



# PRIOR LAKE SPRING LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

## CAC Meeting Minutes

Date: June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
6:30-8:00 PM

### Attendees:

#### **CAC Members:**

8 of 9 members present = 89%

- ☒ Christian Morkeberg (Chair)
- ☒ Woody Spitzmueller
- ☒ Christopher Crowhurst
- ☒ Matt Newman
- ☒ Jim Weninger
- ☒ Ben Burnett
- ☐ ~~Matt Tofanelli~~ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Loren Hanson and
- ☒ Maureen Reeder

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**Staff:** Joni Giese

District Administrator

#### **Board members:**

Bruce Loney  
Curt Hennes

#### **Guests:**

Lisa Quinn – Liaison for Spring Lake Township

### Minutes:

- I. Convene meeting – 6:30 pm – Welcome — Chair Christian Morkeberg
- II. Minutes & Agenda
  - a. May Minutes
    1. Correction: Spring Lake West IESF project, change “mostly done” to “in progress.”
    2. Approved: Motion: Jim; Second: Maureen; passed (with correction)
  - b. June Agenda
    1. Addition: CAC Business – Add paperwork help. who: Christian suggested.
    2. Approved: Motion: Chris; Second: Loren; passed
- III. CAC Business
  - o Kathryn Keller-Miller Departure (Joni)
    - New job at Stantec Consulting
    - Joni exploring options for replacement/new staff
  - o CAC Project Definition Template – Start use? (Joni)
    - Matt requested two processes: 1. New ideas; and 2. Existing focus of review & comment
    - Joni and Christian Presented/outlined the document “CAC Project Definition & Process Template” – the suggested process for “New ideas” from the CAC
    - Long discussion, several suggestions, ***See attached original document & the “suggested updates” document*** for results from discussion. Other suggestions and questions included:
      - What if our ideas disagree with the board?
      - The presented document is very rigid and only fits certain types of ideas
      - This document/process was presented as a way to save CAC time, so they don’t waste it on projects not deemed “ready”

- Is the staff then a gate-keeper to project ideas to the board? Is this the right way?
    - The CAC has the role of functioning as the interface between the board/Staff and the public, a more defined “back-and-forth” is needed and should be encouraged.
      - Discussion tabled until next meeting (joint with PLSLWD Board)
  - New CAC member application – David Hagen
    - Matt motioned to approve/recommend David’s appointment to the CAC, second by Chris; Passed
  - New member orientation packet update (Loren)
    - Loren is working on this (some help from Ben)
    - Needs Bios
    - Working on list of acronyms (has several initial lists)
    - Joni/Christian will provide most recent version of bylaws
  - Subcommittee structure discussion
    - Discussed benefits/drawbacks of alternate subcommittee structure
      - Should Subcommittees follow PLSLWD Board three focus areas? Most thought so.
      - What about new areas? How should they be addressed?
      - Are “fixed committees” better? What about variable or working groups per idea?
      - How much structure is realistic? Will it cause fracturing of time and resources from CAC members?
      - Are task forces ever used? (Task force: temporary project/idea specific group/subcommittee)
      - Project focused vs Focus areas
      - Consensus: the Staff and Board need to bring in the CAC BEFORE contractors and studies are done/contracted. CAC, should be part of staff and board review. In the past CAC has not been in a good advisor/review position, this is changing and needs to be helped/fostered
        - Example: the Upper Watershed Blueprint Report stated that one of the primary goals was to address spring lake flooding; but this was not mentioned anywhere else in the report, and the report was accepted by the staff and board. CAC was not asked for feedback until too late in the process to help catch this gap.
    - Motioned to table until next meeting by Matt, second by Ben, passed
  - Joni requested that some of the CAC volunteer to help staff the booth at 2021 Prior Lake Chamber Fest. Slots needed:
    - Friday, August 6 (7:00 – 9:00 pm) – Wine/Beer Tasting
    - Saturday, August 7 (2:00 – 5:00 pm) – Golf on Main and Vendor Village
  - Reminder: CAC member photo (for website) – July meeting
  - Joint CAC and Board of Managers meeting – July 29 (special agenda)
- IV. Staff Project Updates
- Bluegill stocking and surveys
    - 3400 bluegills added to 3-4 different locations in wetlands around/before Spring and Upper Prior Lakes.
    - Changed providers, staff found a better company (lower costs, more fish)
    - Walleyes will be added in the fall
  - I-LIDS implementation update
    - Installed at Spring Lake public access

- Ran a few weeks without audio as “baseline”
    - Turned on audio for a week (as of meeting day) – working well
    - Still experimenting with configuration “tweaks”
    - Looking in to ability to send out citations based on video recording evidence, neither Scott County Sheriff nor DNR are currently willing to send citations, looking into getting addresses from boat license to be able to send out letters (good or bad).
  - Hike the Watershed – guided hikes (9:30 – 11:00 AM)
    - June 16 (Jeffers Pond) – went well, had several people show up.
    - Future dates: July 14 (Lakefront Park), Aug 18 (Spring Lake Regional/Arctic Lake)
  - Plant Native Prairie workshop – July 14 at 6:30 pm (see Scott SWCD for webinar registration)
- V. June Board Meeting – attendee: Maureen
- a. Next July Board Meeting – CAC attendee: Loren
- VI. Board Liaison Updates & Requests to CAC – Bruce
- Board retreat updates and Upper Watershed Blueprint preferred implementation approach
    - Bruce and Joni presented Blueprint options (6) and the recommended option (Option 2, ranked “A”)
    - Will now start looking at available grants, funding options, and levy requirements
    - Discussion
      - Why did Board Focus more on Quality vs Flooding?
        - Asked to get background and reasoning....
        - Future development will add storage, but it is many years out...
        - Study included flood ideas/projects, why not selected? Were there any public flooding discussions or forums?
        - Storage fixes need more retention/landscaping and are therefore more expensive
      - Recommendation/Request: PLSLWD needs to better define and present the flood approach whether it is “do nothing now” or “we will do X in Y years...”, and then be prepared for fallout if a flood occurs and nothing was done.
    - More discussion about a better process for staff and CAC to review new ideas AND review existing plans, budgets, etc. much sooner...
      - Repeated example: the Upper Watershed Blueprint Report stated that one of the primary goals was to address Spring Lake flooding; but this was not mentioned anywhere else in the report, and the report was accepted by the staff and board. CAC was not asked for feedback until too late in the process to help catch this gap.
- VII. CAC Subcommittee Reports – working on goals for 2021 & now re-alignment
- a. Tabled, ran out of time
- VIII. Goals & Topics for Next Meeting – **July Joint Meeting Format**
- a. Plan a longer meeting
  - b. Also meant to be a social gathering and discussion
  - c. Pictures planned
  - d. Idea: Board gets our minutes, since CAC is supposed to be a public review group, can we get their minutes, so we can review and ask questions? Our meetings are staggered for this purpose, should CAC members at the board meeting have formal agenda time to ask CAC questions of a public review nature?
- IX. Staff & Other Announcements
- a. Prior Lake Chamber Fest – need table volunteers (see above)
  - b. Hike the Watershed and workshops (see above)
- X. Adjourn

- a. Motion: Chris; Second: Loren; passed
- XI. Upcoming Meetings:
  - a. Board Meeting: Tues, July 13, 6:00 pm
  - b. CAC Meeting: Thurs, July 29, 6:00 pm - joint with PLSLWD Board & Picture Night

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