



RAMSEY-WASHINGTON
METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT

**Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
August 1, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of August 1, 2018, was held at the District Office Board Room, 2665 Noel Drive, Little Canada, Minnesota, at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Marj Ebensteiner, President
Cliff Aichinger, Vice President
Dianne Ward, Treasurer
Dr. Pam Skinner, Secretary
Lawrence Swope, Manager

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

Tina Carstens, District Administrator
Amanda Staple, Recording Secretary
Brad Lindaman, Barr Engineering
Brandon Barnes, Barr Engineering

Bill Bartodziej, Natural Resource Specialist
Viet-Hanh Winchell, Attorney for District
Nicole Soderholm, Permit Inspector
Chris O'Brien, Communications Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ebensteiner at 6:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Dianne Ward moved, Dr. Pam Skinner seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes from July 11, 2018
- B. Order Public Hearing for Review of the Preliminary 2018 Budget and Levy
- C. Approval of Local Water Management Plans
 - i. City of Roseville – Resolution 18-02
 - ii. City of Vadnais Heights – Resolution 18-03
 - iii. City of Shoreview – Resolution 18-04

Manager Swope reference the July 11, 2018, meeting minutes and noted that Brad Lindaman was not present and should not be listed. Tyler Olsen of Barr Engineering should be added.

Motion: Cliff Aichinger moved, Lawrence Swope seconded, to approve the consent agenda with the amendment to the July 11, 2018, minutes. Motion carried unanimously. (Ward abstained)

4. TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL LIST

Motion: Dianne Ward moved, Dr. Pam Skinner seconded, to approve the August 1, 2018, bill list as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **VISITOR PRESENTATIONS** There were none.

6. **PERMIT PROGRAM**

A. Applications

Permit #18-19: Roseville Area High School Remodel

Nicole Soderholm noted that these would be improvements to the existing high school. She stated that Barr Engineering is looking at a larger retrofit opportunity and will continue to discuss those options with the applicant. She noted that the proposed application does meet the necessary requirements of the District and confirmed that approving this permit would not preclude staff from continuing discussions with the applicant.

Motion: Dr. Pam Skinner moved, Cliff Aichinger seconded, to approve Permit #18-19.

Further discussion: Manager Skinner stated that it appears that more applications are using underground treatment options and asked if the percentage of impervious surface could be tracked. Tina Carstens stated that even with underground BMPs, the trend is to have similar or less impervious surface. Brad Lindaman agreed that developers are not going to build more than they need because of the costs.

Motion carried unanimously.

Permit #18-20: 3M Building 208 Annex – Maplewood

Motion: Cliff Aichinger moved, Lawrence Swope seconded, to approve Permit #18-20. Motion carried unanimously.

Permit #18-21: Margaret Street Pedestrian & Bike Improvements – St. Paul

Motion: Dianne Ward moved, Cliff Aichinger seconded, to approve Permit #18-21.

Further discussion: Manager Aichinger asked for details on the project. Nicole Soderholm reviewed the elements that would be included in the project.

Motion carried unanimously.

Permit #18-22: Richardson Elementary Addition – North St. Paul

Nicole Soderholm stated that this is another project where staff is speaking with the applicant to discuss additional options. She stated that the proposed permit would meet the requirements of the District and staff will continue discussions about the possibility of stormwater reuse.

Motion: Cliff Aichinger moved, Lawrence Swope seconded, to approve Permit #18-22. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Monthly Enforcement Report

During July, 20 notices were sent to address: install/maintain inlet protection (4), install/maintain perimeter control (4), install/maintain construction entrance (3), sweep streets (2), stabilize exposed soils (2), contain liquid/solid wastes (2), remove discharged sediment (1), protect/maintain permanent BMPs (1), and install/maintain ditch checks (1).

7. **STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRAM**

A. Applications None.

B. Budget Status Update No additional comments.

8. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. Willow Pond CMAC Bid Review and Approval

Brad Lindaman reported that there were three bidders. He stated that the engineer's estimate was \$275,000 and all three bids were within a small range. He stated that the low bidder has fulfilled all the bidding requirements and staff spoke with two of the three references and received positive feedback. He recommended awarding the contract to Peterson Companies, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Motion: Cliff Aichinger moved, Dianne Ward seconded, to accept the bids and award the Willow Pond CMAC Project to Peterson Companies and direct staff to prepare and mail the notice of award, prepare the draft agreements, and review the required submittals. Motion carried unanimously.

9. PRESENTATION

A. Overview of Updates to District Stormwater Model and Results from Phase 1, Beltline Resiliency Study
Brandon Barnes, Barr Engineering, stated that the study looked for ways to mitigate flood risk and looked for modifications that could be made to the system without purchasing additional property. He highlighted previous District flood risk reduction projects that have been completed. He provided background information, noting that the District began updating its modeling in 2014 to use the Atlas 14 figures. He reviewed the steps in the process which included updating hydrologic/hydraulic models, identifying/prioritizing flood risk areas, and validating models with monitoring data. He stated that using that updated information, staff identified potential flood prone structures. He explained that this is a desktop model and no survey data was collected to verify the flood prone structures. He noted that only residential and public buildings were identified based on the simulation of surface runoff. He noted that there may be areas impacted by groundwater which are not shown. He explained that the phasing was developed with the intent of working from upstream to downstream. He stated that this information provides the starting point for phase one and provided figures of the inundation that currently occurs for some homeowners within the mobile home park near Owasso Basin. He stated that the resiliency analysis intends to show the magnitude of modifications that would be needed to avoid the buyout of properties. He stated that staff was able to find modifications to the system that could remove the inundated areas near Owasso basin. He noted that in some cases the modifications would be expensive and fairly significant and therefore modifications were grouped into four categories. He reviewed the system modifications within each of the four categories that could be made around the Owasso basin area to resolve the issue of inundation. He noted that each of the modifications within the four categories would be needed in order to resolve the issue.

Manager Aichinger stated that these improvements would need to be weighed against the cost of buying out the mobile home park to determine what would be more feasible. President Ebensteiner asked if the last row of homes could be purchased and then the berm in that location could be made larger. Brandon noted that elements of the different alternatives that were developed can be combined together to find an optimized cost for a project. Manager Skinner stated that these models seem to take into account previous data and perhaps predictions for the future would change the direction the District would like to go. Brandon confirmed that this model was developed to match what the District currently designs to and advised that the model can be flexed to show predictions for the future. He stated that this was just the first step in the process.

Manager Aichinger stated that public agencies are not obligated to do everything feasibly possible. He stated that there is a possibility that the mobile home park will flood and perhaps there is something the District can do in between to limit the loss of belongings and damage to vehicles rather than attempting to resolve the problem completely. Tina Carstens stated that the District continues to work on emergency management plans. Brad Lindaman confirmed that is a reasonable approach. He explained that the start is to develop this high-level plan to determine what could be done and then work down from there to determine what would actually be feasible. He provided an example of another District project which was completed and still left two homes within a floodplain because the cost to remove those homes would have been significantly higher.

Manager Skinner asked whose responsibility it would ultimately be to fix the problems that arise. Tina stated that is part of the discussion. She stated that the District developed this data in order to share the information on flood prone areas and confirmed that the District is not obligated to fix the problems. Brandon stated that the next step

would be to move to phase two and identify additional tools that would not involve buyouts. He stated that the modeling will also be updated to reflect predictive weather trends and to update the FEMA flood maps.

Manager Skinner left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

10. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Meetings Attended

Tina Carstens provided an update on a tour that occurred on July 26th with the Legislative Water Commission.

B. Upcoming Meetings and Dates No comments.

C. Minnesota Stormwater Research Council Funding Request

President Ebensteiner asked and received confirmation that this is a state-wide effort and that the District was one of seven funders the previous year. She asked why some of the other watersheds are not participating. Manager Aichinger stated that the group is attempting to bring in funding from other entities. He stated that last year was the first year and now that some work has been done they are hoping to gain additional funders. Tina stated that \$25,000 was contributed through the 2018 budget and confirmed the consensus of the Board to continue that contribution amount for 2019.

D. 2019 Budget Discussion

Tina Carstens provided details on certain line items including personnel costs, building maintenance, and water quality equipment. She stated that this budget does not include the carryover that will occur from the specific line items and confirmed that there will be carryover for certain line items. Manager Ward asked for information on the amount the District should hold in reserves and stated that she would want to avoid raising the levy to the extent possible. President Ebensteiner stated that in her opinion the District is here to complete projects and would want to ensure that there are adequate funds to complete those projects rather than reducing the ability to complete those projects. Tina provided additional details on proposed projects and capital improvements to obtain input from the Board.

Manager Aichinger stated that he has noticed the WaterFest budget increasing over the years and asked if a cost/benefit analysis has been done. He suggested that perhaps additional watersheds be brought in to share the cost. Tina stated that Capitol Region Watershed District has been brought in as a partner. She stated that the cost for the event has remained stable for the past two or three years. She noted that a full cost/benefit analysis has not been done on the event. She stated that participation has increased over the years, but noted that participation is weather dependent. Manager Aichinger stated that there are tangible results for the day of the event, but even more so, leading up to the event because of the marketing and publicity that occur prior to the event and the connections with the schools. He stated that it is a valuable event and he would like it to become even larger, but with the additional funding coming from outside of the District funds. Tina stated that there is a new coordinator this year and additional opportunities will be explored.

She stated that after tonight she will send the proposed budget with modifications, to the member cities to obtain comments and the document will also be posted on the District website in anticipation for the public hearing that will occur at the Board's September meeting. She stated that the preliminary budget will be adopted at the September meeting and advised that the Board will adopt the final budget at their meeting in December.

11. PROJECT AND PROGRAM STATUS REPORTS

A. Ongoing Project and Program Updates

- i. Beltline Resiliency Study
- ii. At Risk Subwatershed Feasibility Studies

iii. Snail Lake and Grass Lake Study and Berm Raise Project

Brad Lindaman reported that the Grass Lake berm project is slow going, but there is quality work being completed. He stated that pipes at Vadnais Boulevard are in and the paving has been completed.

iv. Snail, Grass and West Vadnais Lakes Outlet Permitting

v. West to East Vadnais Gravity Flow Evaluation

vi. District Wide Atlas 14 Modeling

vii. Kohlman Weir Test System

viii. Roseville High School Campus Retrofit Feasibility Study

ix. Frost/Kennard Spent Lime Project

x. Wakefield Park/Frost Avenue Project

xi. Targeted Retrofit Projects

Tina noted that two projects within the targeted retrofit projects list will be sent out for bid.

xii. BMP Design Assistance and Review

xiii. Owasso Basin Improvements

xiv. Beltline/Battle Creek Tunnel

xv. CIP Maintenance/Repair 2018

xvi. New Technology Case Study: FilterPave

xvii. Natural Resources Program

xviii. Education Program

Manager Aichinger asked and received confirmation that new pumps were installed on the cistern at Maplewood Mall that are working better.

xix. Communications Program

12. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS No comments.

13. REPORTS OF MANAGERS No comments.

14. ADJOURN

Motion: Dianne Ward moved, Cliff Aichinger seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Motion carried 4-0. (Dr. Pam Skinner absent.)

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Pam Skinner, Secretary