

**MINUTES OF THE TAC/CAC STAKEHOLDER MEETING
FOR THE UPDATE OF THE
COMFORT LAKE -FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT (CLFLWD)
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2010

Welcome and Opening Remarks

The CLFLWD Watershed Management Plan Update TAC/CAC Stakeholder Meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. on May 19, 2010, at the Forest Lake City Offices, 220 North Lake Street, Forest Lake, Minnesota. Randy Anhorn, Administrator for CLFLWD, welcomed the group to the second of a planned series of five to six (6) TAC/CAC stakeholder meetings to provide input throughout the District's watershed management plan (Plan) update process. Anhorn stated that the District's initial Plan was adopted in 2001 and that the District is required to complete a new updated Plan by September, 2011.

Those in Attendance:

Erik Anderson	(WCD)
Randy Anhorn	(CLFLWD)
Jack Frost	(Met Council)
Anne Hurlburt	(City of Scandia)
Melissa Lewis	(BWSR)
Jessica Pilaski	(Washington County)
Steve Schmaltz	(CLFLWD TAC/CAC) (comments via mail)
Jyneen Thatcher	(WCD)
Lisa Tilman	(EOR—CLFLWD)

Background Information

After stakeholder introductions, Mr. Anhorn gave way to Lisa Tilman of Emmons and Olivier Resources (EOR) who provided the agenda including the presentation and discussion on the Board and stakeholder goals/policies and specific objectives for the goals, for the meeting, the purpose and need for the watershed management plan (Plan) update, as well as an outline for the watershed management plan (Plan) sections and process, anticipated schedule, and interaction of the District Plan with Municipal plans.

Plan Goals/Policies and Objectives

Ms. Tilman presented a memo reviewing draft issues and goals (including comments for the TAC/CAC), and potential objectives and/or objective topic areas that could be included for each goal/issue (a copy of the memo is incorporated by reference and annexed within). The group went through the presented Goals and Objectives and asked that staff send out the presented memo with tracked comments showing the resulting changes stemming from the TAC/CAC's early comments at the March TAC/CAC meeting.

Comments received included:

- *Make sure the document uses consistent terminology throughout*
- *Ongoing floodplain objectives 2 and 5 may more periodic as opposed to "ongoing"*
- *Make sure to include important words such as "infrastructure" in the definition section*
- *Under the lakes section*
 - *Should include local partners to ongoing objectives number 5 for lakes*

- *Make sure to include mention of the District's TMDL under the lakes objectives/projects section*
- *District-wide project number 1 could be more specific*
- *District-wide project number 33 should add mention of "the project would be undertaken if necessary to maintain in-lake water quality and/or to meet downstream water quality needs"*
- *District-wide project number 36 should add mention of other possible areas/solutions for the regional stormwater facility to address water quality and quantity concerns coming from the upstream portions. And, when Bixby Park is specifically mentioned, made make mention that there are permitting issues that would come into play in the Bixby Park area.*
- *Make sure to mention the importance of maintaining the recreational utility of the lakes*
- *One comment mentioned that the issue statement did not capture the issue of invasive species concerns well*
- *If lakes are perceived as "assets", then we need to move away from just water quality as a measure of value and expand value to include recreational utility*
- *Add mention of recreational utility to Goal A and B, and ongoing objective 2*
- *Include other control options to better manage risk of invasive species*
- *Add an objective 6 "protect and improve the recreational utility of recreational lake in the watershed as required"*
- *District-wide project number 30 could be more specific and state that real goal is to increase new buffer zones from x feet to x feet.*
- *Because Forest Lake does not currently have Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in detected in the lake, Forest Lake could be a "proactive prevention" case study*
- *An additional objective for the lakes could be to develop a better understanding of the entry risk of various aquatic invasive species (AIS) (i.e., EWM and zebra mussels) and identify options for minimizing and controlling that risk.*
- *In order to reduce repetition of some ongoing objectives in numerous sections (i.e., education), maybe some sort of matrix could be developed*
- *The group had discussion on the difference between inventorying wetland in the District (including what information was already available), and conducting function and value assessments on wetlands (including the size and process options for the assessments to take place)*
 - *This resulted in the suggestion to make different objectives for function and value assessments and inventorying*
- *District-wide projects and objectives 4 and 5 under wetlands seemed more suited for ongoing objectives*
- *Make mention of terrestrial invasive species under the upland resources section*
- *When discussing the groundwater section it was mentioned that Chisago County had recently finished its geological survey and was currently working on its hydrogeologic survey*
- *The group discussed the potential to find locations of unsealed wells*
- *Under the education section the section could include;*
 - *Include mention of citizen advisory committee*
 - *Consider NEMO for local decision*
 - *Mention participation in County Children's Water Festivals*
 - *Mention partnerships and AIS education at public accesses*
- *Under Interagency Coordination;*
 - *Mention partnerships and AIS education at public accesses*
 - *Add cooperation/partnerships with other watershed districts*

- *Mention partnership with Sunrise river study, Sunrise River watershed TMDL, and St. Croix TMDL*
- *Also, add counties to the municipality heading and add other agencies other than just MDNR (i.e MPCA)*

Discuss methods of measuring success

Lisa Tilman presented a memo discussing the need and alternatives to measure progress in the overall implementation of the Plan (a copy of the memo is incorporated by reference and annexed within). Ms. Tilman discussed guidance provided by BWSR as well as the pros and cons of some options including a) simply determining the number of actions accomplished (similar to that used in the District 2001-2011 Plan), or b) determining specific metrics with measureable results.

The TAC/CAC thought that the best method, which proved helpful in reviewing successes and shortfalls in the District’s 2001-2011 Plan, was somewhat of a mixed bag of by number of actions accomplished, as well as the continual measure of lakes meeting water quality goals. This way the District could continually “adaptive manage” the water resources by not just relying on the assumption that completing all objectives will result in the lakes actually meeting goals. More may be needed.

Resource Inventory

Ms. Tilman then provided highlights information gathered for the Plan’s Resource Inventory section. Ms. Tilman went the draft section which contained subsections 1-10 including:

1. Location
2. Climate and Precipitation
3. Topography and Geomorphology
4. Soils
5. Geology
6. Surface Water Resources
7. Natural Communities
8. Fish and Wildlife
9. Groundwater Resources

A copy of the presented is incorporated by reference and annexed within. Ms. Tilman stated that they are still working on gather more information and asked if there were areas that the group knew there were gaps and that if the group thought of any after the meeting to forward to her or Administrator Anhorn. Anhorn stated that he would email a copy of the section and that the group could send comments back to him.

Adjournment

Randy Anhorn again thanked all those who attended the TAC/CAC stakeholder meeting, stated that the next scheduled TAC/CAC meeting is for Wednesday, August 18, 2010 would send out tentative meeting dates for upcoming TAC/CAC stakeholder meetings, draft minutes from the meeting, and reminded the group to forward additional comments. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.