

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
COMFORT LAKE – FOREST LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT
Thursday, October 26, 2017**

1. Call to Order

President Anderson called the October 26, 2017 regular board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Forest Lake City Center, 1408 Lake Street South, Forest Lake.

Present: President Jackie Anderson, Vice President Jon Spence, Secretary Wayne Moe, Treasurer Steve Schmaltz, Assistant Treasurer Jackie McNamara

Others: Mike Kinney, Jessica Lindemyer, Mike Sorensen (CLFLWD staff); Greg Graske, Meghan Funke (Emmons & Olivier Resources); Chuck Holtman (Smith Partners); Jerry Grundtner (Citizen Advisory Committee); Craig Mell (Chisago SWCD); Dave Bakke (Bone Lake Association).

2. Setting of Meeting Agenda

Manager Moe moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Manager Spence. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

3. Consent Agenda

a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – October 5, 2017

Manager Moe moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Manager Schmaltz. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

4. Public Open Forum

There were no comments.

5. Citizen Advisory Committee Update

President Anderson noted a typo in the CAC meeting minutes referring to a loan of \$400,000 that should be changed to \$500,000. She called attention to the CAC's proposed outreach activity of organizing a boat ride program where District lake residents take interested elected officials or other people out on the lakes as a way to teach them about water resources stewardship.

6. New Business

a) AIS Update

Mr. Sorensen noted that there is no AIS update presentation this month, but a 2017 yearend summary on AIS activities and watercraft inspections will be presented at the November 16th board meeting.

b) SWCD Ag BMP Framework Resolution

Administrator Kinney explained the proposed framework which would entail the CLFLWD providing a set amount of funding to the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). The SWCD would then lead the landowner outreach and other activities for implementing projects identified in the recently-completed Bone Lake Subwatershed Analysis (SWA). The SWCD board alone would approve the projects, rather than requiring both boards to review and approve. The SWCD then would report to the CLFLWD at the end of year. Mr. Kinney explained two ways to prioritize projects from the SWA: by cost-effectiveness and by total phosphorus reduction. He also noted that a separate consideration in prioritizing projects would be benefit for impaired waters with TMDLs versus benefit for upgradient resources.

Manager Schmaltz asked about projected landowner participation in the projects. He noted that the initial development of participation for these projects has been a challenge and asked whether this challenge would be multiplied for a program involving many smaller projects. Mr. Kinney anticipated that if the District could leverage additional funding sources landowner participation would be higher. The District will learn in December whether it has qualified for state grant funds. Craig Mell explained the SWCD's process and schedule for engaging landowners, obtaining federal grant funding, and implementing projects. He noted that the SWCD typically leverages lands with federal Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding, which can cover about 40 percent of cost. Mr. Kinney noted this is desirable but not essential, in that the CLFLWD can fund a non-EQIP site at a higher percentage if it chooses.

President Anderson spoke about the CLFLWD's four lake management districts and existing residential and community best management practice (BMP) programs. She suggested that the Bone Lake agricultural BMP program be thought of as the first step of a set of similar programs that would operate in all of the CLFLWD's districts and be implemented within a framework similar to the existing BMP programs and with a broad look at funding sources. There was discussion about considering not just phosphorus reduction, but also sediment reduction, in assessing project priorities, and available local/state/federal funding sources. President Anderson favors a total pollutant reduction prioritization approach. Manager Schmaltz supports that, but believes the CLFLWD has a duty to its taxpayers to look at cost-effectiveness as well. Mr. Mell explained that the number of projects being completed will be low at first (1-2 projects the first year), but is expected to increase year after year. He suggested that

a less constrained set of funding criteria, at least initially, will help the project establish itself. President Anderson suggested that starting with lands with direct impact on Bone Lake would allow the CLFLWD to begin efforts before a full plan is in place. Manager McNamara stressed the importance of getting landowner involvement before making a final determination on which projects are higher priority than others. President Anderson suggested focusing on projects that have direct impacts on Bone Lake.

There was discussion about the framework format and level of outreach. President Anderson requested that a program statement of purpose be drafted. Manager Spence suggested that the contract and funding amount be finalized at the December board meeting so that the District can incorporate the FY18 Clean Water Fund grant decision that will be announced in early December.

Manager Spence moved to have the matter brought forward again at the December 21 regular board meeting. Seconded by Manager Schmaltz. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

c) Permit 17-016

Engineer Graske explained that the proposed project site is located within the buffer zone of a wetland that is contiguous with Birch Lake. The proposed project will split a lot into three new lots and build a house on one of the resulting lots. The District's stormwater management, erosion control, and wetland buffer rules apply. The required stormwater practice for each lot would need to be constructed at the time that the lot gets developed.

Manager Spence moved to approve permit application 17-016 with the conditions stated in the engineer's memo. Seconded by Manager McNamara. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

7. Old Business

a) Forest Lake Diagnostic Report

Dr. Meghan Funke presented the final draft of the Forest Lake Diagnostic Study report. She explained the diagnostic study process including meetings with a technical advisory committee, water monitoring, updating the water quality model, compiling data from existing studies, identifying priority management areas, identifying new BMP implementation opportunities, developing a standardized cost-benefit ranking system, and stakeholder review. She explained how the water quality model was set up and existing phosphorus loads. Major loads come from watershed runoff, excessive internal load, and interaction between the three basins. Dr. Funke went through necessary phosphorus reductions to meet water quality goals. Target areas include Washington Judicial Ditch 6, 3rd Lake Pond, Shields Lake, Hayward Avenue, Castlewood Golf Course, direct drainage areas, and basin interaction. An adaptive

management approach to project implementation, similar to the current Moody Lake wetland rehabilitation, is proposed. It includes targeted tributary monitoring, diagnostic modeling report, project feasibility and planning, project design and implementation, and project effectiveness monitoring. Dr. Funke summarized the results and proposed next steps for each subwatershed and the internal load. There was discussion about next steps including comments on the draft report, a CAC meeting, and 2018 diagnostics.

Manager Spence moved to accept the Forest Lake Diagnostic Report as presented. Seconded by Manager Schmaltz. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

b) Rule Revisions Workshop

Mr. Kinney suggested that the board hold a workshop for the purpose of going over input from the November 9th TAC meeting and to prepare for the November 20th joint board meeting with the cities of Forest Lake and Wyoming. He described potential additional agenda items for the November 20th meeting including the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit and using ciBioBase and District staff to survey municipal stormwater ponds. Manager Schmaltz suggested adding the Forest Lake street sweeping effort. President Anderson suggested providing some brief statistics on completed District projects, and discussing the city’s infrastructure inventory effort. There was agreement to hold the rule revisions workshop on November 16 immediately before the regular board meeting.

c) 2018 Budget

Mr. Kinney explained that the proposed resolution would reduce the 2018 levy to \$1.2 million. A proposed loan of \$500,000 is also assumed in the revised 2018 budget.

Manager Spence moved to adopt resolution 17-10-03. Seconded by Manager Moe. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent
Jackie Anderson	X		
Jackie McNamara	X		
Wayne Moe	X		
Stephen Schmaltz	X		
Jon Spence	X		

d) Principal Place of Business Hearing Date

This topic was discussed at the October 5th board meeting. There was agreement to officially change the principal place of business to the District office, but continue to hold regular board meetings at City Hall.

Manager Moe moved to re-set the public hearing on the proposed change in principal place of business to November 16th. Seconded by Manager Schmaltz. Upon a vote, the motion carried 5-0.

e) 3rd Lake Pond Project Update

Mr. Kinney explained that a resolution of buffer issues acceptable to the landowners and BWSR has been identified. He explained that the project agreement with the city will need to be amended to incorporate the design adjustments. Mr. Kinney proposed to work with two contractors to complete the final restoration work for the project, and to coordinate with Peterson Companies to close out its contract.

Manager McNamara asked if Peterson Companies fulfilled its obligations within the contract, and if enough time has been allowed for natural vegetation establishment before more work occurs. Mr. Kinney responded that Peterson Companies has fulfilled its contract obligations, and that vegetation establishment is coming in nicely.

The Board concurred in Mr. Kinney's proposed resolution steps.

f) Effectiveness Monitoring Update

Dr. Funke presented the results of this year's effectiveness monitoring for the Bixby Park, 3rd Lake Pond, and Moody Lake Wetland Rehabilitation projects. In general, the projects are performing as hoped and providing significant phosphorus reductions. President Anderson asked that pounds of phosphorus reductions be added to the presentation.

g) Lower St. Croix – One Watershed One Plan

Mr. Kinney provided an update on the recent and upcoming meetings with regard to One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) in the Lower St. Croix River basin. A 1W1P meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM on November 9th in Wyoming.

8. Report of Staff

a) Administrator

Mr. Kinney noted Mr. Sorensen's coordination with the University of Minnesota to research zebra mussels in Forest Lake, and future research efforts. President Anderson called attention to the permitting metrics included in the Administrator's Report. There was discussion about an unpermitted dirt bike track to the north of Highway 8 and east of I-35 that is also a Wetland Conservation Act violation. President Anderson had several other comments including: commending staff on their outreach to builders to winterize their construction sites, asking for copies of the maps produced by the ciBioBase surveying effort, requesting to review the Moody Lake informational mailer before it gets sent out, requesting that staff talk about the District's AIS rapid response

program when doing public outreach related to AIS, reminding staff of the Shields Lake project PR piece that was requested by the Forest Hills Golf Club, asking for an update on the Heath Avenue-Little Comfort Lake drainage issue that was discussed earlier in the year, and asking that potential regional stormwater treatment sites be considered as part of the diagnostic work that the District does. Mr. Kinney noted his communications with the Forest Lake Menards store regarding its proposed expansion project and coordination with Home Depot to implement a regional stormwater project.

b) Emmons & Olivier Resources

Nothing to report.

c) Smith Partners

Nothing to report.

9. Report of Treasurer

a) Approval of Bills and Treasurer's Report

Manager Schmaltz reported income for the month of \$100,842, a large portion of which was due to grant payments, and expenses of \$95,522.97.

Manager Moe moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills in the amount of \$95,522.97. Seconded by Manager Spence. Upon vote, the motion carried 5-0.

10. Report of Officers and Managers

Manager McNamara suggested coordination with the city to enforce cleaning of fallen leaves out of the street curb. Manager Moe noted that in his observation, street sweepers aren't necessarily collecting leaves effectively and clumps are remaining in the street. It was noted that there will need to be a motion at the November 16th board meeting to delegate representatives for the MAWD annual meeting in December.

11. Adjourn

a) Next special board meeting – November 16, 2017

Manager Spence moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Manager Moe. Upon vote, the motion carried 5-0, and the meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Wayne S. Moe, Secretary _____