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**MISSISSIPPI
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION**

MEETING MINUTES

Date: 12 November 2024

Attachment 3

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: 2522 Marshall Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

Attendance

Commissioners: Tom Tillberry, Fridley; Jeff Dains, Lauderdale; Randy Stille, St. Anthony Village; Michael Lukes, St. Paul; and Billy Menz, Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board (MPRB).

Staff and Guests: Emmy Baskerville, Jennifer Doyle, Aaron Goemann, Mirae Guenther, Eva Hanson, Akadia Johnson, Dan Kalmon, Dustin McHenry, Abby Moore, Kevin Reich, Emily Resseger, Nancy Stowe and Mary Thelen, MWMO; Glenda Meixell, Anoka Conservation District; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Chair Stille.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Menz, second by Lukes to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Menz, second by Dains to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Dains, second by Lukes to approve the Consent Agenda as presented (none).

Reports from Staff

New staff members Guenther, Water Resources Data Analyst, and Goemann, Planner-Project Manager, were introduced to the Board.

Reich covered ongoing planning efforts, including multi-agency work in the East Phillips Green Zone, which includes road projects, parks, and public housing in the area.

[Tilberry arrived 3:35 p.m.]

Resseger provided an update on the monitoring, assessment and research program. Monitoring provides the scientific basis for tracking issues, project selection, and project evaluation. The program focuses on three areas: pollutant characterization, green infrastructure performance, and operations and maintenance of ongoing projects. Thelen, McHenry, and Guenther elaborated on how their monitoring efforts on the river, of stormwater, and of BMPs are performed and how their results can be used to provide conclusive findings. Partners such as MPRB, St. Anthony Falls, and student groups would be helpful in BMP monitoring.

General Business

2024-027: MS4Front Data Management and GILS Mapping Tool

Staff have been researching data management software that would help track and measure ongoing MWMO initiatives. Considering the accumulation of historic and ongoing projects, as well as future project implementation, a need for a project and data management tool that can store photos, map locations, track project information, BMP monitoring data, and create custom reports is necessary. This tool allows unlimited users and will provide an inventory of all past and current projects in one place. The software can also be used by all staff for current project management, tracking completions and timelines. Migration and setup of the software is estimated at \$22,000, and there is an annual subscription cost of \$6,000 that includes software hosting, management, training, and technical support. Staff is recommending approval of

\$29,880 to implement this software. Motion by Menz, second by Tillberry to approve Resolution 2024-0227 approving \$29,880 to implement the MS4Front Data Management Software Tool. Motion carried unanimously.

2024-028: Spark-Y Grant Application

Spark-Y wishes to apply for an EPA Community Change Grant in collaboration with MWMO. If awarded, this grant could award over \$10 million for green infrastructure projects in North and Northeast Minneapolis supported by workforce development participants in Spark-Y's apprenticeship program. Examples of green infrastructure projects include updating the urban farm and greenhouse at Edison High School, installation of irrigation infrastructure to increase use of recaptured water on the site, and in-classroom touchpoints. The grant is for green infrastructure installation or improvements at both Edison High School and Nellie Stone Elementary. MWMO has no monetary obligation but will provide technical expertise. Motion by Dains, second by Tillberry to approve Resolution 2024-028 approving support for Spark-Y's EPA Community Change Grant application in partnership with MWMO. Motion carried unanimously.

2024-029: FY 2025 Levy Certification

At the September meeting, the Board set the levy limit. After review, staff does not have any recommended changes from the September approval. The FY25 budget includes a 5.7% increase over 2024, which is relative to levy increases in member communities. Motion by Tillberry, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2024-025 approving the MWMO FY25 levy amount at \$7,830,000.

Board Updates and Announcements

Stille reminded board members to complete the evaluation forms that were received by mail and submit those by November 24. Stille also reminded board members to submit any expense reports to Reich prior to December 31, 2024.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2025.

Open Public Input

Meixell introduced herself to new board and staff members as the Anoka County Conservation Supervisor. Because the Anoka Conservation District has some overlap with the MWMO area, she regularly attends board meetings. Meixell is also active with the Coon Rapids Senior Club and has invited them to the MWMO site for activities in the past.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.