

**MINUTES**  
June 10, 2021

A virtual meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions was called to order by Acting Chair Andrew Hogg at 11:33 a.m., Thursday, June 10, 2021.

Present: Andrew Hogg, Brooklyn Center; Mitch Robinson and Samantha Nguyen, Brooklyn Park; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Liz Stout, Minneapolis; Megan Hedstrom, New Hope; Ben Scharenbroich and Amy Riegel, Plymouth; Richard McCoy and Marta Roser, Robbinsdale; Ed Matthiesen, Diane Spector, and Todd Shoemaker, Wenck/Stantec; and Judie Anderson, Amy Juntunen, and Beverly Love, JASS.

Not represented: Champlin, Crystal, and Osseo.

Also present: Burt Orred, Crystal, and Jacob Zea, Wenck/Stantec.

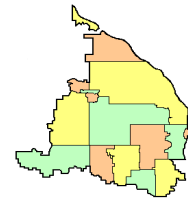
- I. Motion by Riegel, second by Hedstrom to **approve the agenda.**\* *Motion carried unanimously.*
- II. Motion by Riegel, second by Stout to **approve the minutes\***of the May 13, 2021, meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*
- III. **Ryan Lake Subwatershed Assessment.**

Earlier this year the Commission authorized development of a subwatershed assessment for Ryan Lake to assess the potential impacts of pumping discharge from two landlocked systems into Ryan - the Gaulke Pond chain in the city of Crystal, and Crystal Lake in Robbinsdale. Each depends on permanent pumps to manage water levels and minimize flooding. From 2014 to 2019, the Twin Cities received what was effectively an extra year of precipitation. This required each City to actively manage pumping more than ever before and motivated this study to determine potential downstream effects of increasing the discharge from and changing the timing of pumping from Gaulke Pond and Crystal Lake.

Shoemaker presented the results of this study, which was based on a model created by merging two existing PCSWMM hydrologic and hydraulic models: the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission preliminary HUC-8 model ("Commission Model") and the Gaulke Pond watershed model developed for the City of Crystal *Central Core Stormwater Project*.

Two baseline or existing conditions were established based on existing Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) permits for pumping from Crystal Lake. Staff used the baseline models to evaluate eleven different alternatives or modifications to Gaulke Pond, Crystal Lake and other watershed features. These alternatives include modifying storm sewer, adding storage in the upper watershed, and various pumping scenarios. General conclusions from the alternatives analysis included:

- A. Crystal Lake – slight reductions to the maximum water surface elevations but significant reductions to the duration of high-water on Crystal Lake for the 10-, 50-, and 100-year events.
- B. Gaulke Pond – maximum water levels were reduced by 0.1 to 0.3 feet and the durations of high-water reduced by up to one-third.



**C. Twin Lake and Ryan Lake –**

**1.** Some alternatives may increase the duration of high-water on Twin Lake with a simultaneous reduction of high-water duration on Ryan Lake.

**2.** Some alternatives will increase the 100-year flood elevation of Ryan Lake by up to 0.1 feet compared to the Baseline 1 Model. However, there is no change to the 100-year flood elevation when compared to Baseline 2 as a result of proposed pumping on Crystal Lake and Gaulke Pond, which also reflects an existing permitted operating condition.

**D.** Permanent pumping from Crystal Lake to Ryan Lake may increase total phosphorus loading to Ryan Lake by up to four percent. This is not significant, so pumping from Crystal Lake to Ryan Lake is not expected to negatively impact the water quality of Ryan Lake.

*[McCoy assumed the Chair.]*

**IV. SRP Channel Filter.** The Commission will consider a Scope of Services for design and construction oversight at the regular meeting.

**V. Fourth Generation Watershed Management Plan.\***

Spector led a brainstorming session to start the members thinking about what to include in the Fourth Generation Watershed Management Plan and how to proceed. Staff will use the outcome of this discussion to put together a scope of work and budget for consideration at the July TAC/Commission meetings.

The Commissions' Third Generation Plan covers the period 2013-2022 and was approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) March 2013 and adopted by the Commissions in April 2013. The Commissions should plan on achieving a BWSR-approved plan by the end of 2022 so it can be in place to cover the period 2023-2032. To allow six months for the review and approval process, a draft Fourth Generation Plan should be completed by mid-2022.

Under State Statutes and Minnesota Rules 8410, which govern what must be included in the watershed management plan, much of the background information that was developed over the course of the first three plans does not need to be repeated except to reflect any changed conditions, such as updated land use information, or newly-identified Impaired Waters. Most of the focus will be on updating goals and policies and the Implementation Plan. As long as the Commissioners meet the regulatory minimums for what must be in the Plan, the rest is up to them.

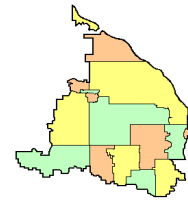
Listed below are things that have come up in previous discussions or from Staff brainstorming. Members are urged to suggest additional topics to be considered. The purpose of this discussion is not to solve or debate these questions but for Staff to get a better understanding of the level of effort to address them and to complete the Plan update.

(1) Do the Commissions wish to revisit merging into a single Joint Powers Organization or remain separate but jointly administered? The current JPA terminates January 1, 2025, so at a minimum it must be renewed during the life of the Fourth Generation Plan.

(2) Presumably this group will serve as the TAC for the Plan. Do you wish to recruit and involve a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)? If so, how?

(3) How do you want to involve elected officials or City Managers? In the past we have had a single meeting for City Managers to get them up to speed and hear their needs and thoughts.

(4) What type of public participation process should be undertaken for this Plan? What should be the role of the lake associations? Since much of the watershed falls into the MPCA's Areas of Environmental Justice Concern, should we plan on making a special effort to reach out to underserved communities or non-English speakers?



(5) Do you want the Plan to be a simple update that consists mainly of Implementation Plan, or do you want a stand-alone plan that also incorporates all the inventory data and TMDL 5-Year Review findings that serves as a more comprehensive volume?

(6) One big policy question is: as implementation expands from solely “brick and mortar” type capital projects to include other ongoing or maintenance type activities such as rough fish management, aquatic invasive species management, maintenance of installed projects, etc., who should be responsible for each and how should they be financed? Where is the line between city responsibility and Commission responsibility?

(7) Another big policy question is addressing sustainability and resiliency and addressing the impacts of climate change on water and natural resources. What are your thoughts about level of focus?

(8) Are there updates to the current Rules and Standards that need to be considered? At a minimum there are some modifications that are necessary to reflect the most recent General Stormwater permit, but are there others?

(9) Are there other policy topics that need to be covered during the plan process?

It was mentioned that updates to the Rules and Standards can be made at any time and would be uploaded to the Commissions’ website. Members briefly discussed consideration of maintenance as a capital project on certain defined projects. Climate and sustainability should be covered, acknowledging that they exist, monitoring their impacts, but not focusing greatly on them. Data-driven rather than opinion is better. Discuss environmental justice, under-addressed communities, but stay out of politics. Include implementation activities. Strive for a more comprehensive document.

Spector will return to the July TAC and regular meetings with a scope of content as well as a calendar/timeline of activities to be completed.

## VI. Updates.

Roser reported that the **Crystal Lake alum treatment** was postponed today due to high Phosphorus readings. If they remain high, the treatment may have to be undertaken in the fall. WSB will set the baited box nets for **carp capture** tomorrow.

## VII. Other Business.

**Next meeting** – 11:30 a.m., Thursday, July 8, 2021, prior to the regular meeting. This will be a virtual meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:42 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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