

Richfield-Bloomington Watershed Management Organization Annual Meeting
Monday, March 24, 2014, 5:30 p.m.
Bloomington Civic Plaza
1800 West Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, Minnesota 55431-3027

- Call to Order** Chair Busse called the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Richfield-Bloomington Watershed Management Organization (RBWMO) to order at 5:34 p.m.
- Roll Call & Introductions**
Item 1
- Bloomington Council Present:* Mayor Winstead, Councilmembers C. Abrams, J. Baloga, T. Busse, A. Carlson, D. Lowman and J. Oleson.
- Richfield Council Present:* Mayor Goettel and Councilmember E. Garcia.
- Richfield Council Absent:* Councilmembers P. Elliot, T. Fitzhenry and S. Sandahl.
- Bloomington Staff Present:* Bryan Gruidl, Shelly Pederson, Jim Gates, Karl Keel, Steve Segar, Mark Bernhardson and Barb Clawson.
- Richfield Staff Present:* Kristin Asher, Steve Devich, Mike Eastling and Derick Anderson.
- Guests:* Steve Christopher, Board Conservationist, Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR).
- Approval of Minutes**
Item 2 Motion was made by Abrams, seconded by Garcia, and all voting aye, to approve the March 26, 2013, Annual RBWMO Meeting minutes as presented.
- Review and Approval of Agenda**
Item 3 Motion was made by Baloga, seconded by Goettel, and all voting aye, to approve the March 24, 2014, RBWMO Annual Meeting agenda.
- Election of Officers for 2014**
Item 4
- Chair Busse explained that officers rotate between the two elected bodies and serve throughout the year. He asked for nominations for the 2014 Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Motion was made by Goettel, seconded by Garcia, to nominate Sue Sandahl (Richfield) as Chair.
- Motion was made by Winstead, seconded by Abrams, to nominate Jack Baloga (Bloomington) as Vice Chair.
- Motion was made by Winstead, seconded by Baloga, to nominate Cynthia Bemis Abrams (Bloomington) for Secretary.
- Motion was made by Goettel, seconded by Garcia, to nominate Tom Fitzhenry (Richfield) as Treasurer.
- Motion was made by Abrams, seconded by Baloga, and all voting aye, to move the slate of officers for 2014 as nominated.
- Appoint Executive Director & Assistant Executive Directors**
Item 5 Motion was made by Baloga, seconded by Oleson, and all voting aye, to appoint Bryan Gruidl (Bloomington) as Executive Director and Kristin Asher (Richfield) as Assistant Executive Director.
- 2013 Executive Director's Report**
Item 6 Asher explained the yellow sheet in the packet was provided as background for the new Board members. Her presentation highlighted the following information:
- Background: An aerial map of the RBWMO boundaries was shown. This is the 31st annual meeting of the RBWMO, which was formed in 1984.

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- Director's Report: The RBWMO land area is almost a 50/50 split between Bloomington and Richfield; with Richfield having slightly more. The duties are split evenly between the staffs of the two cities so there are no expenditures through the RBWMO. Both cities independently use their own stormwater utility to cover the costs of the RBWMO, which are split evenly between the two cities including any outside consultant that might be necessary and the annual insurance. The Annual RBWMO Report, which this group will approve, is submitted to BWSR.
- Technical Advisory Committee: Composed of staff from both cities. They discuss how stormwater issues are handled within the RBWMO and exchange ideas.
- Community Advisory Commissions: It's the Community Services Commission in Richfield and the Planning Commission in Bloomington.
- Monitoring Program: There has been ongoing monitoring of Wood Lake, Richfield Lake, Wright's Lake, and Smith Pond since 2010.
- Infiltration Program: Per regulations, the WMO requires that the future discharge rates of a redevelopment or a development don't exceed the existing rates. Improved infiltration is also encouraged.
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits: Both cities need their own NPDES permit to discharge stormwater from their boundaries. More information on the required control measures was included in the packet distributed to the RBWMO group.
- 2013 Activity: The statewide ban on PAHs took effect on January 1, 2014, for coal tar base sealcoats. Currently neither Bloomington nor Richfield has a ban. There was no news to report on Hennepin County's desire to combine the watershed districts.
- 2013 Permits: A brief review of the permits issued by both cities was provided.
- 2014 Work Plan: Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) Intercity Regional Trail, a two-year project, will run along Cedar Avenue in Minneapolis and then over near 12th Avenue into Bloomington. All of the work at Lindau Lane should be completed this year. There will be a half-mile reconstruction on 4th Avenue between 79½ Street and 84th Street in Bloomington. Richfield is currently reviewing stormwater flooding issues in anticipation of a two-year project they will be doing with Hennepin County. The project on 66th Street from Richfield Parkway (16th Avenue) to near Xerxes Avenue will begin in 2016-2017.

**Business Items
Item 7**

- A. Minor Plan Amendment: (*Asher*)
Section V details what will be done by the RBWMO over the course of the Watershed Management Plan. Per BWSR's request, the years (2013-2017) were separated out in the Plan.
- Motion was made by Baloga, seconded by Abrams, and all voting aye, to approve the minor Plan Amendment.
- The public will be notified and a public information meeting held. It will not be presented to this board.
- B. Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS): (*Gruidl*)
Funds were allocated by the Legislature in 2009 to develop the MIDS group. Today's emphasis is on keeping or retaining rainfall on site leading towards low impact development. He described the four main elements of the MIDS. One of the greatest accomplishments of the group was the development of a MIDS calculator. It quantifies the reductions in post development, runoff, and pollutant loading used in a variety of low impact development practices. The work of the MIDS group was completed in June 2013. Those materials are currently being migrated into the Minnesota Stormwater Manual.
- Carlson inquired if these standards will be incorporated into Bloomington's Zoning Code.

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Gruidl replied they could be but there is no requirement to do so, as MIDS is currently voluntary. It helps standardize some of the low impact development practices across the state. The new MS4 permit was recently reissued and there are some post construction stormwater requirements that will be taken care of with the MS4 permit. It was thought that a city could adopt MIDS as their post-construction enforcement procedure to bring them into compliance with the MPCA and the MS4 permit.

Asher added the reason the permit took so long to get reissued after it expired in 2012 was because the MPCA was waiting for the MIDS to be completed; even though they are voluntary.

C. I-35W/I-494 Interchange Drainage Design: (Asher)

The turbine design with three loops is the preferred vision layout. Phase I includes the turbine but it was unclear if it would include other loops. An aerial of the area was shown. The drainage design for the entire interchange is currently in review, which will involve both cities. Currently, all of the drainage flows to Upper Penn Lake. The new interchange will have 24 acres of additional impervious surface so the drainage route is being reviewed. No additional drainage will be directed to Upper Penn Lake. Redirecting the new surface water to Wood Lake is being considered. It's in the early development stages so more information will be forthcoming.

Winstead said Bloomington has some water holding and drainage problems south of 494, east and west of 35W, it's been working through that aren't yet on the map.

Karl Keel, Bloomington Public Works Director said the current drainage study will look at Bloomington's issues including the drainage from the Knox Avenue/American Boulevard area.

Shelly Pederson, Bloomington City Engineer said she and Gruidl have been attending meetings to bring awareness of the flooding issues on both sides of 494. She said the question was raised as to whether or not Wood Lake could take on some of Bloomington's drainage to which she replied it's a matter of modeling for Wood Lake.

Asher said there will be a redesign of that entire area adding the storm tunnel previously considered to take some of that water has been determined to be cost prohibitive at this point.

Busse asked about another option if Upper Penn Lake and Wood Lake are no longer options.

Pederson said Bloomington staff is looking at holding some of the water in the interchange in the loops while implementing some infiltration practices. She said it takes a lot of land or storage to deal with 24 acres of drainage.

D. RBWMO Water Flow: (Asher)

A map was shown of the flow going from Grass Lake, located north of Hwy. 62, into Richfield Lake, into Wood Lake, into Augsburg Pond, through Wood Lake, and down 494 to the river. Wilson Pond in Richfield flows south to Smith Pond. It all gets to Wright's Lake and Pond C.

Monitoring Report: (Asher)

Richfield staff tests their lakes and ponds and they're looking good. All five water bodies are meeting their Water Quality Standards. Richfield Lake is performing better and Wood Lake is doing fine.

Monitoring Report: (Gruidl)

Bloomington staff has been monitoring Smith Park Pond. Bloomington monitors just over 25 ponds on an annual basis over the course of the summer. Smith Park Pond has some of the best water quality of all the ponds due to a significant Park redevelopment project that occurred a few years ago. Staff also looks at Wright's Lake, which is currently enrolled in Hennepin County's WHEP (Wetland Health Evaluation Program). Trained volunteers in the community perform some monitoring for Wright's Lake.

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E. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP): (Gruidl)

The MPCA reissued the MS4 permit, which was approved in May 2013, but became effective in August 2013. As part of that process, each city was required to submit a SWPPP document (*a road map showing what cities have to do to come into compliance with the new MS4 permit*). Upon approval from the MPCA, the SWPPP document is posted for a 30-day public comment period. Upon completion of the 30-day comment period, cities are reauthorized under the new permit. Once a city is reauthorized under the new permit, they have 12 months from that date to implement all of the changes or updates that need to happen to bring the city into compliance with new MS4 permit. Some of the revisions to the new SWPPP requirements were described. Cities need to ensure all of their ponds are inventoried. A procedure to determine the total suspended solids and total phosphorous treatment effectiveness of the stormwater ponds also needs to be developed.

Gruidl said post construction stormwater management now requires volume retention for all sites, which cities will require as part of their MS4 permit for new impervious surfaces. The new permit requires cities to ramp up enforcement of maintaining stormwater facilities; i.e. underground structural stormwater treatment devices such as grit chambers, etc.

F. Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and River Eutrophication: (Gruidl)

The MPCA is reviewing some of the water quality standards. They are considering moving from a turbidity standard to a TSS standard. The City needs to ensure that Chlorophyll *a* stays below a certain threshold depending on the eco region. It's important for cities to keep up with these standards.

Busse asked if the MPCA has nutrient standards in lakes, but not rivers and streams.

Gruidl replied they do have them but they're statewide standards so the MPCA is looking to get them more regionally based for accuracy, which is why they're more difficult to enforce.

G. MPCA's Metro Chloride Report: (Gruidl)

The MPCA is considering looking at a revision to the standard for chloride on a more eco region type of basis. It's directly related to the amount of road salt used for public safety.

Winstead said a resident called to question why the City doesn't clear its streets of snow and ice as good as the County does remarking it's the County's tons of salt and chemicals they put down on the roads that end up in Bloomington's watershed.

Gruidl said it's about perception. People want to drive on bare pavement and they expect that to happen quickly. He said a lot of salt is used within private developments; in parking lots and on sidewalks. As a result, the City tries to sponsor different programs to help educate people on the proper use of salt.

Oleson asked about experimentation with pre-treatments and if it's resulting in a trend to move in that direction. He also asked about corn based de-icers.

Keel replied the City puts salt brine on the roadway before the storm occurs to break the bond between the pavement and the snow that will follow. It's effective in keeping the road clear, which results in less salt being applied to the roadway. He said the City's Maintenance Division is constantly trying to determine the best ways to apply salt. Bloomington measures how much salt it's using and where it's being used. They can notify the snowplow drivers when they're in a more ecologically sensitive area that drains directly into a lake.

Bloomington tries to minimize the amount of salt it uses and recently received an award from the Fresh Water Society for its snow and ice control practices. He said corn-based additives bring down the melting point of the ice but they still add phosphorous to the waste stream.

Item 7 continued

H: One Watershed, One Plan: (Steve Christopher, MN Board of Water & Soil Resources)
This is a new program presented for information only. All areas within the Metro Area are subject to different standards than the rest of the state. He said the highest standard in the state is in the 7-County Metro Area. One of the requirements is that a WMO is covering all the land area. He said because all of the land area within the Metro Area already has to meet the highest standard, there will likely be limited applicability within the Metro for this program. He said the program will be purely voluntary and the main goal is to get the counties, the cities, and the water management organizations all on the same page so they can implement one plan. He said they are currently examining four pilot areas; none of them are within the Metro Area. He said if the RBWMO thinks this is a good concept, it could combine forces with the West Mississippi and Shingle Creek Watershed Management Organization to have one plan.

**Approval of the
2013 Annual Report
Item 8**

Motion was made by Baloga, seconded by Goettel, and all voting aye, to approve the 2013 Annual Report as presented.

**Public Notice
Item 9**

Motion was made by Goettel, seconded by Garcia, and all voting aye, to approve the public notice that will be published in the Sun Current Newspapers in each city on April 3, 2014.

**Insurance
Item 10**

Motion was made by Goettel, seconded by Winstead, and all voting aye, to approve each city paying half of the estimated insurance costs for the WMO in the amount of \$1,250.00 each.

**Other Business
Item 11**

Winstead commented Bloomington Council members received a letter regarding a Statement of Economic Interest that needs to be filed in conjunction with their membership on this Board. It's the same Statement of Economic Interest form they fill out for the City. It's due in a couple of weeks and can be filed and submitted electronically.

Oleson said while he was serving on the Planning Commission, he attended a program at the Arboretum regarding vegetation. He recalled hearing about the value of trees in terms of the pounding effect rain has on them as well as the amount of moisture control they provide. He asked if there was an element of that type in the watershed work.

Gruidl said trees are somewhat new to stormwater management but they are being considered.

**Adjourn Meeting
Item 12**

Motion was made by Oleson, seconded by Goettel, and all voting aye, to adjourn the meeting.
Chair Busse adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Barbara Clawson
Council Secretary
City of Bloomington