

MEETING MINUTES

Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District

August 17, 2016, Board of Managers Special Meeting and Workshop

PRESENT:

Managers: Mary Bisek, Secretary

Richard Chadwick

Jill Crafton, Treasurer

Perry Forster, President

Leslie Yetka, Vice President

Staff: Claire Bleser, District Administrator

Michelle Jordan, District Technician and Compliance Officer

Zach Dickhausen, District Water Quality Staff

Josh Maxwell, District Technician II

Michael Welch, Attorney (Smith Partners)

Scott Sobiech, Engineer (Barr Engineering Company)

Other attendees: Larry Koch, CAC

Gretchen Schroder, Westwood Professional Services

1. Call to Order

President Forster called the Wednesday, August 17, 2016, Board of Managers Special Meeting and Workshop to order at 5:14 p.m. at Eden Prairie City Hall, 8080 Mitchell Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Manager Crafton moved to approve the agenda. Manager Chadwick seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

3. Permit 2016-024: Chanhassen Bandimere Park

Engineer Sobiech said that the applicant plans to add a paved parking lot and a paved skating rink to Bandimere Park in Chanhassen. He said that the proposed plans do not meet the District's rules for minimum buffer width for a wetland on the site. Engineer Sobiech explained that the applicant requested a variance for that minimum due to the practical difficulty of the site's entrance road, which was constructed prior to the establishment of the District's rules. He stated that the entrance road is an existing impervious surface that is located within the wetland buffer 20-foot minimum and the applicant is seeking a variance. Engineer Sobiech recommended that the Board grant the variance.

Manager Crafton moved to approve permit 2016-024 with the variance and with the conditions recommended by staff. Manager Chadwick seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

4. Permit 2015-060: Optum 13625 Technology Drive – UHG Permit Modification

President Forster noted that the Board approved this permit previously but now the permit needs to be amended. Engineer Sobiech explained that during construction drilling it was discovered that the site has clay soils and not sandy soils as was indicated by the soil boring. He said that due to this information, the site is now considered a restricted site. Engineer Sobiech reminded the Board that for a restricted site the abstraction is reduced to the 0.55 inch abstraction, and the site will be able to achieve it with the modified design. He recommended approval of the permit modification.

Manager Chadwick moved to approve the permit 2015-060 modification. Manager Crafton seconded the motion. Attorney Welch specified that this permit modification does not extend the permit. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

5. Permit 2016-027: Taco Bell

Engineer Sobiech reported that the applicant proposes to add a freezer to the existing building. He explained that the change to the building's footprint will add impervious surface to the site. Engineer Sobiech said that the City of Eden Prairie is requiring that the applicant bring in the new water line to the site, which will result in additional site disturbance. He said that soil borings indicate sandy soils so the design now accounts for the higher permeable soils. Engineer Sobiech recommended approval of the permit with the condition of the financial assurance and the maintenance declaration.

Manager Bisek moved approval of permit 2016-27 contingent on the Engineer's recommendations. Manager Crafton seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

6. Permit 2016-025: 18374 Heathcote Lane – Application Review Extension

President Forster pointed out that the managers have in front of them a memo from the Engineer regarding the Engineer's request for a 60-day application review extension. Engineer Sobiech explained that the managers have before them a review timeline extension request from the Engineer. He said that while working through the application, the Engineer discovered that the applicant has an existing wetland on site. Engineer Sobiech noted that there is some question about the applicant's proposed low floor relative to the flood elevation at that existing wetland. He said that the engineer has asked the applicant to provide additional information, and the applicant is in the process of collecting that information. Engineer Sobiech stated that in order for there to be sufficient time to collect the remaining information and to do the analysis and review, he is requesting the 60-day extension. Engineer Sobiech and Administrator Bleser responded to questions.

Manager Yetka moved to approve the extension request for permit 2016-025. Manager Crafton seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

7. Permit 2016-021: Cedar Hills Park

Engineer Sobiech stated that the City of Eden Prairie is looking at constructing a park. He said that the proposal includes impervious surface for a parking lot, basketball court, and playground. Engineer Sobiech provided more details about the project such as the applicant proposes to construct a bridge over Riley Creek and that they are provided additional buffer in places. Engineer Sobiech recommended approval of the permit with the conditions as noted regarding the maintenance and buffer agreements. Engineer Sobiech responded to questions.

Manager Crafton commented that perhaps staff could in the future look at vegetation as an alternative to rip rap. Engineer Sobiech responded that he thinks it is something that could be looked at in the future such as encouraging applicants to intermix vegetation within rip rap.

Manager Chadwick moved to approve permit 2016-029 Cedar Hills Park with the Engineer's conditions. Manager Crafton seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

8. 10-Year Plan Workshop

Administrator Bleser announced that this workshop is to look at the draft mission of the organization and its vision, goals, and strategies by reviewing the draft page by page. She said that the next step will be for staff to take tonight's feedback and revise the draft and then take the draft to the CAC and TAC before coming back to the Board.

President Forster pointed out that this is a Board workshop and the discussion is confined to the Board at this time. Administrator Bleser noted that the CAC will have a separate opportunity to discuss the plan and that she did announce this at the most recent CAC meeting. Manager Chadwick asked if the CAC was informed that the discussion at tonight's workshop would be limited to the Board. Administrator Bleser said that no one asked any questions about the workshop.

The Board discussed the key words, "Mission. Protect. Manage. Restore," and how to utilize these words to form a draft mission statement. Administrator Bleser said that staff will take the feedback and will draft a mission statement similar to the statement discussed the District has the mission to protect, manage, and restore water resources in the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed. There was discussion on whether ground water should be specifically spelled out or whether the statement should be left very broad.

The Board moved on to the draft District vision statement. Administrator Bleser noted that this draft is quite different from the version included in the current plan because staff considered all of the comments received from the feedback through the survey and meetings. She said that this draft vision statement includes the elements communicated through the feedback. The Board discussed the order of the bullet points and agreed to re-order them.

The Board talked about the draft district goals and recommended revising the wording of goal No. 1 to read, "Operate in a manner that uses District resources and capacity efficiently and effectively while advancing the District's vision and goals." The Board recommended adding the words "recommend and" to goal No. 2 so it reads, "Collect data and use the best available science to recommend and support management decisions."

Administrator Bleser read aloud the draft Administration goal and five draft strategies. The Board discussed these and recommended adding the words "work plan" to strategy No. 1 so that it would read, "The District will develop an annual plan, work plan, and budget, including periodic re-assessment of projects and priorities." The Board recommended switching the order of strategies No. 4 and No. 5.

Administrator Bleser read aloud the draft Data Collection goal and strategies. The Board recommended rewording the goal to read, "Collect data and use the best available science to recommend and support management decisions." The Board recommended rewording strategy No. 1 to read, "The District will coordinate the development and maintenance of the inventories of District managed resources as necessary. The Board also recommended adding the words "and recommend" to strategy No. 6 so that it reads, "The District will use data to evaluate and recommend the performance of District programs and capital improvement projects."

Moving on to the draft Education and Outreach goals, the Board recommended rewording strategy No. 5 to read,

“The District will build awareness of our water resources by highlighting recreational opportunities and access. The Board recommended adding non-profits and institutions to the list in strategy No. 9.

[Manager Chadwick left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.]

The Board reviewed the draft Planning goals and strategies. The Board recommended adding the words “ecological, social, economical” in front of the word benefits in strategy No. 7. The Board recommended editing strategy No. 10 so that it reads, “The District will pursue grants, cost-sharing, and other opportunities to leverage District financial resources.”

For the draft Regulation goals, the Board recommended revising goal No. 2 to read, “To support Carver and Hennepin Counties to operate effectively as ditch authority.” The Board recommended adding words to strategy No. 2 so that it reads, “The District will periodically review its rules and update them as necessary. The District will update its rules in accordance with applicable Minnesota Statutes and with involvement of cities and other governmental entities, state agencies, and other stakeholders.”

Administrator Bleser read aloud the draft Water Resources goals. The Board discussed the words “functional value” in goal No. 3. Administrator Bleser read aloud the draft Water Resources strategies and recommended editing Habitat strategy No. 5 to read, “The District will require the use of natural materials and bioengineering for the maintenance and restoration of shorelines and streambanks where appropriate.” The Board recommended staff work to reword Pollution strategy No. 4, particularly the section, “ cooperate with other entities to investigate”

The Board discussed the draft Water Resources goals (Groundwater) and strategies and recommended reordering strategies No. 2 and 3.

Administrator Bleser read aloud the draft Water Resources goals (Water Quantity) and strategies. The Board recommended adding words to strategy No. 6 so that it reads, “The District will seek to alter stormwater hydrographs through capture and reuse and storage and/or infiltrative practices that reduce peak discharge rates and overall flow volume.” The Board discussed strategy No. 9, “The District will promote the conservation of surface water resources through its education and outreach program and will work with cities to encourage conservation practices.” The Board directed Administrator Bleser to work further on the wording of strategy No. 9 and to bring back to the Board.

President Forster reiterated the next steps, including that staff will take the feedback from tonight’s discussion and revise the draft, then the revised version will go to the CAC and TAC for feedback, and the next version will come to the Board at its October monthly Board meeting. Administrator Bleser added that there likely will be one more workshop prior to the October Board meeting.

9. Adjourn

Manager Crafton moved to adjourn the meeting. Manager Yetka seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carried 4-0 (Manager Chadwick absent from vote). The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Bisek, Secretary