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**MISSISSIPPI  
WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION**

# MEETING MINUTES

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**Date:** 10 September 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 (MPRB).

Staff and Guests: Marcy Bean, Nick Busse, Max Dalton, Brett Eidem, Brittany Faust, Alyssa Gregory, Dan Kalmon, Abby Moore, John Mueller, Marta Wichman, Udai Singh and Doug Snyder MWMO; Betty Risdahl, Hilltop; Glenda Meixell, Anoka Conservation District; John Bilotta and Jeff Peterson, U of M Water Resources, Stormwater Research Council; Dr. Dean Current and Dr. Joe Wagner, U of M; 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 Eggert, second by Dains to approve the Agenda with one typo correction. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Eggert, second by Meyer to approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Consent Agenda**

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

## Reports from Staff

The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) has allowed membership for WMOs for 2020 at a cost of \$500. A change in membership price is anticipated for 2021. MWMO will continue membership for 2020.

MWMO is hiring to replace Stephanie Johnson. A good number of candidates have applied. Interviews are being scheduled for the end of September with the intent to make a hire in October.

The Minnesota Water Resources Conference is October 15-16 at the St. Paul River Center. Board members who wish to attend should notify Dalton or Snyder for registration.

The Board retreat will be held at the end of October. This will include a review of the 10-year planning process. Any additional topics Board members would like to discuss can be forwarded to Snyder or Reich for inclusion in the retreat agenda

MWMO has been offered an opportunity to attend a blended online/in person national certification pilot program to train individuals in the maintenance of green infrastructure. Staff will participate in this professional development training, along with Minneapolis and MPRB staff, to investigate whether MWMO may want to invest in this program in the future.

Staff has just wrapped up the 12th season of the Mississippi River Green Team. In addition to Minneapolis youth, one youth each from Fridley and Columbia Heights participated in the 2019 Team. Many participants are also interested in returning for the 2020 season. Many Green Team alumni have taken their next step on an environmental career path through internships and jobs at MWMO, MPRB, DNR and other organizations.

MWMO will host a custom skateboard exhibit in partnership with Juxtaposition Arts and Urban Boat Builders in October. The exhibit will feature skateboards with water-related art designs. Juxtaposition will also be displaying these boards at the Open Streets event this weekend.

MWMO staff have been working with Metro Transit regarding their Minneapolis bus garage (located near Target Field) since 2017 to explore ways to capture and re-use stormwater. A capital project funding request is expected for this project in November. The Edison Safe Routes to School capital project was funded in May and is on schedule for completion this year. The project installed bio-retention and underground infiltration practices to treat 1.5 acres of runoff. The project is being installed in tandem with a street reconstruction project and will hopefully set a precedent for green infrastructure to be included with future street reconstruction projects.

Singh provided a recap of the 2019 monitoring season and introduced new monitoring interns. MWMO had eight job-shadowing experiences in 2019 with four high school students, three Minneapolis erosion control interns and one U of M graduate student. Monitoring equipment was reinstalled at an outfall site after a city maintenance project. MWMO continues to invest in monitoring technology to build data

## General Business

**Resolution 2019-035: Levy.** The 2020 proposed budget has no increase over 2019 with the levy remaining at \$5,700,000. An increase in the administrative line item has been offset by a reduction in the capital replacement fund. Notice of the not-to exceed levy amount must be sent to the counties by September 30. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-035 approving the maximum MWMO levy amount for FY2020 and directing staff to submit truth-in-taxation documentation to Anoka, Hennepin and Ramsey counties. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-036: Stormwater Research Council.** The non-profit Minnesota Stormwater Research Council (MSRC) was established in 2016. Staff participated in the development of the organization and Singh is a board member. MSRC work is administered by the U of M Water Resource Center. MWMO has provided funding at \$25,000 per year to the Council. This is the third year request for funding from partners. Bilotta and Peterson presented findings of research and projects completed by MSRC. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-036 approving \$25,000 funding to MSRC for applied stormwater research. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-037: Stewardship Fund Planning Grants.** Four applications were received in 2019 and staff recommends awarding all four applications. Staff reviewed the four proposed projects, including the first in Columbia Heights. Motion by Eggert, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-037 approving 2019 planning grants to Family Tree Clinic, Prodeo Academy, Seward Redesign, and University Baptist Church. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-038: Towerside Re-use.** In July the Board approved purchase of equipment for UV treatment, flow meters and pumps to send reuse water to the properties within the district system. This request is for approval of the construction contract for final installation of Phase I, as well as commissioning of the system, its controls, and testing. Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-038 approving a construction contract to install and commission the reuse treatment system and shelter at Towerside District Stormwater System. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-039: Como, Semi-URP and UMN H&H Model.** MWMO is finishing the hydrology and hydraulic (H&H) models across the watershed. These are among the final areas to be modeled. MWMO partners with the City of Minneapolis to complete the modeling. Motion by Eggert, second by Schmitt to approve Resolution 2019-039 approving funding for the Como, Semi-URP, and University of Minnesota H&H modeling project. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-040: UHT District Stormwater Work Order #2.** This is a request to approve work order #2 for the feasibility study and costing at a cost of \$118,000, and authorizing staff to take all administrative action necessary to complete the work order. The Board approved and committed funds for a portion of the design and engineering services at the March 2019 meeting. This approval will release the remaining funds for that project. Motion by Eggert, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-040 approving the UHT District Stormwater work order #2. Motion carried unanimously.

## Open Public Input

Sing introduced Drs. Dean Current and Joe Magner from the U of M CINRAM (Center for Integrated Natural Resources and Agricultural Management) program. MWMO has partnered with this program to bring training to state water management organizations in India over the past four years to establish gauging stations, weather stations and monitoring programs. The next step is to bring scientists from India to Minnesota for additional training this fall/winter. The partnership with MWMO and the U of M will continue and staff hopes to host a conference in Minneapolis next spring. Singh thanked the Board for their support of this partnership endeavor.

## **Board Updates and Announcements**

The City of Columbia Heights recently approved the Prodeo Academy school site plan. The City is also considering moving City Hall to a new building that would incorporate public housing, restaurants and shopping on the upper floors.

Faust announced that he is not seeking re-election in 2019 so a new Board member will be selected to represent St. Anthony. Faust has served on the MWMO Board since January 2004.

## **Adjourn**

There being no further business, motion by Eggert, second by Dains to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Juntunen

Recording Secretary

## Record of Motions

Motion by Eggert, second by Dains to approve the Agenda with one typo correction. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dains, second by Faust to approve the Minutes of the July 9, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Faust, second by Dains to approve Resolution 2019-035 approving the maximum MWMO levy amount for FY2020 and directing staff to submit truth-in-taxation documentation to Anoka, Hennepin and Ramsey counties. Motion carried unanimously.

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