

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Washington Conservation District
April 14th, 2011

Present: Nancy Anderson, St. Mary's Point; David Beaudet, Oak Park Heights; Susan St. Ores, Bayport; Mike Polehna, Stillwater; Brian Zeller, Lakeland; Randy Nelson, Afton; Daniel Kylo, West Lakeland Township; Ron Fredkove, Baytown Township; Todd McLarty, Lakeland Shores; Cindie Reiter, Lake St. Croix Beach; Amy Carolan, Administrator; and Shari Larkin, Secretary.

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fredkove, seconded by Mr. Beaudet, moved to approve the March minutes, with a change requested on who made the motion to adjourn that meeting. The motion was carried. In the future, only the minutes needing approval will be included in the packet.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Kylo presented the treasurer's report, for April 14th, 2011. He reported that the remaining checking account balance at the end of March was \$49,239.19. Mr. Kylo reported that the ending balance in the RBC savings account is \$84,005.18. The ending 4M balance was \$31,974.51. Mr. Kylo reported that there were two bills to be approved this month. One for Washington Conservation District in the amount of \$1,339.00, and one for Shari Larkin in the amount of \$97.50.

Mr. Fredkove, seconded by Mr. Pohlana, made a motion to pay the bills presented. The motion was carried.

Public Comments

None.

Old Business

Stormwater Audit Presentation – Administrator Carolan presented the goals and background of the project. BWSR has closed out the project as it is now complete.

Lily Lake Implementation Project Update

We received a signed contract from BWSR to start the project. We have received a check for 90% of the funds up front to start implementing the raingardens. Washington Conservation District applied for the Non-Point Engineering Assistance Program dollars to pay for the design of the raingardens. That should be approved on April 21st. Hopefully installation will start this summer.

City of Stillwater Joint Board Meeting Update

Lily, Long and McKusick Lakes have been listed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) as impaired due to excess nutrients. A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study was planned to be completed simultaneously for all three Stillwater lakes through funding from the MPCA. MPCA funding has now become available for the completion of a TMDL study. While discussing a possible workplan, staff has also discussed the limited benefits to completing a TMDL. The goal of a TMDL is to determine the loading capacity to the lakes. A separate implementation plan would follow prior to actual implementation. MPCA staff has recommended not moving forward with the TMDL because recent planning efforts have matched or exceeded the benefits of a TMDL. Existing lake management plans have identified the nutrient loading to these lakes. Lake management plans have been further refined to determine specific implementation strategies in recent subwatershed assessments for Lily Lake, McKusick and the north marketplace in the Long Lake subwatershed. Further work is planned for reducing the loading from the diversion structure drainage area. These extensive planning and implementation efforts have been done in full cooperation of all the partners. When the TMDL was first discussed three years ago, the state's grant funding policy placed a priority on projects that were within an approved TMDL. This policy has since changed. In fact, MSCWMO was successful in obtaining a grant for implementing the Lily Lake subwatershed assessment in 2011. Karen Kill (BCWD), Amy Carolan (MSCWMO), Shawn Sanders (Stillwater) and Chris Klucas (MPCA) met on both November 29, 2010 and March 14, 2011. Staff agreed that, given the significant implementation activity for further water quality improvements for the lakes and improving water quality trends, they also recommend saving the public expenditure of completing a TMDL in lieu of continuing implementation activities. Staff from BCWD, MSCWMO, Stillwater and MPCA recommend not moving forward with a TMDL for Long, Lily or McKusick Lakes at this time; rather, they recommend to continue to implement existing plans for Long, Lily and McKusick lakes. Ms. Anderson made a motion that Administrator Carolan will send a correspondence to the residents of McKusick regarding the algae bloom. Mr. Beaudet seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2011 Projects Update

City of Lakeland Beach Project – We will be working with the City of Lakeland to stabilize their public beach area. The project is funded by a BWSR buffer grant. Engineering provided by SEH through an NPEAP grant. Implementation will happen when the water recedes.

City of Lake St. Croix Beach Bluffland Project – This project is in the bluffland on Riviera. Last year Siberian Elm and Buckthorn were removed, and five oak trees were installed. Seeding and stabilization will be taking place this year once the water recedes.

Rural Subwatershed Assessment – Still in process of completing modeling process. Then staff will review those areas. Fieldwork will begin in May.

Stillwater and Bayport Streets – We received a grant from St. Croix River Association to help install stormwater management facilities as part of Stillwater and

Bayport's street reconstruction projects. Stillwater has their 2011 projects designed. The Bayport portion is not as finalized yet. Additional problem sites where these grant dollars can be used will be reviewed.

MSCWMO Website Update – Group Photography – Prior to the start of the meeting, a group photo was taken for the new website.

New Business

Cost-Share Project Applications

Peg's Parlor, St. Mary's Point – Applicant would like to install a 500 square foot raingarden to alleviate a flooding issue on the property. It will capture ½ pound of phosphorus, .94 pounds of nitrogen and approximately 207 pounds of sediment each year. The total project cost would be \$1,800.00. The applicant is requesting 50% cost-share, which would be \$947.00. A motion to approve the application was made by Mr. Zeller and seconded by Ms. St. Ores. Motion carried.

USFWS – Buckthorn Clearing Opportunity – West Lakeland Township –

Administrator Carolan was approached by the Fish and Wildlife Service with funding to do buckthorn clearing. It would be a good opportunity to do more management around the wetland in West Lakeland Township. Several of the residents around the wetland are interested. Our only role would be to pay the contractor once the work is completed, but then we will be reimbursed by the grant. A motion to approve the project was made by Mr. Beaudet. The motion was seconded by Mr. Polehna. Motion carried.

BWSR Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) – Middle St. Croix has been selected to participate in the BWSR PRAP. Our representative from BWSR will be at the meeting in June to solicit feedback from the Board. Administrator Carolan will forward the information on the review to Board members.

Plan Reviews/Submittals

City of Stillwater 2011 Street Improvement Project – The City of Stillwater submitted their preliminary design. Preliminary comments have been submitted. The City is addressing those comments right now. This project will be up for review at the May meeting. The City has no issues meeting our requirements.

Administrator's Report

Ms. Carolan provided a written report.

Other Agenda Items

None.

Adjourn

Mr. Fredkove, seconded by Mr. Kylo, moved to adjourn at 7:53 p.m. The motion was carried.