Chesney, Brooklyn Park; Gerry Butcher, Champlin; 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.

Also present were: Andrew Hogg, Brooklyn Center; Mitch Robinson, Brooklyn Park; Mark Ray, Crystal; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Bob Grant and Megan Hedstrom, New Hope; Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; Richard McCoy and Marta Roser, Robbinsdale.

Public present: Jodi Taitt and Richard Buller, Meadow Lake Watershed Association.

## II. Agendas and Minutes.

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

Motion by Chesney, second by Jaeger to approve the **West Mississippi agenda** as amended.\* *Motion carried unanimously.* 

Motion by Schoch, second by Jaeger to approve the **minutes of the August 13, 2020 regular meeting.\*** *Motion carried unanimously.* 

Motion by Johnson, second by Jaeger to approve the **minutes of the August 13, 2020 regular meeting.\*** *Motion carried unanimously.* 



## III. Finances and Reports.

- **A.** Motion by Orred, second by Chesney to approve the Shingle Creek **September Treasurer's Report\*** and claims totaling \$64,054.25. Voting aye: Vlasin, Chesney, Orred, Jaeger, Schoch, Grant, Roach, and Polzin; voting nay none; absent: Robbinsdale.
- **B.** Motion by Johnson, second by Jaeger to approve the **West Mississippi September Treasurer's Report\* and claims** totaling \$11,163.35. Voting aye: Vlasin, Chesney, Jaeger, and Johnson; voting nay none; absent: Champlin.

[The regular meeting was suspended at 12:53 p.m. in order to conduct a public hearing.]

## IV. Public Hearing.\*

**A.** On August 13, 2020, the Commissions called for a public hearing for today to consider proposed projects to levy in 2020 for collection in 2021. The cities and the county have been notified and notice has been duly published. The purpose of this public hearing is to present the proposed projects and proposed financing and to take comment from the member cities and the public.

## B. Shingle Creek Projects.

Shingle Creek 2020 CIP Projects (2021 levy).	Total Est Cost	City/Private	Grant	Comm Share	Total Levy
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	424,300
Partnership Cost Share (private projects)	100,000	50,000	0	50,000	53,025
Subtotal	\$1,750,000	\$425,000	\$0	\$1,325,000	
5% additional for legal/admin costs				66,250	
Subtotal				1,391,250	
TOTAL LEVY (101% for uncollectable)				\$1,405,165	\$1,405,165

- provides cost sharing to retrofit smaller BMPs. The TAC developed policies and procedures to administer these funds and makes recommendations to the Commissions 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 Drive to I-94/694 in the City of Brooklyn Park.

## C. West Mississippi Projects.

West Mississippi 2020 CIP Projects (2021 levy).	Total Estimated	City/Private	Grant	Comm Share	Total Levy
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
Subtotal	\$985,000	\$713,750	\$0	\$271,250	
5% additional for legal/admin costs				13,560	
Subtotal				284,810	
TOTAL LEVY (101% for uncollectable)				\$287,660	\$287,660

- 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.

[Sicora arrived 12:55 p.m.]

- **D. Open public hearing.** The public hearing was opened at 12:59 p.m.
- **1.** No comments on the proposed levy were received from either the member cities or the reviewing agencies.
- **2.** Two individuals from the Meadow Lane Watershed Association, named above, were present from the general public. They thanked the Commission for undertaking the Meadow Lake project.
  - **3.** Also see item XI.B., below.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Schoch to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Johnson to close the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

[The public hearing was closed at 1:00 p.m.]

#### E. Commission Discussion.

Motion by Schoch, second by Chesney to adopt **Resolution 2020-01** Ordering 2020 Improvements ... and Certifying Costs to Hennepin County .... \* *Motion carried unanimously*.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Chesney to adopt **Resolution 2020-01** Ordering 2020 Improvements ... and Certifying Costs to Hennepin County .... \* *Motion carried unanimously*.

[The regular meeting resumed at 1:07 p.m.]

## V. Open Forum.

## VI. Project Reviews.

A. 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% impervious with 9.8 acres of impervious surface, an increase of 0.25 acres. The grading and erosion control plans were approved at the August meeting. Due to soils data received August 12, 2020, showing peat instead of the assumed sand, the stormwater management plan had to be redesigned and was received August 27, 2020, completing the project review application.

To comply with the Commission's water quality treatment requirement, the site must provide ponding designed to NURP standards with dead storage volume equal to or greater than the volume of runoff from a 2.5" storm event, or BMPs providing a similar level of treatment - 85% TSS removal and 60% TP removal. Infiltrating 1.3-inches of runoff, for example, is considered sufficient to provide a similar level of treatment. If a sump is used the MnDOT Road Sand particle size distribution is acceptable for 80% capture.

Runoff from the northwest portion of the site is proposed to be routed directly to city storm sewer on Regent Avenue. Runoff from the northeast portion of the site is proposed to be routed



directly to Brooklyn Boulevard. Runoff from the southern portion of the site is routed over vegetated soils directly to Shingle Creek. Runoff from the central parking lot area is routed through a sand filtration basin before discharging directly to Shingle Creek. No infiltration is proposed on-site. The applicant used a MIDS model to model TSS and TP load reduction from the entire disturbed impervious area on site and demonstrated that the filtration basin has the capacity to remove 65% of the total TP load and 119% of the total TSS load. The applicant meets Commission water quality treatment requirements.

Commission rules require that site runoff be limited to predevelopment rates for the 2-, 10-, and 100-year storm events. Runoff from the site is routed directly northwest to Regent Avenue, northeast to Brooklyn Boulevard, directly to Shingle Creek, and through a filtration basin to Shingle Creek. The applicant meets Commission rate control requirements.

Commission rules require the site to infiltrate 1.0 inch of runoff from new impervious area within 48 hours. The disturbed impervious area on this site is 39,905 SF, requiring infiltration of 3,325 CF within 48 hours. Due to low infiltration capacity of soils on-site, the applicant proposes to provide filtration instead of infiltration. The applicant proposes to construct a filtration basin that has the capacity to filter the required volume within 48 hours. The applicant meets Commission volume control requirements.

The erosion control plan was approved on August 14, 2020. Filtration basin slopes will be seeded with MNDOT 33-261 or equivalent seed mix.

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 within the floodplain. The grading plan was approved on August 14, 2020 and will result in a net storage increase of 722 CY. 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.

Public hearings on the project have been conducted on May 13, 2020 and May 26, 2020 as part of Planning Commission and City Council review of this project, meeting Commission public notice requirements.

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

Motion by Jaeger, second by Schoch to advise the City of Brooklyn Park that project SC2020-007 is approved with no conditions. *Motion carried unanimously*.

**B.** SC2020-008: Crystal MAC Boardwalk Phase 2, Crystal.\* Construction of boardwalk, an elevated education platform, and access ramps connecting old and new boardwalk on 0.11 acres located in the Crystal MAC Natural Area at 6001 Regent Avenue North. The entire site is 40 acres and the disturbed area is 0.11 acres. The project does not increase impervious surface on site. A complete project review application was received on August 12, 2020.

The erosion control plan includes two rock construction entrances, sediment control log, and erosion control blanket. The work will be completed in the winter when the wetland is frozen to minimize impacts. The erosion control plan meets Commission requirements.



The National Wetlands Inventory identifies a wetland on site. The DNR is taking jurisdiction on the wetland impacts for this project and has issued a request for comments on the project.

The unnamed creek and wetland on site are DNR Public Waters, and the creek flows south through the site to Twin Lake. The proposed project is not anticipated to negatively impact the creek or wetland. The applicant meets Commission Public Waters requirements.

There is a FEMA-regulated floodplain on this site. Less than 0.1 CY of fill in the floodplain is proposed in the form of helical pilings to support the boardwalk. The applicant meets Commission floodplain requirements.

The site is located in a Drinking Water Management Area (DWSMA), but infiltration is not expected to be impacted as a result of the project. The applicant meets Commission drinking water protection requirements. A public hearing on the project is not required.

Motion by Schoch, second by Chesney to advise the City of Crystal that project SC2020-008 is approved with no conditions. *Motion carried unanimously*.

C. WM2019-010: Mississippi Crossing, Champlin.\* Construction of apartment complex on 8.39 acres (Phase 1A, approved), reconstruction of East River Parkway, partial reconstruction of a parking lot (Phase 1B), and construction of a parking lot, event center, restaurant, pavilion, amphitheater, and outdoor plazas and sidewalks (Phase 2). This application includes a resubmittal of Phase 1B and submittal of Phase 2. The site is located at East River Entry and East River Parkway.

The proposed project consists of two phases. Phase 1 is the construction of an apartment complex with an associated driveway, sidewalk, and plaza. Phase 1 includes two underground stormwater infiltration systems. Phase 2 is the construction of additional driveway, parking areas, and public buildings. Stormwater management features are proposed as part of both phases of the project and are designed to handle stormwater from impervious area associated with the project. The site is 13.6 acres. As of the August 11, 2020 submittal, following development of both phases the site will be 66% impervious with 9.00 acres of impervious surface, an increase of 6.55 acres.

The complete project application was received on September 30, 2019. The project submittal for phase 1A and 1B was approved by the Commission on January 10, 2020, but grading for phase 1B has since been updated. Phase 2 is being reviewed in this submittal.

To comply with the Commission's water quality treatment requirement, the site must provide ponding designed to NURP standards with dead storage volume equal to or greater than the volume of runoff from a 2.5" storm event, or BMPs providing a similar level of treatment, i.e., 85% TSS removal and 60% TP removal. Infiltrating 1.3 inches of runoff, for example, is considered sufficient to provide a similar level of treatment.

Runoff from the site is routed to three separate corrugated metal pipe infiltration systems, permeable paver systems, and infiltration basins with drain tile. These underground infiltration systems have the capacity to infiltrate 1.3 inches of runoff. The MIDS calculation for the entire site indicates an annual TSS load reduction of 87% and annual TP load reduction of 78% from all BMPs, meeting Commission requirements for water quality. In addition, at each inlet to the underground infiltration systems, a 6-ft sump with SAFL Baffle provides pretreatment to stormwater before it enters the system. All proposed SAFL Baffles provide more than 80% removal of suspended solids according to SHSAM calculations. The applicant meets Commission water quality treatment requirements.



Commission rules require that site runoff be limited to predevelopment rates for the 2-, 10-, and 100-year storm events. As referenced in the August 11, 2020 resubmitted stormwater report, the City of Champlin and the West Mississippi Commission waived the rate control requirements for the site due to its proximity to the outfall structure to the Mississippi River. The site must instead meet the water quality requirement of infiltrating runoff from the 1.3" rain event on site.

Commission volume control rules require the site to infiltrate 1.0 inch of runoff from new impervious area within 48 hours. However, this site must infiltrate 1.3 inches of runoff to additionally meet water quality requirements. The new impervious area for the entire site as of August 2020 is 6.55 acres, requiring infiltration of 0.71 acre-feet (30,927 CF) within 48 hours. The applicant proposes that three infiltration systems, permeable pavers, and filtration basins will infiltrate 46,072 CF within 48 hours. The applicant meets Commission volume control requirements.

The erosion control plan includes a rock construction entrance, perimeter silt fence and inlet protection. 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. The applicant meets Commission Public Waters requirements.

Grading for the amphitheater and fill at the existing boat launch are proposed within the limits of the Mississippi River FEMA floodway. The applicant has demonstrated a no-rise condition of 0.00 feet within the floodway. 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.

A public hearing on the project was conducted on November 18, 2019 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 Champlin has not been provided. However, the applicant wrote in an email to Sarah Nalven of Wenck Associates on October 22, 2019, "The City and Owner have discussed this agreement, but nothing has been developed yet. They will keep you in the loop when this is developed to make sure the watershed has a copy of the draft."

Motion by Johnson, second by Jaeger to advise the City of Champlin that Project WM2019-010, revised September 2, 2020, is approved with the following conditions:

- **1.** Provide a complete O&M agreement between the applicant and the City of Champlin for all stormwater facilities on the project site.
- **2.** Demonstrate by double ring infiltrometer or witness test that the underground infiltration systems, drain tile systems, and permeable pavers can meet the design infiltration rate of 0.80 inches/hour.

Motion carried unanimously.

**D.** WM2020-006: Woodspring Suites Hotel, Brooklyn Park. Construction of a 13,000 SF 4-story hotel and associated parking on a 4.9 acre site located at 9489 Winnetka Avenue North. Following development, the site will be 33.7% impervious with 1.65 acres of impervious surface, an increase of 1.65 acres. A complete project application was received on August 12, 2020.



To comply with the Commission's water quality treatment requirement, the site must provide ponding designed to NURP standards with dead storage volume equal to or greater than the volume of runoff from a 2.5" storm event, or BMPs providing a similar level of treatment - 85% TSS removal and 60% TP removal. Infiltrating 1.3 inches of runoff, for example, is considered sufficient to provide a similar level of treatment. If a sump is used the MnDOT Road Sand particle size distribution is acceptable for 80% capture.

Runoff from the site is proposed to be routed through a series of catch basins in the parking lot to ultimately discharge to the existing regional infiltration pond in the western portion of the site. Pretreatment will be provided by a 3' sump and a hydrodynamic separator prior to discharging to the pond. The applicant meets Commission water quality treatment requirements by providing storage for a 1.3" rainfall off the entire site's impervious surface.

Commission rules require that site runoff be limited to predevelopment rates for the 2-, 10-, and 100-year storm events. All runoff from the site is routed through a series of catch basins in the proposed parking lot before discharging to an existing regional infiltration pond on the western portion of the site. The existing pond was designed to infiltrate runoff from the 14.3-acre combined area of the north and west parcels with 75% impervious surface. The proposed 1.65 acres of new impervious will increase the impervious percentage of the area to 66%, which is within the treatment capacity of the pond. The pond only releases stormwater during the 100-yr event (45.4 cfs). Total site runoff to the northern MnDOT Right of Way includes outflow from the pond on-site and runoff from other portions of the Northcross Business Park. The applicant meets Commission rate control requirements.

Commission rules require the site to infiltrate 1.0 inch of runoff from new impervious area within 48 hours. The new impervious area on this site is 1.65 acres, requiring infiltration of 0.14 acre-feet within 48 hours. The applicant proposes to route runoff to a regional infiltration pond that has the capacity to infiltrate the required volume within 48 hours. The applicant meets Commission volume control requirements.

The erosion control plan includes a rock construction entrance, perimeter silt fence, silt fence bordering the infiltration basin, inlet protection, 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. The applicant meets Commission Public Waters requirements. There is no FEMA-regulated floodplain on this site. The applicant meets Commission floodplain requirements.

The site is located in a Drinking Water Management Area, but is outside of the Emergency Response Area. Therefore, infiltration is permitted, but infiltrated water must first filter through one foot of soil, the top four inches of which are amended topsoil and the bottom 8 inches of which are tilled. The applicant proposes to infiltrate runoff from the site in an existing regional basin. The applicant meets Commission drinking water protection requirements.

Public hearings on the project will be conducted on September 9, 2020 and September 14, 2020 as part of Planning Commission and City Council review of this project, meeting Commission public notice requirements.

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



Motion by Jaeger, second by Chesney to advise the City of Brooklyn Park that Project WM2020-006 is approved conditioned on providing confirmation that the 3' sump is acceptable per MPCA guidance. *Motion carried unanimously*.

**E.** WM2020-007: North Park Business Center – DataBank, Brooklyn Park. Construction of two buildings on 14.4 acres at Lot 2 Block 1, North Park Business Center Third Addition. Following development, the site will be 74 percent impervious with 10.7 acres of impervious surface, an increase of 10.5 acres. A complete project application was received on August 27, 2020.

To comply with the Commission's water quality treatment requirement, the site must provide ponding designed to NURP standards with dead storage volume equal to or greater than the volume of runoff from a 2.5" storm event, or BMPs providing a similar level of treatment - 85% TSS removal and 60% TP removal. Infiltrating 1.3-inches of runoff, for example, is considered sufficient to provide a similar level of treatment. If a sump is used the MnDOT Road Sand particle size distribution is acceptable for 80% capture.

Runoff from the site is proposed to be routed southwest from the site through two stormwater ponds to an infiltration basin, and north to a storm sewer that drains to a wet pond and ultimately to an infiltration basin. The applicant meets Commission water quality treatment requirements.

Commission rules require that site runoff be limited to predevelopment rates for the 2-, 10-, and 100-year storm events. The applicant proposes to manage all runoff on-site. The applicant meets Commission rate control requirements.

Commission rules require the site to infiltrate 1.0 inch of runoff from new impervious area within 48 hours. The new impervious area on this site is 10.5 acres, requiring infiltration of 0.9 acre-feet within 48 hours. The applicant proposes to infiltrate all runoff onsite due to highly permeable soils that have the capacity to infiltrate the required volume within 48 hours. The applicant meets Commission volume control requirements.

The erosion control plan includes rock construction entrances, perimeter silt fence, silt fence along pond borders, inlet protection, 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. There are no Public Waters on this site. There is no FEMA-regulated floodplain on this site.

In a telephone conversation on May 29, 2014 between Erik Megow of Wenck Associates and Dan Bowar of EVS Engineering, Bowar had stated that there is no known groundwater contamination on the project site.

Public hearings on the project are scheduled for September 9, 2020 and September 28, 2020 as part of Planning Commission and City Council review of this project, meeting Commission public notice requirements.

A draft Operations and Maintenance (O&M) agreement between the applicant and the City of Brooklyn Park was not provided, but in an email to Katie Kemmitt, Wenck Associates, on September 3, 2020 Trisha Sieh acknowledged that an agreement will need to be written.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Chesney to advise the City of Brooklyn Park that Project WM2020-007 is approved with the following conditions:



- **1.** Provide a complete O&M agreement between the applicant and the City of Brooklyn Park for all stormwater facilities on the project site.
- **2.** Update grading plans to show pond P-B inlets with rip rap extending to the pond bottom.
- **3**. Provide sand and grit capture at all direct inflows into the pond such as a catch basin sump, Rain Garden or designated capture area within the pond using a rock barrier to define the sedimentation area.

Motion carried unanimously.

## VII. Watershed Management Plan.

## VII. Water Quality.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Schoch to approve the **Joint Funding Agreement\*** with the US Geological Survey in the amount of \$3,800 for the water year October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020. *Motion carried unanimously.* The agreement provides for the operation and maintenance of specific conductance and water temperature monitoring at Shingle Creek at Queen Avenue in Minneapolis.

## VIII. Grant Opportunities.

A. Bass and Pomerleau Alum Treatment.\* In 2018 the Commission entered into a cooperative agreement\* with the City of Plymouth regarding the Bass and Pomerleau Alum Treatment project. Plymouth is acting as the lead agency for the alum treatment contracting. The current agreement capped the reimbursement to the City for those contracts at \$195,000. Both the 2019 and 2020 bids came in higher than originally estimated due to an increase in the per gallon price for alum and the City has requested that the cooperative agreement be amended to revise the cap so it can be fully reimbursed for the treatment costs.

The first alum treatment totaled \$111,363 and the second, which was just bid, was \$128,413, totaling \$239,776. It is Staff's recommendation that the cap in the agreement be raised to \$245,000. As the table below shows, there is ample room in the budget to cover the increased cost of treatment. Included in the meeting packet is the First Amendment\* to the original agreement which provides for this increase. Scharenbroich reported that the City Council has approved this amendment.

Bass and Pomerleau Alum Treatment project estimated costs and funding sources.

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	As Estimated for Grant	Updated at Project Start	Current Estimate			
Costs						
Design and pre-monitoring	\$53,400	\$53,400	\$49,879			
Alum treatment	195,000	222,000	239,776			
Monitoring, coring, SAV surveys	72,000	74,000	87,000			
Aquatic vegetation management	50,000	50,000	40,000			
Technical Services	40,000	40,000	35,000			
Total	410,400	439,400	451,655			
Revenues	<u>.</u>					
Grant	\$267,040	\$267,040	\$267,040			
Commission Share	143,360	172,360	184,615			
Commission Funds Available	202,300	202,300	202,300			
<b>Excess Commission Funds</b>	\$58,940	\$29,940	\$17,685			



Motion by Orred, second by Schoch to approve the First Amendment. *Motion carried unanimously*.

[Butcher arrived 1:40 p.m.]

B. BWSR Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF).\* Included in the meeting packet is the updated WBIF spreadsheet\* showing the projects submitted to date from the eligible parties in the Metro-Mississippi Twin Cities West partnership. The Shingle Creek 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 submitted 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. No projects from West Mississippi have yet been advanced.

The grant funds requested for the submitted projects total \$1,217,157 and the available funds are \$874,153. To determine which of these projects will be funded, the partnership has developed a scoring process. Each of the twelve partners will score each project from 1 (low) to 5 (high) for its water quality benefits and secondary benefits. The water quality score will be weighed at 70% of the total score for the project, and the secondary benefits score will be weighed at 30%. The scores will be averaged across the twelve partners, and the projects ranked by total average score.

The partnership had until September 4 to submit projects and to fine-tune the project descriptions. Between September 4 and September 18, the partners will enter rankings into the project matrix, then meet the week of September 21 to review the rankings and make the final grant recommendations.

#### IX. Education and Public Outreach.

The **West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA)** September meeting was cancelled. WMWA will meet on Tuesday, October 13, 2020. The Zoom number is provided here so that Commissioners and TAC members can participate. It is <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/922390839">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/922390839</a> or call in at any of these numbers using meeting ID: 922 390 839: (1) +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown); (2) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); (3) +1 929 205 6099 US (New York); or (4) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

## X. Staff Report.\*

- **A. SRP Reduction Project.** Staff will take samples from each of the three filter media and send to UW-Stout for testing. The tests will estimate how saturated the media are with phosphorus. The filters have been in place for a year and Staff have good data on the volume of flow that has been filtered. This will be helpful in estimating the remaining useful life of each of the media.
- B. Crystal Lake Management Plan. Staff will be undertaking the carp aging study in September. The age of carp can be reliably estimated from otoliths found in the ear canals. Otoliths are small calcium carbonite structures found in all vertebrates (including humans) that help manage sensory inputs and balance. With age they grow and accumulate rings of calcium carbonate like rings on a tree. Staff will capture up to 50 carp from Crystal Lake and remove their otoliths. The carp must be euthanized to complete this step. The otoliths will be sent to a contractor who will section the structures and read them under a microscope to estimate the individual's age. The data will be used to estimate the age structure of the carp population in Crystal Lake, helping Staff to better understand recruitment and longevity and how they can better manage the population.



- C. Bass and Pomerleau Lakes. The second round of alum treatment has been bid and the Plymouth City Council will award a contract at its first meeting in September. This second treatment will occur when water temperatures are optimal, likely late September or early October. Phosphorus concentrations in Bass and Pomerleau continue to be well below the state standard at both the surface and bottom samples.
- **D. Meadow Lake Drawdown.** Staff are finalizing the water appropriation permit for the drawdown. Staff have consulted with the DNR about the proposed turtle conservation plan and have completed a turtle survey. During the survey Staff were available to talk with residents about their specific concerns. They expect to submit the permit application within a few weeks and are still hopeful that it can be turned around fast enough by the DNR to allow the drawdown to occur this fall. Included in the Staff Report are some photos from the turtle survey and recent fish survey on Meadow Lake. Based on weight/volume, Staff estimates that the bin in pictures 3 and 4 contains about 30,000 fathead minnows.

#### XI. Communications.

- **A. August Communications Log.\*** No items required action.
- **B.** The following email was received in the Administrator's office at 4:10 p.m., Thursday, September 10, 2020, after the Commissions' regular meeting and public hearing had concluded. The email was sent by **Diane Stauner**, a riparian landowner on Meadow Lake.

Judie,

As a riparian owner regarding the full drawdown of Meadow Lake, please enter my comments into the record. Share with commissioners, the technical advisory committee, and legal representative for the Watershed.

1.) Meadow Lake riparian owners did not receive notice required by law of the September 10, 2020 public hearing on the full drawdown of Meadow Lake.

https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2019/cite/103G.408

"mailed or electronically transmitted to the director, the county auditor, the clerk or mayor of a municipality, the lake improvement district if one exists, the watershed district or water management organization, the soil and water conservation district, and **all riparian owners** of record affected by the application"

2.) The drawdown was to begin in 2021 after testing in 2020. Instead it's being rushed through in 2020 without results of the testing being communicated to the riparian owners. Riparian owners assent will be based on promises and outdated data. Riparian owners continue to be left out of the decision making process. The New Hope stormwater specialist communicates solely with the secretary of the Meadow Lake Watershed Association, and not directly with riparian owners. The Association only forwards the email to its board of directors, there is no mail or electronic communication of information to riparian owners. Weeks ago I tried to persuade the Association to communicate with all riparian owners, they say they've never needed to in the past and don't have a list of names and addresses. The failure of the City leaves out the great majority of lakeshore owners and is not in compliance with the law.

Changes to the promised plans have not been communicated to lakeshore owners:

A. One of the stated main goals of the drawdown is to eliminate fathead minnows and replace them with better fish. But the stormwater specialist relayed that the Minnesota DNR has said no other fish species is suited for this shallow lake. Is this to become a fishless lake, or are other species to be stocked? How will changing or eliminating the fish species affect the character and wildlife value of our lake? Riparian owners must be updated before giving assent.



- B. A wildlife plan was promised and has not been delivered. A DNR herpetologist for the area was consulted very late in August. Why the delay in fulfilling this promise? What is the plan for a turtle overwintering area?
- C. Another stated main goal of the drawdown:is to kill the supposedly dominant curlyleaf pondweed and establish native aquatic vegetation. But this year's aquatic vegetation survey found that curlyleaf was confined to the middle of the lake, surrounded by native aquatic plants, and that native vegetation in Meadow Lake is unusually healthy for a shallow lake. That finding has not been communicated to lakeshore owners.
- D. Results of phytoplankton, zooplankton, and sediment core testing have not been shared.

Riparian owners are not being included in this process, and the plan is being hurriedly pushed through based on outdated information.

**Diane Stauner** 

XII. Other Business.

**XIII. Adjournment.** There being no further business before the Commissions, the joint meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judie A. Anderson Recording Secretary

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