



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

### Next Generation Plan Steering Committee Meeting Notes

4:30 p.m ~ Monday March 24, 2014  
Golden Valley City Hall

**Attendees:** Committee Chair Linda Loomis; Commissioner Clint Carlson; Alternate Commissioners Pat Crough and Dave Tobelmann; TAC members Joe Fox and Jeff Oliver; Engineer Karen Chandler; Administrator Laura Jester

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Chair Loomis called the meeting to order at approximately 4:35 p.m.

**2. Approve Meeting Notes from March 10, 2014 Plan Steering Committee Meeting**

There were no suggested changes to the notes from the March 10, 2014 meeting. Consensus to accept the notes as presented.

**3. Review Policies (as needed) on Water Quality, Flooding and Rate Control, and Groundwater; Discuss Draft Buffer Policy**

Before discussion began on these policies, Chair Loomis commented on the Committee's recommendation (from the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting) that the Commission use the Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) as the new Commission water quality standards and triggers. She noted that she had heard from a different engineering firm that using MIDS could help to standardize rules among watersheds but that it may result in over-engineering some projects. Engineer Chandler noted that the flexible treatment options offered in MIDS would likely discourage over-engineering.

Discussion followed on particular policies that were revised per prior Committee discussion and decisions:

#6: Needs discussion at the Commission workshop

#13: Chair Loomis asked Mr. Oliver about the appropriateness of using MIDS as the Commission standards and triggers. Mr. Oliver noted that he had not used MIDS but the flexible treatment options should allow it to work in Golden Valley.

#18: Engineer Chandler summarized the memo in the meeting materials that contained a draft policy on buffers and the reasoning behind the policy, including what is currently required by cities. She noted the policy would not be retroactive and would only be enforced during new development or significant redevelopment. There was a lengthy discussion on buffers including how different wetlands are classified and the fact that many lots in Golden Valley might become undevelopable because they would not be able to meet buffer requirements. There was discussion about possibly

excluding single family residences from the buffer policy, but that would lead to lost opportunities for making improvements along waterbodies. The group wondered how many wetlands were classified as “preserve” throughout the watershed. It was acknowledged that a buffer policy has broad implications. The group recommended a maximum buffer width of 50 ft. but also decided the TAC should discuss a possible buffer policy. Allowable practices within a buffer would also need to be addressed in a buffer policy.

#25: Dependent on outcome of Commission workshop

#31 - #34: Needs discussion by TAC and this committee on the results of the Flood Control Project Study

#44 - #45: Dependent on outcome of Commission workshop

#72: There was some discussion and some confusion about the wording of the policy. The policy should be re-written to clearly indicate the Commission will not, itself, lead or develop a plan to manage groundwater. But, rather, the Commission will collaborate with other entities if such an endeavor is undertaken by others. Staff will determine if this policy should be discussed at the Commission workshop.

#### **4. Consider Erosion and Sediment Control Standards and Triggers**

Engineer Chandler briefly summarized the memo regarding the Commission’s current erosion and sediment control standards and triggers. She indicated the Commission Engineer does not recommend changing the standards. Mr. Oliver noted he thought the current Commission standards and triggers are working well. There was little discussion. The topic should be discussed at a Commission workshop.

#### **5. Review Draft Goal Related to Ditches**

Administrator Jester distributed a draft goal on ditches: “Manage public ditches as streams; in the same manner as non-ditch sections of the Bassett Creek Main Stem and tributaries.” The group briefly discussed and recommended the following goal modified from the 2004 ditch goal: “Manage public ditches in a manner that recognizes their current use as urban drainage systems and as altered natural waterways.” This draft goal will be forwarded to the Commission for discussion at the workshop. Administrator Jester should ask BWSR staff about appropriate ditch policies.

#### **6. Develop Commission Workshop Agenda**

The group discussed agenda items, order of items, materials and presentations needed and how draft policies would be presented at the workshop.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday April 21, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.