

LOWER RUM RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

JUNE 18, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Todd Haas called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Committee Room of Anoka City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Voting members present were: Debra Musgrove, Ramsey; Elizabeth Barnett, Anoka; and Todd Haas, Andover.

Voting members absent were: None.

Also present were: Deputy Treasurer Brenda Springer, Ramsey Civil Engineer IV Leonard Linton, Ramsey City Engineer Bruce Westby, Anoka Engineering Technician Ben Nelson, Greg Williams of Barr Engineering, Andover Natural Resources Technician Cameron Kytönen, Jamie Schurbon of Anoka Conservation District, and Karen Wold of Barr Engineering.

APPROVE AGENDA

Haas requested to add an Item G5 Permit #2019-30.

Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to approve the June 18, 2020 agenda as amended. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

RESIDENT'S FORUM

None.

APPROVE MINUTES

May 21, 2020 Regular Meeting

It was noted that OWOP should be replaced with 1W1P.

Motion was made by Musgrove, seconded by Barnett, to approve the May 21, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes as amended. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

FINANCE MATTERS

Treasurer's Report

Springer presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 31, 2020. Account balances for the period were: Checking, \$238,576.66; less permit account balance of (\$45,347.60), less 2018 4th Generation Plan Reserve balance of (\$91,641.50), for a total balance of \$101,587.56.

Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to accept the Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 31, 2020. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills

Springer presented the payment of bills for TimeSaver in the amount of \$699.29 (May professional services) and Barr Engineering in the amount of \$1,088 (engineering).

Motion was made by Musgrove, seconded by Barnett, to authorize payment as presented and indicated above. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

LRRWMO Permit #2018-06 ~ The COR Infiltration Basin ~ City of Ramsey (Tabled to 6-30-20)

Haas reviewed the June 11, 2020 memo from Barr Engineering in which Barr Engineering recommends that the LRRWMO approve an extension of Permit #2018-06 until September 30, 2020 as requested by the City of Ramsey.

Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to approve an extension of Permit #2018-06, The COR Infiltration Basin, City of Ramsey, to September 30, 2020 as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated June 11, 2020. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

LRRWMO Permit #2020-04 ~ Puma Street Improvement Project ~ City of Ramsey

Haas reviewed the June 10, 2020 memo from Barr Engineering in which Barr Engineering recommends that the LRRWMO approve of the permit for this project subject to six conditions detailed in the memorandum.

Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to approve Permit #2020-04, Puma Street Improvement Project, City of Ramsey, subject to six (6) conditions as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated June 10, 2020. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

LRRWMO Permit #2020-05 ~ Wesp Property ~ Andover

Haas reviewed the June 12, 2020 memo from Barr Engineering in which Barr Engineering states that a wetland delineation report was received and reviewed. A notification of an incomplete application was sent to the applicant and applicant's agent on June 3, 2020 with a list of incomplete items. Barr Engineering will submit a Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act Notice of Application

and provide the required 15 business day comment period after receiving a complete application. A recommendation will be provided for the Board packet following the end of the comment period.

Motion was made by Musgrove, seconded by Barnett, to table Permit #2020-05, Wesp Property, Andover, as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated June 12, 2020. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

LRRWMO Permit #2020-06 ~ Upper Midwest Athletic Const. ~ Andover

Haas reviewed the June 11, 2020 memo from Barr Engineering in which Barr Engineering recommends that the LRRWMO approve of the permit for this project subject to six conditions detailed in the memorandum.

Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to approve Permit #2020-06, Upper Midwest Athletic Const., Andover, subject to six (6) conditions as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated June 11, 2020. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

LRRWMO Permit #2019-30 ~ Anoka CSAH 116 and MN TH47 ~ Anoka and Ramsey – WCA Utility Exemption Decision

Haas reviewed the June 15, 2020 memo from Barr Engineering in which Barr Engineering recommends that the LRRWMO approve the WCA utility exemption under MN Rule 8420.020, subpart 6A, with conditions as described in the draft WCA Notice of Decision.

Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to approve the WCA utility exemption for Permit #2019-30, Anoka CSAH 116 at MN TH47, Anoka and Ramsey, with conditions as detailed in the WCA Notice of Decision and as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated June 15, 2020. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

CONSIDER COMMUNICATIONS ~ None

REPORT OF OFFICERS & WAC ADMINISTRATION REIMBURSEMENT ~ None

ACD QUARTERLY REPORT ~ None

OLD BUSINESS

Watershed Based Implementation Funding Update

Musgrove reported that the group will meet again the following week and she will provide an update.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS/TASK CHECKLIST

Haas reviewed the outstanding items and task checklist.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update on Fourth Generation Plan

Williams advised of upcoming virtual meetings, noting that he will provide a summary of the comments to the Board.

Discuss Rum River 1W1P Implementation Organizational Arrangements

Schurbon stated that 1W1P will be done at the end of the year and a legal arrangement needs to be developed for implementation. He stated that there will either be a Joint Powers Collaboration Agreement or a Joint Powers Entity and noted that details on the options were provided in the packet. He provided input on the preference of other entities involved.

Haas commented that he would prefer the entity option. He commented that the collaborative option seems that there are too many people involved.

Linton agreed that there would be too many people involved with the collaborative option. He noted that some of the groups involved only meet once per quarter.

Musgrove commented that she also prefers the entity option.

It was the consensus of the Board that the entity option would be preferred for 1W1P implementation.

Schurbon stated that he and Haas will report this back to the 1W1P group.

Discuss Wetland Monitoring Requirements

Haas stated that he had a discussion with Wold about wetland requirements and how the LRRWMO is following up. He stated that it was determined that each spring a letter should be sent out to any applicants that require mitigation. He stated that he asked Wold to draft a letter that the cities could use, which was included in the packet.

Wold stated that the general default is that it could take five years of monitoring for the site to meet the performance standards. She stated that there are some situations when it could be completed in three years, noting that the Technical Evaluation Panel would review that to ensure it was complete. She stated that she has been tracking and the only sites she is aware of that had not been certified complete are the two City of Ramsey sites within The COR.

Haas noted most other projects that have wetland impacts have purchased credits.

Wold confirmed that to be the trend within the past ten years.

Haas stated that Wold developed a draft letter that could be sent to the City of Ramsey for the two outstanding sites. He stated that the Board should acknowledge the letter and authorize Wold to send the letter to the applicant.

Musgrove commented that this will be helpful in tracking the progress as well.

Wold commented that she does track the sites and puts that information together in an annual spreadsheet. She stated that she also contacts the applicant each year to advise them of the action needed to close out the permit. She stated that the memorandum also includes information on enforcement that could occur.

Musgrove stated that this came forward as a suggestion and was included in the packet. She asked if any letters or memorandum sent to an applicant in follow up form would be part of the packet.

Wold stated that her communication has been more informal with applicants but noted that she could include something in the packet if desired. She stated that most people choose to use wetland credits and did not think this would be an ongoing issue.

Musgrove asked if the use of wetland credits creates a situation in which the LRRWMO is crediting away its wetlands.

Wold commented that is a concern she has heard during the past few years throughout the metro. She stated that if the LRRWMO is concerned with loss of wetlands within the watershed, it would need to amend its rules to require mitigation within the watershed.

Musgrove stated that she is unaware of the percentage of wetland loss within the LRRWMO and would be interested in finding that out.

Wold stated that she has done that for other organizations and could create a document showing the net balance of wetlands within the LRRWMO. She commented that there are wetland banks within Anoka County.

Haas stated that he is not aware of the number of wetland credits the LRRWMO has seen over the years but noted that it is low.

Linton agreed that its low, estimating perhaps one development project every three years. He stated that he could review some of that information with Musgrove rather than requesting Wold to develop that type of document.

Haas stated that the LRRWMO could dictate that an applicant would need to purchase credits within Anoka County.

Wold stated that the LRRWMO would need to change its rules in order to specify that.

Haas stated that the LRRWMO could perhaps encourage applicants to purchase credits within Anoka County.

Haas confirmed the consensus of the Board to direct Wold to send the letter to the City of Ramsey applicant in relation to the outstanding mitigation.

Discuss 15370 Eldorado Street NW/City of Andover

Haas provided background information on the property at 15370 Eldorado Street NW in Andover. He noted that the property changed ownership and the property owner was not aware of the easements on the property. He provided options the property owner would have including applying for vacation of the drainage and utility easement or applying for an interim use permit.

Musgrove commented that it appears Barr Engineering is recommending vacation of the drainage and utility easement.

Wold stated that she reviewed the old records and was not able to find a wetland replacement plan approved. She stated that perhaps the mitigation area was meant to be a floodplain mitigation area.

Haas commented that he believed it was a wetland mitigation area.

Wold stated that there were several applications on the property, but none were approved. She encouraged Haas to send her the information if he has paperwork showing that was a wetland mitigation area, otherwise there is no documentation supporting that. She stated that there was a wetland replacement plan that was not approved.

Haas stated that Andover will provide the applicant with the options of vacating the easement or applying for an IUP.

Consider Request for Wetland Mitigation Sites Within the LRRWMO/City of Andover

Haas stated that Andover would like this information in order to update its GIS map. He believed that it would be helpful for the member cities to have that information for their GIS mapping.

Wold stated that she could find the information, but it would take a few hours to develop a map. She noted that each of the sites should have a declaration of covenants of restriction recorded with the County.

Linton stated that the list of parcels with addresses would be helpful. He noted that he has access to Anoka County to find the list of declarations and could map the Ramsey locations.

Haas confirmed the consensus of the Board that the cities should have this map available.

Wold confirmed that she could complete that action. She estimated ten hours to complete the project.

Haas noted that once completed the item could be added to a future agenda.

Other

Haas noted the email that was sent out on the lakeshore connection video. He also advised of a winter maintenance training which is being offered in August.

Barnett commented on erosion problems along the river. Kytonen noted that could be eligible for watershed based funding.

It was noted that follow up should occur with Schurbon.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Musgrove, seconded by Barnett, to adjourn the meeting. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Time of adjournment: 9:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Staple
Administrative Secretary