



CARNELIAN-MARINE-ST. CROIX WATERSHED DISTRICT



**DRAFT – MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT WATERSHED DISTRICT MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS  
Heritage Room, Scandia Community Center, Scandia, MN  
Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 6:30 PM**

**Attending:**

Brown’s Creek Watershed District:  
Craig Leiser  
Connie Taillon  
Sharon Schwarze  
Gerald Johnson  
Gail Pundsack  
Karen Kill, Administrator

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District:  
Jon Spence  
Stephen Schmaltz  
Wayne Moe  
Mike Kinney,  
Administrator  
*(Absent: Richard Damchik & Jackie Anderson)*

Carnelian-Marine St. Croix Watershed District:  
Kristin Tuenge  
Joel Stedman  
Dave DeVault  
Andy Weaver  
Wade Johnson  
Eric Lindberg  
Jim Shaver, Administrator  
*(Absent: Thomas Polasik)*

**Others Present:**

Stephanie Souter, Washington County Public Health and Environment  
Ryan Peterson, CLFLWD Intern

- 1. Call Special Meeting for Brown’s Creek Watershed District, Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District and Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District to order**  
Joint WD meeting called to order at 6:37PM.

**Craig Leiser, seconded by Wayne Moe, moved to approve the agenda as presented. All present voted Yea, none opposed. Motion carried.**

**2. Introductions**

All Managers introduced themselves, gave some background information about their experience on their respective Boards and some of their specific interest areas of watershed management.

**3. Administrator Presentations**

Each watershed administrator gave a brief presentation of general watershed history, size, common and unique characteristics, as well as some specific projects and programs.

Karen Kill, BCWD Administrator, presentation highlights:

- 2017-2026 BCWD Watershed Management Planning process underway,
- Northern Chain of Lake Management Plan for 5 impaired lakes
- recent collaboration with the MN DNR during the construction of the Brown’s Creek State Trail to install two capital improvement projects to improve Brown’s Creek water quality,

- the iron-enhanced sand filter with a unique pumping system to more efficiently remove phosphorous
- BCWD groundwatershed includes a portion of CMSCWD and would like to collaborate on groundwater monitoring.

Mike Kinney, CLFLWD Administrator, presentation highlights:

- several diagnostic studies and system for determining each project priority through a cost-benefit analysis,
- Urban Stormwater Management – 5 iron-enhanced sand filter projects
- Rural modeling and BMPs
- aquatic invasive species management program for curly leaf pond weed, Eurasian water milfoil, flowering rush, and zebra mussels with an emphasis on early detection and rapid response planning and water craft inspections,
- future potential lake alum treatments

Jim Shaver, CMSCWD Administrator, presentation highlights:

- Youth education program highly successful and possible opportunity for collaboration
- “Focus Lakes” are those lakes that are borderline on track for impairment. High priority to protect high quality waters, not just to improve the 11 impaired lakes. Investing to arrest the degradation.
- Planning for an iron-enhanced sand filter to treat Sand Lake subwatershed
- Holds joint meetings with all communities regularly
- No MS4 communities

#### **4. Board Small Group Discussions:**

Board Managers broke into three small groups to discuss major strengths and challenges of their organizations and areas of possible collaboration for the joint watershed districts. Each of the groups reported back to the entire group.

##### **a. Major Strengths & Challenges**

Small groups reported ideas:

- Monitoring data (baseline and performance monitoring) in which to base management decisions
- Positive Relationships
  - Blue Water Science
  - Lake Associations
  - MN DNR
- CLFLWD Subwatershed Assessment Tool
- CMSCWD Elementary Education Program
- Permitting/Rules
- Capital Improvements

- Agricultural BMPs
- Iron Enhanced Sand Filter effectiveness – all three WD have implemented
- Infiltration systems
- Curb cut rain gardens
- Cost Share Programs
  - Whole Street approach with 100% funding
  - Cost-share based on phosphorous removal \$/lb
  - Outreach/stewardship program – all have invested and involved residents
- Aquatic Invasive Species Program – action plans and treatment
- Communication/Outreach
  - Websites
  - Signage

b. Opportunities for collaboration

Small groups reported ideas:

- Shared Permit Inspector
- Rules/MIDS
  - review for more consistency within each community
  - learn from each other regarding new situations
  - Are the nuances of the rules necessary if the 1<sup>st</sup> flush is the most important?
  - Develop construction options for challenged landowners to meet stormwater requirements
- Share budget management spreadsheets (i.e. BCWD Authorized funds spreadsheet)
- Management Plan structures are different and may be beneficial to have common format
- Expand CMSCWD Elementary Education Program to all three watersheds
- Hold joint meetings with City Council and all WD's within the community boundary
- Cost-share programs lessons learned
- Collaborative implementation to reach St. Croix River phosphorous reduction goals
- Sharing CIP project information and lessons learned...individual workshops
- Collecting and Sharing groundwater information and joint groundwater modeling
- Sharing methods for collaborating with communities, farmers & landowners

5. Next Steps

Board Managers discussed possible next steps. The Managers directed the Administrators to meet to recommend short-term action items for collaboration, bring this information back to each Board, and then reconvene the whole group in early October.

6. Adjournment

**Craig Leiser, seconded by Dave DeVault, moved to adjourn at 8:56pm. All presented voted Yea, none opposed. Motion carried.**

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