

Minutes
Elk River Watershed Association Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
June 21, 2010
Palmer House, Clear Lake, MN

Attendance: Gerry Maciej, Tiffany Determan, Mark Basiletti, Joe Jordan, Leonard Popp, Joe Wollak, Jason Weirnerman, John Riebel, Jim Stahlmann, Terry Polsfuss, Pat Gehling, DeAnna Doran, Doug Manthei, Phil Votruba, Roger Stradal

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Terry Polsfuss Chair.

1. Review & Approval of Agenda

Mark requested that cost share payment request: Richard Erickson, contract #3192-S16 be added under item 4.2. Gerry Maciej requested that items #5 and #6 be moved to the beginning of the agenda under item #2. Additionally Gerry requested the addition of item # 7 Water Management Summit for Local Government. Joe Wollak made a motion to approve the agenda with the above modifications. John Riebel seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

2. Review & Approval of the April 19th, 2010 meeting minutes

Joe Wollak made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 19th, 2010 ERWS meeting. Leonard Popp seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

5. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) update.

Tiffany Determan distributed TMDL summary sheets and reviewed the draft results with the board. She indicated that the percent reductions are high for all impairments (Mayhew Lake 78%, Big Elk Lake and Elk River Turbidity 57% and Elk River Bacteria 73%). Tiffany said that TMDLs around the state have had similar results. Discussion was held regarding the end goals of the TMDLs and what would happen if the efforts to reduce pollution did not result in the waters reaching current state standards set in the TMDLs. Gerry Maciej explained that Mayhew Lake is classified as a deep lake according to the MPCA definition but is on the border of being a shallow lake. Additionally, he explained that prior to the outlet control structure Mayhew Lake was likely a shallow lake. The board discussed whether or not they should work with the MPCA to change the current deep lake classification; this would mean that the final phosphorus goal would be changed from 40µg/L to 60µg/L. Phil Votruba said that he will look into what efforts it would take to reclassify. No decision was made but it was agreed upon by all that whatever the standard is, implementation of the plans will help to ecologically improve the lake(s). Questions were brought up whether or not geese were accounted for in the total nutrient load. The board was informed that geese are considered a background source and it is important to eliminate the ideal conditions that humans create for them. Funding sources for implementation were also discussed. Sources of potential funding covered includes: grants, landowner contributions, and taxing (watershed district, lake improvement district, water plan). Tiffany informed the board of the dates of the upcoming public meetings (July 21st in Benton County, July 22nd in Sherburne County) and said that once the meeting locations and times are finalized she will send out invitations. Joe Wollak indicated that public participation at the stakeholder meetings will be very important and would like to see invitations sent out to watershed residents. Tiffany remarked that landowners in the Mayhew Lake Watershed will receive invitations and she will look into the cost of sending invitations to all watershed residents. Jim Stahlmann recommended sending information to all townships so that they could include the information in the newsletters.

6. Major Watershed Project (MWP) update.

Phil Votruba indicated that the St. Paul MPCA contracts division relayed to him that a contract may be in place by the end of July. Phil has started the second phase of the work plan. Phil indicated that none of the major watersheds have received contracts yet.

3. Fund Balance Report

Mark distributed the fund balance report and reviewed it by going over balances and activity in the County Funds, Donation funds, the 319 grant and the TMDL grant. Leonard Popp made a motion to approve the fund balance report as distributed. Jim Stahlmann seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

4. 319 Grant:

4.1 Cost share payment request: John Steuck, #3192-S18, \$442.47

Mark distributed pictures and explained the results of the of the Steuck project. John Riebel made a motion to approve payment of \$442.47 for contract #3192-S18. Joe Wollak seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

4.2 Cost share payment request: City of Big Lake, 3192-S17, \$234.84

Mark distributed pictures of the greenway project on Big Lake. Jim Stahlmann made a motion to approve contract 3192-S17 for cost share in the amount of \$234.84. Leonard Popp seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was passed.

4.25 Cost share payment request: Richard Erickson, 3192-S16, \$1,203.18

Mark distributed pictures of the Erickson Project site on Mitchell Lake. Jim Stahlmann made a motion to approve contract 3192-S16 for cost share in the amount of \$1,203.18. John Riebel seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was passed.

4.3 Reimbursement request: Sherburne SWCD, Shoreland revegetation materials, \$770.47

Jim Stahlmann made a motion to approve payment of \$770.47 to Sherburne SWCD for reimbursement for purchasing shoreland revegetation materials. Joe Jordan seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

4.4 Cost share payment request: Lawrence Thell, #3192-B30, \$600.00

Gerry distributed an information sheet regarding the results of the Thell test plots. Joe Wollak made a motion to approve payment of \$600.00 for contract 3192-B30. Leonard Popp seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

4.5 Cost share payment request: Leonard Skroch, 3192-B33, \$9,472.05

Gerry distributed a picture of the riparian buffer and fencing project completed by Leonard Skroch. Joe Wollak made a motion to approve payment of \$9,472.05 for contract 3192-B33. Joe Jordan seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

4.6 Cost share payment request: Mike Fitzpatrick, 3192-B27, \$3,648.96

Gerry went over the final steps used to complete the Fitzpatrick wetland project. Joe Wollak indicated that he would like the educational sign installed as soon as possible and Gerry indicated that the SWCD staff would do so. Joe Wollak made a motion to approve final payment of payment of \$3,648.96 for contract 3192-B27. Leonard Popp seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

7. Water Management Summit for Local Government

Gerry informed the board of the Water Management Summit being held on July 12th and inquired whether or not any of the board members would like to attend. Since some members indicated that they are already going as part of their agency Terry Polsfuss requested that they report back to the ERWSA board with the results of the meeting.

John Riebel made a motion to adjourn. Joe Wollak seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 PM

Respectfully submitted by Tiffany Determan, Sherburne SWCD

Signature (ERWSA Chair): _____ Date: _____