MINUTES

Scott County WMO – Watershed Planning Commission

County Boardroom

May 20, 2019

Members Present: Brian Schmidt  Mark Vierling  Jim Schwinger  Rita Weaver  Virgil Pint

Staff Present: Paul Nelson  Ryan Holzer  Melissa Bokman  Beverly Cox-Alexander

Absent:

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Schwingler called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

- Specific details and video of the entire May 20, 2019 Scott County WMO Watershed Planning Commission Meeting is available for viewing on the Scott County Website.
- The video link can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUusULvxBQf

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Motion by Commissioner Vierling; Second by Commissioner Schmidt to approve the May 20th agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 22, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Commissioner Vierling; Second by Commissioner Weaver to approve the April 22, 2019 minutes as written and presented. The motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS:

SCOTT SWCD:

- Reports are available in the meeting packet for review

Scott WMO:

Paul Nelson provided WMO updates
- Final payment on the Quarry Creek loan has been made
- The WMO programs are the topic of Scott County Delivers Session on Tuesday, May 21st at 9:00 am
  - Various programs go through their metrics and data with the commissioners and other staff members
  - Audience may ask questions about the programs

OLD BUSINESS

Project Updates

Updates from Paul Nelson

- The WMO is working on an engineering study of Thole Lake Outlet as it goes through Louisville and Jackson Township down to Shakopee
  - The WMO met with some of Jackson Township Supervisors and the Township has agreed to pay for some additional surveying

- Moving forward with a feasibility analysis of an outlet on McMahon Lake
  - A planning level cost estimate for an outlet is expected to be received by the end of May
  - A feasible pathway for an outlet has been identified
  - Preliminary outlet cost: $200,000.00
  - DNR Boat Launch would be a public benefit

- In the Northeast Bay there is a very large floating bog that is causing some concern
• WMO staff level will be meeting with the Sheriff’s office to discuss safety of the bog and the County / WMO role
• Sand Creek Targeted Grant Project
  o BWSR will be completing an audit reconciliation at the end of May
  o WMO Staff anticipate the need to credit BWSR back as in-kind match (not cash)

Updates from Melissa Bokman

• Cedar Lake was treated on April 29th
• Curly Leaf found on O’Dowd and Thole Lakes
  o Data has been submitted to the DNR
  o Waiting to hear back from the DNR to see if treatment can be made
• U of M Land Owner Survey
  o WMO staff provided additional comments to the U of M
  o Waiting for the Final from the U of M
• Watercraft Inspections anticipated to start by Mid-June on several different lakes
  o Contract is almost complete
  o By June 14th hoping to have an inspector to begin inspections

Updates from Ryan Holzer

• Phase III (City of Jordan)
  o Currently at 60% design
  o Landowner recently passed away
  o Ryan Holzer has reached out to the Land Manager, currently awaiting a reply
• Phase IV
  o Inter-Fluve surveyed sites on Thursday, May 16th
  o Grant funds are ending in March 2020
  o Optimistic construction will start Fall 2019 and be wrapped up by the end of 2019
• One Riparian Buffer remaining
  o Great River Greening is anticipating planting yet this week
  o May be appropriate to add a few more trees and shrubs to another project that is on the west side
• TACS Program
  o Largely out of funds
  o Currently going through a budget revision with EPA
    ▪ May be able to get another $8,000 for the TACS program
• Clarks Lake
  o Staff to verify structure is in place with no erosion and everything is holding up
  o WMO staff will provide feedback to the WPC once a site visit has taken place

Corrective Action Plan Update

• BWSR has the WMO under Corrective Action
  o In 2010 – 2012 there were a few grant projects where land was sold and new land owners removed the practices
  o WMO completed and submitted a corrective action draft to BWSR
  o BWSR may have a few minor items of clarification

NEW BUSINESS

2020 Budget Drivers

• Staff anticipate revenue and expenses will be lower in 2020 than 2019
  o Some grants are finishing up and grant revenues will be down
  o The WMO will be applying for competitive grants in August but selections are not determined until December
  o The budget will only include known grant dollars
• One scheduled study for 2020
  o Stormwater Management Assessment of the headwaters area of Picha Creek around Campbell Lake
  o Study will aid in having a plan for handling stormwater prior to the area developing
  o The City of Prior Lake will share the cost of this study
• 2020 Capital projects
  o Possibility of near channel stabilization project on Sand Creek (if it carries over from 2019)
  o Outlet system on McMahon Lake if the WMO decides to move forward with the project
• Technical Assistance and Cost Share funds will be limited compared to previous years
  o Limited to remaining grant dollars and local commitment as current grants are winding down
  o There is a possibility to increase funds in 2020 with an amendment if the WMO is successful with competitive grant applications

2019 Cost Share Policy Plan (Docket) Addendum

Ryan Holzer and Paul Nelson provided review and highlights of Addendum No 1

• This addendum serves as notification of the following clarifications and changes to the 2019 Conservation Practice Financial Assistance Program Policy Manual (PPM)
- It applies only to the Scott WMO and was approved by the Scott County Board of Managers on December 18, 2018, acting as the Scott WMO

1. **Eligibility, Item 6., shall be amended as follows** (additions are underlined)
   - Applications who commence construction of a practice before an application for financial assistance is officially approved are ineligible for financial assistance for that practice.

2. **Eligibility, Item 10., shall be added**
   - Applicants who have failed to comply with corrective actions are no longer eligible for financial assistance.

3. **Repayment of Funds, Item 22. Shall be amended as follows**
   - Should the applicant remove or fail to maintain the practice during its effective life, the applicant is liable to the District or other financial assistance source agency for one hundred fifty percent (150%) of financial assistance received to install and establish the practice. The applicant is not liable for cost-share assistance received if the failure was caused by reasons beyond the applicant’s control.

4. **Program Provisions, Item 26, Shall be added**
   - **Enforcement**
   - 26. A compliance tracking form shall be used upon discovering any non-compliance. This form shall serve as the documentation of non-compliance. The procedures used during this process shall follow the flow chart identified in Appendix B.

5. **APPENDIX B, SHALL BE ADDED**
   - Procedures Flow Chart

6. **General Conservation Practice Provisions, Item 34. (additions are underlined)**
   - 34. **Seed Plans:** When preparing a seed plan the following standards will be used based on the funding source(s) involved:
     - Vegetation Requirements for BWSR Funded Projects (BWSR 2016, as amended)
     - Practice Standard 327 Conservation Cover (USDA – NRCS eFOTG, as amended)
     - Agronomy Tech Note #31 (USDA – NRCS 2018 as amended)

7. **Other Provisions**
- All other terms and conditions of the 2019 Conservation Practice Financial Assistance Program Policy Manual not specifically amended here shall continue with full force and effect

**Motion by Commissioner Pint; Second by Commissioner Vierling to approve the 2019 Cost Share Policy Plan (Docket) Amendment No. 1 as written and presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**City of Savage – Chloride Reduction Project Request**

Presented by Paul Nelson

- The WMO was awarded Watershed Based Funding last year in the amount of $40,500.00 to cost share special practices outside the Sand Creek watershed and to ramp up efforts addressing chlorides
  - The City of Savage requested the WMO cost share on an equipment spreader that has the ability to mix in water and better direct the salt
    - Link to equipment spreader video: [https://youtu.be/-LxsJjF05wo](https://youtu.be/-LxsJjF05wo)
    - Equipment cost approximately $60,000.00
    - Reduces salt use by 30%
    - The Scott County Highway Maintenance Department is in agreement the equipment would be a good fit with the City’s operations and would reduce salt.
  - WMO Staff also looking at using some of the available funding for sealing abandoned wells in the City of Prior Lake Drinking Water Supply Management Area and completing some practices around Cleary Lake.

**Motion by Commissioner Pint; Second by Commissioner Weaver to recommend $15,000.00 to Cost Share with the City of Savage for the equipment spreader with the understanding the equipment be purchased in the 2019 calendar year. The motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURN MEETING**

**Motion by Commissioner Weaver and Second by Commissioner Pint to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 PM. The motion carried unanimously.**
Jim Schwingler  
Chair, Watershed Planning Commission

Date

6.24.2019

Beverly Cox-Alexander  
Secretary