



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

AGENDA MEMO

Date: March 14, 2024

To: BCWMC Commissioners

From: Laura Jester, Administrator

RE: Background Information for 3/21/24 BCWMC Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**
2. **PUBLIC FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ACTION ITEM with attachment**

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Approval of Minutes – February 15, 2024 Commission Meeting- ACTION ITEM with attachment

 - B. Acceptance of March Financial Report - ACTION ITEMS with attachment

 - C. Approval of Payment of Invoices - ACTION ITEM with attachments (online) – I reviewed the following invoices and recommend payment.
 - i. Keystone Waters, LLC – February 2024 Administration
 - ii. Keystone Waters, LLC – February 2024 Administrative Expenses
 - iii. Barr Engineering – February 2024 Engineering Services
 - iv. Triple D Espresso – Meeting Catering
 - v. City of Plymouth – February Accounting Services
 - vi. Kennedy and Graven – Legal Services
 - vii. Shingle Creek WMC – 2024 West Metro Water Alliance
 - viii. Stantec – WOMP Services
 - ix. Safeguard – Checks for Banking

 - D. Approval of Reimbursement of Channel Maintenance Funds to City of Plymouth – ACTION ITEM with attachment – *At the meeting in October 2022, the Commission approved the use of \$25,099 in Channel Maintenance Funds by the City of Plymouth. An agreement with the city was subsequently executed in April 2023 after project designs were approved by the Commission Engineer. The project is complete and the City of Plymouth is requesting reimbursement of \$25,099. I reviewed the project and expense materials, including record drawings and certification. I recommend approval.*

 - E. Approval to Amend Watershed Map Design Contract – ACTION ITEM with attachment – *At the meeting in September 2022, the Commission [approved a contract](#) with INCASE, LLC for redesign and printing of the popular Bassett Creek Watershed map. The Education Committee has met three times to discuss the map and has provided various ideas and recommendations on revisions and redesign elements. The contractor has worked diligently and thoughtfully to incorporate the committee’s ideas and recommendations. He attended one committee meeting in order to streamline discussion and plans to attend at least one more committee meeting. The project is turning out to be more involved than anticipated and additional funding is likely needed to complete the project. The contractor estimates needing up to \$1,500 in additional funding to complete the project. I recommend amending the contract to add \$2,000 in order to cover additional unforeseen items. Commission Attorney Anderson drafted the amendment included with meeting materials. The Education and Outreach budget has funding available for this amendment.*

 - F. Approval to Appoint Commissioner Hauer to Administrative Committee – ACTION ITEM no attachment – *Commissioner Hauer would like to participate on the BCWMC Administrative*

Committee. Staff recommends officially appointing her to the committee.

5. BUSINESS

- A. Receive Update on Sochacki Water Quality Improvement Project (20 min) – INFORMATION ITEM with attachment – *At the meeting in September 2022, the Commission officially ordered this Capital Improvement Project (CIP) and allocated \$600,000 towards its implementation. Since then, project partners have discussed implementation timelines and sequencing. At this meeting, staff will present an update on the project and take input on provisions that should be considered for the cooperative agreement among partners. Please see the memo and materials attached, including some good news about project funding.*
- B. Review Draft Revised Joint Powers Agreement (40 min) – DISCUSSION ITEM with attachments - *At their meeting in January, the Commission directed the Commission Attorney to update the BCWMC Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) which expires on January 1, 2025. Updates to the JPA were to include streamlining, simplifying, and reorganizing for clarity; updating provisions based on current policies and practices; and ensuring that the JPA includes all mandated provisions contained in Minnesota Rules, section 8410.0030. Please see the attached memo and review the updated JPA. The existing JPA is also attached and includes notes on how the document was updated and where to find provisions in the new document. The Commission Attorney will walk through major revisions and take input. Ideally, a final draft that's ready for city review will be approved at the April meeting.*
- i. Updated Joint Powers Agreement
 - ii. Existing Joint Powers Agreement with Changes Noted
- C. Consider Funding for Sweeney Lake Eurasian Watermilfoil Survey and Treatment (10 min) – ACTION ITEM with attachment – *At the meeting in January, the Commission approved submittal of an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) prevention grant application to Hennepin County for a project aiming to eradicate Eurasian watermilfoil from Sweeney Lake. Please see the attached memo for updates and requested actions for project funding and implementation.*
- D. Receive Presentation on Ĥaĥa Wakpadaŋ Oral History Project (25 min) – INFORMATION ITEM with no attachment – *Crystal Boyd will present the origins, purpose, and key findings of the recently completed Ĥaĥa Wakpadaŋ Oral History Project. Through this project, 15 Indigenous people shared how they experience the watershed as part of their historic and contemporary cultures. The interviews were conducted by Dr. Kasey Keeler with support from Valley Community Presbyterian Church (in Golden Valley) and other partners including the BCWMC. The 15 interviews are available as podcasts and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5bNwUXzx9nffXi-Sj3AF3DCyhrb0TrT5. A video that provides instruction on how to pronounce “Ĥaĥa Wakpadaŋ” is also available at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=IwDrekIliNM.*
- E. Consider Adoption of Land and Water Acknowledgement Statement (20 min) – DISCUSSION ITEM with attachment – *Chair Cesnik and Alternate Commissioner Gould developed the attached land and water acknowledgement statement for the Commission's consideration. I personally find the statement to be beautifully written, humbling, and inspiring. I recommend adoption by the Commission and a commitment to carry out the statement's call to action to identify and integrate Native wisdom in the stewardship of watershed resources.*
- F. Discuss Study of Creek Co-naming Opportunities (20 min) – DISCUSSION ITEM with attachment – *Please see the attached memo with ideas for studying co-naming opportunities.*

6. COMMUNICATIONS (15 minutes)

- A. Administrator's Report – **see attachment**
 - i. Report on MN Association of Watershed Administrators Meeting
 - ii. New [Interactive Paddling Map](#)
 - iii. Watershed Based Implementation Funding Convene Meeting
 - iv. Audit Conflict of Interest Form – **see attachment**
- B. Engineer
 - i. Evaluation of Local Flooding on Plymouth's Behalf
- C. Legal Counsel
- D. Chair
- E. Commissioners
 - i. Report on MN Watersheds Legislative Event
- F. TAC Members
 - i. Report on March 7th Meeting
 - ii. Appoint Liaison for April 3rd Meeting
- G. Committees
 - i. Plan Steering Committee
 - ii. Education Committee
 - iii. Budget Committee

7. INFORMATION ONLY (Information online only)

- A. Administrative Calendar
- B. CIP Project Updates www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects
- C. Grant Tracking Summary and Spreadsheet
- D. Watershed Partners 2023 Annual Report
- E. MN Watersheds February Newsletter
- F. WCA Application, Minnetonka
- G. AIS Detection Training

8. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- BCWMC Budget Committee Meeting: Friday, March 22, 9:00 a.m., Sweeney Lake Room, Brookview
- Discover Plymouth Event: March 23, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.: Plymouth Community Center Fieldhouse
- BCWMC Education Committee Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 4:00 p.m., Rice Lake Room, Brookview
- BCWMC Plan Steering Committee Meeting: Wednesday, April 3, 8:30 a.m., Wirth Lake Room, Brookview
- BCWMC Technical Advisory Committee Meeting: Wednesday, April 3, 10:30 a.m., Wirth Lake Room, Brookview
- Metro Watersheds Quarterly Meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 p.m., Capitol Region Watershed District, St. Paul