



2522 Marshall Street NE
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418-3329

612-465-8780
contacts@mwm.org

mwm.org

**MISSISSIPPI
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION**

MEETING MINUTES

Date: 13 November 2018

Attachment 3

Time: 3:00-5:00 PM

Location: 2522 Marshall Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

Commissioners in Attendance

Donna Schmitt, Columbia Heights; Jeffrey Dains, Lauderdale; Kevin Reich, Minneapolis; and Jerry Faust, St. Anthony.

Staff and Guests: Marcy Bean, Max Dalton, Stephanie Johnson, Dan Kalmon, Abby Moore, Michaela Neu, Doug Snyder, and Charlie Yunker, MWMO; Glenda Meixell, Anoka Conservation District; Leslie Yetka, Freshwater Society; Liz Stout, Minneapolis; Cliff Swenson, MPRB; Minette Saulog, St. Anthony; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. by Chair Reich.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Motion by Dains, second by Schmitt to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains, to approve the Minutes of the September 11, 2018 meeting with the correction of all items stating Mary Gaasch should be changed to Donna Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports from Staff

MWMO is working with Anoka Conservation District and the cities of Fridley and Columbia Heights to complete a study of the areas draining into Highland and Sullivan Lakes. The study will identify opportunities for stormwater retrofits during street reconstruction and on private property. Total cost of the study is \$25,600 with MWMO's share being \$7,600. Anoka Conservation District is funding the balance and their staff will perform the study.

The Capital Project Grant Program received two applications by the October 6 deadline, one in NE Minneapolis and one in Fridley. Staff reviewed the projects and declined the Fridley project because it was not cost-effective. Staff is working with the applicant in NE Minneapolis to get additional information prior to a decision.

Some Commissioners have noted that a 3:00 p.m. meeting time is difficult for their schedules, though the meeting dates work well. Staff will follow up and may propose a change in the meeting time in 2019.

The salary policy for 2019-2020 needs to be updated. Snyder proposed a 2.5% increase to the current salary scales. MWMO is participating in a salary study with four other local watershed districts. A comparative will be brought back for Board review upon completion.

Fridley has sent a letter of intent regarding the implementation of ordinances to meet Commission standards. The timeline of their release of their Local Water Plan is December 31, 2018. Staff will have 60 days to review the plan. Staff intends to bring the Plan for Board approval at the March 2019 meeting.

St. Anthony requested another extension to submit their Local Water Plan to January or March. Staff is meeting with city staff to discuss final edits at the end of November.

Hilltop is just starting to update their Comprehensive Plan and haven't hired a consultant for that work yet.

The Upper Harbor Terminal district stormwater system planning is underway. The intent is to work toward feasibility and final design that will capture the first flush from the site and regional area while gaining greater public benefit by integrating stormwater and habitat systems with other infrastructure. An Integrated Utility Hub (IUH) may be included to recycle organics, clean the stormwater for use in watering gardens and planting, and generate jobs and energy. MWMO is working with the Minneapolis Park Board and other partners to get the district stormwater system and IUH concepts on the core conceptual plan. The district stormwater feasibility study will be completed through final design in the first quarter of 2019. An RFQ will be sent to vendors for professional services by January.

General Business

Resolution 2018-034: Fridley Smart Salting System. The City of Fridley is requesting funds to outfit four of their seven plow trucks with brine application systems, road temperature sensors, vehicle location units, and an anti-icing trailer. The total cost is \$80,557 and is expected to reduce salt usage by 122 tons per year. The City will use the equipment to inform their next purchase of snowplow equipment and will include tracking and reporting of reductions to MWMO. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-034. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2018-035: North Point Health & Wellness CIP. A feasibility study was approved at the September meeting to evaluate above-and-beyond stormwater management. Based on the study, Staff is requesting a grant not to exceed \$350,000 to Hennepin County Facility Services to implement visible BMPs on the property. It is anticipated the project will go out for bid prior to year end and construction will begin in January. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-035. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2018-036: MWS Volunteer Leadership Development. The latest Master Water Stewards class graduated a few weeks ago, bringing the total number of MWS in MWMO to just under 50. The MWS have a need of an internal leadership structure to take advantage of resources, projects and continuing learning opportunities. Staff is requesting \$20,000 to partner with Freshwater Society to develop and implement a Master Water Steward leadership structure with a goal of significantly increasing the number of MWS actively engaged with MWMO over time. Outside partners, such as Hennepin County Master Gardeners and the Minnesota Association of Volunteer Administration, will be engaged to develop a written plan for a Steward Leadership Model. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-036. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2018-037: Local Management Plan Approvals. Minneapolis and St. Paul Local Stormwater Management Plans meet all Commission requirements, but are unable to implement ordinances to meet Commission standards until later in 2019. Both cities have provided letters of intent with a timeline of ordinance implementation to meet Commission requirements. Motion by Schmitt, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-037. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2018-038: BWSR Watershed Based Funding. In 2018, BWSR launched a pilot program to disburse funding on a watershed-based level as well as competitive grant funding. This is a procedural item to accept watershed-based funding from BWSR in the amount of \$113,459 and enter into a grant agreement with BWSR for those funds. Motion by Schmitt, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-038. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2018-039: Levy Certification. There is no increase in the levy from 2018. The total 2019 levy amount is \$5.7 million. Included in the meeting packet is an update to all projects levied and approved for 2002-2017 as well as a draft 2019 budget. Nothing will be added to operating reserves at this point. Motion by Schmitt, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-039. Motion carried unanimously. Staff was credited for the zero percent increase year-over-year.

Resolution 2018-040: Health Insurance Structure. Proposed changes to the health insurance contribution structure are intended to control costs. Growth in number of employees and lives covered over the past few years make a hybrid fully-insured/self-insured program cost effective as less than half of staff exceeded their deductibles in the past two of three years. The change does not increase deductibles or reduce coverage, so there is no difference to staff. Risk is increased to MWMO because if employees exceeds their deductible, MWMO would be required to cover the difference. The coverage for single employees would increase from 80% to 90% of the insurance premium. Family coverage would remain at 80% of the insurance premium. The structure can be evaluated and adjusted annually. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-040. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2018-041: Election of Treasurer. Mary Gaasch has resigned from the Commission. Schmitt volunteered to serve as Treasurer. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-041, electing Schmitt to serve as Treasurer for the remainder of 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Public Input

None

Board Updates and Announcements

The **Taste of Columbia Heights** will be held on Friday, November 16 from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

A **fix-it clinic** was held at MWMO in October and was a great way to engage with the community.

St. Anthony is hosting a **Sustainability Fair and Wine Sale** this Saturday. Information is available on the city website.

Adjourn

There being no further business, motion by Reich, second by Dains to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Juntunen

Recording Secretary

Record of Motions

Motion by Dains, second by Schmitt to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains, to approve the Minutes of the September 11, 2018 meeting with the correction of all items stating Mary Gaasch should be changed to Donna Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-034. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-035. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-036. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-037. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-038. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-039. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-040. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2018-041, electing Schmitt to serve as Treasurer for the remainder of 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Reich, second by Dains to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.