



CAC Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 29, 2022
7:30-8:00 PM

Attendees:

CAC Members: 4 of 8 members present = 50% ($\geq 50\%$)
☒ Christopher Crowhurst (Chair) ☐ ~~Woody Spitzmueller~~
☒ Matt Newman ☐ ~~Loren Hanson (Vice Chair)~~
☒ Maureen Reeder ☐ ~~David Hagen (secretary)~~
☐ ~~Ron Hoffmeyer~~ ☒ Curtis Witt
Staff: Elizabeth Frödén & Joni Giese
Board members: Matt Tofanelli (CAC rep)
Other attendees: Lisa Quinn (Spring Lake Township)

Pre-meeting Subcommittee workshops and report backs: 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

CAC Subcommittee Reports

- Shoreline Restoration (*David (absent), Loren (absent), Ron (absent)*)
 - No members present at meeting
- Lake life and water quality, AIS, Fish Stocking (Curtis, Matt N.)
 - Looking at plant harvesting for phosphorous removal (submergent and emergent vegetation)
 - Potentially cost-effective
 - Value of I-LIDS
 - Could be beneficial to reposition it to capture more exiting boats
 - Discussed motivations for changing behaviors (tickets/enforcement, education/awareness)
- Storage and Flooding (Maureen, Christopher, *Woody (absent)*)
 - Flood study funding included in 2023 preliminary budget
 - Next steps for forest preservation incentives and funding: talk to Troy at Scott SWCD for input; consider bringing to Farmer-Led Council for feedback and input
 - Maureen looking into additional grant opportunities that District could apply for and direct towards alternate farming practice incentives
 - Woody researched regulations at neighboring watershed districts
 - Not present to report back, but other committee members indicated that he did not have any recommendations to bring forward

Welcome & Introductions (7:30 pm) – Chair: Christopher Crowhurst

Approval of the September Agenda as Amended

- Joni requested amendment to include approval of July meeting minutes in the CAC business items
- Motioned to approve as amended made by Matt; 2nd: Maureen; Passed

July Meeting Minutes Approval (emailed)

- Motioned to approve made by Maureen; 2nd: Curtis; Passed

CAC Business

- 2023 Budget
 - CAC requested inclusion of funds for flood studies and additional intern hours to allocate some of their time for CAC work
 - Funds have been included in preliminary budget
 - I-LIDS is in the budget to continue in 2023
 - Matt Newman proposed putting forth a request to the board to conduct a feasibility study on annual/seasonal harvesting of both submerged aquatic vegetation and decaying emergent vegetation for water quality control through permanent removal of phosphorus embedded within removed plants
 - No longer possible to include in 2023 budgeting process, as preliminary budget has been approved by the board
 - Keep in mind for 2024 budget or look for a way to include in 2023 by reallocating funds (no budget increase possible at this time)
- Farmer's Market Follow-Up
 - Some CAC members, managers, and staff ran a booth at a Thursday evening farmer's market in August
 - 20 to 30 people stopped by the booth; may be more productive to do a Saturday morning booth instead or return to Chamber Fest
 - To be discussed for next year
- Review of board meetings (August and September) – Matt Tofanelli
 - August meeting
 - 2023 budget was discussed at length in workshop, including CAC request
 - Employee benefits policy discussed
 - September meeting
 - Presentation from Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD); not currently members
 - They serve as a lobbying and educational entity, but there are concerns from board that MAWD is too understaffed to provide all services indicated in the organization's draft strategic plan
 - Preliminary budget for 2023 was a main focus
 - Included amendments on flood storage
 - Discussed boat ramp improvements on Prior Lake; Prior Lake Association and Spring Lake Association worked with DNR on the issue
 - Potential increase in PLOC flows as a flood mitigation approach – acknowledgement there are a number of challenges associated with this potential approach
 - HR and staffing issues discussed
- Volunteer for October Board meeting
 - No one present at meeting is available; Christopher will email the rest of the CAC to ask for a volunteer
 - Discussion about whether it is redundant to have a board liaison attend CAC meetings as well as a CAC member present and taking notes at board meetings
 - Discussion to resume at next CAC meeting; proceeding with CAC attendance in October for now

Staff Project Updates – Joni and Elizabeth

- Buck Wetland Enhancement project update
 - Conducted and analyzed soil borings
 - Aiming to have landowner meeting in October or November
- Watershed-Based Implementation Fund (WBIF)
 - Originally going to use funding for County Ditch 13 Chemical Treatment feasibility study; going to pivot to using it for the Swamp Lake IESF study instead
 - Also using funding for a Fish Lake Management Plan update
- Applied for Clean Water Fund (CWF) Grant through BWSR
 - Innovative carp management strategies to adjust to changes in carp population and behavior
- Carp program update
 - Updating population estimates through surveys
 - Implanting 7 radio-tags in both Spring and Upper Prior Lakes this year to keep track of movement
 - Did trap-netting in a few smaller water bodies to check for young of year carp

Other Topics and Announcements for Next Meeting

- Plant harvesting as a strategy for phosphorus removal
- CAC member attendance at future board meetings

Adjourn

- Motioned to adjourn made by Matt Newman; Second: Curtis; Passed

Upcoming Meetings:

- Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 11th 6:00 pm (workshop 4-6)
- CAC Meeting: Thursday, October 27th 6:30 – 8:00 PM
 - Subcommittee Meeting: 6:00 – 6:30 PM

Upcoming Educational Seminars

- Thursday, October 27: Pete Young with City of Prior Lake
- Date to be determined: Minnesota DNR