

# PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

---

## WATERSHED DISTRICT

---

### Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee

Thursday Jan. 26, 2017  
6:30 p.m.  
Prior Lake City Hall

---

Our mission is to manage and preserve the water resources of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District to the best of our ability using input from our communities, sound engineering practices, and our ability to efficiently fund beneficial projects which transcend political jurisdictions.

---

The Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) consists of residents who provide input and recommendations to the Board on projects, reports, prioritization and act as the primary interface for the Board to address the current issues of concern of the local citizens

**CAC Members present:** Steve Pany, Jim Weninger, Paul Krueger, Liz Schramm, Joe Schramm, Jodi See, Roger Wahl, Larry Rundell, Adam Fitzpatrick and Jim Goodchild

**Others present:** Diane Lynch, District Administrator; Curt Hennes, District Manager

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm
- II. Agenda approved
- III. Watershed District Projects updates/Discussion topics
  1. Review CAC Bylaws and last month's meeting notes – everyone please review them on your own and give your feedback at next month's meeting
  2. Nomination/Election of CAC officers.
    - i. Chair: Steve Pany, Vice-Chair: Liz Schramm, Secretary: Kim Silvernagle. Contingent upon the secretary casting a unanimous vote confirming the consensus of members present.
  3. Carp Seining
    - i. Will occur in the next two weeks.
    - ii. Jeff Reiderman will seine Prior Lake and Don Guyer will seine Spring Lake.
    - iii. WSB cut a square of ice out of Prior Lake for the seining net
  4. Carp Contest – should the watershed be involved? What can the CAC do to help?
    - i. Knotty Oar will host again. Thane Tandy would like to have a day and a night contest.
    - ii. CAC supports the publicity the contest generates even though the number of carp caught is not great, nor were the number of spectators or contestants.
    - iii. CAC supports minimizing watershed staff time spent on the contest (last year last minute tasks took too much time). Amy and Marianne will meet with Thane to discuss this year's tournament.
    - iv. Suggestion was made to invite Thane to a CAC meeting to discuss how we could help. Help is needed for fundraising and volunteers on the day including someone to take pictures. Inviting him to a meeting is contingent upon the meeting Marianne and Amy have with him.
    - v. Diane will send Steve the Clean Water Clean Up fund raising letter as an example, if the Tournament is scheduled.
    - vi. Timing is not yet set but will be after the Cedar Lake Association Carp Kabob which is the first Friday/Saturday after Memorial Day.

5. Water Quality Improvement Award 2017
    - i. CAC approved Jodi's suggestion to raise the amount of the prizes to a total of \$1,400 to increase participation. \$3,000 was approved by the board for this year (same amount as last year). Last year's total cost was \$1,935. The bulk of the cost was from staff time to create applications, fliers, etc., which can be updated for this year's program leaving extra money for prizes.
    - ii. Jodi and Liz will start working on getting the program started again.
  6. Reviewed Steve's PowerPoint slides of suggestions to the public for better water quality.
    - i. Constructive suggestions were made for improvement: Add a map of the watershed district, add images of "good" aquatic plants, etc.
    - ii. Steve will present the slides at the Feb. 14 manager's meeting.
  7. Process to request cost share contributions from the PLA (Prior Lake Association) and SLA (Spring Lake Association)?
    - i. Simply make the request. We can ask if they would like to contribute to the Carp Contest.
    - ii. The PLA is paying for the receiver and yaggi antenna to track the tagged fish. The SLA gave \$1,000 and it was used for signage on Spring Lake last year.
    - iii. Approximately 30% of residents on both Spring Lake and Prior Lake are members of their associations.
  8. TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) Fish Lake and Pike Lake
    - i. The MPCA hired consultants to compile data on Fish and Pike Lakes and they are almost done. They are asking for the District's input. They have outlined the issues and suggested ways to address them (carp management, etc.)
    - ii. Diane noted that Dean Lake was downgraded to a wetland which means that TMDLs will not be required for the Prior Lake Outlet.
  9. Next meeting February 23.
- IV. Comments, suggestions, questions
1. Steve
    - i. Questioned the value of the carp PIT tag program whereby the carp are tagged and returned to the lakes. He is concerned about returning them to the lake to do more damage. Diane explained that this was a one-time tagging event of 150 carp (Nov. 30) and the purpose is to record their migration, identify where they spawn and create temporary barriers to prevent them from reaching these grounds and reproducing going forward. This program differs from the transmitter program where 25 carp were fitted with radio transmitters. Their movements are tracked constantly and help the seiners locate them. This information is on the watershed website.
    - ii. Wondered if there were any other lakes that could be utilized to ease stress of use on Prior Lake. Gave Quarry Lake (on 101/169 in Shakopee) as an example. The PLSL water ski club has a license to use the surface. They have 250 members.
    - iii. The Polaris Viking Prior Lake winter fest is being held February 16-18
    - iv. Rates the performance of the 2016 CAC and the watershed management high. Great job!
  2. Paul
    - i. Farmer-led Council will meet on Monday and will discuss lake friendly farms – how to be one, what the criteria is, etc.
    - ii. In January 2017, Governor Mark Dayton signed a \$500 million Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture. This federal, state, and local partnership will work with farmers and other landowners across 54 counties in southern and western Minnesota who choose to voluntarily implement conservation practices on up to 60,000 acres of land to restore and protect water quality and enhance habitat. This is accomplished through permanent

protection by establishing conservation practices via payments to farmers and agricultural land owners. CREP is implemented locally through Soil and Water Conservation Districts and many other partners.

iii. He noted that many of the permanent easements are river bottoms.

3. Jim

i. Mentioned there was an article a few weeks ago in the Star Tribune about protecting the Minnesota River. There was significant money involved. Would Spring Lake and Prior Lake projects be affected? Could we work together? Diane will look into it.

ii. Asked how the flood plan impacts the control of the outlet on Spring Lake. Diane said the DNR asked the watershed to change the operating plans on controlling the low flood gate for Prior Lake so that it is not exclusively related to spring snow melt. Putting a water control structure on Spring Lake would need approval by all of the 245 Spring Lake property owners.

4. Diane reported that the District's Board meeting videos will be on the watershed's website. Also, that the new watershed chairman, Fred Corrigan, added a slot to their monthly manager's meeting for CAC comments.

V. Adjourned at 8:00 pm