

# LOWER RUM RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

MAY 21, 2020

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## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Todd Haas called the meeting to order at 8:03 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, Andover Natural Resources Technician Kameron Kytönen, Anoka Engineering Technician Ben Nelson, Greg Williams of Barr Engineering, and DNR Hydrologist Lucas Youngsma.

## APPROVE AGENDA

**Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to approve the May 21, 2020 agenda as presented. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.**

## RESIDENT'S FORUM

None.

## APPROVE MINUTES

### April 16, 2020 Regular Meeting

**Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to approve the April 16, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.**

## FINANCE MATTERS

### Treasurer's Report

Springer presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending April 30, 2019. Account balances for the period were: Checking, \$239,402.18; less permit account balance of (\$43,511.10); less 2018 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Plan Reserve (\$91,641.50), for a total balance of \$104,249.58.

**Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to accept the Treasurer's Report for the period ending April 30, 2020. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.**

Payment of Bills

Springer presented the payment of bills for TimeSaver in the amount of \$889.28 (professional services) and Barr Engineering in the amount of \$3,158.50 (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 #2019-22 ~ The American Club ~ Anoka

Haas reviewed the May 11, 2020 memo from Barr Engineering in which Barr Engineering recommends that until it is determined that on-site volume reduction through infiltration can be provided without the mobilization of the underlying contamination (or some other method of complying with the LRRWMO volume retention requirements), Barr recommends that the item be continued and placed on the pending permit portion of the agenda until the additional information is provided.

**Motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Musgrove, to table Permit #2019-22, The American Club, Anoka, as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated May 11, 2020. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.**

LRRWMO Permit #2019-30 ~ CSAH 116 & T.H. 47 Interchange Imp. ~ Anoka/Ramsey

Haas reviewed the May 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.

Haas asked if there were any wetland impacts. Linton noted that the work will only occur within the existing pavement area and should not impact the wetlands.

**Motion was made by Musgrove, seconded by Barnett, to approve Permit #2019-30, CSAH 116 & T.H. 47 Interchange Imp., Anoka/Ramsey, subject to six (6) conditions as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated May 11, 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 distributed information to the Board which overviews the meeting and those in attendance. She reported that there have been two virtual meetings held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the purpose of this discussion is for the Board to discuss some of the potential projects.

Linton stated that in the last round of funding Anoka had projects ready to go that qualified and therefore the funds were allocated to that purpose. He described the funding process through BWSR, noting that if Ramsey were awarded \$50,000 but the project was \$40,000, the unused funds could not be transferred to another member city and would instead have to be returned to BWSR and then reallocated. He explained that it is then best for each city to work with BWSR to enter into the agreement, provide the match and administer the project. He stated that if a project is included on the list, the city would need/want to move forward with that project. He stated that originally \$367,000 was to be allocated for the Anoka County portion of the Rum River, but that amount may be reduced because of COVID-19.

Kytonen commented that Anoka Conservation District could potentially be the fiscal agent for the LRRWMO member cities.

Haas asked and received confirmation that Anoka received the funds from the last round of funding and asked if Anoka then provided the match.

Nelson confirmed that Anoka provided that match and worked with ACD.

Barnett stated that the LRRWMO would then not need to have a match in its budget because the member cities would provide the matching funds.

Linton stated that there could be one item the LRRWMO would need to provide a match for, which would be Emily Johnson's position as the Anoka County Water Resource Outreach Collaborative.

Musgrove provided details on the shared priorities of the group, noting that projects should receive priorities over studies. She stated that the projects are being reviewed to ensure that they would meet the criteria. She stated that there was discussion on whether the funds should be split by percentage for each area, but the consensus was that the focus should be more on being able to complete projects. She noted that the group will meet again in June and she will continue to provide updates.

## OUTSTANDING ITEMS/TASK CHECKLIST

Haas reviewed the outstanding items and task checklist.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### Update on Fourth Generation Plan

Williams stated that draft policies were included in the packet that reflected the comments of the Board and staff from the previous month. He brought up the topic of wetland buffers.

The group discussed the wetland buffer requirements and temporary buffers.

Linton stated that the 16.5-foot temporary buffer provides extra protection during construction. He stated that in Ramsey, most of the wetlands end up in backyards and Ramsey then has additional requirements for things such as fencing.

Haas noted that in Andover the temporary buffer must remain until a certificate of occupancy is gained.

**Haas confirmed consensus of the Board to use the temporary construction buffer.**

Barnett commented that the edits and recommendations read more clearly.

Musgrove referenced number 20, related to operations, and asked for additional details.

Williams clarified that the previous plan stated that the LRRWMO would provide a stormwater facility maintenance declaration template that would be provided to private parties to use. He stated that he would assume that was done but has not yet seen that template.

Linton stated that Ramsey has a template, but it was not developed by the LRRWMO.

Nelson noted that Anoka incorporates that language into its development agreements.

**Williams confirmed that statement would be omitted from the plan as the member cities already seem to have a system that works for them.**

Musgrove referenced the new item on page two, between items two and three, related to infiltration and asked for input on how much of that activity is already done by cities.

Williams stated that this paraphrases the LRRWMO requirements for stormwater treatment and acknowledges the existing guidance on infiltration. He noted that this is current WMO practice and simply an acknowledgement of the requirements that already exist.

Barnett referenced the statement related to the LRRWMO review of the cities SWPPP.

**It was the consensus that the statement should be omitted as all member cities are required to implement MS4 Permit annually on their own and the LRRWMO does not need to be involved in an annual review.**

Williams asked if the existing priority water resources are still current or whether additional waters should be added.

Linton stated that Rogers Lake could come off the list as the designation was changed from a lake to a wetland.

Williams noted that the list could be amended to identify priority lakes and priority wetlands, with Rogers Lake appearing on the wetland list.

Barnett stated that the list could remain as is, because the list states priority resources and does not specify a lake or wetland.

Williams noted that he could still identify that water body as a wetland within the list. He stated that he has been following the development of the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P), noting that in the past month three documents were released related to draft goals. He stated that he reviewed those lists to determine if there are any gaps between those draft goals and the LRRWMO plan and reviewed that information.

Linton commented that when 1W1P pushes for removal of the Anoka Dam, he speaks up and states that the group will not receive buy in from the LRRWMO or its member cities if that statement is included.

Barnett asked if the City of Anoka should formally write something to 1W1P related to the Anoka Dam.

Nelson noted that Anoka has provided its stance a number of times over the years, as has Haas. He did not think that Anoka needed to reiterate its stance because Anoka owns the dam and its flowage rights and has done so prior to the creation of the DNR.

Williams reviewed the next steps, noting that he will provide some draft documents for the Board to review. He stated that it could also be wise to engage the Citizen Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee to review the policy and goals documents as well.

Haas confirmed that action. He stated that he will setup virtual meetings for both groups, noting that the Board would be welcome to attend as well.

#### Other

Springer stated that she is working to provide the auditors with the requested information, noting that the auditors may reach out to Board members.

Springer advised of an Andover permit submitted, noting that Anoka staff received three copies and wanted to ensure that Barr Engineering received a copy of the plans. Haas noted that he would follow up on the Andover permit.

Haas asked if there is any contact that Anoka has with MnDOT for litter cleanup along Highway 10. Nelson stated that he could provide that contact information to Haas.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Time of adjournment: 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Staple  
Administrative Secretary