



CAC Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Subcommittee Gatherings: 6:00 – 7:30 PM

CAC Meeting: 7:30-8:00 PM

Prior Lake City Hall: Wagon Bridge Conference Room

Attendees:

CAC Members:

- ☒ Christopher Crowhurst (Chair)
- ☒ Loren Hanson (Vice Chair)
- ☒ Jim Weninger
- ☒ Matt Tofanelli
- ☒ Maureen Reeder

9 of 9 members present = 100% (>50%)

- ☒ Woody Spitzmueller
- ☒ Matt Newman
- ☒ Ben Burnett (Secretary)
- ☒ David Hagen

Staff:

Allison Weyer

Joni Giese

Board members:

Curt Hennes

Prior to meeting: *Subcommittee Gatherings – Summary Attachment #1*

Welcome & Introductions – Chair: *Christopher Crowhurst*

Christopher talked about his goal of wanting to increase CAC communications to a broader list of groups (e.g., City of Prior Lake, City of Savage, City of Shakopee, Scott County, etc.)

February Meeting Minutes Approval (emailed) Motioned by Jim; second: Loren; Passed

Approval of the March Agenda Motioned by Woody; second: Loren; Passed

CAC Business

- Recruitment
 - 1 new application; Asked SLA and PLA; Ben will talk to Curtis Witt
- Subcommittee Structure – 1 or 2 per member? Discussed, then adjusted members and committees – see *Attachment #1*

Staff Project Updates – Allison – see *Attachment #3 for slides*

- Allison Introduction
- Carp seine update
 - Didn't work out this year, carp didn't pool in pre-cleared areas (from previous years). The area needs to be cleared in the summer of underwater debris; fish need to aggregate in these places. They never did, they went to a center point in deeper water.
 - They did aggregate once late in year, but no commercial seiners would do it, not enough trucks, and too late
 - Moving to spring options: Narrow window – open water only in April
 - Will use PIT stations for tracking again.
- Presented the Aquatic Plant Management Policy
 - Goal: Want to encourage native plants and reduce AIS; also need education of public about "weeds"

- Curly-leaf is **targeted**
- Eurasian watermilfoil – **will not be treated**
- Christopher comments: good document, one part mentioned “based on scientific method” but didn’t mention a name or a paper.
- Matt N. comments: Asked if overall consensus is “*get rid of pondweed and leave milfoil*”, what if we find research for different approaches, are the policies and the staff open to suggestions? – Yes
 - Joni provided info that pondweed growing and death cycles is the problem, milfoil is not as much of a problem.
 - Document says: “WD will manage it using scientific methods” this should cover all concerns about being open to suggestions, as long as research is presented.
- Matt T. talked about phosphorus load of each plant
- Send any other feedback to Allison.

Board Liaison Updates & Requests to CAC – Curt Hennes

- March board meeting review; Board retreat on April 16th to discuss 2022
- New officers:
 - President: Mike
 - VP: Bruce
 - Treasurer: Christian
 - Secretary: Frank
 - CAC Liasson: Bruce

March Workshop & Board Meeting – CAC Report – Loren (see *Attachment #4*)

- April 12th Board Meeting CAC Attendee – Woody

Subcommittee Reports (Subcommittee Leads)

- Subcommittee reports, goals, tasks
 - see *Attachment #2*
- Any new business? - no

Other Topics and Announcements

- Prepare for summer watershed presentation at PLC chamber-fest event (promote results, gain support, and recruit CAC members)
- Announcement: Ice out event scheduled for May 2nd
- Future topic:
 - 5-10 min on new findings on elevations

Adjourn

8:03 Motion Matt N and Matt T.

Upcoming Meetings:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Board Meeting: Tues, April 12, 2022 | 6:00 pm (wkshp 4-6) |
| • CAC Meeting: Thurs, April 28, 2022 | 6:30 – 8:00 pm |
| ○ Subcommittee Mtg: | 6:00 – 6:30 pm |

Attachment #1 – Adjusted Subcommittees

A. Shoreline restoration:

- Lead: David
- Members: Loren, Matt N.

B. Lake life and water quality, AIS, fish stocking:

- Lead: Matt T.
- Members: Matt N., Ben

C. Storage/flooding:

- Lead: Maureen
- Members: Woody, Jim, Christopher

Attachment #2 – Subcommittee report backs

Shoreline restoration

Looked at storm water damage, reviewed research on water levels and depths

Prioritized proposed goals/tasks for 2022:

1. Enforcement of current No-Wake ordinances.
2. Add signage to inform boaters of unstable areas to emphasize No-Wake zones.
3. Enforce/Add speed limits.
4. Assess storm water drain damage around the lake.
5. Shut down a beach to push home to people importance of good conservation practices.
6. Dredging areas where sediment is most evident.

Lake life and water quality, AIS, fish stocking

No meeting, no report

Storage/flooding

Discussed flooding and storage issues, brainstormed ideas and discussed previous ideas

Prioritized proposed goals/tasks for 2022:

1. Review 2016 study and advocate for pushing storage options (enlarge pipe, etc.)
2. Research ag and forest preservation incentives and funding - make report
3. Research - neighboring WD for comparable info and regulations for developers, cities, etc.

For #2: Focus on upstream water storage through soil and farm land – SCWD

- Research funding sources to help staff plan ways to encourage farmers to help
- Current programs not working, find more grants and ideas.....NCR grants, etc.
- Look at FedBizOpps (old, now rfp.bidnet.com) - Federal Bid Opportunities (Ben)

Attachment #3 – Staff Update slides

Allison Weyer Intro

- Started March 1st
- M.S. in Environmental Policy and Management, Natural Resources Management focus – graduation date: 2023
- 12 years of prior research work at the University of Minnesota
 - Project Management Certificate honored in February 2022
 - Wetland Delineation Certificate July 2022
 - GIS Professional Certificate 2023
- Volunteer with Three Rivers Park District since 2001



Staff and Committee Vacancies

- CAC recruitment
 - Posted on social media
- Summer interns
 - 2 interns
 - 10 weeks
 - 1 accepted from Macalester College: Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies, interest in sustainability, climate justice and water quality
 - 1 pending offer





Carp!

Under ice commercial seining did not work out this winter



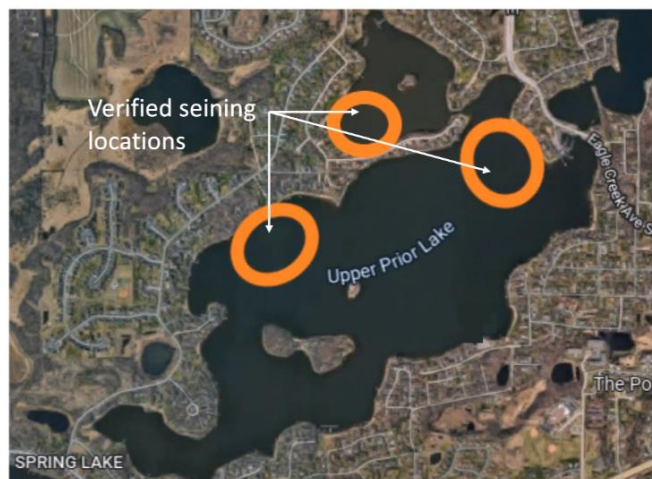
Spring Lake

- Did not aggregate in seining locations
- Unsuccessful District netting attempt
- Under ice speakers deployed and caused dispersion



Upper Prior Lake

- Late season aggregation and complications with lining up commercial crews
- Carp continuously on the move
- Unsuccessful District netting attempt



Moving into Spring

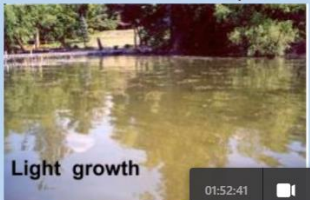
- Open water seining – Commercial crew available
 - More seining locations available
 - Smaller chance at larger aggregation
 - Seine right after ice-out and during April (Permit)
- Install PIT stations
 - Identify migration paths
 - Monitor barrier effectiveness
 - Monitor system mixing (Spring – Prior)



Aquatic Plant Management Policy

- Native Plants
 - We support their growth!
- Established AIS
 - Treat CLP and monitor EWM
- Property Boundaries
 - No treating within 150 feet of shoreline

Curly-leaf Pondweed



Eurasian Watermilfoil



Patty Dronen

01:52:41



Request control



Attachment #4 – March PLSLWD Board meeting report

– Loren Hanson

March 8, 2022 - PLSLWSD Workshop, 4-6pm

President Myser introduced Allison Weyer as the new Permit Coordinator for the District.

Fish Lake Water Quality follow-up

There have been great improvements in the past 4 years due to the feedlot across from the lake not being utilized, and the fields have been transitioned to hay rather than cover crops thereby reducing the amount of runoff.

It was recommended that the district take a wait and see attitude to see if improvement continues. The board agreed on this recommendation.

Rules Revision – Equivalency Agreement

There has been progression towards an agreement which would reduce redundancy in many areas, but the main area would be in permitting, which would reduce the time it takes for residents in getting permits for projects. This agreement is between the county, cities and townships that are within the Watershed District.

Sutton Lake Management Plan

A meeting with landowners on March 1, 2022 went very well. There were lots of questions which indicates interest and concern. Most landowners are in favor of the project. Three questions were asked of the 12 landowners present, and a majority were in the “Completely Agree and Somewhat Agree” categories. Only 1 or 2 were “Completely Against” the project. The DNR has not approved full function of the project, but approval was expected in the March 17 meeting with the Watershed and DNR.

FY 2022/23 Watershed Based Implementation Funding

Scott County, PLSLWD, Soil/Water and municipalities within are going to convene to find projects to send to the BWSR for funding.

A discussion was held about the upcoming Board Retreat to decide on topics to be discussed. A couple items brought up were the 10-year management plan and continuation of the Carp Management program.

New Board member Christian Morkeberg “volunteered” and was selected to be the liaison to the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District.

March 8, 2022 - PLSLWD Monthly Meeting 6-8pm

President Mike Myser opened the meeting with attendees standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

One person spoke during the public commentary. He discussed the problem of the goldfish in Kate Lake in Savage. Would like research into resolving the problem.

New board member Christian Morkeberg was sworn in. Congratulations Christian!

A report was given on the Upper Watershed Projects. Jeff Anderson reported that a carp seining event was going to take place on March 12-13, 2022 just outside of Knotty Oar Marina. Unfortunately, there won't be any seining on Spring Lake this year.

Land owners were going to be contacted about the Sutton Lake Sand Filter. The final feasibility study is complete.

Plans have been developed for the Buck Lake East project and there is a landowner meeting scheduled for April 5.

The Sutton Lake Outlet Modification is complete, but needs some vegetation established for aesthetics.

Steve McComas gave a great report about aquatic plants in the district. 5 Lakes were studied; Pike, Prior, Spring, Fish and Buck. Steve reported that the CLP(curly leaf pondweed) problem in Prior Lake has leveled off and there was no treatment done in 2021. He also stated that the CLP in Spring that was discovered in 2021 will continue to grow for 5-6 years and then level off as it did in Prior. They are monitoring the situation and will recommend treatment/removal as the problem dictates.

He mentioned that Spring Lake has 15 types of submerged plant species, which is very good. Steve said that 40% coverage of aquatic plants helps maintain good water quality. Spring was at 34% in 2021 and Upper Prior was 30%.

The I-Lids Project was renewed for 2022. There will be a more permanent solution for the post that holds the camera. Also, the Board asked that Spring Lake Association be responsible for putting a link to a website that gives more information about weed control and the need to clean boats and trailers.

There was a discussion about the Moen Drainage Swale Stabilization, near Lydia, to stop the erosion. This area drains to the Hwy 13 Ditch project. \$30,080 was needed to fix the problem, of which 55% would be paid for by the SWCD and 45% by PLSLWD. This was passed.

- **CAC Note:** *This is interesting because David Hagen identified a drainage ditch entering Prior Lake that is causing a lot of erosion and sediment entering the lake and we are wondering who is responsible for its maintenance. How is it decided when the PLSLWD gets involved and when it is a different agency?*