LMRWMO
LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

Board of Managers Meeting Minutes

Wednesday - February 12th, 2025 - 3:00 p.m.
West St. Paul City Hall

Managers and Alternates in Attendance:

Sharon Lencowski (Chair), Inver Grove Heights
Leslie Pilgrim, Mendota Heights
Brian Jastram, Saint Paul
Mary Kleinberg, Lilydale
Steve Gebauer, Mendota Heights (Sec/Tres)
Analiese Miller, West St. Paul
Tom Sutton, Lilydale
Dan Halvorsen, Sunfish Lake

Advisors and Others in Attendance:

Ryan Ruzek, Mendota Heights
Pat Murphy, Saint Paul
Ross Beckwith, West St. Paul
Greg Williams, Barr Engineering
Lucas Richie, Mendota Heights
Brady Zeug, Saint Paul
Chris English, Inver Grove Heights
Joe Barten, Dakota County SWCD

1. Call Meeting to Order

1.1 Public Comment / Introductions
Audience members may address the Board regarding items not on the agenda.

1.2 Approval of Agenda* (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion by Gebauer to approve the agenda, second by Sutton; motion passed.

2. Approve January 8th, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Halvorsen to approve the previous meeting minutes, second by Miller; motion passed.

3. Approve February 12th, 2025 Financial Summary & Invoices

Ruzek provided a summary of the finances.

Motion by Gebauer to approve the financial summary, second by Sutton; motion passed.

4. Review BWSR Approved Accelerated Implementation Grant & Authorize Administrator to Draft Work Plan & Execute Grant Agreement with MN Board of Water & Soil Resources

Motion by Lencowski to authorize the Administrator to submit a grant work plan to BWSR and for the Board Chair to execute the subsequent grant agreement with the Board of Water & Soil Resources for the Water Quality Modeling of Lower Mississippi River WMO Priority Watersheds grant project, second by Miller; motion passed.

5. Review Goal Tracking Sheets & Authorize Barr to Begin Assessment

Williams summarized the goal tracking process and noted that the Board had already reviewed the goal tracking sheets included in the packet. He suggested the assessment could be completed by June 2025.

Motion by Sutton to authorize Barr staff to begin the goal tracking assessment and completion of the goal tracking sheets for review by the Board, second by Jastram; motion passed.

6. Authorize Execution of Agreement with Peterson Co. for 2024 Audit

Barten noted that since the packet was sent out, he has verified State statute noting when an Audit is required. Due to the LMRWMO not receiving income above the threshold set by the State to require an audit, the LMRWMO is not required to perform a full audit of the LMRWMO 2024 finances, as they have been in recent years. SWCD staff will still prepare a financial summary to send to the State to meet requirements. Pilgrim requested to meet with the Administrator to review the LMRWMO finances along with the Board Secretary/Treasurer. The Administrator will coordinate that meeting.

7. Discuss 2024 Annual Report Content

Barten provided the 2023 Annual Report and requested any suggestions in the 2024 report content be sent to him in before mid-March.

8. Updates & Information Items

a. Grant Tracking Database
Williams provided an update on relevant upcoming grants available to Cities and the WMO.

b. 3M Grant Request for Proposals
Barten summarized the 3M grant opportunity and his suggestion to pursue funding for additional fish tissue testing and projects at Seidls and Thompson Lakes. The Board was generally supportive of him further pursuing a potential grant application and bringing information back in March.

c. Mud Lake Letter of Support
Barten provided the already submitted letter of support for information purposes only.

d. LMRWMO Salt Week Information
Barten provided materials in the packet for Board information on information being funded by and displayed in Dakota County libraries regarding chloride reduction.

e. Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) Marketing Campaign Video
The LCW video funded by the LMRWMO was shown and is currently being marketed to increase interest in the Landscaping for Clean Water program.

9. Member City Updates

Advisors and Members provided updates on relevant projects in their Cities.

10. Adjournment & Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 4:30. The next Board meeting is March 12th, 2025 at the West St. Paul City Hall.