



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Watershed Plan Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Friday, December 15, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room @ Golden Valley City Hall

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Plan TAC meeting attendees:

BCWMC staff: Engineers Chandler, Johnson, and Williams; Administrator Jester

PSC Committee Chair Kennedy

Cities: Ben Perkey, Crystal; Eric Eckman, Golden Valley; Liz Stout, Minneapolis; Sarah Schweiger, Minnetonka; Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; Erick Francis, St. Louis Park

Agencies: Amy Timm, MPCA; Brad Wozney, BWSR; Steve Christopher, Met Council; Kris Guentzel, Hennepin County; Wes Saunders-Pearce, MnDNR; Abby Shea, MDH

Parks: Brian Vlach, TRPD; Rachael Crabb, MPRB

Administrator Jester provided an overview of the planning process and timeline.

2. REVIEW WATERSHED RESOURCES, CONDITIONS, & CURRENT IMPLEMENTATION

Commission Engineer Chandler briefly presented information on priority waters and impairments in the watershed.

3. REVIEW INPUT COLLECTED TO DATE – see *Summary of Input* document

Administrator Jester presented a summary of input received including from the public (through online survey and from open house), member cities, agencies and technical partners (through initial input letters), and the issues identification Commission workshop in July 2022. She noted the strong connection being developed with Native communities due to the Haha Wakpadan oral history project and the appointment of a Native community member to the Commission. She noted, however, that it was difficult to gather input from diverse Minneapolis communities despite the Commission's policy to financially compensate individuals for their participation. Liz Stout indicated she has ideas on how to better reach diverse, underserved communities in Minneapolis to gather additional input. She would provide that to Administrator Jester outside of this meeting.

4. REVIEW PRIORITY ISSUES - see *Issues and Priorities* document

Administrator Jester reviewed the issues and their priority levels as approved by the Commission in August. She noted the four issue categories: Waterbody and Watershed Quality; Climate Resiliency; Education and Outreach; Organizational Effectiveness.

It was asked if individual goals were prioritized within an issue. Staff noted that it's been verbally articulated that delisting Medicine Lake is likely the highest priority within the impaired waters issue, followed closely by significant improvements in Northwood and Lost Lakes, but those priorities haven't been documented.

Abby Shea asked about the presence of karst in the watershed and noted the Watershed Health Assessment Tool.

5. REVIEW DRAFT ISSUE STATEMENTS, GOALS, & POTENTIAL STRATEGIES – See *DRAFT Goals* document

Staff described the issues/goals table including the meaning behind “desired future condition” and made it clear these are draft goals and a non-exhaustive list of potential actions or strategies. Staff then walked through and solicited feedback from meeting attendees on the issue statements, desired future condition statements, and measurable goals as recommended by the Plan Steering Committee for the impaired waters, chloride, streambank and gully erosion, and wetland health and restoration issues. Although not covered at this meeting, MDH representative, Abby Shea, appreciated the inclusion of the groundwater-surface water interactions issue because it’s important for watershed organizations to do their part to help protect aquifer resources, even if it is a lower priority for the BCWMC.

Meeting attendees provided feedback, mostly on the goals. Find “Plan TAC comments” on individual issues and goals in the latest version of the issues/goals document.

Meeting attendees indicated their willingness to meet again in person (rather than virtually).

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.