



2522 Marshall Street NE
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418-3329

612-465-8780
contacts@mwmo.org

mwmo.org

**MISSISSIPPI
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION**

MEETING MINUTES

Date: 14 January 2020

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; Tom Tillberry, Fridley; Kevin Reich, Minneapolis; and Chris Meyer, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB).

Staff and Guests: Marcy Bean, Nick Busse, Max Dalton, Brett Eidem, Alyssa Gregory, Dan Kalmon, Udai Singh, Nancy Stowe and Doug Snyder MWMO; Jerry Faust, St. Anthony Village; Glenda Meixell, Anoka Conservation District; Kevin Hanson, City Engineer, Columbia Heights; and Beverly Love, 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 the November 12, 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

The new Projects and Outreach Director, Nancy Stowe, introduced herself and her background. Stowe looks forward to working to advance the mission of MWMO.

The Board will meet on the second Tuesday of even months, beginning in February, for work planning. The focus in April will be monitoring and watershed assessments. In June the focus will be communication and outreach, and the meeting will be the same day as the early summer shared river event. August focus will be capital improvement projects, leaving the last two meetings to cover any topics that may have arisen during the course of the year that need further discussion.

As part of the Northeast Stormwater Management Initiative, the City of Minneapolis will be doing street reconstruction and implementing tree trenches for stormwater treatment. MWMO is partnering with the City, and a capital project funding request is expected for this project in March.

The Columbia Golf Course project is currently at about 90% design. The plan is for a series of three best management practices (BMP) improvements, including a pond, a dry pond, and an infiltration area, with all three interconnected across the golf course. In this 2100 acre watershed, this project will be treating 600 acres of runoff that has been going to river untreated. In addition, the project will help to mitigate flooding in the neighborhoods and the golf course, and habitat restoration with native plantings will enhance the area. The project will go out to bid for construction this spring with work on the golf course to begin after the primary golf season, after Labor Day 2020. It's likely the construction will extend into early 2021, and vegetation restoration work would happen in the spring of 2021.

Two staff members, Alyssa Gregory and Max Dalton, will be leaving MWMO. We wish them the best in their future endeavors.

General Business

Resolution 2020-004: Anoka County Parks Islands of Peace Habitat Restoration. Through the last six months, staff has worked with Anoka County Parks (ACP) and Wenck Engineering on a feasibility study to identify stream bank stabilization and habitat improvements at both Islands of Peace (IoP) and Riverfront Regional Parks. They identified opportunities for upland and floodplain forest restoration around Chase Island, which has attached walkways to the mainland. Habitat improvements on approximately 6 acres in the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area would include converting turf grass into bee lawns and perennial gardens, bioengineering and vegetative riprap on the main channel edge of island as well as reinforcing around culvert replacement. Motion by Dains, second by Tillberry to approve Resolution 2020-004 approving funding for the Anoka County Parks Islands of Peace Park Habitat Restoration at a cost not-to-exceed \$140,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2020-005: Old Bassett Creek Tunnel Phase Two Cleanout. In 2018 for Phase One, access lids were constructed to lower equipment to remove 935 tons of sediment and debris from the first 1,100 linear feet of the tunnel. The City has installed a new access hatch for Phase Two to access approximately 810 linear feet. The feasibility study showed this section to have the deepest sediment and it is estimated that 1,100 tons of sediment could be removed from this reach. MWMO funding for this project will pay a private contractor to remove the materials, not city staff or construction of access lids. Motion by Schmitt, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2020-005 approving funding for the Old Bassett Creek Tunnel Phase Two Cleanout at a cost not to exceed \$165,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2020-006: Huset Park Feasibility Study. The City of Columbia Heights requests funds for a feasibility study to evaluate stormwater management options in Huset Park. The goal of the study is to identify, provide advanced design concept and develop cost estimates for the storage, reuse and filtration of stormwater at Huset Park and Zurek Pond. This project could improve water quality as well as reduce flooding issues downstream in Minneapolis. Motion by Dains, second by Schmitt to approve Resolution 2020-006 approving funding to the City of Columbia Heights for the Huset Park feasibility study in a grant not to exceed \$40,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2020-007: Barr UHT Agreement Amendment. MWMO approved hiring Barr Engineering in March 2019 to design a district stormwater system focusing primarily on the 50-acre Upper Harbor Terminal site. In December 2019 the scope of the project was expanded to include additional design of storage and water quality treatment along Dowling Avenue due to road reconstruction and the replacement of the stormwater tunnel running under Dowling Avenue, I-94 and through the Upper Harbor Terminal site. Motion by Tillberry, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2020-007 approving a budget amendment to Barr Engineering's 2019 Upper Harbor Terminal contract in the amount of \$18,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2020-008: Restorative Partnership Professional Services. MWMO planning staff started the Restorative Development Initiative in 2017 and now has gained support to initiate a restorative development feasibility study. Steady coalescing of organizations into a partnership where each one is continually expanding their role and responsibilities will increase the project's capacity and decrease the Watershed's role as the project moves towards implementation. Staff recommends hiring Carroll, Franck & Associates to assist with Partnership meetings, governance, workplan support, building a more robust partnership entity to attract and educate new partners and support stakeholder engagement. Motion by Meyer, second by Schmitt to approve Resolution 2020-008 approving professional services for the Restorative Development Partnership and commitment of \$35,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2020-009: Election of Officers & 2020 meeting dates confirmation. The MWMO is a Joint Powers Organization with Bylaws requiring the election of a Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer, and specification of meeting dates. Motion by Schmitt, second by Meyer to approve Resolution 2020-009 approving 2020 MWMO slate of officers electing Reich as Chair, Dains as Vice Chair, and Schmitt as Treasurer; and affirming 2020 regular meeting dates as the second Tuesday of odd-numbered months, with the correction of a typo in the resolution changing 2019 to 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Public Input

None.

Board Updates and Announcements

Jerry Faust has retired and was formally recognized for his sixteen years of service and being a valuable asset to the Board. Staff thanked Faust for his experience, background, being a model of partnership and example as a leader in the organization.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

MWMO was approached by a person from the State Department on an exchange program of folks who would come here and look at the MWMO site to learn how to deal with water issues. This would be a 1 ½ hour program for a diverse international group of attendees toward the end of January. Snyder will communicate if this meeting is confirmed.

Schmitt reported that Columbia Heights is moving forward with the new City Hall construction and will be presenting plans to the public January 23 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. City Pages printed inaccurate information and will not print corrections. City members are very excited about the plans for a multi-use building, with City Hall on the main level and market-rate apartments on the second level.

Adjourn

There being no further business, motion by Dains, second by Schmitt to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly

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 the November 12, 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 Dains, second by Tillberry to approve Resolution 2020-004 approving funding for the Anoka County Parks Islands of Peace Park Habitat Restoration at a cost not-to-exceed \$140,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2020-005 approving funding for the Old Bassett Creek Tunnel Phase Two Cleanout at a cost not to exceed \$165,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dains, second by Schmitt to approve Resolution 2020-006 approving funding to the City of Columbia Heights for the Huset Park feasibility study in a grant not to exceed \$40,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Tillberry, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2020-007 approving a budget amendment to Barr Engineering's 2019 Upper Harbor Terminal contract in the amount of \$18,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Meyer, second by Schmitt to approve Resolution 2020-008 approving professional services for the Restorative Development Partnership and commitment of \$35,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Meyer to approve Resolution 2020-009 approving 2020 MWMO slate of officers electing Reich as Chair, Dains as Vice Chair, and Schmitt as Treasurer; and affirming 2020 regular meeting dates as the second Tuesday of odd-numbered months, with the correction of a typo in the resolution changing 2019 to 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, motion by Dains, second by Schmitt to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.