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MINUTES
November 8, 2007

I. A meeting of the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission was called to order by Chair Tina Carstens on Thursday, November 8, 2007, at 1:39 p.m., at Lancer at Edinburgh, 8700 Edinbrook Crossing, Brooklyn Park, MN.

Present were: Kathleen Carmody, Brooklyn Center; Tina Carstens, Brooklyn Park; Matt Swenson, Champlin; Karen Jaeger, Maple Grove; Charlie LeFevere, Kennedy & Graven; Ed Matthiesen, Wenck Associates, Inc.; and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Not represented: Osseo.

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

III. Motion by Carstens, second by Carmody to approve the **minutes of the October 11, 2007 meeting**. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Motion by Carmody, second by Swenson to approve the **Treasurer's Report**. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Motion by Jaeger, second by Swenson to approve the **November claims**. Claims totaling \$6,316.58 were approved by roll call vote: ayes – Carmody, Carstens, Swenson, and Jaeger; nays - none; absent - Osseo.

VI. Communications. The Commissioners received copies of the following:

A. October Communications Log. No action required.

B. Notice of a Pervious Pavement Seminar, December 11, 2007, in Prior Lake, MN.

VII. Water Quality.

A. On October 17, 2007 Staff attended a stakeholders meeting for the **Minneapolis Source Water Protection Plan**. An eight-hour time-of-travel area has been delineated for the Mississippi River intake. Much of the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi watersheds is located in Minneapolis' delineated Priority Area A, an eight-hour time of travel area. The Minneapolis Water Utility is evaluating which actions in the larger Upper Mississippi River Basin Source Water Protection Plan would be applicable to adopt in its plan and whether there are additional actions unique to the Minneapolis protection area to add to the local plan.

The stakeholder meeting was called to introduce the plan, gather information about data availability, problems and issues, and identify possible future collaborative efforts. A few issues generated some discussion. These included resolving conflicts between the desire to reduce stormwater volumes through infiltration while at the same time protecting groundwater quality and coordinating monitoring parameters. Also attending the meeting besides Minneapolis staff were the administrators for the Mississippi WMO and Coon Creek and Rice Creek WDs; and representatives from the Elm Creek and Lower Rum River WMOs; Met Council and Department of Health. Each stakeholder agreed to provide the city's consultant with information on stormsheds and outfalls within the eight-hour time of travel areas; identify any known BMPs in place for spill response; and monitoring data. At this time no specific actions have been requested of the Commissions except to provide information on monitoring and known outfalls. For most of the other activities or information Minneapolis will go directly to the affected cities.

B. The Commission has received responses to its comments re the **Brooklyn Park Nondegradation Report** in a memorandum from the City's consultants dated November 1, 2007. (See October 11, 2007 minutes.) No action is required.

VIII. Project Reviews. There were no projects.

IX. Second Generation Plan.

A. In May 2007 the Commission adopted a **Major Plan Amendment** to its Second Generation Plan revising the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and adopting the Water Quality Plan. Members have two years to **complete functions and values assessments for priority wetlands in their cities**. Members with projects listed in the CIP must request the Commission to **initiate the project approval process**.



B. Except for those with land in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District or the Mississippi WMO, all the cities in Shingle Creek/West Mississippi should have completed a **local water management plan** update by the end of 2006. Currently, Brooklyn Center has a completed and approved plan; Brooklyn Park anticipates completing their plan by the end of 2007; and Maple Grove will complete their LWP in tandem with the completion of their Comprehensive Plan. The status of the Champlin and Osseo plans is unknown.

X. Education and Public Outreach Program.

A. Water Quality Education Grants. One grant application is still pending, awaiting follow-up from Champlin Park High School.

B. Collaborative Activities.

1. Public Opinion Survey. Decision Resources is making final revisions to the questions and is developing the sampling strategy. Calling will begin in mid-November. Results should be available by the end of the year.

2. The joint EPOC (with Bassett and Elm Creek WMOs) received a new proposal from Metro Blooms to provide **rain garden workshops** for residents in the watersheds. It will cost the four WMOs a total of about \$6,000 to offer two "Workshop As" and one "Workshop B." The Workshop As would serve up to 200 participants. These workshops are a do-it-yourself approach for constructing a rain garden. The Workshop B would serve up to 40 participants and is tailored to participants who would like help and hands-on assistance in designing their rain garden. Metro Blooms reports that many people are able to successfully design and install their rain gardens based solely on the information they get at Workshop A.

The four Commissions have approved contributions for this purpose totaling \$6,000. This budget would cover the cost of having Metro Blooms provide the workshops. There would be an additional cost for facilities, promotion, etc. The EPOC recommends that cities contribute \$1,500 cash or in-kind as their share of those costs. Cities that cooperate to sponsor a workshop would share that \$1,500 cost. In-kind services might include: providing a facility at no charge, providing refreshments, staff time, etc. Motion by Carmody, second by Swenson to approve this contribution recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Burnett County Shoreline Buffer Incentive Program. The EPOC has reviewed the materials provided by Matthiesen and recommends that the Commission consider this program as a joint effort with neighboring WMOs and Hennepin County. The EPOC further recommends that the Commission propose to Hennepin County that it pursue such a program county-wide through Hennepin County Department of Environmental Services (DES) or the Hennepin Conservation District (HCD). HCD may have access to state or federal funds specifically for buffer installation to help fund this effort. The program may also be eligible for Natural Resource Incentives for Critical Habitat (NRICH) funds through DES. Swenson indicated he will also discuss the project with State Rep. Rick Hansen. Staff was requested to explore opportunities to undertake this project.

XI. Grant Opportunities.

XII. Other Business.

A. Motion by Swenson, second by Jaeger to accept the Commission's **2006 Annual Report** subject to review and comment by November 26, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Adjournment. There being no further business before the Commission, motion by Swenson, second by Carmody to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judie A. Anderson
Recording Secretary
JAA:tim