

Sunrise River Water Management Organization Meeting
Thursday February 21, 2019
6:30 pm at East Bethel City Hall

Present: Chair Babineau, Paul Enestvedt, Sandy Flaherty, Matt Downing, Tim Harrington
Janet Hegland and Shelly Logren joined the meeting at 6:50 pm

Absent: Leon Mager

Audience: Jamie Schurbon, Anoka Conservation District (ACD)
Jared Wagner, Anoka Conservation District

3. Approval of Agenda **Mr. Downing moved and Mr. Enestvedt seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of Groundwater Education Video under Other. Motion carried.**

4. Approval of Minutes **Mr. Harrington moved and Mr. Downing seconded to approve the January 3, 2019 minutes as written. Motion carried.**

5. Annual Meeting Items
A. Election of officers
Mr. Harrington moved and Mr. Downing seconded to keep the slate of officers as is, with Dan Babineau as Chairperson, Leon Mager as Vice-Chairperson, Matt Downing as Treasurer, and Paul Enestvedt as Secretary. Motion carried.

B. Hear recommendations on amendments to the JPA and watershed management plan
There were no recommendations heard.

C. Set regular meeting dates through February 2020
Mr. Harrington moved and Mr. Enestvedt seconded to approve the following meeting dates from March 2019 to February 2020: March 7, April 4, May 2, July 18, August 1, November 7, December 5, January 2, 2020 and February 6. Motion carried.

6. Financial Reports
A. Treasurer's Report
Mr. Downing reported the following:
January Beginning Balance: \$33,124.84
3 Deposits totaling: \$25,407.51 (Includes 1st half 2019 payments from all four member communities)
2 Debits totaling: \$1,524.00
January Ending Balance: \$57,008.35

Mr. Downing also presented a Budget vs. Actual 2019 year-to-date report.

Mr. Enestvedt moved and Mr. Harrington seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

B. Current grants financial report from Anoka Conservation District
Mr. Schurbon reviewed the SRWMO Current Grants Financial Report and noted these changes from the last report:

- Added carp harvest expenses: SRWMO \$2,650, Martin Lakers Assoc. \$2,000, ACD \$4,016
- Upcoming projects funds – added \$1,309 2016 leftover funds from Ditch 20 Study

Columbus representatives Janet Hegland and Shelly Logren joined the meeting. Introductions were made and Chair Babineau gave a brief description of what the WMO is, does, and focuses on for projects.

7.Unfinished Business

A. 2018 work results presented by ACD

Jared Wagner presented. Main points discussed were:

- Lake levels - The DNR was not available to assist with surveying until June 1, 2018 so spring water rise was not well documented. After that, typical falling levels in mid-summer rebounding into fall. Generally near average levels throughout.
- Lake Water Quality:
 - Boot Lake - First year of water quality monitoring on this lake. DNR permit required for access by ACD. Total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a and secchi transparency all better than state standards, and result in a C letter grade on Met Council's lake grade scale. Has similar water quality to downstream Linwood Lake, indicating that it does not currently degrade or improve Linwood water quality.
 - Coon Lake East Bay – Had a very good water quality across the board in 2018, earning straight A letter grades for each graded parameter. All three parameters have also statistically improved since the early 2000s.
 - Coon Lake West Bay – Has slightly poorer water quality for all parameters compared to East Bay, however, water quality is still good with all parameters well within state standards. This bay has only been sampled since 2010, so no trend analysis is possible, but good water quality has been maintained each year sampled. Letter A grade.
 - Linwood Lake – Earned a C letter grade in 2018 with phosphorus just below the state standard for the first time since 2000, and chlorophyll-a and secchi transparency not meeting standards. Water quality has not statistically changed over time, but its recent results have been better than the poorer water quality of 2007-2009.
 - Typo Lake – Still had very poor water quality in 2018 compared to other lakes and state standards. It does show a significant improvement in chlorophyll-a, however, and average phosphorus and secchi clarity are back near better levels seen in the early 1990s. Letter F grade.
 - Martin Lake – Received a C letter grade in 2018 and did not meet state standards for any of the three parameters. However, all parameters have been improving in a statistically significant fashion since 2007 when the lake was at its worst.
 - Fawn Lake – Excellent water quality continued, best clarity in the county. Letter A grade.
- Stream Levels/1water Quality
 - West Branch Sunrise River @ 77th
 - South Branch Sunrise River @ Hornsby – Impaired for dissolved oxygen

Both reaches have high phosphorus, though not atypical for the county or these sites. Chlorides were low, and TSS was acceptable though higher in the West Branch than the South.

Also reviewed were:

- Water Quality Grant Fund
- Martin and Typo Lakes Carp Removal Project
- Linwood Lake Carp Population Study
- Tour of Water Quality Projects
- Annual Education Publication
- SRWMO Website
- Grant searches and applications
- SRWMO Annual Report to BWSR and State Auditor
- On-call administrative services for ACD
- Financial Summary
- Septic grants from State – there are only two grants granted county-wide

Recommendations

Continue update of the SRWMO Watershed Management Plan. The current plan expires December 2019.

Continue engaging in the Lower St. Croix One Watershed, One Plan process to ensure SRMWO priorities are reflected. This is necessary to ensure access to future Watershed Based Funding grants.

Continue carp removals at Martin and Typo Lakes. Attaining goals is feasible.

Collaborate with the Anoka County Outreach Coordinator. This new position in 2018 seeks efficiency and consistent messaging across many cities and natural resources agencies.

Conduct Boot Lake water quality monitoring two more years. 2018 results have been instructive for Linwood Lake management. Three years of data should be enough to understand basic year-to-year variability.

Support the Linwood Lake Association. The association has recently become more active and has requested partnerships to manage aquatic invasive species and improve water quality. The SRWMO may be able to help with identifying and promoting projects or assist with fundraising.

Create a new SRWMO display for use at community events.

Continue installation of stormwater retrofits around Coon and Martin Lakes where completed studies have identified and ranked projects.

Promote newly available Septic System Fix Up Grants to landowners, particularly in shoreland areas.

Bolster lakeshore landscaping education efforts. The SRWMO Watershed Management Plan sets a goal of three lakeshore restorations per year. Few are occurring. Fresh approaches should be welcomed.

B. 2020 budget development

ACD provided a draft 2020 budget.

Mr. Downing moved and Mr. Harrington seconded to approve the Draft 2020 Budget and to submit it to member communities for ratification. Motion carried.

Ms. Gessner will submit it to the member communities.

8. New Business

A. Linwood Carp Study agreement amendment – revised timeline
Carp Solutions LLC suggested that the work plan for the Linwood Lake Carp Management Feasibility Study be revised. Mr. Schurbon agreed and recommended that ACD and the SRWMO approve the proposed amendment. The effect will be a longer study timeline that produces results with higher confidence, while still meeting grant application deadlines.

Currently the plan is to wrap up the study by May 31, 2019. The proposed revision is that radio tracking carp should continue until fall 2019 to have a full year of radio tracking. A spring 2019 report will still be produced, but it will be an interim report. A final report will be produced by November 15, 2019.

The interim report will be acceptable for most grant application purposes. It will include draft management recommendations and discuss the certainty of the findings. The most likely grant application deadlines are in August and September. Mr. Schurbon is comfortable that Carp Solutions LLC will provide up-to-date results at any point during the study.

There is no change in the project cost associated with this amendment, it is a timeline change only.

Mr. Downing moved and Mr. Harrington seconded to approve the amendment to the Contract for Services between the Sunrise River WMO, ACD and Carp Solutions LLC For Determining the Abundance and Recruitment History of Common Carp in Linwood Lake. Motion carried.

B. Consider re-allocating unused funds from Ditch 20 study and 2019 watershed-based funding match to Martin and Typo carp harvests

The SRWMO has portions of two years of “upcoming projects” funds that are currently not allocated to any project. Mr. Schurbon requested these funds be allocated to Martin and Typo Lake carp harvests in 2019. The funds are already at ACD, only a motion by the SRWMO is needed to direct their use.

Additionally, there was discussion on an additional contribution of \$3,000 from SRWMO general funds.

Available funds:

\$1,309.49	2016 upcoming projects funds - Part of funds allocated to the Ditch 20 study. These are leftover funds that were not used.
\$3,411.00	2019 upcoming projects funds – Most of the \$10,000 of 2019 funds are being used a match for Watershed Based Funding (3 projects). \$3,411 are not needed to match that grant.
\$4,720.49	Total available

Presently, about 25-30% reduction in carp numbers in these two lakes has been achieved. The goal is for about 75% reductions. Carp Solutions LLC is looking to hit Typo Lake especially hard this summer and use it as their “success story of achieving goals.” Carp Solutions LLC and ACD are struggling to figure out how to fund it. Carp Solutions LLC indicated they will try to pull in some funding for work on Typo Lake. ACD and Carp Solutions are working on adding efficiency – bigger nets and trying a roll-off dumpster for carp transport. More funds are still needed.

Present budget

Presently there is \$9,807 left in the project budget for carp harvests in 2019. That needs to pay for Carp Solutions LLC, ACD staff time and corn for bait. By comparison, about \$12,000 was spent last year to pull nets three times at Martin Lake. So, with the current funding, that amount might be able to afford one net pull at each lake.

Options for additional local funding:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount to consider</u>
SRWMO	Upcoming projects funds, listed above	\$4,720.49
SRWMO	Undesignated funds in bank account	\$3,000.00
Martin Lakers Assoc.	Water quality fund of donations from residents	\$1,000.00
ACD	Scrounge through a variety of sources, mostly aimed at paying ACD staff time	\$?

If the funds in the table above were approved, it would bring the 2019 carp netting budget to **\$18,528**.

ACD would anticipate spending it approximately as follows:

\$850	Corn and storage totes to keep it dry
\$1,000	Roll off dumpsters and carp disposal transport
\$4,000	ACD staff time – baiting, volunteer coordination, admin, public outreach
\$12,677	Carp Solutions LLC carp harvesting

This would be similar funding to 2018. If Carp Solutions LLC wishes to make a “big push” to reach carp removal goals on Typo Lake in one year they may need to bring additional funding.

Future years

Mr. Schurbon is not quite as optimistic as Carp Solutions that carp removal goals will be reached at Typo Lake in 2019. And no one thinks the goals at Martin Lake will be reached in 2019. Mr. Schurbon thinks another grant will be in order – he’d like to apply for it in 2019. He would be asking the Martin Lakers Association and SRMWO for additional funding to serve as grant match. He does not want 2019 expenditures from these groups now to take away from future grant match – getting a grant for 2020 and beyond is much more important.

Funding for this work so far has been:

\$5,000	SRWMO
\$4,900	Martin Lakers Association

\$9,305 ACD
 \$99,000 DNR Conservation Partners Legacy Grant

Mr. Harrington moved and Mr. Downing seconded to authorize ACD to utilize \$1,309.49 and \$3,411 upcoming projects funds from 2016 and 2019, respectively, for Martin and Typo Lake carp harvests in 2019. Motion carried.

Mr. Harrington moved and Mr. Enestvedt seconded to authorize \$3,000 to ACD in 2019 from SRWMO general funds for Martin and Typo Lake carp harvests in 2019. Motion carried.

C. 2019 work contract with ACD

The contract follows the 2019 SRWMO budget. Any changes made since budgeting were described. After reviewing the contract, **Mr. Downing moved and Ms. Flaherty seconded to approve the 2019 Water Monitoring and Management Contract for Services with Anoka Conservation District for \$26,815.00 and directed Chair Babineau to sign the agreement. Motion carried.**

9. Watershed Management Plan Update Work Session

A. Consider revised stormwater standards

Revised standards were reviewed. There were no additional corrections nor revisions to the standards presented.

B. Consider revised wetland standards

Revised standards were reviewed. There were no additional corrections nor revisions to the standards presented.

C. Consider approaches to septic systems

Discussion ensued regarding requiring point of sale inspections for septic systems, if the costs of establishing this system could be largely paid by grants. East Bethel and Columbus have this requirement, but Ham Lake and Linwood do not. It was requested that Schurbon ask Ham Lake and Linwood what prevents them from implementing this requirement? Schurbon will do so and discussion will continue at the next meeting.

D. Consider SRWMO development review

Due to time constraints, this item was tabled to the next meeting.

E. Implementation plan

Due to time constraints, this item was tabled to the next meeting.

10. Mail

A. Letter from MN Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT; the SRWMO's insurer) asking for a current member contact list. Mr. Enestvedt will provide the requested information.

11. Other

A. Animated Groundwater Video - Anoka County Water Resources Outreach Collaborative

A request for funds for a groundwater animated video was received. This video can be used for educational viewing. If the SRWMO provides funding it can be used in SRWMO outreach and on the SRWMO website. **Mr. Downing moved and Ms.**

Flaherty seconded to contribute \$250.00 for use of the Animated Groundwater Video by Anoka County WROC. Motion carried.

12. Invoice Approval
- A. ACD Invoice for watershed planning in 2018 for \$18,989.04
Mr. Downing moved and Mr. Enestvedt seconded to approve ACD Invoice #2018398 for \$18,989.04. Motion carried.
 - B. February recording secretary invoice for \$175.
Mr. Harrington moved and Mr. Downing seconded to approve the recording secretary February invoice for \$175.00. Motion carried.
13. Adjourn **Mr. Enestvedt moved and Mr. Harrington seconded to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Motion carried.**

Gail E. Gessner, Recording Secretary
Submitted via email on 3/4/19