

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Washington Conservation District
December 8th, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Present: David Beudet, Oak Park Heights; Cindie Reiter, Lake St. Croix Beach; Randy Nelson, Afton; Ron Fredkove, Baytown Township; Daniel Kylo, West Lakeland Township; Brian Zeller, Lakeland; Mickie Cook, Stillwater; Susan St. Ores, Bayport; Amy Carolan, Administrator and Shari Larkin, secretary. Resident Dorothy Jochum was also present.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

One change was requested by Cindie Reiter under the Lakeland section. A motion to approve the November 10th, 2011 minutes as changed was made by Mr. Fredkove, seconded by Mr. Nelson. The motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Kylo presented the treasurer's report. He reported that the remaining checking account balance was \$33,901.56. Mr. Kylo reported that the ending balance in the RBC savings account was \$84,019.26. The ending 4M balance is \$31,976.95. Mr. Kylo reported that there were two bills to be approved: MMC Associates in the amount of \$800.00, and Shari Larkin in the amount of \$52.50.

Mr. Fredkove, seconded by Mr. Nelson, moved to approve the treasurer's report and pay the bills presented. The motion carried.

Public Comment

No comments.

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board Letter

At last month's meeting, we discussed sending a letter to our State Representatives asking that they consider removing us from the requirement of disclosing information to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. One response was received from Katie Sieben letting us know that Senator Chamberlain has authored legislation which strikes the line that added watershed district managers to the list of public officials. Representative Sieben asked Senator Chamberlain that she be added as a co-author to the bill and they are hoping to look at the bill in 2012. Mr. Beudet has requested that a letter be sent to Representative Sieben thanking her for her support of the legislation. Ms. St. Ores made a motion to approve sending the thank you letter. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City of Lakeland Native Buffer Project Update

At last month's meeting, Administrator Carolan had provided an update on the meeting she had at Lakeland Beach with US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the

Army Corps of Engineers, the DNR, and other reviewing agencies. Correspondence has been received from USFWS since our last Board meeting stating that they are now in the process of meeting with FEMA to decide whether or not the project that we have proposed will have any effect on the Higgins Eye Mussel. USFWS believes there will be an indirect effect. The project may have to be redesigned based on the final outcome and would likely involve moving the riprap to a higher elevation from the ordinary high water level. The decision from USFWS should be in a couple weeks.

MSCWMO Website Update

The contractor has completed updating the MSCWMO website. We are currently waiting for the Washington Conservation District's IT person to transfer the website to the new host and then the site will go live and Administrator Carolan will have control of the content of the site.

Lily Lake Raingarden Project Update

Administrator Carolan passed out photos and an update of the Lily Lake Subwatershed Assessment Implementation. The 2011 projects were focused on the north side of Lily Lake. The \$43,000 grant for the projects was from the 2011 Clean Water Fund. Seventeen parcels were chosen for raingarden installation as part of the project. We also received \$70,000 from St. Croix River Association to assist in adding stormwater treatment to street reconstruction projects in Stillwater and Bayport that drain to the St. Croix River. These projects were on Wilkins, Amundson, Meadowlark in Stillwater and 2nd Ave. and 1st Ave. in Bayport on Perro Creek.

Clean Water Legacy 2011 Grant Application Status

Included in the packet was a breakdown of the applications received from BWSR for the 2012 Clean Water Legacy Grant and which projects will be funded in 2012. BWSR received 148 applications and they have decided to fund the top 47, which includes three from MSCWMO which total \$277,000. Those applications are for additional projects around Lily Lake for \$45,000, McKusick Lake for \$37,000, and for commercial properties (including Valley Ridge Mall and DiaSorin). The Washington Conservation District received a grant for greening the marinas on the St. Croix. Administrator Carolan has worked with the Manager of the Bayport Marina and they are very interested in cleaning up their runoff. Any marina in Washington County is able to apply for the grant. There is also a green churches grant totaling \$150,000. The official vote from BWSR is next Thursday.

RFQ for Legal and Administrative Services Update

We have not received any responses to the Legal and Administrative RFQ at this point. The RFQ's have been posted.

2010 Final MSCWMO Audit

A motion to adopt the 2010 final audit was made by Mr. Kyllö and seconded by Mr. Beaudet. Motion carried.

Reimbursement request to St. Croix River Association

An invoice has been prepared for St. Croix River Association in the amount of \$38,636.80. Administrator Carolan also provided copies of the progress report that is required as part of the grant. It includes a breakdown of the expenses for the project, as well as the total estimated load reductions for each of the projects. The second half of the project will occur in 2012.

Stillwater Surface Water Workshop – December 15th, 1-4PM

Administrator Carolan has been asked to attend the workshop. MSCWMO Board members are welcome to attend. The discussion will be around what activities they will be taking on in 2012 regarding aquatic vegetation. Administrator Carolan will be advising the City to develop a long-range aquatic management plan. A motion to approve Administrator Carolan’s recommendation of a long-range plan was made by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Kylo. Motion carried.

Plan Reviews and Submittals

2787 Itasca Avenue – Home reconstruction, St. Mary’s Point – It was a small project so it only qualified for staff level review. Administrator Carolan provided comments on managing stormwater, stabilization after the project is complete and permanent vegetation. If the service is under 10,000 square feet a full review is not required.

Administrators Report

Administrator Carolan provided a written report. The Washington Conservation District holiday open house is next Wednesday from 11:00-1:00. Board members are welcome to attend.

Other Agenda Items

None.

Adjourn

Mr. Kylo moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:36PM, seconded by Ms. St. Ores. Motion carried.