

**SIX CITIES WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION MEETING**  
**Minutes of February 18, 2010**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Steve Gatlin (Coon Rapids), Kevin Hansen (Columbia Heights), Donna Bahls (Fridley), and Peter Molinaro (Hilltop).

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Wes Hovland (Blaine), [REDACTED] (Spring Lake Park)

**ALTERNATE MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ray Marshall (Lawson, Marshall, McDonald & Galowitz), Mark Lobermeier (SEH), Ann Bolcom (Fridley Councilmember), James Koswalar (Fridley), Ruth Nelsen (Hilltop Councilmember).

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order in the Coon Rapids Civic Room A by Chairman Gatlin at 6:00 p.m.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING – SIX CITIES STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (SWMP):**

Chairman Gatlin opened the public hearing at 6:11 p.m.

Chairman Gatlin noted this was a public hearing being held by Six Cities WMO to consider amendments to its watershed management plan. He identified the members and representatives of Six Cities WMO.

Chairman Gatlin called upon attorney Ray Marshall who advised the members regarding the notice of the public hearing.

Chairman Gatlin introduced WMO Engineer Mark Lobermeier to present the plan amendments.

Mr. Lobermeier presented the purpose of the Six Cities Watershed Management Organization (WMO); the history of the WMO; the location of the six cities within the seven County metropolitan area; the Mission Statement; the WMO twelve plan goals including water quantity (flood control), water quality, erosion control, maintain wetland acreage and increase wetland values, public participation, education, and information, monitoring, inspections, public ditches, recreation, fish, and wildlife, groundwater, regulatory responsibility, and finance.

Mr. Lobermeier summarized the plan policies and standards.

Mr. Lobermeier outlined the issues that were identified, the four impaired waters, the implementation plan and what the strategy was for the implementation plan, the implementation costs for each of the member communities, the WMO budget allocation, the impact of implementation on other units of government, the implementation philosophy for the WMO, the plan duration, and the steps in plan approval.

Chairman Gatlin asked if any member of the audience wished to speak.

Fridley Councilmember Ann Bolcom asked if there were any agency that had responded back. Mr. Lobermeier responded he had received comments back from 5 or 7 agencies and he responded to the agencies with a detailed response. He noted some of the agencies wanted a more detailed plan and asked how the plan would be enforced.

Ms. Bolcom stated City funds were all drying up and it was tough for the Cities due to the levy limits. She expressed concern regarding all of the proposed projects and where the funds would come from to do the projects. Mr. Lobermeier responded there were creative ways to find funds and there were places to save money. He noted he hoped with the annual budget they could find create ways to do projects within budget.

James Koswalar, City of Fridley, thanked the Board for listening to the public. He stated there were six cities involved and six agencies involved who could levy funds and he believed they could look forward to having a plan and budget laid out which would bring in funding from outside the cities themselves.

Chairman Gatlin closed the public hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Chairman Gatlin advised the audience that the record will remain open for written comments, which should be submitted to the WMO Engineer, until the close of the business day on Friday, February 26, 2010.

**3. OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

**4. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for **April 15**, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. at Blaine City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

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Steve Gatlin, Chairman

Drafted by: Kathy Altman, Recording Secretary  
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