

**MINUTES OF THE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
OF THE
COMFORT LAKE -FOREST LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT**

**Tuesday, November 9, 2010
5:00 pm**

1) **Call to Order**

The President called the November 9, 2010 CLFLWD Watershed Management Plan (Plan) Workshop to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Forest Lake City Offices, 220 North Lake Street, Forest Lake, Minnesota

Present: President Richard Damchik, Vice President Jackie Anderson, Treasurer John Lynch, Secretary Wayne Moe, Manager Jon Spence.

Absent: None

Staff: Doug Thomas, Lisa Tilman (EOR)

2) **Meeting Purpose**

Doug went over the purpose for tonight's meeting which was to get comments from the Managers on the Issue & Goals, Implementation, and Local Plan Content sections of the plan. He provided a summary document of significant comments and/or suggested changes that he and Lisa developed from the November 3rd TAC/CAC meeting.

3) **Discuss Issues and Goals**

Lisa Tilman gave a quick summary of the issues and goals document. Doug noted for the group the comments/suggestions for this section from the TAC/CAC. He pointed out that they dealt primarily with the idea of bringing back into the Issues & Goals section some form of the objectives that had been in earlier drafts but were taken out and put into the Implementation Section and its programs and projects.

Direction from the Board was:

- Include discussion of the dynamic nature of water resources and the implications for water resource management as a way of explaining the term "adaptive management" which is a fundamental philosophy that the Board wants to see communicated. Idea was too include it in a "foreword or preamble" to set the context of the Plan.
- Somewhere in the Plan include a chart showing each municipality and key characteristics of their ordinances.
- Add a discussion of monitoring for candidate pollutants or emerging pollutants that aren't monitored for at this time (e.g. chlorides, mercury, etc.)

- Regarding TAC/CAC comments: Agree with adding the objectives back into the Issues and Goals section and tie it to implementation.
- Regarding TAC/CAC comments: Wording change to “Preserve existing shoreland buffers....” should not include “especially municipal storm sewers”. Did not disagree with the importance of managing urban stormwater runoff but felt it would be more appropriate to include in another place in the Plan.
- Regarding TAC/CAC comments: Disagree with removing use of word “adaptively”, leave it in and provide education on the term as it’s a key concept. Instead, include a narrative up front in the Plan that explains the concept of adaptive management (more than what is already included in the Mission Statement section).

4) **Implementation Program**

Lisa Tilman provided a summary of the implementation section and how the programs and projects were derived from the previously identified objectives and actions. Doug pointed out comments and suggested changes from the TAC/CAC for consideration. He also noted that the change in formatting was done to better align the Implementation section of the Plan with how the District plans and prepares its annual work plan and budget.

Direction from the Board:

- Change numbering so there isn’t a 2000 series – too confusing with the similarity to calendar years.
- Regarding permitting program: Volume banking program oversight, there was concern that a banking program would allow volume control outside of the District and would allow private parties to develop and sell volume credits that weren’t in the locations desired by the District. Managers were concerned that people would jump straight to banking instead of trying to comply and it would be better to have them pay the District to fund regional projects. Another concern was that if it were left to private landowners to build extra capacity on their sites that the volume credits might not be available in the location where they would be most advantageous to the District’s goals. The decision was to clarify the language to remove the reference to private parties and to clarify the connection to planning for facility siting and implementation and the connection to sequencing of volume control in the District Rules.
- Regarding Monitoring Program: Would like to see monitoring for new parameters such as chlorides and mercury. Add language re: assessing new parameters to evaluate.
- Regarding Cost-Share: Rename to Non-point Pollution Abatement Grant Program
- Regarding Cost-Share: Change Community Cost Share to Commercial/Community Grant Program and move multi-landowner/multi-parcel projects to Residential Grant Program. Board clarified that the 75% of project costs includes design/technical assistance cost.
- Regarding Cost-Share: Add an agriculture grant program to add additional incentives for agriculture and rural land owners. Specify the types of existing programs that will be leveraged with this program
- Regarding Education & Outreach: Add a program to engage local students through education and engagement efforts such as monitoring, photography, interactive exhibits, etc.
- Regarding Education & Outreach: Agreed that the title be change to “Boat Launch Monitoring Program” but the narrative should still list the use of interns.

- Regarding Technical Resource Sharing: Include new initiative to review variances that municipalities are considering and provide comment to Planning Commissions and Councils, for those projects that relate to water resource issues, before local decisions are made. Also the Plan should reflect the goal of the District to work with municipalities to ensure that the District is aware of variance requests.
- Regarding Research: Rename to Research & Development or some other more relevant name.
- Regarding Research: Include rough fish research/management as a topic of particular interest.
- Regarding Measuring Progress: Include metrics in this section as well as in Issues & Goals or Implementation sections.

5) **Implementation Matrix**

Lisa Tilman and Doug Thomas provided an overview of the implementation matrix for the Board's review. Due to time it was agreed that this item will be discussed at the next workshop.

6) **Discussion/comment of Local Plan Content Section**

Lisa Tilman and Doug Thomas provided a summary of the intent of the local plan content requirements.

- Add requirement for municipalities to establish a process to allow the District to comment on variance requests to be heard by the municipality.

7) **Setting of next workshop meeting date**

After discussion it was agreed that the Board needed to have an additional workshop to complete the review and discussion of the Implementation and Local Plan Content sections of the Plan. After polling of the members it was agreed that Tuesday December 7th would be the date of the next workshop. It was noted that the final workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, January 11th.

8) **Adjournment**

Following discussion on the presented, the Board, by consensus, adjourned the Manager's Watershed Management Plan workshop at 7:10 pm...

Wayne S. Moe, Secretary