

Minutes: Monday, January 25, 2021
RPBCWD Citizens' Advisory Committee Monthly Meeting
Virtual Via Zoom

CAC Members (By each name, put a P=Present, E=Excused, not present but with notification or A=Absent with no notification)

Jim Boettcher	P	Peter Iverson	E	Sharon McCotter	E		
Kim Behrens	P	Michelle Frost	E	Jan Neville	P		
Heidi Groven	P	Terry Jorgenson	P	Marilynn Torkelson	P		

B Lauer	RPBCWD staff	P
Dick Ward	Board of Manager Pres.	P
Jill Crafton	Board of Manager	P
Terry Jeffery	RPBCWD staff	P
Amy Bakkum	RPBCWD staff	P
Scott Sobiech	Barr Engineering	P

Key MOTIONS for the Board of Managers:

1. Soil Amendment- We voted unanimously in favor of a soil health amendment to the RPBCWD 10 year plan. Facilitated discussion notes will be provided to BOM and others.

Key discussion items:

1. Lotus Lake Vegetation Management Plan no consensus obtained. Concerns are the expense, prioritization, other lakes (Rice Marsh Lake and Riley) have also recently received alum treatments, so wouldn't they also need a vegetation management plan? Two lakes (Red Rock and Mitchell) done previously for approx \$40,000. Lotus Lake alone will cost close to \$30,000.
2. To reschedule CAC meeting to 4th Monday of the month to enable CAC PREview of BOM packet- no consensus obtained. Concerns are the length of the board packets and at least one ongoing CAC member has a conflict with the last Monday of the month. Could the board select items for our preview without us changing the meeting date?

I. Opening

- A. Call CAC meeting to Order:** Vice-President Heidi called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
- B. Attendance:** As noted above.
- C. Matters of general public interest:** None
- D. Approval of Agenda:** Jan moved and Jim seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

- E. **Approval of December 14, 2020 CAC Meeting Minutes:** Kim moved and Jan seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

II. **Board Meeting Recap and Discussion -**

- A. Highlights from the December managers meeting – Kim- Rice Marsh Lake Improvement project was passed with a vote of 3-2. Board members who voted against wished that the city would share the cost of funding the project.

- B. Response on CAC recommendation to the Board? None

New Advisory Topics from the Board? None

Questions from CAC and/or highlights (if needed) - B

III. **Program and Project Updates; Staff Engagement with CAC; CAC Business –**

- A. New Advisory Topics Recommendations for Board of Managers

1. **Soil health amendment to the 10-Year Plan-** Terry and B

Terry gave background information on the water quality benefits that could be achieved through soil health, especially increasing the infiltration and groundwater recharge rates. Amy took notes on the facilitated discussion. Jill mentioned the Minnesota 2020 State Water and Climate plan, Green Step Cities and other government agencies also have goals that could be achieved in part or full from healthy soils. She wants a focus on the ecosystem function and relationship between microbes, plants, soil and water. We voted unanimously in favor of a soil health amendment to the RPBCWD 10 year plan.

President Ward asked that 2 or 3 of us attend the public meeting to show our support for the Soil Health resolution. The hearing would likely be scheduled for March 3rd early in BOM meeting. Marilyn and Heidi agreed to attend on behalf of the CAC.

2. **Lotus Lake Vegetation Management Plan-** Scott Sobiech of Barr Engineering gave an overview of the Lotus Lake Vegetation Management Plan. No consensus was obtained whether or not to approve the plan. Concerns are the expense, prioritization since other lakes (Rice Marsh Lake and Riley) have also recently received alum treatments, so wouldn't they also need a vegetation management plan? Two lakes (Red Rock and Mitchell) done previously for approx \$40,000. Lotus Lake alone would cost close to \$30,000.

- B. CAC Process and Function 7:25-7:45pm

- 1. CAC Advisory Process (update)- B-CAC review board packet before the board gets it to provide input, questions, comments. Propose CAC meet closer to the end of month, for instance the fourth Monday. Clarification from the board-can they pull out certain items for our preview so we don't have to review the entire board packet? At least one CAC person has a conflict with the last Monday of the month.

2. **Review current by-laws and make recommendations:** Heidi and Jim as Vice Chairs will meet separately to propose By-law changes. We want to stay at 12 members and ask for an initial 2 year commitment and members thereafter serve a yearly term. Marilyn made a motion and Jan seconded. Motion passed for Heidi and Jim to review CAC By-laws and return next month with recommended changes.

3. 2021 Calendars

- a. Review District calendar Board meeting & CAC dates Volunteers for Board meetings signup sheet in Google 2021 Liason Calendar

4. Learning Topic ideas- B (google jamboard) postponed until February

5. New CAC orientation and Manager meet and greet- B reported that RPBCWD has received 5 applications for BOM to review in Feb. Orientation will be held in Feb. CAC attendance is optional for returning members.

6. Anything else? Marilyn asked about whether stewardship grant workshops and raingarden workshops have been (re)scheduled for this winter/early spring even if they have to be in a Zoom format? B replied that the WD will have a Zoom presentation in February on the Water Stewardship grant process. Minnetonka, Nine Mile Creek and RPBCWD will work jointly to present a number of other workshops possibly including soil health, landscaping for pollinators, etc...

IV. Upcoming Events and Meeting Close.

- A. RPBCWD Board of Managers meeting February 3, 2021; 7:00 PM Regular board meeting – virtual Zoom meeting - Marilyn to attend on behalf of the CAC
- B. RPBCWD CAC Meeting February 22, 2021; 6:00 PM – virtual Zoom meeting; Manager ? to attend on behalf of the managers
- C. New CAC orientation and Manager meet and greet- date TBD
- D. Marilyn made a motion to adjourn. Jim seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.