



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

DRAFT Meeting Notes of the
Watershed Plan Steering Committee
September 7, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m.
Golden Valley City Hall

Meeting Attendees:

Commissioners Cesnik and Welch; Alternate Commissioners Polzin and Kennedy; TAC Members Ray, Scharenbroich, and Eckman; Golden Valley resident Linda Loomis; Administrator Jester; Commission Engineers Chandler and Williams

Committee Chair Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. WELCOME & MEETING GOAL

Committee Chair Kennedy reviewed the meeting goal: To review, discuss, refine, and finalize (to the extent possible) issue statements, narrative information, and potential measurable goals for issues related to Watershed and Waterbody Quality.

Administrator Jester requested an addition to the agenda to review the committee's wishes on chair position rotation. The item was added to the end of the agenda.

Committee member Cesnik moved to approve the agenda as amended. Committee member Ray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. REVIEW AUGUST 7 MEETING NOTES

Committee member Cesnik moved to approve the August 1st meeting minutes. Committee member Polzin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. DISCUSS OUTCOMES FROM AUG 17TH COMMISSION WORKSHOP

Committee Chair Kennedy was praised for his facilitation of discussion at the August 17th Commission workshop. It was noted that at the workshop, the Commission approved this [committee's recommendations](#) on issues and their priority level. It was also noted that Steve Christopher with the Board of Water and Soil Resources indicated that the Commission's discussion and exercise of prioritizing issues was working well and that pollutant hotspot mapping analysis is critical and would be helpful with grant applications.

Chair Kennedy indicated that he would like to ensure more engagement and verbal input from commissioners. There was a brief discussion on how best to facilitate a discussion among commissioners or an activity such as "dot voting." Commissioner Welch agreed and noted that a fundamental discussion at the Commission level is needed rather than simply a presentation of a complete document. Alternate Commissioner Polzin recommended presenting an update at every Commission meeting to keep Plan development work in front of the Commission.

There was consensus that each Commission agenda should include time to update commissioners on Plan development. It was also noted that a future PSC meeting agenda should include development of a strategy to present information to commissioners and elicit feedback.

There was a brief discussion on possible development of a mission and/or vision statement or guiding principles to help provide a high-level overview on the direction for the Plan. Alternate Commissioner Polzin thought the group could test against the existing mission statement once the goals were finalized. **There was consensus** that

feedback on the existing mission statement should be emailed to the Administrator and the next PSC meeting should begin with a discussion of the mission and vision statement and guiding principles.

4. **REVIEW DRAFT ISSUES STATEMENT AND GOALS**

It was noted that with issues established, the next activity is developing complete issue statements, narrative to describe the issue, and measurable goals to address each issue. Staff developed draft issues statements and potential goals for the Watershed and Waterbody Quality category for the committee's review, discussion, and consideration at this meeting.

The group began reviewing the issue statements, narrative, and potential goals for the impaired waters issue. **There was consensus** that BCWMC water quality standards should match State standards, but the BCWMC does not need to explicitly adopt them. It was noted that if the State standard doesn't make sense for a particular waterbody for some reason, the Commission could adopt a site-specific water quality standard.

The committee noted that a goal or action should be added on how to address future impairments.

There was considerable discussion on how to structure the goals and the nomenclature that should be used to best convey actual planned goals and activities. Commissioner Cesnik recommended using a table format and including subgoals. Staff will continue to refine the format and terminology used and will bring options to a future PSC meeting.

5. **DISCUSS SCHEDULE FOR FUTURE PSC MEETINGS**

Administrator Jester was asked to use a meeting poll to arrange the next meeting. It was noted that meeting early in the day or late in the day work best for commissioners. TAC members prefer morning meetings.

6. **CHAIR POSITION**

Committee Chair Kennedy asked if anyone else would like to rotate into the chair position. No one volunteered at this time.

7. **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.