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**MISSISSIPPI  
WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION**

# MEETING MINUTES

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**Date:** 12 March 2019

**Attachment 3**

**Time:** 3:00-5:00 PM

**Location:** 2522 Marshall Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

## Commissioners in Attendance

Donna Schmitt, Columbia Heights; Steve Eggert, Fridley; Jeffrey Dains, Lauderdale; Kevin Reich, Minneapolis; Jerry Faust, St. Anthony Village; and Chris Meyer, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board.

Staff and Guests: Nick Busse, Max Dalton, Brett Eidem, Brittany Faust, Brian Jastram, Dan Kalmon, Abby Moore, Michaela Neu, Jim Rudolph, Tammy Schmitz, and Doug Snyder MWMO; Glenda Meixell, Anoka Conservation District; Robert Jones, Resident; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 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 Dains, second by Schmitt to approve the Minutes of January 9, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously

## Consent Agenda

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

## Reports from Staff

Staff is preparing for the Board retreat as MWMO will update its 10-year capital planning process in 2019-2020. The March and May Board meetings will include preparations for the retreat with staff reports and planned initiatives for Board feedback.

Udai Singh is currently in India as part of MWMO's agreement with the University and three Indian states to provide training on watershed assessments. Singh will also make presentations at two conferences while in India.

Jastram gave a presentation on MWMO's monitoring program, recapping the growth and development of the program, infrastructure, staff and leadership, and partnerships on research projects from 2005 to current. In 2019, 72 sites will be monitored including BMPs, ponds, pipesheds, and a treatment facility. The infrastructure, including an on-site lab, allows MWMO to monitor for over a dozen parameters. The monitoring staff will describe their vision for the program at a future board meeting.

Moore, Neu and Schmitz recapped the education and outreach programs of MWMO. Outreach efforts are strategic and proactive, address access and barriers, support and expand seven successful ongoing programs, and provide a variety of engaging learning experiences with the ultimate goal of behavior change. Outreach efforts include the interpretive center, temporary exhibits highlighting local artists and community groups, BMPs installed on site with interpretive signage, workshops and programs addressing elected officials, salt reduction, and Master Water Stewards. Community outreach includes the Good Neighbor Guide, tabling at events and supporting neighborhood cleanup efforts, social media, and connecting with city staff for MS4 reporting. Youth outreach includes Green Team, Green Team alumni and internships, the stormwater park and learning center at MWMO, and the wet classroom. Staff create customized programming for underserved communities and partner with various community organizations. A new program, Adopt-A-Drain, will be introduced soon through WaterShed Partners. The Green Team program is piloting this year in Columbia Heights and Fridley. Two youth, ages 14-16, will be chosen to participate from each city.

Kalmon provided an update on Towerside Phase II. This is a 20-acre site approximately five blocks east of TCF stadium and MWMO staff have been working on a shared vision and conceptual plan under an MOU with the developer and MPRB. Next week Staff will review the finalized concept plan with the U of M and Minneapolis Public Works re regulator needs or issues in the area.

The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) has opened membership to allow WMOs to be full voting members in 2019. Membership cost is \$500. Snyder suggested using this year to understand MAWD's historical role and sample their resources. MAWD coordinates

lobbying efforts with the League of Minnesota Cities, counties, and other groups and hosts three large events each year including a legislative event at the Capital, a summer tour, and an annual conference. Staff is also attending Minnesota Association of Watershed Administrators (MAWA) meetings quarterly, which has been very helpful over the past 15 years.

RFPs for the Towerside Phase I project to install pumps, UV and structure/equipment to make the reuse system operational are expected to be published soon and bids are expected to be on the May agenda.

## **General Business**

**Resolution 2019-014: Action Grants.** Six Action Grant applications were received. Recommendations after review by Staff and CAC are to approve funding for five applications: FamilyWise Innovative Stormwater Management Plan, Phase II; Islamic Cultural Community Center Stormwater Management Project; JXTA Skateable Art Plaza; Eco Mosque; and Minneapolis Apprenticeship and Training Center. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-014. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-015: Anoka County Parks Feasibility Study.** MWMO has been working in partnership with Anoka County Parks since 2017. This project is to stabilize the Mississippi riverbank along parkland at both Islands of Peace Park and Riverfront Regional Park located in Fridley and involves analyzing existing banks for a detailed design approach for a 2020-2021 capital project to improve the habitat and long-term stability of this area. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-015. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-016: N Columbia Golf Course BMP 2019 Fieldwork.** Geotechnical work, data gathering and hydrology in this area is needed to update models for the area of the NE watershed draining to the golf course. This information will be used to create a final plan for installation of BMPs on the site in 2019-2020. Staff is requesting \$106,434 to complete this work in order to finalize the BMP implementation plan. Motion by Schmitt, second by Eggert to approve Resolution 2019-016. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-017: Upper Harbor Terminal Professional Services.** MWMO has been activity participating in this project since 2015 and has up to \$3.5 million in funding included in the CIP schedule for potential projects at this site. An RFP was released for a 30% design of the site. Proposals have been received from Barr and SRF. Minneapolis and MPRB staff also reviewed the proposals and recommend Barr Engineering based on several criteria. Staff have added 8% to the proposal as a contingency because Barr did not include any contingency in their proposal. This contingency allows for Staff to make changes to the current scope if issues or additional opportunities arise. The total request is \$169,260 for design and engineering services to create a

30% design of a district stormwater system for this site. Motion by Eggert, second by Schmitt to approve Resolution 2019-017. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-18: Integrated Utility Hub Feasibility Funding.** In 2017 MWMO Staff began a restorative development initiative with a goal of forming a coalition of public and private support to fund and participate in an Integrated Utility Hub feasibility study at a cost of \$865,000. Current partners include the McKnight Foundation, Upper Harbor Terminal and Towerside developers, Department of Planning and Economic Development, Minneapolis Mayor's Office, Minneapolis Environmental, and several neighborhood organizations. There are several additional potential partners for the project. Each partner has been asked to provide staff and funding resources to the project. Staff recommends the Board commit \$150,000 to fund water resource, habitat, and environmental equity aspects of the feasibility study and attract the remaining funds needed for the study. These funds are available in the Capital Projects and Initiatives budget. If the partners do not commit to matching to raise all funds needed for the study, these funds would be reallocated and the study will not move forward. Motion by Eggert, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-018. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-19: Fridley LWMP Approval.** Staff have reviewed the Local Water Management Plan and found that the Plan meets all requirements. A letter of intent from the City to adopt MWMO standards in 2019 has also been received. Staff recommends approval. Motion by Eggert, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-019. Motion carried unanimously.

## Open Public Input

None.

## Board Updates and Announcements

Faust encouraged city Mayors to attend the Wyland Foundation breakfast event on April 30. The Wyland Foundation created the National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation April 1-30, 2019 to leverage and enhance the awareness of water usage. Schmitt noted that the way to win the challenge is to get students to sign up to take the pledge to reduce water use.

## **Adjourn**

There being no further business, motion by Eggert, second by Schmitt to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 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 Dains, second by Schmitt to approve the Minutes of January 9, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-014. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-015. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Eggert to approve Resolution 2019-016. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Eggert, second by Schmitt to approve Resolution 2019-017. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Eggert, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-018. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, motion by Eggert, second by Schmitt to adjourn.