

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

December 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 West Mississippi Chairman Gerry Butcher at 12:46 p.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2020.

Present for Shingle Creek were: David Vlasin, Brooklyn Center; Adam Quinn, Brooklyn Park; Burton Orred, Jr., Crystal; Karen Jaeger, Maple Grove; Ray Schoch, Minneapolis; Bill Wills, New Hope; John Roach, Osseo; Leah Gifford, Plymouth; Wayne Sicora, Robbinsdale; Ed Matthiesen, Diane Spector, and Katie Kemmitt, Wenck Associates, Inc.; Troy Gilchrist, Kennedy & Graven; and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Present for West Mississippi were: David Vlasin, Brooklyn Center, Alex Prash, Brooklyn Park; Gerry Butcher, Champlin; Karen Jaeger, Maple Grove; Harold E. Johnson, Osseo; Ed Matthiesen, Diane Spector, and Katie Kemmitt, 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; Todd Tuominen, Champlin; Mark Ray, Crystal; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Liz Stout, Minneapolis; Bob Grant and Megan Hedstrom, New Hope; Ben Scharenbroich and Amy Riegel, Plymouth; Richard McCoy and Marta Roser, Robbinsdale; Erick Megow, Wenck Associates; and Professor John Chapman, University of Minnesota.

### II. Agendas and Minutes.

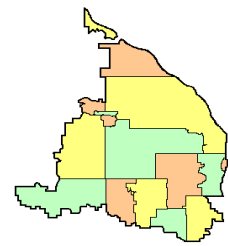
Motion by Schoch, second by Roach to approve the **Shingle Creek agenda**.*\* Motion carried unanimously.*

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

[Sicora arrived 12:48 p.m.]

Motion by Schoch, second by Sicora to approve the **minutes of the November 12, 2020 regular meeting**.*\* Motion carried unanimously.*

Motion by Roach, second by Butcher to approve the **minutes of the November 12, 2020 regular meeting**.*\* Motion carried unanimously.*



### III. Finances and Reports.

**A.** Motion by Jaeger, second by Schoch to approve the Shingle Creek **December Treasurer's Report\* and claims** totaling \$165,591.20. Voting aye: Vlasin, Quinn, Orred, Jaeger, Schoch, Wills, Roach, Gifford, and Sicora; voting nay – none.

**B.** Motion by Jaeger, second by Butcher to approve the **West Mississippi November Treasurer's Report\* and claims** totaling \$17,715.57. Voting aye: Vlasin, Prasch, Butcher, Jaeger, and Roach; voting nay – none.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Roach to approve the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization invoice for the 65th Avenue monitoring in the amount of \$10,996.76. This invoice was included in the claims. *Motion carried unanimously.*

*[Johnson arrived 12:50 p.m.]*

### IV. Open Forum.

**A.** **Professor John Chapman** presented, "What can we learn from urban stormwater manhole sumps?" Using inspection and clean-out records for 150 structures in the Twin Cities and 19 structures in St. Cloud from 2009 to 2019, his team was able to determine that inspection and clean-out twice/year allowed for a greater chance of full sediment capture. When modeling, a PSD coarser than NURP50 may be needed to represent an urban site. A sediment concentration of 400 mg/l may also better represent urban sites.

Chapman is an Assistant Research Professor for the University of Minnesota Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering and also serves as the Director of the Erosion and Stormwater Management Certification Program. He holds a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering and is a registered engineer in Minnesota and Colorado. He also conducts workshops for engineers, contractors and other professionals on stormwater management technology and regulations. His presentation will be uploaded to the Commissions' website at [http://www.shinglecreek.org/uploads/5/7/7/6/57762663/12-20-s\\_mtg\\_pkt\\_scwm.pdf](http://www.shinglecreek.org/uploads/5/7/7/6/57762663/12-20-s_mtg_pkt_scwm.pdf).

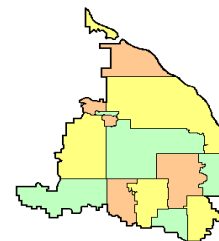
**B.** Matthiesen announced that **Wenck Associates has been purchased by Stantec**, effective January 1, 2021. No changes in the role of Wenck as the Commissions' technical advisor are anticipated.

### V. Project Reviews.

**A.** **SC2020-010 Hartkopf Park, Brooklyn Park.\*** The proposed project is park improvements including parking lot replacement, the addition of prefabricated restrooms, a large, multi-purpose grass field area, and new trails on a 25.3-acre city park parcel located at 7300 Florida Avenue North. 8.7 acres will be disturbed. There is no increase in impervious surface proposed. A complete project review application was received on November 20, 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 parking lot is routed to two catch basins that will be outfitted with 4-foot sumps to treat runoff before it is discharged to the city storm sewer. A filtration basin on the east side of the new basketball courts will filter runoff from the courts before it is discharged to city storm sewer. A shallow infiltration basin on the east side of the park will infiltrate runoff from the sports field and existing trail. It will be outfitted with an overflow structure that flows to city storm sewer during the 10 and 100-



year events. Grassed areas adjacent to paved trails provide additional infiltration and water quality treatment. The grassed trail areas, infiltration basin, and filtration basin have the capacity to infiltrate 1.3 inches of runoff from the impervious area within the disturbed project area. The applicant meets Commission water quality treatment requirements.

Commission rules require that site runoff is limited to predevelopment rates for the 2-, 10-, and 100-year storm events. Runoff from the site is routed to a filtration basin, infiltration basin, and to vegetated buffers to reduce peak runoff. 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, but the applicant proposes to infiltrate 1.3 inches of runoff to meet the water quality requirements. The new and reconstructed impervious area on this site is 1.19 acres, requiring infiltration of 5,601 CF within 48 hours. The applicant proposes that the filtration basin, infiltration basin, and grassed trail areas have the capacity to infiltrate 6,505 CF within 48 hours. The applicant meets Commission volume control requirements.

The erosion control plan includes rock construction entrances, perimeter fabric fence and bioroll, silt fence surrounding infiltration and filtration basins, inlet protection, and native seed specified in the filtration basin. 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 eastern side of the site is located in a Drinking Water Management Area (DWSMA) but is outside of the Emergency Response Area. The applicant proposes to infiltrate runoff through a vegetated filtration basin and a vegetated infiltration basin containing 18 inches of MNDOT biofiltration soil and seed and 6 inches of drainage. The applicant meets Commission drinking water protection requirements.

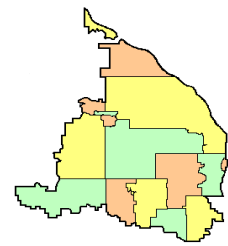
Door knocking, in-person public engagement events, and surveys were conducted between January and February 2020 for the project. Mailers were sent out to the park's surrounding neighborhoods. The applicant meets Commission public notice requirements.

An Operations & Maintenance (O&M) agreement for stormwater BMP maintenance is not needed since the project is owned by the City.

A project review fee of \$2,200 is being sent to the Commission by the City.

Motion by Schoch, second by Roach to advise the City of Brooklyn Park that project SC2020-10 is approved conditioned that the applicant can demonstrate by double ring infiltrometer or witness test that the filtration and infiltration basins can meet the design infiltration rate of 0.80 inches/hour. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**B. SC2020-011 Lakeland Park, Brooklyn Park.\*** Park improvements including parking lot mill and overlay, replacement of a concrete picnic pad, two new basketball courts, a new paved trail loop, and regrading to create a new grass field area. The site is 10.03 acres. The project, located at 6901 66th Avenue North, will disturb 7 acres and result in a 0.48-acre increase to the impervious area. A complete project application was received on November 20, 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 to a 1-foot deep infiltration ditch surrounding the newly constructed multi-use fields and an infiltration basin north of the building and existing playground outfitted with an overflow structure that flows to city storm sewer during 2-, 10-, and 100-year events. Parking lot runoff drains directly to city storm sewer. Grassed areas adjacent to the new trails provide additional infiltration. The grassed trail areas, infiltration basin, and infiltration ditch have the capacity to infiltrate 1.3 inches of runoff from the impervious area within the disturbed project area. The applicant meets Commission water quality treatment requirements.

Commission rules require that site runoff is limited to predevelopment rates for the 2-, 10-, and 100-year storm events. Runoff from the site is infiltrated on site by an infiltration basin, infiltration ditch, and vegetated buffers. Site runoff for the 2-year event exceeds the pre-existing rate due to the additional impervious area that drains to the existing parking lot. 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, but the applicant proposes to infiltrate 1.3 inches of runoff to meet the water quality requirements. The new impervious area on this site is 1.52 acres, requiring infiltration of 7,170 CF within 48 hours. The applicant proposes an infiltration ditch and basin that have the capacity to infiltrate 7,170 CF within 48 hours. The infiltration ditch is outside of the paved trail and should not have compaction due to foot traffic. The applicant meets Commission volume control requirements.

The erosion control plan includes rock construction entrances, perimeter silt fence and bioroll, silt fence surrounding the infiltration pond and bordering the infiltration basin, and inlet protection. The erosion control plan meets Commission requirements.

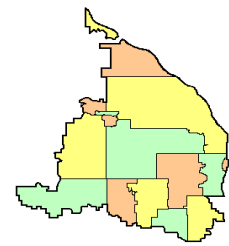
The National Wetlands Inventory identified an emergent wetland on site; however, a field wetland delineation determined that there are no wetlands on-site. The applicant meets Commission wetland requirements. There are no Public Waters on this site. The applicant meets Commission Public Waters requirements. There is no FEMA-regulated floodplain on this site. The applicant meets Commission floodplain requirements. The site is not located in a Drinking Water Management Area (DWSMA). The applicant meets Commission drinking water protection requirements.

Door knocking, in-person public engagement events, and surveys were conducted between January-February 2020 for the project. Mailers were sent out to the park's surrounding neighborhoods. The applicant meets Commission public notice requirements.

An Operations & Maintenance (O&M) agreement for stormwater BMP maintenance is not needed because the project is owned by the City.

A project review fee of \$2,200 is being sent to the Commission by the City.

Motion by Schoch, second by Jaeger to advise the City of Brooklyn Park that project SC2020-11 is approved conditioned that the applicant can demonstrate by double ring infiltrometer or witness test that the infiltration basin can meet the design infiltration rate of 0.45 inches/hour. *Motion carried unanimously.*



In response to a concern expressed by Commissioner Gifford, following the meeting Matthiesen determined that the infiltration ditch is outside of the trail and there should be little to no foot traffic through it.

**C. SC2020-012 Norwood Park, Brooklyn Park.\*** Park improvements including a new park building, reconstructed parking lot, a new basketball court, a small concrete pad, and new trails on a 32-acre city park parcel located at 8100 Newton Avenue North. 8.3 acres will be disturbed. There will be no net increase in impervious area. A complete project application was received on November 20, 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 north side of the parking lot is routed to a catch basin that will be outfitted with 4-foot sump to treat runoff before it is discharged to the City storm sewer. The south portion of the parking lot, a portion of the building roof, and the existing pickleball courts drain to a proposed infiltration basin that overflows to City storm sewer during the 10- and 100-year events. Vegetated areas adjacent to the newly constructed trails will provide further infiltration. The grassed trail areas, and infiltration basin have the capacity to infiltrate 1.3 inches of runoff from the impervious area within the disturbed project area. The applicant meets Commission water quality treatment requirements.

Commission rules require that site runoff is limited to predevelopment rates for the 2-, 10-, and 100-year storm events. Runoff from the site is infiltrated on site by an infiltration basin and vegetated trail buffer. The applicant meets Commission rate control requirements.

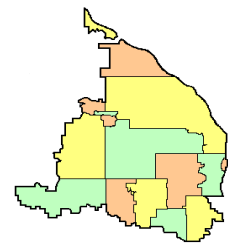
Commission rules require the site to infiltrate 1.0 inch of runoff from new impervious area within 48 hours. The applicant proposes to infiltrate 1.3 inches of runoff to meet the water quality requirements. The disturbed impervious area on this site is 1.1 acres, requiring infiltration of 5,209 CF within 48 hours. The applicant proposes an infiltration ditch and basin that have the capacity to infiltrate 5,326 CF within 48 hours. The applicant meets Commission volume control requirements.

The erosion control plan includes rock construction entrances, perimeter silt fence and bioroll, silt fence surrounding the infiltration basin, native seed in the infiltration basin, inlet protection, and turf transition mat at the trench drain inlet to the infiltration basin. The erosion control plan meets Commission requirements.

The National Wetlands Inventory identified potential wetlands on site; however, a field wetland delineation determined that there are no 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 not located in a Drinking Water Management Area (DWSMA). The applicant meets Commission drinking water protection requirements.

Door knocking, in-person public engagement events, and surveys were conducted between January-February 2020 for the project. Mailers were sent out to the park's surrounding neighborhoods. The applicant meets Commission public notice requirements.

An Operations & Maintenance (O&M) agreement for stormwater BMP maintenance is not needed because the project is owned by the City.



A project review fee of \$2,200 is being sent to the Commission by the City.

Motion by Schoch, second by Gifford to advise the City of Brooklyn Park that project SC2020-12 is approved conditioned that the applicant can demonstrate by double ring infiltrometer or witness test that the infiltration ditch and the infiltration basin can meet the design infiltration rate of 0.45 inches/hour. *Motion carried unanimously.*

#### VI. Watershed Management Plan.

Staff's December 4, 2020 memo\* provides an assessment of the progress made toward the goals of the Commissions' **2020 Work Plan**. The Third Generation Watershed Management Plan states that the Commissions will annually review progress toward Third Generation goals and that this evaluation will become part of the Annual Report.

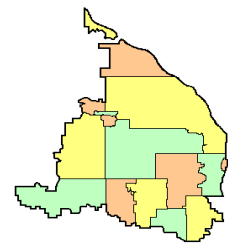
The purpose of the annual review is to determine progress towards the goals and to be sure the Commissions stay on track to reach them. The annual review is also an opportunity to discuss whether the goals and actions in the Plan still make sense or if they should be modified or enhanced, perhaps to add new priorities. Ideally, this annual review is also an opportunity to start thinking about the 2021 work plan. Some highlights of the past year include:

#### ROUTINE BUSINESS

- Shingle Creek completed 12 reviews of development/redevelopment projects. The Commission acted as the WCA LGU for three wetland delineation/wetland type reviews; one no or incidental loss determination; and one exemption.
- West Mississippi completed seven reviews of development/redevelopment projects. The Commission acted as the WCA LGU for one wetland delineation/wetland type review; and two no or incidental loss determinations.
- Completed routine flow and water quality monitoring on Shingle and Bass Creeks at three locations, the Environmental Preserve (WM), contracted with MWMO at the 65th Avenue outfall (WM) and partnered with the USGS to maintain the USGS Shingle Creek real-time site.
- Undertook water quality monitoring on Eagle and Pike Lakes; Bass and Pomerleau Lakes; and Crystal Lake.
- Performed aquatic vegetation surveys and sampled zooplankton and phytoplankton on Crystal, Eagle, Pike, and Meadow Lakes, and curly-leaf pondweed delineations on Bass, Pomerleau, and Upper Twin Lakes.
- Completed a carp survey on Crystal Lake and a turtle survey on Meadow Lake.
- Watershed PREP classroom lessons were on hold due to COVID.

#### STUDIES

- The Shingle Creek Commission continued to work with the DNR to update the Special Flood Hazard Areas in the watershed ("the HUC8 Study").
- Compiled data and completed two DO longitudinal surveys on Bass and Shingle Creeks for the Biotic and DO TMDL 5 year review.
- Worked with the City of New Hope and Meadow Lake Watershed Association to prepare and submit a Clean Water Fund grant application and to prepare a water appropriation permit to draw down Meadow Lake
- Completed work on a subwatershed assessment for that part of Minneapolis that is within the Shingle Creek watershed.



## PROJECTS

- Undertook year two of the SRP Reduction Project treatment system and monitored effectiveness.
- Worked with the City of Plymouth to undertake alum treatments on Bass and Pomerleau Lakes.
- Prepared and submitted Clean Water Fund grant application for the Shingle Creek Connections II and Bass Creek stream restoration projects.
- The Shingle Creek Commission received \$110,000 Watershed-Based Implementation Funding for the Meadow Lake and Connections II projects.

Tables attached to Staff's memo show each Third Generation Plan goal, noting progress to date and expected completion. Each of the strategic actions identified for the goal areas are also shown, noting work completed in 2020 and to date, as well as expected completion as general status. For the most part the Commissions are on track to meet goals, with the following exceptions:

- Work has not yet begun on the "sustainable water budget" project. Staff have had discussions with USGS staff about this but have not yet identified a funding source for this project.
- While Lower Twin, Ryan, and Schmidt Lakes have been delisted from the draft Impaired Waters list, you have a stretch goal of achieving delisting for Bass, Eagle, Crystal, and Middle Twin Lakes. The alum treatments on Bass and Pomerleau Lakes have already significantly improved water quality in those lakes and Staff hope to achieve a similar result in Crystal Lake. However they have not accumulated data for a long enough period for the lake to be delisted prior to the expiration of the Third Generation Plan.
- The Commissions have a goal to have completed subwatershed assessments for at least 25% of that part of the watersheds that developed prior to Commission rules in 1984. West Mississippi is on track to complete this goal but only 14% of pre-1984 development Shingle Creek will have been completed when the Minneapolis Subwatershed Assessment is completed. A more achievable goal would be 15%.
- The Commissions have a goal of maintaining the functions and values of priority wetlands but have not established a process by which that would be evaluated.

Motion by Jaeger, second by Schoch to adopt the 2020 review. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Motion by Johnson, second by Butcher to adopt the 2020 review. *Motion carried unanimously.*

## **VII. Water Quality.**

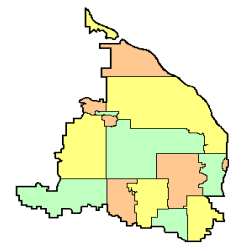
Staff presented an overview of the **2020 monitoring activities on Crystal Lake**. Tasks included bi-weekly water quality monitoring, collection of sediment cores, a spring vegetation survey, a carp population and age study, and zooplankton and phytoplankton monitoring. The purpose of the monitoring is to provide comprehensive baseline conditions prior to undertaking the 2021 alum treatment.

The sediment core data showed high potential phosphorus release from lake sediments.

Water quality (chlorophyll-a, TP, and Secchi depth) in 2020 did not meet State standards.

Little or no aquatic vegetation was found, resulting in a low Lake Floristic Quality Index (FQI). Two aquatic plant species were found during the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) survey – curly-leaf pondweed and white water lily.

The DNR fisheries survey did not occur in 2020 due to COVID-19. Seventy-nine carp were captured in the Carp Abundance and Biomass Survey, equating to 311 lbs/acre. (The water quality impairment threshold is 89 lbs/acre.)



Preliminary data from the Otolith (fish aging) survey showed two distinct age classes – 6-9 years old and 13-16 years old.

Cyanobacteria were observed in the lake in August and dominated the summer phytoplankton community. The zooplankton community was dominated by taxa commonly seen in eutrophic lakes

Staff will continue to interpret the data collected and begin preparing for the Spring 2021 alum treatment.

#### **VIII. Grant Opportunities.**

**A.** Included with Staff's December 4, 2020 memo\* are the final versions of the two Hennepin County Opportunity Grant applications for the SRP Channel Extension and Ryan Lake Shoreline Stabilization projects.

**1. SRP Channel Extension.\*** This \$125,000 project would fill approximately 400 linear feet of the channel downstream of the Wetland 639W overflow weir with "cells" of iron-enhanced sand (IES). The cells are separated by a short clay berm that allows the flow to pool and filter through the IES to a drain tile at the bottom of the channel. It is estimated that this project will remove about 50 pounds of soluble reactive phosphorus (SRP) from the outflow discharging directly to Upper Twin Lake. SRP is the form of phosphorus that is most readily taken up by plants, and fuels algae blooms. The grant request is for \$75,000, with \$50,000 in match proposed from the Closed Projects Account.

**2. Ryan Lake Shoreline Stabilization.\*** Advanced by the City of Robbinsdale, this resiliency project would target ten private properties on the lake that currently are experiencing erosion and instability due to changed precipitation patterns, and would protect them from any further damage that might occur when emergency overflow pumping from Crystal Lake occurs. This grant request is for \$50,000, matched \$50,000 from the Partnership Cost Share program. Participants will be required to agree to maintain the buffers for at least ten years.

**3.** Also included in the meeting packet is an email\* from Kris Guentzel from Hennepin County outlining the timeline for the Opportunity Grant application review process. Funding recommendations are anticipated around January 15, 2021.

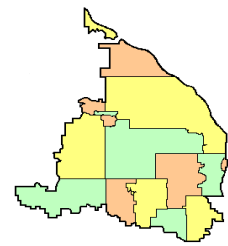
**B.** The Commission has been informed that both the Connections II and Meadow Lake alum projects have been approved for funding with **Clean Water Grants**. Since both of these projects were also submitted for Watershed-based funding, Staff is working with Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) staff to best leverage these funds or, alternatively, to substitute the Bass Creek project for WBIF funding.

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

**A.** The **West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA)** will meet on Tuesday, January 12, 2021. The WMWA Zoom number is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/922390839> 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) The passcode is **water**.

**B. Watershed PREP and Education and Outreach Events.\*** Sharon Meister, one of the WMWA educators, has converted classroom Lesson #1 into a virtual, on-line learning experience. The lesson is posted to the WMWA website and to YouTube where it is available to educators, students, and the general public. She will also be sending out a link to the video to the teachers that she and the other educators have worked with in the classroom. The video can be viewed at [westmetrowateralliance.org/](http://westmetrowateralliance.org/).





**C. Roots Display.** The new tabletop native plants roots displays have been completed and been delivered to the various groups that joined in on WMWA's order. Photos of the display are included in Staff's December 10, 2020 memo.\* They are much more lightweight than the old versions and much easier to transport. WMWA is creating a checkout system and the display will be available for use by any of the cities in the four watersheds and potentially other parties.

**D. NPDES Education and Outreach.** Several staff from the cities in the four watersheds are banding together to prepare a checklist of requirements in the newly reissued NPDES General Permit. One of the subgroups is focusing specifically on the new or expanded education and outreach requirements in the permit and where there are gaps or where there may be a benefit to developing regional resources. WMWA is updating its catalog of resources that may be applicable to the new requirements. The cities and WMWA will work together over the next few months to jointly and cooperatively meet this need.

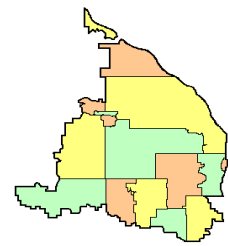
**E. Website/Social Media.** Website Google Analytics for the last 11 months are also included in Staff's memo. From January 1 – December 7 there were 9,233 page views, of which 7,383 were unique views. The difference between the two is this: if a user lands on the home page, then jumps to a content page, then back to the home page, that would count as three page views, but only 2 unique page views. The behavior flow chart shows the most common landing page was the home page, followed by the meeting minutes, where the notice of availability includes a direct link to the page. Other popular landing pages were the Twin Lake Carp and the Biochar Filters projects, both of which were promoted on social media. The TAC meeting page with 115 direct clicks as well as clicks on other pages are lumped together in the grouping (57 more pages). So, while the website is used mainly to access meeting and application materials, it is a good forum for sharing specific project information and gets decent traffic on other more general interest pages.

Metrics for the Facebook page are also shown. *Facebook Impressions* is the number of times a post came up in a person's feed; *reach* is the number of times a post was viewed in a feed; and *engagement* is an action – a click, comment, share, or reaction. The site gained 56 new followers in 2020. The most engaging post was a repost of a CCX news story on the upcoming Crystal Lake improvements. This post was shared to the Birdtown Club page, an interest group focused on happenings in Robbinsdale.

**F. Hennepin County Chloride Initiative (HCCI).** Staff's December 4, 2020 memo\* provides an update on the initiative. The eleven WMOs in Hennepin County elected to set aside 10 percent of the BWSR Watershed-Based Funding from the 2018 Pilot Program, or \$101,800, specifically for joint, countywide chloride reduction initiatives. The Hennepin County Chloride Initiative is comprised of one representative designated by each WMO. Ben Scharenbroich represents Shingle Creek and Andrew Hogg represents West Mississippi. The Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District serves as coordinator and fiscal agent for the Hennepin County Chloride Initiative (HCCI).

Since that time the HCCI has been primarily engaged in better understanding barriers to chloride reduction BMPs and assessing training needs. The group has been partnering with the MPCA on one of the identified training needs – outreach and training opportunities for property managers. A training workshop has been developed and an accompanying handbook has recently been made available on the MPCA's website at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/salt-applicators>. The handbook is intended to accompany the workshop, not replace it.

Attached to Staff's memo are the notes from the December 1, 2020 HCCI meeting. As noted, MPCA will be translating the manuals and training materials into Spanish and may make other languages available if there is demand. The grant funding that the MPCA and other WMO partners used



to subsidize the training cost per person has been expended, so the cost to offer a Smart Salt workshop is now \$2,000. Neither Shingle Creek nor West Mississippi has in the past partnered with the MPCA to offer local Smart Salt training. Shingle Creek did work with the MPCA and Fortin Consulting to offer workshops that preceded the development of the Salt Smart training after the Shingle Creek chloride TMDL was first approved. Most of the attendees were city staff. The West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) may elect to offer one or more workshops in the future but has no plan to do so at this time.

Most of the HCCI grant funding is still available for implementation. One potential demonstration project that is in the initial stages of discussion is the Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Project that is a partnership with Bassett Creek and the City of Plymouth, also shown in Staff's memo. That project would take a commercial/industrial area and search for willing partners to implement chloride reduction BMPs to see what it would take to make a measurable reduction in chloride in runoff. This is in the early stage of discussion and the city and Bassett are developing some specifics for consideration at a future meeting.

**X. Staff Report.**

No report this month.

**XI. Communications.**

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

**XII. Other Business.**

**A.** Staff announced that the **biannual solicitation of letters of interest for legal, technical, and administrative consultants** will be published in the December 14, 2020 edition of the *State Register*. Deadline for responses is January 5, 2021. Responses will be considered at the Commission's January 14, 2021 meeting.

**B.** The **next Technical Advisory Committee meeting** is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

**XIII. Adjournment.** There being no further business before the Commissions, the joint meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judie A. Anderson,  
Recording Secretary  
JAA:tim

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