



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

### Next Generation Plan Steering Committee

#### DRAFT Meeting Notes

4:30 p.m ~ Monday July 1, 2013  
Brookview Community Center

**Attendees:** Committee Chair Linda Loomis; Commission Chair Ginny Black; Commissioners Ted Hoshal and Wayne Sicora; Alternate Commissioner Pat Crough; Administrator Laura Jester; Engineer Karen Chandler; Greg Williams, Barr Engineering; TAC members Derek Asche and Jeannine Clancy

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Loomis at 4:40 p.m.

2. Initial Goal Setting and Discussion

The following documents were provided to the Committee and hence referenced during the discussion:

- Results of issues ranking at 6/24 Commission Workshop
- Notes from 6/24 Commission Workshop
- Results of issues ranking at 6/13 Watershed Summit
- Goals from current Watershed Management Plan
- Goals from other watershed organizations that could be considered

Discussion focused on the results of the issues ranking by watershed residents at the Summit and Commission Workshop. The committee discussed the development of goals to address the pressing issues. The group considered the goals from the current Watershed Plan and goals from other watershed organizations during the discussion. There was a question about how the State review agencies often require "measureable" goals. Jester reported that on recent Watershed Plans she has worked on, review agencies have agreed that goals can be broad but that strategies and policies should be measureable. The following points were made during the goal setting discussion:

General:

- Commission could focus on areas where cities don't have existing requirements such as shoreline protection and improvements.
- Cities already have many requirements through TMDLs and storm water permits. Perhaps the Commission doesn't need separate storm water standards?
- Top priorities should align with top priorities of residents, when possible.
- Flood control project issue should be combined with water quantity issue.

Groundwater:

- Cannot really “manage” groundwater although a goal regarding groundwater is important. Could consider policies on well drilling.

Water Quality:

- The term “beneficial uses” with regards to water quality implies a recreational use. Discussion on referencing State water quality standards rather than beneficial uses or a Commission-developed waterbody classification system.
- Discussed the issue of infiltration and the fact that it addresses both water quality and quantity and how the city of Golden Valley has soils that don’t usually allow for infiltration. There was discussion that infiltration is one of many tools available to improve the quality of storm water runoff and reduce the volume of storm water runoff.

Habitats:

- The public’s perception of degraded habitats may not be accurate. (Local ornithologist has documented over 120 bird species in Medicine Lake area.)

Emerging Issues:

- Commission should address emerging issues such as climate change affecting flood infrastructure.
- Goals addressing emerging issues from other watershed organizations should be considered.
- Language here should be proactive and flexible in order to deal with currently unforeseen issues.
- Commission probably cannot afford to take the lead on Aquatic Invasive Species, but should cooperate and partner with others.

Recreation:

- The current Plan does not include a goal for recreation but recreation is addressed indirectly through other goals that aim to improve water quality and habitats and stabilize water levels.
- Low water levels on Medicine Lake may be better addressed under a recreational goal.
- The Commission should consider going on record stating that daylighting of Bassett Creek is impossible.
- Recreation goals from other watershed plans will be considered.

As time was running short, the Committee instructed Williams and Chandler to continue drafting goals for consideration at the Commission Workshop on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

3. Discussion of Facilitation of July 18<sup>th</sup> Commission Workshop

Loomis will facilitate the discussion at the workshop. Jester will be absent from that meeting. Draft goals (as discussed here and those drafted by Williams and Chandler) should be presented. Goals from the current Plan and the results of Summit and Workshop rankings should be included with meeting materials as reference.

4. Discussion of Plan Materials on Website and TAC/State Agency Input Process

Jester reported the Counsel LeFevere indicated that all planning documents and drafting would be public information. Jester recommended posting planning materials in one location on the Commission website to help lessen confusion about the Plan Development Process. She will work on getting that done.

State review agencies and other technical stakeholders will be invited to all meetings where the TAC is asked for input on the draft Plan components. Jester will again invite them to the June 18<sup>th</sup> Workshop.

5. Adjourn - The Committee adjourned at 6:30 p.m.