



## MEETING MINUTES

Board of Managers Regular Meeting

February 12, 2020 - 3:00 p.m.

City Hall, South St. Paul, MN

### **Managers and Alternates in Attendance:**

Sharon Lencowski, (Chair) Inver Grove Heights	Karen Reid, (Vice Chair) Saint Paul
Mary Jeanne Schneeman, (Sec/Tres), Mendota Heights	Sheila Vanney, West St. Paul
Jill Smith, Mendota Heights (Alt)	Tom Sutton, Lilydale
John Ross, (Alt) South St. Paul	Patti O'Leary, Sunfish Lake

### **Advisors and Others in Attendance:**

Pat Murphy, Saint Paul	Tom Kaldunski, Inver Grove Heights
Krista Spreiter, Mendota Heights	Lee Elfering, South St Paul
Greg Williams, Barr Engineering	Melissa King, BWSR
Cody Joos, West St. Paul	Barb Peichel, BWSR
Leslie Pilgrim, Mendota Heights	Joe Barten, Dakota County SWCD

### **1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lencowski at 3:05 p.m.

#### **1.1 Public Comment / Introductions**

#### **1.2 Approval of Agenda**

Lencowski asked for any changes to the agenda; there were none.

**MOTION** by Reid to approve the agenda for the February 12, 2020 meeting, second by O'Leary; motion passed.

### **2. Approval of January 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Lencowski asked if there were any changes to the previous meeting minutes; there were none.

**MOTION** by O'Leary to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2020 meeting; second by Schneeman; motion passed.

### **3. Election of Officers**

Lencowski asked for discussion or nominations of officers. The Board discussed the three open seats, Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer.

**MOTION** by Sutton to nominate and elect Lencowski for Chair, second by Schneeman; motion passed.

**MOTION** by Sutton to nominate and elect Reid for Vice-Chair, second by Schneeman; motion passed.

**MOTION** by Sutton to nominate and elect Schneeman for Secretary/Treasurer, second by O'Leary; motion passed.

**4. Approval of February 12, 2020 Financial Summary & Invoices**

Barten passed out and amended financial summary. Spreiter provided an overview of the financial summary including invoices to be paid and recommended approval.

**MOTION** by Reid to approve the February 12, 2020 financial summary and invoices to be paid, second by O’Leary; motion passed.

**5. Presentation on Metro Watershed Based Funding**

Barb Peichel and Melissa King from the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) summarized the Watershed Based Funding (WBF) program history and provided information regarding the FY20 & 21 funding. There was discussion on the program structure and process for funding going forward. There was general consensus for LMRWMO staff via the Dakota County SWCD to serve as representatives in WBF meetings and decisions.

**6. Consider 2020 Membership for Metro Watershed Partners**

Barten summarized the information provided in the packet and explained the benefits of membership with the Metro Watershed Partners. To continue participation and receive access to the materials provided by the organization, the membership fee is required. Barten recommended continuing membership with the organization in 2020.

**MOTION** by O’Leary to approve and pay the 2020 Metro Watershed Partners membership dues, second by Reid; motion passed.

**7. Consider Potential LMRWMO and Ramsey County Agreement for Technical Assistance**

Barten explained that the LMRWMO participates in the Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) public education/outreach and grant program. One LCW introduction class, two design classes, one maintenance workshop, and up to 20 grants for raingardens, native gardens, or native shoreline restorations are funded by the LMRWMO in 2020. LCW is a partnership program also funded by the five other Dakota County Watershed Management Organizations as well as the Dakota County SWCD to put on a total of 33 classes annually.

Since the LMRWMO crosses into Ramsey County in St. Paul, the LMRWMO Administrator suggests formally enlisting the technical assistance of Ramsey County (formerly Ramsey Conservation District) staff in providing technical assistance for Landscaping for Clean water participants and class instruction. Attached is a draft work plan summarizing their potential role in 2020 in implementing the program within the Ramsey County portion of the LMRWMO, which consists primarily of the West Side of Saint Paul.

**MOTION** by O’Leary to approve and execute the 2020 agreement between the LMRWMO and Ramsey County for Technical Assistance, second by Schneeman; motion passed.

**8. Discuss 2020 Water Monitoring Plan and Select Waterbodies for Inclusion**

Barten summarized the information in the packet and asked for input on which lakes to be monitored in 2020. Dakota County SWCD staff recommends continuing to monitor Thompson Lake, Pickerel Lake, Seidls Lake, Lake Augusta, and Interstate Valley Creek in 2020. The water quality data will be useful in demonstrating the effectiveness of LMRWMO past and potential future projects implemented to improve the water quality of those waterbodies. Pickerel Lake had previously been identified as a priority through the WRAPs study and continued monitoring would enhance the data set to determine if it is impaired for phosphorus in years that it doesn’t flood. To maintain baseline data, Dickman and Schmitt lakes are also recommended for monitoring in 2020.

The current 2020 LMRWMO Budget and 2020 SWCD Work Plan includes services for data management, volunteer coordination, and backup water monitoring if the volunteer is unavailable. SWCD staff can reach out to landowners on Dickman and Schmitt Lakes to solicit volunteer water monitors.

**MOTION** by Vanney to authorize the Board Chair to execute an agreement with the Metropolitan Council for 2020 water monitoring through the CAMP program for the lakes as shown in the packet, second by Schneeman; motion passed.

**9. Discuss Stakeholder Engagement Program Design for LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan Update**

Williams asked for Board input on potential items to include in a draft stakeholder engagement program and explained options for outreach that could be implemented. The Board discussed the merits of various survey questions and provided input for Williams to draft an engagement plan for review at the next LMRWMO meeting.

**10. Updates**

**10.1 Grant Tracking Update**

There were no items of note to report on the grant tracking spreadsheet.

**10.2 LMRWMO Grant/Project Update**

Barten provided a brief update on the active or recently completed LMRWMO grants and presented on the Seidls Lake tree trench stormwater project.

**10.3 Barr Engineering 2020 Fee Schedule**

Williams provided an overview of the grant tracking spreadsheet in the packet.

**10.4 Response to Capitol Region Watershed District Draft Plan**

The Board discussed the letter which was sent out to the Capitol Region Watershed District Board and staff on January 15, 2020 regarding their plan implementation item concerning the LMRWMO.

**10.5 Other Updates / Member City Updates**

**11. Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

**12. Adjourn** - Meeting adjourned by Chair Lencowski at 5:25 p.m.