



2241 – 221st Ave
Cedar, MN 55011



Work Session Minutes

3rd Generation Watershed Planning

Date: October 2, 2008
Location: East Bethel City Hall

In Attendance: Mark Walsh, City of Columbus
Denny Peterson, City of Columbus
Kathy Paavola, City of East Bethel
Leon Mager, City of East Bethel
Mike Bury, City of Ham Lake
Marie Holm, Linwood Township
Frank Kvidera, Linwood Township
Jamie Schurbon, Anoka Conservation District

Work Session began at 7:30 pm

1. Rules of Engagement

Attendees discussed preferences and expectations for future work sessions. It is anticipated that there will be 9-10 work sessions over the next year. The discussion included logistical preferences for the meetings, expectations of Anoka Conservation District (ACD) staff, and expectations for the WMO Board.

Logistical preferences:

- Work sessions will be held at 6pm on the 1st Thursdays of each month. Quarterly SRWMO Board meetings are scheduled for the same time, in which case the work session will occur immediately following the meeting.
- Work sessions will last 2 hours unless a longer session eliminates the need for an additional meeting.
- Work sessions will start and end at the times listed on the agenda.
- Work sessions will be at East Bethel city hall. The ACD office will serve as a backup location.

Expectations of ACD staff:

- ACD staff will do all the leg work associated with the planning process, minimizing SRWMO Board member work between meetings.
- Send information needed for meetings 1 week in advance.
- Keep the work session discussions on topic.

Expectations of SRWMO Board

- Review mailed materials briefly before meetings, but expect that these materials will also be reviewed briefly at the meeting.

2. Presentation – “What WMO’s can do and what the SRWMO has done” by Jamie Schurbon, ACD

The presentation included information on the legal basis for WMO’s, examples of typical WMO work, a review of policies in the current SRWMO Plan, and a review of work accomplished under the last plan. Throughout the presentation there was discussion of what has been working for the WMO, what needs to change, and issues that deserve attention in the new plan. Items mentioned included:

What has been working and should be kept the same:

- Wetland regulation handled by the municipalities.
- SRWMO is not the ditch authority.
- Avoid duplicative regulation between the municipalities and WMO.

Improvement is needed:

- Communication between member cities and the SRWMO.
- Enforcement and follow-through on policies, including those tasks and ordinance requirements delegated to the member municipalities.
- Consistency between SRWMO Plan and municipal water plans and policies.
- Updates needed to maintenance tasks delegated to cities (drainage system inspections, street sweeping, storm water pond inspections).

Issues that deserve attention:

- Septic system compliance
- Lakeshore restorations
- Public education
- New state shoreland ordinances
- A water resource plan for Linwood (currently adopts SRWMO Plan by reference)
- Low water levels in the South Branch of the Sunrise River
- Role of the WMO in impaired waters studies

3. Evaluate current SRWMO Plan

This was covered during agenda item 2. The members requested that Schurbon email a copy of the current SRWMO Plan for further review.

4. Outside input meeting logistics

A meeting to gather input on the 3rd Generation Watershed Plan from agencies and the public will be held Thursday October 30th at 6:30pm at East Bethel City Hall. Schurbon will handle logistics such as reserving the meeting space and promoting the meeting. The invitation list shall include BWSR, DNR, cities and townships, Anoka County Environmental Services, Anoka County Highway Department (ditch authority), Isanti County, Chisago County staff, and lake associations. The public will be invited through press releases to newspapers (Anoka Union, Peach, Forest Lake Times) and local cable TV. Bury can include it on the Coon Lake Improvement District website, Paavola will get the Coon Lake Senior Center webmaster’s contact info to Schurbon, and Schurbon will post it on the SRWMO website.

5. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) formation

Schurbon will ask member cities and state review agencies designate a person to serve on a TAC for SRWMO planning. This committee will meet occasionally to provide policy recommendations on priority issues.

6. Schedule next work session – Visioning

Thursday, November 6 at 6:00pm

Work session ended at 9:30pm

Minutes written by Jamie Schurbon, Anoka Conservation District