

**DRAFT Minutes: Monday, May 18, 2020**  
**RPBCWD Citizen’s Advisory Committee Monthly Meeting**  
**Location: VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM OR TELEPHONE**

**CAC Members** (By each name, put a P=Present, E=Excused, not present but with notification or A=Absent with no notification)

Jim Boettcher	P	Barry Hofer	P	Sharon McCotter	P	Marilynn Torkelson	P
Kim Behrens	A	Peter Iverson	A	Jan Neville	P	Lori Tritz	P
Michelle Frost	P	Terry Jorgenson	P	Vanessa Nordstrom	P		
Heidi Groven	P	Matt Lindon	P	Joan Palmquist	P		

Claire Bleser	RPBCWD Administrator	P
B Lauer	RPBCWD staff	P
Jill Crafton	Board of Managers	P

**Key MOTIONS for the Board of Managers:** A motion was made for the Speaker’s Bureau presentations to be placed on the district’s You Tube Channel. Lori made the motion, Marilynn seconded. The motion carried.

**Key CONSENSUS ITEMS:**

1. **The CAC supports the district collecting more data, obtaining resident inputs and financially supporting the Duck Lake Road project. Marilynn proposed and Sharon seconded. Motion carried.**
2. **Lori made a motion and Jan seconded a See Click Fix type App for reporting problems around the district. Motion carried.**

**Key discussion items:**

- 1.

**I. Opening**

- A. **Call CAC meeting to Order:** President Lori Tritz called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
- B. **Attendance:** As noted above.
- C. **Matters of general public interest:** None
- D. **Approval of Agenda:** Joan moved and Sharon seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
- E. **Approval of April 20, 2020 CAC Meeting Minutes:** Jan moved and Sharon seconded to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

**II. Learning Presentation:** Groundwater 101 (B) Be gave an excellent groundwater presentation. Claire noted that a grant to replenish aquifers using dry wells has been written. Currently we’re waiting to see if it gets approved.

**III. Program and Project Updates:**

- A. **High level recap from May 6<sup>th</sup> board of managers meeting** (Barry) Primary topic was the Duck Lake Road project including EP city engineer's presentation. Design options were provided which ranged in cost from \$2.5 million to \$4.7 million (\$1.5 million contribution asked for from RPBCWD in the \$4.7 million option.) The city reports they have sought funding from other sources but were unsuccessful. Claire gave us an update on the Duck Lake Road project. She mentioned that informational session is tentatively scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup> 7pm with city engineer discussion again and resident input. Pricing for a shorter span bridge option will be presented. Lori asked what goals and strategies this would further. It will reconnect east and west parts of the lake, provide wetland resiliency and interaction of residents with water resources. The project scored a 30 in project prioritization which is a high score. Lori asked if other projects would have to be sacrificed or curtailed. Barry continued his recap of the board meeting. The Pleasant View Rd. project was discussed. It will cost \$84,000 - managers approved 50% funding of grant eligible portion of the cost. President Ward asked for feedback about 2021 budget requests. They decided the district should request money for planned projects as usual but be flexible as needed because of Covid-19.
- B. **Specific program/project updates from May Board meeting** (Claire)
- C. **Duck Lake Subwatershed Project**(Claire) Planters to be installed late May early June. Rain barrels are installed and trees planted. The trees continue to look healthy. Of the residents invited to participate there were 24% active participants and 30% engaged.
- D. **St. Hubert's Catholic School**(Claire) In design phase for tree trenches, native plant restorations, rain garden and capture and reuse project for implementation next year.
- E. **Alum for Lake Riley** (Claire) Chemical used in lake to bind phosphorus and remove from water column and traps at the bottom of the lake. To be implemented Jun 8<sup>th</sup>.
- F. **Middle Riley Restoration** (Claire) The restoration is located between Lake Riley and Rice Marsh Lake and will be completed with financial assistance from Bear Path Golf Course since it is on their private property.
- G. **Wetlands at Pioneer Trail** (Claire) Asked for grant extension to develop wetland restoration design. Delay caused by COVID 19 pandemic.
- H. **Staring Lake Outdoor Center/Capture and Reuse** (Claire) On hold due to the Covid 19 slowdown. Feasibility has been conducted. Waiting for update from city of Eden Prairie.
- I. **Education Series** (Claire) Soil Health webinar completed last week. There will be a link on website so people can watch. The next presentation will be on a date not yet determined on Ecosystem Services from Green Economics, Benefit of Trees will follow and a Sustainable Lawns presentation is scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- J. **Groundwater Conservation Program** (B) Signed agreements with 3 of 5 cities. Remaining 2 are still being reviewed.
- K. **Watershed Stewardship Grants** (B) We have finalized our scoring sheets for reviewing grants. We reviewed 6 applications in May, all of which were approved for funding. There are 11 applications to be reviewed in June. B is working on a zero contact site visit protocol. Once established site visits will be resumed on a first come first serve basis. Seth will visit, with follow up email or phone call. Plan is to resume site visits after Memorial Day. Joan asked about Action Grants which are coordinated by Maya. They've slowed way down with the pandemic.
- L. **Silver Lake (Claire)** Amy Bakkum MN GreenCorp member and Master Water Steward in training, is working on growing seedlings in pea gravel containers as her capstone project. The watershed will be giving the trees to Silver Lake subwatershed residents to promote the benefits of trees for water quality this fall after they've had a chance to grow.
- M. **Preserve HOA** (B) Three stewardship grant applications for native plantings were approved. There is also a Capture and Reuse project in the works.

#### IV. Topics and Discussion

- A. How can the CAC continue providing value during the pandemic? Marilyn noted that Lower Riley Creek Conservation Area would benefit from creek access for residents to wade and enjoy the water which

they seem to be doing currently anyway. Lori mentioned EP's See Click, Fix App. Could the watershed district implement something along those lines for residents to report concerns to the district? Marilyn reported a lamium infestation at Cedar Forest entrance emanating from an adjacent residence. Claire responded that the problem should be reported to the city of Eden Prairie.

- B. Are there subcommittees that are actively involved with something now that could use additional hands/eyes for those initiatives? none
- C. Video Presentation Discussion-How to make learning presentations, speakers bureau presentation and various other presentations available. WD now has a You Tube channel. Claire would rather have speaker's bureau presentation NOT be downloaded. She wants those presentations to be up close and in depth. Marilyn commented that when things return to normal, this would likely NOT decrease the demand for future public presentations. Lori made a motion for speaker's bureau presentations to be made available to the public on the district's website or You Tube channel, Marilyn seconded. Motion carried.
- D. Site visits as part of the learning presentation will likely not happen this summer What might we do in place of them? Vanessa requested a Soil Health and water table learning presentation . Claire suggested steep slope vulnerability. Michelle requested a virtual bus tour since the districts usual bus tour to view projects around the district had to be canceled due to Covid 19. She wants a virtual tour of places she should visit and why. Terry J. requested traditional monitoring techniques and Heidi wants videos of what staff does in the field. Next learning presentation will be on the watershed district's budget proposal. Another possible future learning presentation topic is on Harmful Algae Blooms (HAB).

#### V. Subcommittee Reports:

- A. **Education and Outreach/Speaker's Bureau:** Two presentations are scheduled at The Preserve: Landscaping for Water Quality and Top 5 Things for Water Sustainability.
- B. **Lakes and Streams:** Matt posted their subcommittee charter for this year in the shared CAC Google Drive. The charter includes goals and draft project plans. One goal is to add additional information to the Lake information sheets on district's website.
- C. **Stormwater:** Sharon reports that the city of Chanhassen has project on hold due to Covid 19.
- D. **Landscaping for Water:** Lori presented draft of a benefits of native plant handout. Claire stated that the district already has a handout for this. Marilyn asked for a copy. The district has not had a chance to review the raingarden maintenance guide.
- E. **Youth Engagement in CAC:** Michelle said that a draft of their charter has been created. They want to talk to Maya next. Matt agreed to be part of future meetings. Goals are exploration, stewardship, knowledge and leadership opportunities for teenagers and high school students.

#### VI. Upcoming Events

- A. RPBCWD Board of Managers meeting June 3, 2020 at 7pm 18681 Lake Drive East -Lori to attend as CAC representative.
- B. RPBCWD CAC meeting June 15, 2020 at 6:00 pm, 18681 Lake Drive East
- C. CAC member needed to attend July 8th and Oct. 7th board meetings. M. Torkelson (July) and Matt Lindon (October) volunteered.

VIII. **Adjourn CAC meeting:** Sharon moved & Matt seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.