

Minutes: Monday, April 15, 2019
RPBCWD Citizen's Advisory Committee Monthly Meeting
Location: RPBCWD offices: 18681 Lake Street, Chanhassen

CAC Members

Jim Boettcher	P	Peter Iverson	A	Sharon McCotter	P	Marilynn Torkelson	E
Scott Bryan	P	Daryl Kirt	A	Jan Neville	P	Lori Tritz	P
Anne Deuring	P	Denny Kopfmann	P	Joan Palmquist	P		
Barry Hofer	P	Matt Lindon	P	Samir Penkar	P		

Michelle Jordan	RPBCWD staff	P
Paul Moline	Guest Presenter from Carver County Water Management Organization	P
Dorothy Pedersen	Board of Managers	P

Summary of key actions/motions for the Board of Managers:

1. **Motion:** None

I. Opening

- A. Call CAC meeting to Order:** President Lori Tritz called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Welcome
- B. Attendance:** As noted above.
- C. Matters of general public interest:** None
- D. Approval of Agenda:** Jim moved and Jan seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
- E. Approval of March 18, 2019 CAC Meeting Minutes:** Jan moved and Jim seconded to approve the March 18, 2019 CAC minutes. Motion carried.

II. Learning Presentation: Paul Moline from CCWMO presented on the topic of groundwater. A Water Management Organization is slightly different than Watershed District in that it is under the supervision of the County Board. Carver County adopted a groundwater plan in 2016 and is one of only two groundwater plans in the metro area. The shallowest ground water is found in sand layers and is easiest to access but is not predictable in quantity or quality. These sand layers can recharge in weeks, but are vulnerable to contamination. Top two aquifers are next easiest to access. The productivity varies and they are vulnerable to contamination. Old wells that have not been sealed properly can be a source of contamination of aquifers. Mt. Simon aquifer is the deepest and is the source for new wells although a permit is required to access it. Recharge is very slow at 10,000 years. It has very low vulnerability to manmade contamination, but natural arsenic can exist. It contains "vintage water" i.e. water that existed before 1953 that has no traces of tritium from bomb testing.

III. Staff Report

- A.** Michelle reported that the staff-of-the-month next month will be Josh Maxwell, Water Resources Coordinator.
- B.** There are lots of volunteer opportunities with the Watershed District: Ride-alongs, speakers bureau, data collection on lakes, shadowing wetland assessment.
- C.** Duck Lake: The board approved ordering the project at their April meeting. Staff are working on next steps. The rain barrel pick-up is on April 27 and **we need volunteers**.
- D.** Water Stewardship grants: The first residential grant application came in – a shoreline restoration on Mitchell Lake. The committee met and it scored in the range that requires adjustments. There were design issues, non-native plants, etc.
- E.** Educator Mini Grants: There will be an info session in May promoting these grants as well as the watershed stewardship grants. Spread the word to your teacher friends. This program has been steadily growing. We are looking at possibly creating a water educators support group.
- F.** We are looking at the evening of June 11 for a wetland walk. Should we walk first or have a sit down class first?

- G. Two turf alternative workshops coming up.
- H. Watershed Explorer Book has been successful. We brainstormed on educational kits: microscope cameras, explorer backpacks, paint tray squirt bottles.

IV. Commission Discussion

- A. **Board Meeting – April 3, 2019:** Lori reported that the Duck Lake build a road project got tabled because of dissatisfaction with flood levels and drain amendment mismanagement.

AIS discussion: There was much discussion on this topic and residents are eager to help. There was discussion about where the regulatory authority for AIS lies, and the costs associated. Our Lakes and Streams Subcommittee will present on this topic at the next meeting.

We will get an annual report distributed to the CAC and we can comment on it at the next meeting.

Is the Stewardship Grant scoring system working? There was discussion at the Board meeting that the Duck Lake Stormwater project was not economically sound. Street sweeping is an effective way to improve water. The Duck Lake project has additional benefits of groundwater filtration. Dollars per pound of phosphorus is one of many important factors. It all goes back to goals of 10 year plan, but is hard to quantify in dollars.

- B. **Metro-Wide Environmental Conservation report and follow up:** Last Saturday 60 participants and 27 cities met to discuss water, landscaping, organics, energy and transportation. There are many resources out there so no one needs to reinvent the wheel. Rain garden maintenance was big issue. MN Conservation Corps was mentioned as being a source for labor.
- C. **Adopt-a-Drain** – Michelle reported the website is finally up. Adopt-a-Drain is a project of Metro Watershed Partners (of which RPBCWD is part) and Hamline University. We put \$3000 a year into the partnership. Michelle demonstrated how we could adopt a drain on the website. We have up to \$7500 in the budget to cover sending packets to adopters containing a sign identifying the local waterway that is being protected. Michelle is currently working on getting contracts signed, so the earliest adopters won't get a packet yet. Michelle would like the drains on major roads removed from adoptability for safety reasons. We will begin promoting the program more actively after the contracts are signed.

V. Subcommittee Reports: Each subcommittee summarized their charter. See attached.

- A. Education and Outreach
- B. Lakes and Streams
- C. Stormwater
- D. Landscaping for Water

VI. Upcoming Events.

- A. RPBCWD Board of Managers meeting May 1, 7:00 pm, 18681 Lake Drive East
- B. RPBCWD CAC meeting May 20 at 6:00 pm, 18681 Lake Drive East
- C. Nature City Chalet 2019, April 26 – May 5. <http://citizenscience.umn.edu/2019-city-nature-challenge>
- D. Gathering Partners Master Naturalist Conference. <http://gatheringpartners.umn.edu>

VII. Adjourn CAC meeting: Jim moved and Jan seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50.

Items for next month:

- Staff-of-the-month next month will be Josh Maxwell, Water Resource Manager.
- Lakes and Streams Subcommittee presentation on AIS
- Citizen lake monitoring – Sharon