



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Item 6A.
BCWMC 4-20-17

MEMO

Date: April 12, 2017
From: Laura Jester, Administrator
To: BCWMC Commissioners
RE: **Administrator's Report**

Aside from this month's agenda items, the Commission Engineers, city staff, committee members, and I continue to work on the following Commission projects and issues.

CIP Projects (more resources at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects.>)

2017 Plymouth Creek Restoration Project, Annapolis Lane to 2,500 feet Upstream (2017CR-P): The final feasibility study is available online at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=284>. The Hennepin County Board approved the 2017 maximum levy request at their meeting on July 28th. At the September meeting, the Commission held a public hearing on the project and adopted a resolution ordering the project and certifying a final levy to Hennepin County. Also at that meeting, the Commission entered an agreement with the City of Plymouth to design and construct the project. At their meeting on October 11th, the city council approved the agreement. The BCWMC recently received a \$400,000 Clean Water Fund grant from BWSR and a \$50,000 Opportunity Grant from Hennepin County for this project. Agreement with Hennepin County was executed; agreement with BWSR is forthcoming. Subgrant agreements with the City will be developed. Project design is underway through a contract between the City and Wenck Associates. The project is slated for construction next winter.

2017 Main Stem Bassett Creek Streambank Erosion Repair Project (2017CR-M): (No update since March) The feasibility study for this project was approved at the April Commission meeting and the final document is available on the project page at: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=281>. A Response Action Plan to address contaminated soils in the project area was completed by Barr Engineering with funding from Hennepin County and was reviewed and approved by the MPCA. The County Board approved the 2017 maximum levy request at their meeting on July 28th. At the September meeting, the Commission held a public hearing on the project and adopted a resolution ordering the project and certifying a final levy to Hennepin County. Also at that meeting, the Commission entered an agreement with the City of Minneapolis to design and construct the project. The Commission was awarded an Environmental Response Fund grant from Hennepin County for \$150,300 and a grant agreement being. A subgrant agreement with the City will be developed. The City recently received a proposal from Barr Engineering to design and construct the project.

2013 Four Season Area Water Quality Project/Agora Development (NL-2): At their meeting in December, the Commission took action to contribute up to \$830,000 of Four Seasons CIP funds for stormwater management at the Agora development on the old Four Seasons Mall location. At their January 2017 meeting, the Commission took action directing staff to enter an agreement directly with the developer, Rock Hill Management. At their February meeting the Commission approved an agreement with Rock Hill Management and an agreement with the City of Plymouth allowing the developer access to a city-owned parcel to construct a wetland restoration project and to ensure ongoing maintenance of the CIP project components. The agreements were recently executed.

2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project, Golden Valley (SL-3): In August, the Commission Engineer reported that the structure had been vandalized and repair was needed. The City executed a change order with Sunram

Construction (the contractor for the project) to add weights to some of the baffle anchors. The weights will provide more support against wind loading on the baffle. Ice formed on the pond before the contractor could perform the work. The contractor performed more seeding in the two access areas, which improved vegetation coverage, but more coverage is required to achieve final stabilization. The contractor will be onsite later in April to add weights to the baffle anchors and complete final establishment of seed later this year. Erosion control will be removed once the final stabilization is completed. Effectiveness monitoring by the Commission Engineer will begin as soon as possible after installation of the baffle anchor weights.

2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2): (No update since January.) At their March 2015 meeting, the Commission approved the project specifications and directed the city to finalize specifications and solicit bids for the project. The contract was awarded to HAB Aquatic Solutions. The alum treatment spanned two days: May 18- 19, 2015 with 15,070 gallons being applied. Water temperatures and water pH stayed within the desired ranges for the treatment. Early transparency data from before and after the treatment indicates a change in Secchi depth from 1.2 meters before the treatment to 4.8 meters on May 20th. There were no complaints or comments from residents during or since the treatment. Water monitoring continues to determine if and when a second alum treatment is necessary. Lake monitoring this summer will help determine if a second dose of alum is needed to retain water quality.

2015 Main Stem Restoration Project 10th Avenue to Duluth Street, Golden Valley (2015CR): The restoration project is being constructed in two phases, each under separate contract. Phase one includes stream bank shaping, placement of field stone rock and 12-inch bio-logs, and repair of storm sewer outlets. The first phase of the project began in November 2015 and was finished in June 2016. Turf establishment and minor restoration repairs in Phase 1 were accepted in late October.

The City assessed the condition of the bank stabilization practices following the large rain events in July and August 2016 and found a handful of isolated areas where rocks and bio-logs were displaced enough where repairs are necessary. The repairs were completed and accepted in mid-December and therefore the Phase 1 construction project has entered the warranty period.

Phase two of the project includes the establishment of native vegetation along the stream, including grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, live stakes and fascines, and cordgrass plugs. The second phase of the contract, Native Buffer Vegetation installation is underway. The project has been seeded and stabilized and maintenance mowing and spot treatments have been completed. Applied Ecological Services (AES) has installed live stakes and fascines and will be planting bare root shrubs in the coming weeks. Installation of the trees will be completed in the next two months and AES will continue to monitor and maintain the native vegetation through 2018. It is anticipated that the total contract amount for both Phase one and Phase two will be within the Watershed's overall project budget.

2016 Northwood Lake Improvement Project, New Hope (NL-1): Northwood Lake Improvement Project is nearing completion with all major work complete. The storm tank will be started up on April 18th. Any additional tank punch list items will be addressed at that time. The middle rain garden will be seeded this spring and preliminary discussions with the company designing the educational signage have begun. The educational sign will be installed this spring.

Grant reports were recently submitted to the MPCA and BWSR. Commission Administrator and city staff met with BWSR staff in late February for a Clean Water Fund grant reconciliation meeting. All information was accepted and approved by BWSR. A grand opening of the park is scheduled for the evening of May 15th. Friends of Northwood Lake will disseminate water quality educational materials, including BCWMC materials.

Photos and construction progress are available at: <http://www.ci.new-hope.mn.us/departments/publicworks/2016infrastructure.shtml>

2016 Honeywell Pond Expansion Project, Golden Valley (BC-4): No update since January. Design plans for this project were approved by the Commission in November 2015. In spring 2016, the Honeywell Pond Project was bid as part of the City of Golden Valley and Hennepin County's Douglas Drive (CSAH 102) Reconstruction Project. The reconstruction project began in June 2016. Excavation of the pond basin is complete and the disturbed soils around the pond were temporarily stabilized. The contractor will finish installation of the storm sewer and install the pumps for the water reuse system. Final grading and stabilization will be completed later this year.

2018 Bassett Creek Park Pond & Winnetka Pond Dredging, Crystal (BCP-2) (See Item 5A): A feasibility study for this project has been underway since last August. A technical stakeholder/permitting agency meeting was held January 17th. A public open house for the project was held on February 16th with over 19 residents in attendance. There has been further correspondence and meetings with city staff and Commissioner Mueller regarding outcomes of the feasibility study and various alternatives. The Commission Engineer will attend a Crystal City Council workshop on April 13th and will present the draft feasibility study and recommendations at this meeting.

Other Work

Minor Plan Amendment:

- Drafted, posted, and distributed Mat 18th public hearing notice to cities
- Corresponded with Hennepin County and BWSR regarding plan amendment request
- Developed plan amendment materials including changes to Table 5-3 of Watershed Management Plan
- Sent 30-day comment period notice to review agencies

Financial:

- Prepared 2018 draft preliminary operating budget with various scenarios for 3/27 Budget Cmte meeting
- Corresponded with Met Council regarding possibility of receiving monitoring assistance in 2018
- Reviewed FY2016 Audit
- Prepared invoice for Blue Line LRT work

Volunteers and Education:

- Assisted with set up/take down of display materials at Plymouth Home Expo and coordinated volunteers
- Distributed CAMP monitoring kits and coordinated CAMP volunteers

Curly-leaf Pondweed Control on Medicine Lake:

- Developed request for proposals, project specifications, and contract with assistance from Plymouth and Commission attorney
- Distributed request for proposals and received two quotes; executed contract with lowest bidder
- Applied for DNR permit for herbicide treatment
- Coordinated with Three Rivers Park District and executed contract for their technical and financial assistance

Other Activities:

- Attended BWSR Clean Water Fund Grant training
- Attended BWSR meeting on future of watershed performance-based funding