



CAC Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 26, 2024
6:00 – 7:30 PM

Attendees:

CAC Members: 7 of 7 members present = 100% (≥50%)

- Loren Hanson
- Richard Schirber
- Ron Hoffmeyer
- Curtis Witt
- Anna Alswager
- Ryan Murr
- Amy Butani

DRAFT

Staff: Emily Dick, Joni Giese, Danielle Studer
Board members: Christian Morkeberg
Other: Lisa Quinn (Spring Lake Township)

CAC Business (Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM)

- Approval of the agenda:
 - Motion: Dick Schirber
 - Second: Amy Butani
 - Motion Carried
- Approval of Minutes:
 - Motion: Curtis Witt
 - Second: Ryan Murr
 - Motion Carried
- Review of August/September Board Meetings: Christian Morkeberg
 - Work on the draft budget
 - CAC priorities of water quantity, prevent flooding, and restoring wetlands and habitat influenced budget decisions
 - Additional details on individual projects
 - Spring is considered impaired, so it is mandated that an attempt is made to reach TMDL goal.
 - If all projects were implemented, there would be a reduction of 1900lbs of phosphorous
 - Preliminary draft budget is a 6% increase over 2024. Work is going on to reduce the increase on the budget.

- 91% of budget goes towards projects
 - \$756,000 of reserves will be used in 2025 budget
 - Discussion of Memo from Joni Giese. Titled: 2025 Proposed Budget and Levy, September 17
 - The Scott Soil and Water Conservation District gave a presentation at the Board Workshop on farming best practices
 - Increased cooperation with the Scott SWCD is important in relating with farmers and the Farmer Led Counsel
 - Fish Lake shoreline restoration workshop was held at the Spring Lake Township building in July
 - New website is functional
- Budget review
 - Board approved \$2,066,590 Proposed Tax levy
 - Total Budget is \$3,216,725
 - Budget can only be decreased until final approval on December 17, 2025
 - Dick Schirber posed question: Do we have enough people on staff to accomplish the project list? General feeling is that additional help would always be welcome; but if we use proper phasing, achieving the plans are possible.
 - Discussion around Fish Lake Management Plan and projects.
 - Separate financial statements exist exclusively for the PLOC.
 - PLSLWD needs to have \$950,000 available to spend on PLOC. MPCA will then re-imburse PLSLWD the funds expended.
 - Education is needed on PLOC Low Flow Gate policies and who makes these decisions.
- Minnesota Watershed resolutions process review
 - PLSLWD is a member of this organization, which provides education and lobbies for issues affecting water and watershed districts and management organizations.
 - September 1-WDs submit resolutions to Minnesota Watersheds
 - This time is too late to get goals accomplished; need to start earlier to improve chances of success.
 - October 31-Resolution emails to WDs
 - November board meeting-Decide what to vote on
 - December 6-Delegates vote
 - CAC should discuss potential resolution submissions in January. See resolution hand out on email from Danielle.
- Check in on AIS mechanical harvesting research interest
 - Additional discussion to occur in the future.
 - Dick Schirber offered to do additional research on this project.
- Upcoming Fall Events
 - Memo distributed on Buckthorn removal-Oct. 5

- Buckthorn Wreath making at Boathouse Brewery-Oct 26
- Staff Project Updates
 - PLOC Lining Update
 - Grant awarded
 - Remaining cost to be funded by PLSLWD-\$83,000
 - Likely construction Winter 2025/2026
 - Swamp IESF
 - \$179,935 Funds secured
 - \$2,000 donated by Spring Lake Township
 - Staff applied for additional grant
 - Expected construction 2025
 - Ferric Site Improvements
 - Expected construction fall 2024-2025
 - Carp Management Status/Updates
 - Population on Upper Prior Lake is showing good progress
 - Continuing work on Spring Lake
 - Removing tracking stations soon, data will be processed at that time
 - Espionage program is helpful

Motion to adjourn at 7:27 PM
Motion-Dick Schirber
Second-Amy Butani
Motion Carried