

**Draft Minutes: August 16, 2021**  
**RPBCWD Citizens' Advisory Committee Monthly Meeting**  
**6:00 - 8:00pm Virtual - Via Zoom**

**DRAFT**

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

Andrew Aller	P	Samuel Griffin	P	Terry Jorgenson	P	Jeff Weiss	P
Rodey Batiza	P	Heidi Groven	P	Sharon McCotter	E	Jessica Wiley	P
Kim Behrens	P	Michelle Frost	P	Jan Neville	E		
Jim Boettcher	E	Peter Iverson	E	Marilynn Torkelson			

Terry Jeffery	RPBCWD staff	P
Liz Forbes	RPBCWD staff	P
Eleanor Mahon	RPBCWD staff	P
Manager Crafton	BOM	P

<b>Key CAC MOTIONS for the Board of Managers:</b> none
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<p><b>Key CAC discussion items for the Board of Managers:</b> 1. Admin Jeffery to begin CAC training on the project review process with the goal of supplying knowledge we can use to make recommendations for revision of WD rules. (some concerns are maintaining or improving slope stability, maintaining or improving ecosystem function, and setting a cap on impervious surfaces within a subwatershed). 2. Proposal to have our next meeting outdoors with a field trip to review Lower and Upper Riley projects and finish up at Lake Ann park pavilion. Everyone approved the field trip for the September CAC meeting. 3. CAC members were polled about how members would like to be involved in WD activities.</p>
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## I. Opening

- A. **Call CAC meeting to Order: 6pm**
- B. **Attendance:** As noted above.
- C. **Staff and Manager introductions:** Eleanor Mahon started May 24th as the new Education & Outreach (E&O) coordinator.
- D. **Matters of general public interest:** none
- E. **Approval of Agenda:** Andrew to be timekeeper. Marilyn made a motion to approve the agenda and Andrew seconded. Motion passed.
- F. **Approval of June 21, 2021 CAC Meeting Minutes:** Kim made a motion, Andrew seconded. Motion to approve minutes was approved. (Attendance was corrected to show Michelle as E instead of A).

## II. Board Meeting Recap and Discussion - 6:10-6:20

- A. **Highlights from the (monthly) managers meeting (Terry J).** 56 people attended. 10 citizens spoke against the Noble Hill project near the site of the Frederick Miller Spring in Eden Prairie, asking for a denial or postponement for more analysis. Many objections were revisited but a few new ones that Terry noted were: There are several Pulte compliance complaints from previous projects and the contractor reporting process is inadequate. Cumulative impacts of adding additional impervious surface and removing trees in the immediate area of Riley Creek have not been taken into account in the slope analysis. The BOM agreed to postpone the final vote for the project until August 12th. On August 12th the BOM voted 3-2 to approve the project, citing statutory requirements and technical recommendation from the Watershed Engineer, (Barr Eng).

Other topics covered during the meeting were renewing the IT contract, renewing the legal contract and accounting services contract. Potential CAC input to the Pioneer Trail wetland project. Administer Jeffrey to advise.

**CAC Discussion:** Heidi mentioned that one of the managers at the BOM meeting indicated the rules did not provide adequate scope to address the issues raised by the Noble Hill development project. She asked the CAC about interest in working on updating WD rules to include ecosystem function. Administrator Jeffery suggests we first review how an application for a new development is handled from start to finish (either an old one or a fictional one to cover many different contingencies) to make sure it conforms to the WD rules. Also review "What do we want the regulatory system to accomplish?" Too specific and we always run up against exceptions and too general then we seem arbitrary on what projects we approve and what we don't approve. Manager Crafton suggested the philosophy supporting the rules also be presented. Jeff wants to know if we can cap the total impervious surface in a subwatershed. Andrew made a motion to have Admin. Jeffery present to the CAC how approvals take place with a long term view of enabling the CAC to understand and make recommendations to the watershed rules and philosophy behind them. Jeff seconded. Possible considerations to discuss for incorporation into the rules include

but are not limited to: slope stability, ecosystem function, cumulative impacts, soil health and total impervious surface within a subwatershed. Motion passes 10 to 0

B. **New Advisory Topics from the Board?** None

**III. Program and Project Updates - 6:20-7:40pm**

- A. **Learning Presentation: Watershed Management 101 - Liz-** An overview of the Watershed District, CAC role and projects with potential for CAC involvement was presented.
- B. **Engagement Session-Poll CAC member opportunities:** Cycle the Creek, Seep search, TAC rep, education, tree sapling giveaway, assist MN water Stewards, diversity . Future: data collection, tabling events, field work with staff, habitat maintenance. Liz to collate, create signup google documents and notify CAC when dates are established.
- C. **Lotus Lake Cleanup Project -** Dr. Styles wants people to help with a cleanup project in waist deep or shallower water. Trash including glass has been dumped in the water. Contact Admin. Jeffery, if you can assist or can recommend an organization to assist. WD could provide tools needed such as waders.

**IV. CAC Business: Process and Function 7:40-8:00**

- A. **Next Meeting Agenda Items:** Kim would like to see Capital Improvement Project (CIP) examples. Marilyn would like to see staff complete a WD StoryBoard (interactive map) of projects in the district. Information on upcoming conferences and an in-depth discussion of the water steward program were asked for. Proposal to have our next meeting outdoors with a field trip to review Lower and Upper Riley projects and finish up at Lake Ann park pavilion. Everyone approved the field trip for the September CAC meeting.
- B. **2021 Calendars -** September Board of Managers meeting representative: Jeff Weiss

**V. Upcoming Events and Adjournment**

- A. Volunteer Events: Cycle the Creek - October 9th. Purgatory Park pavilion 10-12. Volunteers needed. Contact Eleanor Mahon.
- B. RPBCWD Board of Managers September 1, 2021; 7:00 PM Regular board meeting – virtual Zoom meeting -Jeff Weiss to attend on behalf of the CAC
- C. RPBCWD CAC Meeting September 20, 2021; 6:00 PM in-person field trip- Manager Ziegler to attend on behalf of the BOM.
- D. Motion to Adjourn made by Andrew and seconded by Jeff. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm. Post meeting poll seeking CAC recommendations to be completed.