

LOWER RUM RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Debra Musgrove 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; Jeff Weaver, Anoka; and Valerie Holthus, Andover.

Voting members absent were: None.

Also present were: Deputy Treasurer Lori Yager, Ramsey Civil Engineer IV Leonard Linton, Anoka Engineering Technician Ben Nelson, Andover Natural Resources Technician Kameron Kytönen, John Enstrom of Enstrom Organic Dirt, Jamie Schurbon of Anoka Conservation District, Becky Wozney of Anoka Conservation District, Colleen Werdien of Anoka Conservation District, and Stephanie Johnson of Barr Engineering.

ELECTION OF 2023 OFFICERS

Motion was made by Weaver, seconded by Holthus, to elect Musgrove as Chair, Holthus as Vice Chair, and Weaver as Treasurer/Secretary. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Weaver, to approve the February 16, 2023 agenda as presented. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

RESIDENT'S FORUM

Enstrom noted his previous comments related to ditch cleaning on his property. He stated that a representative from Anoka County has since contacted him and offered him a free permit, as a farmer, to clean his ditches. He stated that he was told he did not require any other permits for the activity. He stated that he will follow up to obtain that permit.

APPROVE MINUTES

January 19, 2023 Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Weaver, to approve the January 19, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

FINANCE MATTERS

Treasurer's Report

Yager presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2023. Account balances for the period were: Checking, \$153,206.93; less permit account balance of (\$39,900.78); less 2018 4th Generation Plan Reserve balance of (\$29,493.43), for a total balance of \$83,812.72.

Yager provided additional details on two permits with outstanding balances where she has not had response.

Musgrove asked if the permit fees would go with the property or the owner when a property is sold. Wozney stated that if it were a wetland issue that would be tied to the property. She noted that the new property owner may not be aware. Yager stated that was for Permit #2016-16, which is located in Andover. She stated that there have still been charges from Barr Engineering in August. Wozney provided additional details on the permit, noting that it could be difficult to recoup that cost.

Kytonen stated that people do live on the property and want to do a second driveway. Musgrove stated that perhaps staff could reach out to determine if the new property owners were still interested in the project, and if not, perhaps that cost is just written off. Wozney stated that she and Kytonen can follow up on that.

Weaver stated that perhaps there should be a policy that addresses situations of this nature. He noted that perhaps if there is a permit balance that is written off, that would need to be reimbursed if the property owner came back for another permit.

Holthus asked if they could place that against someone's property taxes. Linton commented that he did not believe a WMO has the authority to do that. He stated that the City of origin could place that balance on the person's tax roll.

Wozney noted that policy does not exist at this time, therefore, this situation could most likely not follow that path. Weaver suggested that each member have the discussion with their City Council to determine if there would be support for that type of process.

Linton commented that he believes the 4th Generation Plan has been wrapped up and therefore additional bills from Barr may not be coming for that action. He stated that perhaps they should start to set aside funds for the next Plan development.

Musgrove asked if the 4th Generation Plan Reserve could be renamed so that could be the base for the next plan. Yager confirmed that could be done.

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Weaver, to accept the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2023. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills

Yager presented the payment of bills for Barr Engineering in the amount of \$2,890 (December 2 through December 31, 2022), Barr Engineering in the amount of \$2,176 (January 1 through January 27, 2023), TimeSaver in the amount of \$768.67 (January secretarial services), MN Dept of Admin/Bookstore in the amount of \$67.50 (2023 RFP posting), and City of Anoka in the amount of \$297.66 (permit refunds).

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

Responses to 2023 RFP for Professional Services

Yager stated that ACD is the only entity to send in a response to the RFP and is within the 2023 budget.

Schurbon provided additional clarification on the response to the RFP from ACD. He also provided more specific information on Trott Brook and website platform update.

Musgrove stated that she would prefer to make the update for the website now rather than use the patching method. She commented that the proposal was under the expected amount.

Motion was made by Weaver, seconded by Holthus, to accept the RFP proposal as submitted by Anoka Conservation District for professional services. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

2023 Work Contract ~ Water Monitoring and Management

Schurbon provided a brief overview and noted a few changes.

Musgrove noted language which states the Chair is responsible to send the annual report to BWSR. Schurbon stated that “the Chair” could be replaced with “ACD”.

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Weaver, to approve the ACD 2023 Work Contract with the changes as discussed. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

LRRWMO Permit #2022-09 ~ Legacy at Petersen Farms ~ Andover

Kytonen reviewed the February 10, 2023 memo from Barr Engineering in which Barr Engineering provided background on the previous actions of the Board and recommends that the LRRWMO continue considerations until the requested revisions have been received as detailed in the memorandum.

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Weaver, to continue Permit #2022-09, Legacy at Peterson Farms, Andover, as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated February 10, 2023. Vote: 3 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

CONSIDER COMMUNICATIONS ~ None

REPORT OF OFFICERS & WAC ADMINISTRATION REIMBURSEMENT ~ None

ACD REPORT

2022 Work Results

Schurbon provided information on the updated mapping features and dashboards on the ACD website which help people to identify past and present projects in their area as well as information

on the treatment provided. It was noted that provided data in this method can be more user friendly than a written report, although the written report is also provided.

Wozney asked if this link could be provided on the LRRWMO website. Schurbon commented that they could look into that.

Schurbon also provided a brief overview of the information within the written report, focusing on the recommendations. He noted that the recommendations align with the Watershed Management Plan.

Weaver commented that they armored their riverbank, and it has had great results.

Schurbon confirmed that they would be sending the annual report to BWSR once finalized. He stated that any additional comments would need to be received prior to the next Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS ~ None

OUTSTANDING ITEMS/TASK CHECKLIST

Wozney reviewed the outstanding items and task checklist.

OTHER BUSINESS

JPA Review

Wozney stated that there is no update at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Time of adjournment: 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Staple
Administrative Secretary