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## MINUTES

February 11, 2010

I. A meeting of the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission was called to order by Vice Chair Della Young on Thursday, February 11, 2010, at 2:35 p.m., at the Clubhouse at Edinburgh, 8700 Edinbrook Crossing, Brooklyn Park, MN.

Present were: Della Young, Brooklyn Center; Jon Knutson, Champlin; Karen Jaeger, Maple Grove; Ed Matthiesen, Wenck Associates, Inc.; and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Also present: Shelley Schwaninger, Brooklyn Center, and Todd Tuominen, Champlin.

Not represented: Brooklyn Park and Osseo.

II. Motion by Knutson, second by Jaeger to approve the **revised agenda**.\* *Motion carried unanimously.*

III. Motion by Knutson, second by Jaeger to approve the **minutes of the January 14, 2009 meeting**.\* *Motion carried unanimously.*

### IV. Reports from Officers.

A. Motion by Jaeger, second by Knutson to approve the **Treasurer's Report**.\* *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. Motion by Knutson, second by Jaeger to approve the **February claims**.\* Claims totaling \$8,033.36 were approved by roll call vote: ayes - Young, Knutson and Jaeger; nays - none; absent - Brooklyn Park and Osseo.

### V. Open Forum.

### VI. Communications.

A. The Commissioners reviewed the **Communications Log**.\*

B. The Commission has been notified of **two vacancies on the Clean Water Council**. Deadline for application is Tuesday, February 23, 2010.

C. The *Wisconsin State Journal* published an article, "**In Madison, salting streets means choosing between clear roads and clean lakes**," in its February 8, 2010 edition.

D. The Commissioners received a memo from the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) with information about a new **law restricting the use of coal-based sealers on pavements**.

### VII. Water Quality.

A. Staff's February 4, 2010 memo\* outlined the proposed **SC/WM water monitoring program for 2010**. At the January meeting the Commission approved a 1-2 year special program to perform water quality and flow monitoring in the watershed and on Mattson Brook, where macroinvertebrate monitoring (River Watch) will also take place. Wetland health monitoring (WHEP) of two wetlands in West Mississippi will also occur as part of the 2010 program. Motion by Jaeger, second by Knutson to approve the 2010 Monitoring Program as proposed at a cost not to exceed \$51,610.00. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. The **2010 Monitoring Agreement with Hennepin County** will be considered at the March meeting.

### VIII. Watershed Management Plan.

A. **2010 Goals and Work Plan**.\* In response to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' (BWSR) comments during its Performance Review of the Commission in 2009, the Commission agreed to focus the annual report on a more detailed self-assessment of progress toward management plan goals and the preparation of a more

detailed annual work plan. Because the goals and work plan are budget-driven, in future years Staff recommends that the initial goals and work plan discussion occur during the budget process and be reviewed again the following January. Based on past discussions and the 2010 budget, Staff assembled draft 2010 goals, strategies and work plan for Commission discussion. The document will also be brought to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for review and comment at their February 25, 2010 meeting.

1. Develop Mississippi River TMDL and other management strategies.
  - a. Participate in Mississippi River bacterial TMDL working groups.
  - b. Stay abreast of implementation strategies proposed for Lake Pepin TMDL, bacterial TMDL, etc.
  - c. Stay abreast of Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area rulemaking revisions.
2. Complete the Wetland Management Plan. Receive and summarize City priority wetlands functions and values assessments, direct TAC to develop and recommend a Wetland Management Plan.
3. Partner with other organizations to increase reach and cost effectiveness.
  - a. Participate in new West Metro Water Alliance joint education and outreach group.
  - b. Develop partnership with USGS to evaluate groundwater recharge in the watershed.
  - c. Work with Champlin as a case study in evaluating effectiveness of retrofitting BMPs.
4. Continue ongoing administration and programming.
  - a. Complete a Major Plan Amendment to set up the Cost Share Program.
  - b. Continue to pursue grant funding for projects and programs.
  - c. Complete 2010 monitoring on outfalls, Mattson Brook, and ponds and evaluate for year to (2011).
  - d. Volunteer stream monitoring through RiverWatch (Hennepin County).
  - e. Volunteer wetland monitoring through WHEP (Hennepin County).
  - f. Continue developing P8 model.
  - g. Prepare annual water quality report.
  - h. Review feasibility studies for 2010 proposed capital projects, hold public hearings, and order projects.
  - i. Prepare a 2011 annual budget.
  - j. Invite three guest speakers to make lunchtime water resources presentations.
  - k. Tour project sites in the watershed.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Knutson to transmit the 2010 Goals and Work Plan to BWSR. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**B. Cost Share Program.\*** On February 3, 2010 Staff met with Brad Wozney, Board Conservationist for BWSR, to review the proposed major plan amendment concept and the draft language. In general, BWSR is supportive of the Cost Share Program (CSP) concept and how it is proposed to be administered. However, BWSR does not support replacing the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with the CSP. It is BWSR's direction that projects with known specificity should still be listed by line item in the CIP, and that the CSP should be used as a mechanism for projects that come up between plan amendments. To minimize the number of plan amendments, BWSR is supportive of preparing plan amendments no more frequently than biannually. The following is generally how it would operate.

1. The Commissions are currently undertaking a Major Plan Revision to adopt the CSP and to add projects to the CIP.
2. Any projects that are presented to the Commissions between the adoption of the CIP in September 2010 and the next "Plan Amendment Cycle" in January 2012 could be considered for funding through the CSP.

3. In January 2012 any projects on the CSP that have not yet been approved by the Commissions, plus any new projects, could be incorporated into a Major Plan Amendment and added to the CIP.

A current version of the CSP and CIP and descriptions of all the projects on those programs would be posted at all times on the Commissions' web site, along with any prioritization criteria used to evaluate whether the Commissions should share in the cost of each project.

While this is not everything the Commissions hoped to achieve with the Cost Share Program, BWSR is supportive of proceeding in this manner until the Commissions develop their Third Generation Plan.

The following schedule sets forth the process the Commissions must follow to complete the proposed major plan amendment in a timely manner. This schedule assumes approval at the August 2010 BWSR Metro Committee and BWSR Board meetings.

February 12, 2010	Send out 60-day review document
April 13, 2010	Completion of 60 day review
May 13, 2010	Public hearing (30 days, must be within 30-45 days of 60-day period)
May 14, 2010	Send out 45-day review documents
June 30 or so	Completion of 45-day review
July or August	County consideration and approval
August	BWSR consideration and approval
September 9, 2010	Adoption of amendment, project hearings and certification if necessary

Staff was directed to continue discussions with BWSR to refine the process being considered. Motion by Knutson, second by Jaeger to move forward with the current amendment to the CIP and that the proposed CSP, as it is developed, be moved forward in a separate track. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**IX. Project Reviews.** There were no projects.

**X. Education and Public Outreach Program.**

**A. Water Quality Education Grants.** No applications were received.

**B.** The **West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA)** has concentrated its efforts in developing a west metro-wide education and public outreach plan. Members of the committee, representing the Bassett Creek, Elm Creek, Pioneer-Sarah Creek, Shingle Creek and West Mississippi WMOs, Three Rivers Park District and Hennepin County Environmental Service, reviewed a third iteration draft plan at their January 5, 2010 meeting. Since the WMWA's February meeting was cancelled, a final draft will be presented to the Commissions at their March meetings. At that time prospective members will be asked to:

1. Recognize the West Metro Water Alliance as a consortium of organizations working to provide coordinated education and outreach on water resources issues in the West Metro Area.
2. Authorize participation in the WMWA.
3. Designate a formal representative from the Commission to the WMWA.
4. Provide comments on the vision, mission, goals, and draft Plan and administrative structure.

**C.** A draft of the **2009 NPDES Activity Report** will be available prior to the March meeting.

**XI. Grant Opportunities.**

The Commissioners received copies of the **Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund 2011-2012 Request for Proposals.**\* Deadline to submit proposals is Friday, April 9, 2010.



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**XII. Other Business.**

**A. Election of Officers.** The Commission presented the following slate of candidates: Carstens, Chair; Young, Vice Chair; Jaeger, Secretary/Treasurer. There being no further nominations, motion by Jaeger, second by Knutson to close nominations and elect the slate by acclamation. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**B. Annual Appointments.** Motion by Jaeger, second by Knutson to approve the following appointments for 2010.

1. MNSun.com and pressnews.com, as the Commission's **official newspapers;**
2. 4MFund/US Bank as the Commission's **official depositories;**
3. Judie Anderson as **Deputy Treasurer;** and
4. Johnson & Company to perform the **2009 Audit.**

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**C. Meeting Times.** Knutson requested clarification re the timing of the West Mississippi meeting and discussion undertaken during the Shingle Creek meeting that pertained to both WMOs. He was given a brief history of the two commissions and was advised that West Mississippi commissioners may participate in the discussions that occur during the Shingle Creek meeting. The meeting agendas will be restructured to better indicate when participation by the joint group is appropriate.

**D. Adjournment.** There being no further business before the Commission, motion by Jaeger, second by Young to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judie A. Anderson".

Judie A. Anderson  
Recording Secretary  
JAA:tim

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