

LOWER RUM RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

SEPTEMBER 21, 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; and, Valerie Holthus, Andover.

Voting members absent were: Jeff Weaver, Anoka.

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

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Musgrove, to approve the September 21, 2023 agenda as presented. Vote: 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

RESIDENT'S FORUM

None.

APPROVE MINUTES

August 17, 2023 Regular Meeting

September 8, 2023 Special Meeting

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Musgrove, to approve the August 17, 2023 Regular Meeting and September 8, 2023 Special Meeting minutes as presented. Vote: 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

FINANCE MATTERS

Treasurer's Report

Yager presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 31, 2023. Account balances for the period were: Checking, \$191,860.66; less permit account balance of (\$36,798.25); less Generation Plan reserves of (\$29,493.43), for a total balance of \$125,568.98.

Musgrove asked for clarification on a few terms used within the report and Yager provided those details.

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Musgrove, to accept the Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 31, 2023. Vote: 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills

Yager presented the payment of bills for TimeSaver in the amount of \$999.15 (August 2023 secretarial services) and Barr Engineering in the amount of \$15,317 (July 15, 2023 thru August 11, 2023).

Musgrove asked and received confirmation that the special meeting charges would be charged to the applicant. She referenced a charge from TimeSaver to add a person to the email list and asked for clarification. Wozney noted that is the new wetland specialist from Barr who will be handling the LRRWMO wetland permits.

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Musgrove, to authorize payment as presented and indicated above. Vote: 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

LRRWMO Permit #2023-15 ~ Waltek Site Improvements ~ Ramsey

Linton reviewed the September 13, 2023 memo from Barr Engineering in which Barr Engineering recommends that the LRRWMO approve of the permit for this project subject to ten conditions detailed in the memorandum.

Musgrove asked what triggered the permit, as the size would not. Linton replied that the site is 2.3 acres so that would trigger the permit.

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Musgrove, to approve Permit #2023-15, Waltek Site Improvements, Ramsey, subject to ten (10) conditions as detailed in the Barr Engineering memorandum dated September 13, 2023. Vote: 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

CONSIDER COMMUNICATIONS ~ None

REPORT OF OFFICERS & WAC ADMINISTRATION REIMBURSEMENT ~ None

ACD QUARTERLY REPORT ~ None

OLD BUSINESS ~ None

OUTSTANDING ITEMS/TASK CHECKLIST

Wozney reviewed the outstanding items and task checklist.

Werdien encouraged members to reach out to the County Board in support of the groundwater specialist for ACD. Kytonen asked if an outreach specialist would still be hired. Wozney replied that the focus has been shifted to the groundwater specialist position.

Werdien noted that ACD is working on an agreement to contract with an outreach employee from Isanti County to assist when needed.

OTHER BUSINESS

City of Anoka Support of the Anoka Rum River Dam Reconstruction and Modification Project

Nelson commented that this was discussed with the Board in 2022, when the LRRWMO Board supported Anoka requesting legislative funding for a feasibility study for the dam, which has been successful. He provided an update on the most recent legislative tour of the dam. He noted that Anoka is now asking for letters of support from cities and other entities for the project. He recapped the letters of support Anoka has already received from neighboring cities and other entities.

Musgrove noted that the request for city support should be presented to the member City Councils. She referenced the template and received confirmation that Wozney could fill that out on behalf of the LRRWMO, if desired.

Motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Musgrove, to approve a Letter of Support for the Anoka Rum River Dam Reconstruction and Modification Project. Vote: 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Kytonen and Linton requested Nelson send copies of the template to Andover and Ramsey for consideration from those cities.

JPA Review ~ Pages 1-4

Musgrove highlighted some of the proposed changes she had incorporated into the draft that was distributed in the packet. The Board and staff continued to review proposed changes to the document.

Linton acknowledged the time and expense that went into drafting the JPA and discouraged against changing it too much as that would cause additional legal expenses. Musgrove commented that the document is ten years old and just had some minor suggestions to bring it up-to-date. Wozney agreed that a few changes would be appropriate for clarification. She noted that even if they do not make a lot of changes, there is still benefit in the group reviewing the document in this way to better understand it.

Kytonen noted that items four and nine seem very similar. Musgrove also noted language that seemed duplicate. Wozney stated she will mark these types of items and once the Board is done reviewing the document, she will submit these questions to legal counsel.

It was noted that the Board will begin its review of pages four through eight at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Holthus, seconded by Musgrove, to adjourn the meeting. Vote: 2 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Time of adjournment: 8:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Staple
Administrative Secretary