

Sunrise River Water Management Organization Meeting  
Thursday August 2, 2018  
Meeting start time is 6:30 pm at East Bethel City Hall

Present: Leon Mager, Paul Enestvedt, Tim Harrington, Tim Peterson, Sandy Flaherty, Matt Downing,

Absent: Chair Babineau, Denny Peterson

Audience: Jamie Schurbon, Anoka Conservation District (ACD)  
Jared Wagner, Anoka Conservation District (ACD)  
Sharon LeMay, Anoka Conservation District Supervisor  
Dan Fabian, MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)

3. Approval of Agenda     **Mr. T. Peterson moved and Mr. Enestvedt seconded to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried.**
4. Approval of Minutes     **Mr. T. Peterson moved and Mr. Downing seconded to approve the July 12, 2018 minutes as written. Motion carried.**
5. Treasurer's Report     Mr. Downing reported a July balance of \$68,031.74 with a total of \$13,030.00 paid out, leaving a balance of \$55,001.74. **Mr. Harrington moved and Mr. T. Peterson seconded to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.**
6. Unfinished Business     None
7. New Business     A. Columbus LWP review and WMO approval consideration
- Background  
Columbus recently updated its Local Surface Water Management Plan. All SRWMO communities are doing so per Met Council requirements. The SRWMO has approval authority over these plans. The plans must be consistent with the SRWMO Watershed Management Plan.
- Timeline issues and avoiding frequent re-planning  
Any changes in the new SRWMO Plan, scheduled to be done in December 2019, could necessitate revisions to the city local water plans. To avoid this situation to the degree possible, ACD informed the cities that review of new local water plans in 2019-2020 will be lenient and focus upon helping the cities include likely future content of the SRWMO plan. For cities like Columbus, the SRWMO must recognize its challenges of being part of three watershed organizations. In this way, the SRWMO hopes to minimize costs for plan revisions by cities.
- Findings of review of Columbus' Water Plan  
The city's local water plan is largely consistent with SRWMO standards and the SRWMO Plan. Listed below are some apparent inconsistencies. ACD emailed these comments to city staff to get their feedback and to ensure ACD not missing something. ACD hopes to have their response by the SRWMO board meeting, so informed action can be taken.

Draft comments to Columbus

**Stormwater plan review clarification.** The city plan or ordinances states stormwater plans for projects are reviewed by the watershed organizations. Please clarify within your local water plan that in the Sunrise River WMO portion of the city, the city is expected to perform this role.

**Ensure consistency with SRWMO stormwater standard.** It appears that the city plan and/or ordinances are not consistent with SRWMO stormwater requirement for an equivalent to infiltration of the first 0.5” of runoff. If already in your official controls and we’ve missed them, please inform us.

**Ensure consistency with SRWMO wetland standard.** It appears that the city plan and/or ordinances are not consistent with SRWMO wetland requirement for regulation of excavation in higher priority wetlands. Please incorporate these into the city local water plan in the short term and longer term into ordinance. If they are already in your official controls and we’ve missed them, please inform us.

**Consider stormwater volume minimization measures.** Specifically, consider Minimum Impact Development Standards, planned unit developments or requiring stormwater volume rates and volume not exceed pre-development conditions. The SRWMO may more strongly recommend or require these approaches in its new watershed management plan, but they are not currently required.

**Mr. Downing moved and Mr. T. Peterson seconded to table consideration of approval of the Columbus Local Water Management Plan until the four (4) comments above are addressed. Motion carried.**

B. Columbus comprehensive plan review and comment

Columbus is inviting comments on its draft Comprehensive Plan. Its Local Water Management Plan, which the SRWMO is commenting upon separately, is a component of their Comp Plan. While the SRWMO could review the entire Comp Plan, it seems that would be beyond its usual scope of work. The city is requesting a response from the SRWMO.

**Mr. Downing moved and Mr. T. Peterson seconded to direct Anoka Conservation District to return the Columbus Comprehensive Plan Update Comment Form to the city indicating that the SRWMO intends to only review the Local Surface Water Management Plan with comments provided separately. Motion carried.**

C. Lower St. Croix One Watershed, One Plan priorities input

The SRWMO has been invited to submit priority concerns to be addressed during the One Watershed, One Plan process. The SRWMO is asked to submit its priorities on a supplied worksheet. To accelerate discussion, ACD filled in several priorities that the SRWMO has discussed in the past and will submit them on SRWMO’s behalf. Mr. Downing asked if there will be anything specific for Coon Lake at the workshop. Mr. Mager suggested a carp feasibility study done on Coon Lake with the SRWMO.

**Mr. Downing moved and Mr. T. Peterson seconded to have ACD add the Coon Lake carp feasibility study to the Priority Concerns and Goals of Local Water Management Entities list and that ACD include in its notes that even though Coon**

**Lake is not impaired at this time, the SRWMO does not want to ignore the potential to become impaired.**

D. Lower St. Croix One Watershed, One Plan Aug 27 boat workshop – Taylors Falls (informational only).

This is an opportunity for SRWMO representation. Mr. Enestvedt offered to attend, Mr. Downing will try to attend and Mr. T. Peterson was a maybe to attend. There is no cost.

8. Mail None

9. Other The board asked for an update on carp removal on Typo and Martin Lakes. Mr. Schurbon noted that harvests from Typo Lake have concluded for the year. Box netting will begin in late August on Martin Lake for a total of four occasions with four nets each time. Major funding was provided by the DNR, with matching funds from the SRWMO and the Martin Lakers Association for this project.

10. Invoice Approval **Mr. T. Peterson moved and Mr. Enestvedt seconded to pay the August Recording Secretary invoice for \$175. Motion carried.**

Mr. Downing will follow-up with the bank and take the needed steps to ensure his signature is added to the checking account, as previously authorized.

11. Watershed Plan update work session A. Evaluation of current watershed plan – a summary of discussion from the previous meeting was provided by Mr. Schurbon. This evaluation will be used in the Comprehensive Plan.

B. Issues prioritization

Mr. Schurbon presented suggested issues to be prioritized in the new SRWMO Watershed Management Plan. These issues were generated from previous exercises including agency and public input, the SRWMO review of its current plan, and review of neighboring watershed plans. Schurbon provided information on how each of the issues was prioritized by others in the aforementioned forums. Through discussion, the board prioritized the issues in to high, medium and low categories. Some notes or sub-items were added. in order of high, medium, low as follows:

High – Lake and stream water quality, water monitoring, funding, communication with member cities, and outreach and education.

Medium – Aquatic invasive species, septic systems, development, multi-partner coordination, stormwater management, groundwater, administrative efficiencies, and chlorides.

Low – Ditching/drainage, climate change, water quantity, fisheries, and wildlife habitat.

Mr. Schurbon will meet with the SRWMO’s Technical Advisory Committee, including member communities’ staff, to review this prioritization and will report back to the SRWMO board at the next meeting September 6, 2018.

The next planning step will be to establish measurable goals for each priority topic.

12. Adjourn **Mr. T. Peterson moved and Mr. Enestvedt seconded to adjourn at 8:28 pm. Motion carried.**

Gail E. Gessner, Recording Secretary  
Submitted via email on 9/5/18