



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

AGENDA MEMO

Date: March 9, 2016

To: BCWMC Commissioners

From: Laura Jester, Administrator

RE: Background Information for 3/17/16 BCWMC Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**
2. **CITIZEN FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ACTION ITEM**
4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Approval of Minutes – February 18, 2016 Commission meeting- **ACTION ITEM with attachment**
 - B. Approval of March 2016 Financial Report - **ACTION ITEM with attachment**
 - C. Approval of Payment of Invoices - **ACTION ITEM with attachments**
 - i. Keystone Waters, LLC – February 2016 Administrator Services
 - ii. Barr Engineering – February 2016 Engineering Services
 - iii. Amy Herbert – February 2016 Secretarial Services
 - iv. ACE Catering – February 2016 Meeting Refreshments
 - v. Wenck – February 2016 WOMP Monitoring
 - vi. MN Pollution Control Agency – VIC application review, 2017 Main Stem project
 - vii. City of Plymouth – Plymouth Home Expo Booth Space
 - D. Set Technical Advisory Committee Meeting for May 5, 2016 – **ACTION ITEM no attachment** – *The Technical Advisory Committee should meet in early May to address several topics including application of MIDS for linear projects, a possible shoreland and habitat monitoring program, and long term maintenance of CIP projects.*
 - E. Approval of Reimbursement Request from City of New Hope for Development of Northwood Lake Improvement Project Feasibility Study (NL-1) – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *At their meeting in May 2014, the Commission approved an agreement with the City of New Hope for the development of a feasibility study for the Northwood Lake Improvement Project for an amount not to exceed \$30,000. The City submitted the attached reimbursement request and documentation of expenses. Staff recommends approval of the reimbursement.*
 - F. Approval of Three Rivers Park District Regional Trail Improvement Project in New Hope and Crystal – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) is proposing a regional trail, extending from French Regional Park through the Cities of Plymouth, New Hope, Crystal, Golden Valley and into Minneapolis ending at Theodore Wirth Park. The current phase of the proposed project includes construction of and improvements to 2.8 miles of off-road, multi-use trail from Boone Avenue in New Hope to Welcome Avenue in Crystal. The trail will cross North Branch Bassett Creek three times. The project is meeting the Commission's floodplain, stormwater management, and erosion control requirements. Staff recommends approval of the proposed project with the comments attached.*
 - G. Receive Final Feasibility Study for Plymouth Creek Restoration Project (2017CR-P) – **INFORMATIONAL ITEM with attachment** - *At their February 2016 meeting, the Commission reviewed, discussed, and approved the Draft Feasibility Report for Plymouth Creek Restoration Project with minor suggested revisions. The attached memo summarizes the changes made to the report based on the discussion and comments. The final feasibility report is available on the project page at: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=284>.*

5. BUSINESS

- A. Receive Presentation on Metro Watershed Partners Clean Water Minnesota Media Campaign – **INFORMATIONAL ITEM with attachment** – *The Commission annually contributes \$3,500 of its education funds to support the Clean Water Minnesota media campaign produced and implemented by the Metro Watershed Partners (WSP). The BCWMC Education Committee requested a brief presentation regarding the media campaign to better understand the program that the Commission annually supports. Peggy Knapp with Freshwater Society and a WSP Steering Committee member will provide information at the meeting.*
- B. Receive Overview and Update on Southwest LRT Project – **INFORMATIONAL ITEM no attachment** – *In light of the next agenda item, staff thought Commissioners might like an update on the Met Council's Southwest Light Rail Transit Project (SWLRT). Metro Transit staff for the SWLRT Project will provide a brief presentation and will be available to help answer questions during the discussion for item 5C.*
- C. Consider Request from City of Minneapolis to Allow Southwest LRT Project to Make a New Connection to Bassett Creek Tunnel – **ACTION ITEM with attachments** – *The City of Minneapolis is requesting that the Commission approve a direct connection to the Bassett Creek Tunnel to facilitate storm water management for the SWLRT Project. Tunnel connections are not allowed unless they meet specific hydraulic and hydrologic conditions and must be approved by the Commission. The attached memo from the Commission Engineer provides results of analyses performed to ensure requirements are met. The letter requesting the connection is attached with the Commission Engineer's Memo. A map showing the proposed tunnel connection is also attached. Finally, a resolution approving the proposed connection drafted by the Commission's legal counsel is attached for the Commission's consideration. Staff recommends conditional approval of the request.*
- D. Consider Items Related to City of Golden Valley 2016 Pavement Management Program
- i. Consider Approval of Variance Request from City of Golden Valley – **ACTION ITEM with attachments** – *The City of Golden Valley is requesting a variance from the BCWMC water quality standards (MIDS) for their proposed 2016 pavement management program in the attached letter. Although the City is requesting a variance now, storm water management projects to be constructed in the same area in 2018 will provide offsite mitigation for the current pavement management program. Offsite treatment is allowed in the MIDS flexible treatment options. (See Commission Engineer memo in 5Dii for more information.) Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution drafted by BCWMC legal counsel granting a variance from the MIDS performance goal in accordance with Section 3.3 of the Requirements document with the condition that the City provide future offsite treatment.*
 - ii. Consider Approval of Project – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *If the above variance is granted, the Commission Engineer recommends approval of the overall project with comments included in the attached memo.*
- E. Consider Approval of Technical Advisory Committee Recommendations for 5-year Capital Improvement Program – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *Each year the TAC considers various projects and makes recommendations for the Commission's 5-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The TAC recommends the projects in the attached table and fact sheets be included in the 2018 – 2022 CIP. Years 2016 and 2017 are also included in the table with funding levels reflective of recent changes to the Northwood Lake Improvement Project budget and estimated costs in the Plymouth Creek Feasibility Study. If this 5-year CIP is approved, the feasibility study for the project starting in 2018 (Bassett Creek Park Pond Dredging) would begin later this year. Staff recommends approval of the proposed 5-year CIP.*

- F. Discuss BCWMC Education and Outreach Priorities for 2016 – **DISCUSSION ITEM with attachment** – *The BCWMC Education Committee met on March 1st to discuss plans for education and outreach efforts in 2016. They had a good discussion and decided on recommendations for several aspects of the 2016 education work plan and budget. However, they wish to get input from the Commission on additional topics. The committee wishes to know if Commissioners have ideas for specific educational topics for this year. Some topics/tasks they are considering include education on chlorides to residents or commercial applicators; creek identification signs at road crossings; financial support to Metro Blooms for Harrison Neighborhood Project; overhaul of the BCWMC event display (including adding interactive electronic features); and the development of a series or library of presentations to be given by Commissioners at community organizations, events and functions. The Commission should discuss and/or prioritize these items or other ideas so the committee can make an informed recommendation at the April Commission meeting. Additionally, staff would like input on the attached list of events for possible BCWMC participation this year.*
- G. Receive Final Report for Briarwood/Dawnview Water Quality Pond (BC-7) – **INFORMATION ITEM with attachment** – *Construction and vegetation establishment was recently completed on the 2014 CIP project – Briarwood Dawnview Water Quality Pond. Golden Valley staff prepared the final report attached here and will be available to describe the project outcomes and answer questions at the meeting.*
- H. Consider Approval of Final Reimbursement Request from City of Golden Valley for Briarwood/Dawnview Water Quality Pond (BC-7) – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *Staff recommends approval of the first and final reimbursement for the Briarwood Dawnview Project. The request includes reimbursements for the development of the feasibility study under a 2012 cooperative agreement with the City as well as design and construction under a 2013 cooperative agreement.*
- I. Designate Official News Publications of Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *At its February meeting, the Commission did not designate an official publication. It was noted that although Finance & Commerce's circulation reaches all nine member cities, it is not a publication read by a typical resident. Staff was asked to research options including the Star Tribune. The attached table includes options and costs for consideration along with a staff recommendation for an official publications and additional publications.*
- J. Receive Update on New BCWMC Website – **INFORMATIONAL ITEM no attachment** – *The new website is live! Staff will update the Commission on communications about the site and is happy to take comments if glitches or inaccuracies are noted by Commissioners. (Please note that links embedded within previous meeting materials will no longer function.)*
- K. Receive Responses from MPCA on Commission's Comments on Chloride Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study - **INFORMATIONAL ITEM with attachment** – *In August 2015, the Commission submitted comments on the MPCA's draft Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Chloride Management Plan and TMDL. Responses to those comments were recently received and are attached here. The TMDL was finalized by the MPCA and submitted to the U.S. EPA for approval. The Commission should continue to monitor chloride levels in waterbodies and find ways to reduce chloride inputs to surface and groundwater.*
- L. Receive Update on 2017 Main Stem Erosion Repair Project (2017CR-M) – **INFORMATIONAL ITEM no attachment** – *The draft feasibility study for this project is near completion and will be forwarded to Minneapolis city staff and me in the coming week. City staff, the Commission Engineer and I will meet at the end of March to discuss the study and make revisions, as needed. The draft study will be presented to the Commission at their April meeting.*

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Administrator's Report – **INFORMATION ITEM with attachment**
 - a. Biennial Budget Request (BBR) Submittal to MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
- B. Chair
- C. Commissioners
- D. TAC Members
- E. Committees
 - a. Education Committee (see agenda item 5F)
- F. Legal Counsel
- G. Engineer

7. INFORMATION ONLY (Information online only)

- A. CIP Project Updates: Now Available Online <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects>
- B. Grant Tracking Summary and Spreadsheet
- C. WMWA February 2016 Minutes
- D. 2016 Urban Waters Forum <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/2016UrbanWaters.aspx>
- E. Bassett Creek Clean Up @ Bassett Creek Park, MPLS
https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/activities_events/events/earth_day_cleanup/#group_1_219258
- F. Raingarden Workshops by Metro Blooms
- G. 2015 WMWA Annual Report

8. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Plymouth Home Expo: Friday April 8th, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. and Saturday April 9th, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Plymouth Creek Center Fieldhouse, <http://www.plymouthmn.gov/index.aspx?page=18&recordid=6045>
- Organic Living Workshop: Saturday April 16th, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., The Rec Center in St. Louis Park <http://www.stlouispark.org/events/organic-living-workshop.html>
- BCWMC Regular Meeting: Thursday April 21st, 8:30 a.m., Medicine Lake Room, Plymouth City Hall
- Bassett Creek Clean Up: Saturday April 23rd, 9:30 – 12:00 a.m., Bassett Creek Park, (SE corner of Penn Ave. N. and 1 ½ Ave. N.), https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/activities_events/events/earth_day_cleanup/#group_1_219258
- Urban Waters Forum: Saturday April 23, 2016, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., MN Landscape Arboretum, register at <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/2016UrbanWaters.aspx>