Carver County Water Management Organization

Citizen Advisory Committee

June 30th, 2020

Carver County Government Center
600 East 4th St. Chaska
County Board Room

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of the May 26th, 2020 minutes and June 30th, 2020 agenda**

2. **Notes from the field**

3. **Business items**

   a. 2021 CCWMO levy recommendation
   b. Best management practice monitoring results
   c. Virtual tour site discussion

4. **Information items & project updates**

5. **Next meeting**

   a. Tentatively scheduled for July 28th, 2020

6. **Adjournment**

Committee Mission

Work with CCWMO staff to proactively make recommendations to the County Board on matters relating to water management including;

- **projects and project prioritization**
- **Funding and water levy**
- **Water Plan, Groundwater Plan & Solid Waste Plan**
- **Water quality and TMDL program and projects**
- **Education program and projects**
- **Feasibility studies**

Carver County Water Management Organization

MEETING OF THE

CARVER COUNTY WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday May 26th, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Carroll Aasen	*Citizen, East & West Chaska Creek*
Jim Boettcher	*Citizen representing Commissioner District 1*
Mike Lynch	*Citizen representing Commissioner District 4*
Stan Wendland	*SWCD Board Representative*
Mary Strother	*Citizen, Bevens Creek*
Doug Kammerer	*Citizen, Crow River/Pioneer Creek*
Eric Gentry	*Citizen, Carver Creek*
Thomas Welch	*Citizen representing Commissioner District 2*
Lori Cox	*Citizen representing Commissioner District 5*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Marcus Zbinden	*SWCD Board Member Alternate*
Rob McKenna	*Citizen representing Commissioner District 3*

STAFF PRESENT

Paul Moline	*Carver County Planning & Water Mgmt.*
Madeline Seveland	*Carver County Planning & Water Mgmt.*
Andy Edgcumbe	*Carver County Planning & Water Mgmt.*
Tim Sundby	*Carver County Planning & Water Mgmt.*
Masha Hoy	*Carver County Soil & Water Conservation District*

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 by Carroll Aasen.

1) Approval of agenda and minutes

   Boettcher moved to approve the May 26th, 2020 meeting agenda and April 28th, 2020 meeting minutes. Welch seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2) Notes from the Field

   Edgcumbe presented on a new project to monitor the quantity of trash in Carver County's streams. Edgcumbe gave background on why trash is a problem in lakes and rivers and shared info and photos of trash findings by staff.

   Edgcumbe shared that between 1.15 and 2.41 million tons of plastic pollution end up in the ocean each year from the world's rivers. All of Carver County's streams eventually drain to the Mississippi River. This project seeks to answer the question "what is Cearver Ceounty's stream trash impact?"

The project will install a Watergoat, which is a boom collection system, at multiple stream sites around the county. The boom will be anchored to the stream sides to collect trash for 2-4 weeks. Staff will monitor the boom every day at first and then weekly if trash collection is slower. Staff will weigh trash collections and compare collections to stream discharge to learn about peak pollution points.

The Watergoat will first be deployed at Bent Creek in Waconia, then at East Chaska Creek in Chaska, West Chaska Creek in Chaska and Carver Creek in Carver. The stream sites where it will be installed need to be deeper so that the boom's netting which hangs down about 8" doesn't interact with the ground. This allows the movement of fish and other aquatic wildlife. Staff will monitor for any wildlife impacts as well.

Cox asked for more specifics about site locations and duration cycles for the boom. Edgcumbe shared that the first site will be just downstream of Hwy 5 next to the J Carver distillery. We are deploying the boom at east site once. We are looking to see which site collects the most trash. Next year, we might look at leaving it out longer.

Moline added that this year is really a test year and that sites are chosen also based on accessibility.

Welch commented that this is a good project and inquired if there was a catalyst for this project. Edgcumbe stated seeing the trash when out monitoring and wanted to know the impact. Moline added that we see a lot about plastics in the news, but we don't really know how big a problem it is in Carver County's waterways.

3) Business items
   - **Water Rules Permits and Updates**

Masha Hoy provided an overview of our permitting program. Staff are in the process of revising our water rules program which govern parts of our permitting program. The plan is to update the rules in time for them to go into effect in 2021 so this presentation is intended to provide the committee with a background before staff begin to bring rule revisions to the committee.

Our permitting program is broken into two areas, water rules permits, and wetland permits. The wetland permits are overseen by the state. The rest of the presentation and the changes to permits will focus on the water rules permit side of the program.

There are three types of water rules permits: erosion and sediment control, stormwater, repair/maintenance.

Erosion and sediment control permits

- Include the following projects; small road projects, small subdivisions, stream crossing, utility improvements, and expansions to previously approved developments.

- A permit is required when construction projects

    - are 1-5 acres in size and not in a sensitive area,
    - are under 1 acre in size but in a sensitive area,
    - or are under 1 acre in size but part of a larger common plan of development
- A permit is also required for
    - any project that releases materials into waters of the state,
    - creates new crossings, culverts, alterations of flow,
    - or creates concentrate discharges with flows of 10 cubic feet per second

- To apply for a permit, the following submittals are needed.
    - Project description, site plan or sketch, erosion and sediment control plan, topsoil management plan, landscaping plan, dewatering plan, wetland protection plan, hydraulic report, risk assessment form, profiles and cross sections.
    - The following submittals may be needed; record drawings and other survey info, agreements with neighbors or city, irrigation plan for stormwater reuse.

Stormwater permits

- include the following projects; solar gardens, large road and interchange projects, some constructions projects in sensitive areas, and medium to large residential, commercial, and industrial developments.

- A permit is required when construction projects
    - are 5 acres or greater in size,
    - under 1 acre in size but part of a larger common plan of development,
    - or between 1 acre and 5 acres in size but in a sensitive area.
- A permit is also required when
    - 1 acre or more of cumulative impervious (hard surfaces - pavement, roofs) surface is created,
    - 10,000 square feet of cumulative impervious surface is created and located in a sensitive area,
    - the project includes structural stormwater treatment.

- To apply for a stormwater permit, the following submittals are needed.
    - All that is required with erosion and sediment control permits (listed above)
    - Additional requirements; Hydraulic model, drainage figures, stormwater credit calculator, stormwater best management practice profiles and cross sections, operation and maintenance agreements.
    - The following submittals may be needed; soil data and infiltration testing.

Maintenance permits

- projects that have potential to impact drainage or neighboring properties but fall below the thresholds or triggers for the first to permit types. Often these are safety improvements and require less review time.
-
- To apply for a maintenance permit, the following submittals are needed.
    - Site plan and description of work, some erosion and sediment control permit submittals required, no fee or surety.

Staff are in the process of updating the water rules permits which governs this part of the permitting program. The last update took effect in October of 2016. The new rules are currently being drafted and the intent is to put the new ordinance into effect in 2021.

Key changes being proposed by area

Permit types

- Formally add maintenance permit and stream crossings (pull out as separate)

Permit thresholds

- Rewrite to more clearly match the way we have been implementing the rules

Miscellaneous standards

- Stormwater treatment to match statewide MS4 requirements.
- Broaden~~d~~ and clarify the surface water protection and topsoil management standards

Timeline

Hoy reviewed the timeline for rules changes. Feedback has been collected since early 2020. Staff have been drafting~~ed~~ revisions and are currently looking for feedback from the Technical Advisory Committee. Staff will return later this summer or early fall to this committee for feedback and once a draft is ready will open a public comment period. Staff anticipate the new rules to be ready for adoption in fall of 2021.

Cox inquired what a DNR protected water be. Moline responded that MN Department of Natural Resources, often referred to as DNR, initially designated protected streams as having 5 square files or more of drainage area. Lakes and wetlands were determined by size and area of open water. These designations were set back in the 1980s and are set in state law.

Cox inquired if soil type is taken into consideration prior to review and permit? Hoy responded that soil type doesn't trigger a requirement of a permit, known as permit threshold. It does factor into the stormwater treatment permit for clay soils. For sites with predominantly clay soils the requirement for how much water needs to be infiltrated on site is cut in half.

- **2021 Project Recommendation**

Tim Sundby presented on 2021 Capital Improvement Projects proposed.

There are three categories for projects: Water Management Organization projects, Local Government Unit cost share projects, and grant matches for the Board of Water & Soil Resources and MN Department of Natural Resources.

Water Management Organization projects

- Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems Direct Discharge Incentive Program will continue to target and remove direct discharges from the watershed. We are requesting $60,0000 for 2021. This is a reduction from the previous year due to a backlog of systems. 2021 program continues to focus in the Crow River watershed.

Local Government Unit Cost Share projects

Each year the Carver County Water Management Organization invites cities in a request for proposal process to apply for financial assistance for projects. This year, the City of Waconia applied for three projects. No other city applied.

- Bayview Turf Parking project
  The City of Waconia is looking to convert the surface of an existing school district parking lot from gravel to turf. This would eliminate sediment eroding from the current parking lot and washing into the nearby wetland attached to Burandt Lake. Total project cost is $132,526.78. Requested WMO assistance is $25,000.

- Bent Creek Stormwater Retrofit project
  The project will retrofit two outlet pipes with SAFL Baffles. Currently, these outlets discharge to Bent Creek without any treatment. SAFL Baffles will help reduce sediment loads to the creek. Total project cost is $34,375. Requested WMO assistance is $17,178.50.

- First Street Reuse Pretreatment project
  The current pre-treatment tank for the stormwater reuse system is undersized due to added drainage area and larger storms. The project adds a larger pre-treatment cell, and the last two storage tanks. Total project cost is $240,625. Requested WMO assistance is $25,000.

  Cox inquired if there was a need to reduce sediment from the area to Bent Creek. Sundby responded that it will help with downstream sites. Bent Creek drains into Carver Creek which is impaired for turbidity (sediment).

Total project costs for requests from local government units for 2021 is $67,178.50.

Grant matches for the Board of Water & Soil Resources and the MN Department of Natural Resources.

- The Board of Water and Soil Resources distributes funding for water improvement projects by watershed. Carver County anticipates receiving grant~~ed~~ funds from two watershed allocation areas; the Lower MN river north and the South Fork Crow River.
    - Estimated amount to receive is $383,040
    - Grant match required of 10%
    - Staff will be meeting with the many agencies and individuals that will be involved with determining where and how funding allocated should be spent. Staff have a potential list of projects to propose at these meetings.
        - Bevens Creek Dam Removal project
          Dam failed in a 2014 storm with washouts on both streambanks. The project has received MN Department of Natural Resources stream restoration Funds. Potential contribution of $100,000.
        - Big Woods Goldfish Removal project
          Goldfish found in Big Woods Lake and Grace Chain of Lakes cause water quality damage. Staff developed a 3-year management plan including tracking and removal. Requesting $82,000 for years 2 and 3. We are currently in year 1.
        - Dahlgren Road project
          Currently, there is an asphalt chute from Dahlgren Rd. to Timber Creek, which flows into Carver Creek. This chute is highly degraded and causing gullies and high sediment loads to wash into the creek. Multiple project options with total costs ranging from $239,000 to 362,000.
        - Watertown Dam removal
          A small dam was put in the Crow River in downtown Watertown in the late 80s. We are looking to remove for better fish passage and better safety on the dam. Could be a complete removal or partial, reducing the level of the dam by 0.5 feet. Current cost estimates range from $236,000 to $407,000.
        - Watertown Crop/Turf to Native
          Two projects totaling 8 acres of new native plantings along Chaucer Lane and Christ Lane in Watertown. Total project costs are $24,000.
        - Eagle Lake Sub-Watershed Assessment Study.
          The study reviewed potential best management practices for the Eagle Lake Lakeshed to improve water quality. The study identified 36 projects. The top 29 cost $62,300. All 36 project costs would be $356,900.

Total project matching requests is $207,178.50. With that we are leveraging about $1 million dollars' worth of projects.

Cox inquired if there is or could be a reduction in any agency/state granting programs due to state revenue reductions. Sundby said that staff are only in early conversations and that the funds are there but there is a possibility.

Cox inquired if Timber Creek is impaired. Sundby responded that we don't have a monitoring station on that creek, so we don't know. Moline added that Carver Creek is impaired, and Timber Creek is one of

Carver Creek's primary tributaries. Staff are trying to reduce the pollutants from tributaries to impaired creeks.

Strother inquired if landowners will help with payment of the Dahlgren Road project. Sundby responded that staff have been in contact with the City of Carver and Dahlgren Township but have not yet reached out to landowners.

Lynch commented that the Watertown dam was built long before the 1980 and that the Lions Club redid it in the 1980. He asked if the failings on either side of the dam should be fixed before any decision on what to do with the dam. He is not in favor of removing in. Sundby responded that yes fixing the streambanks and erosion on both sides is part of the discussion with the city. Our organization is looking at more long-term impacts and decisions.

Cox inquired about the projects converting turf to native plantings and whether a federal project like those offered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service could be used to cover costs? Mike Wanous responded that it is the city who owns the property, so they wouldn't be eligible because they are not registered as a farm.

Cox asked for clarification on the area around Eagle Lake and if that was all agricultural land with landowners. Wanous responded that yes, the area studied was all crop land and owned by individual landowners. He added that the landowners might be open to participating in some of the federal projects, the sub-watershed assessment study was looking at biggest "bang for buck" and that the federal programs are not always the easiest to navigate.

- **2021 CCWMO Levy Recommendation**

Moline presented on the 2021 Carver County Water Management Organization budget. He stated that we have a year with unknowns.

Moline provided a background on the WMO's boundaries and where the levy exists. Other watershed districts have their own levy and budget.

Our 2020 levy for the Water Management Organization was $802,802. This was an increase of $37,823 from 2019, but because the county is growing so much, the tax rate for each household decreased from 0.927 to 0.893.

The 2020 levy is broken into these areas.

- Programs (monitoring and education) $33,400
- Soil & Water Conservation District $160,716.
- Operations (staff and engineering) $357,571
- Projects and Cost Share $237,615
- Aquatic Invasive Species program $54,000

The 2021 project recommendation which was just covered is about $207,178.50. Moline added that staff know this could change, could go up or down by June. This is just the preliminary number.

Operation amount changes

For operations area there is a lot of unknowns. COVID19 has created impacts on the county budget for property tax collection and impacts on state budgets. Additionally, there are salary changes due to union negotiations.

We have a whole list of monitoring needs our organization can't fulfill. Public Works has monitoring requirements related to projects. Other monitoring needs include stormwater practices, chloride monitoring, wetland monitoring, lake vegetation surveys, native mussels and macro-invertebrates, and more.

We are requesting to increase one of our part time staff positions to full time. This would increase the budget by $30,000. We might be able to reduce that number through partnerships with Carver County Public Works and Lower MN River Watershed District.

Moline stated that he will bring the preliminary levy for 2021 back to the committee in June with additional info and County Board direction.

Lynch inquired if some of the projects for 2021 will not move forward due to COVID19 impacts. Moline responded that he thinks COVID10 impacts may be the reason many cities didn't apply for the local government unit cost share from our organization. He said he will check back with the City of Waconia about their project status before the June meeting.

Cox asked to be reminded what the type and number of staff roles that were union. Moline responded that all staff are union as they are employees of the County. Soil & Water Conservation District staff are not.

Lynch commented that moving the part time position to full time should not be rushed and that the budget should remain flat. Moline said it wouldn't be offered until things where all settled.

- **Tour Options**

Seveland shared that the committee usually takes its annual tour in June, but due to COVID19, staff need to consider other options this year. She shared some possible options including doing a virtual tour (pre-recorded or live), a self-guided tour, and postponing the tour till September and asked for committee feedback on the options.

Committee members shared the following

- Whatever is easiest for staff is okay
- Pre-recorded video that could be shown at the June meeting. Note that it would be helpful to have the video a week in advance of the meeting so members could visit sites if they wanted to.
- Comfortable postponing and with a wait and see approach.

4) Information items and project updates

Seveland commented that we have hired a water education intern for the summer and that many of the standard summer education programs will need to be changed this year. She and the intern are working on two ideas right now for social distance friendly water education and believes much of the summer will be spent trying and doing new things.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Water Management Organization Advisory Committee

June 30 , 2020 Meeting

Business Item
WMO 2021 Budget Recommendation - Discussion
Water Management Plan Related Goal
1. Effectively and efficiently manage public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems;

Summary:
The WMO 2021 budget process is continuing. Every year staff presents a budget recommendation to the County Board for operations and implementation of the WMO. The WMO budget process is incorporated into the County's General Tax Levy Budgeting process. As part of this process, staff seeks the recommendation of the advisory committee. The Board sets a preliminary levy for the WMO considering this recommendation in September, and subsequently sets the final levy in December. Staff is seeking a recommendation at this time.

Discussion Points:

- Proposed changes to the 2021 WMO levy from the 2020 amounts.
- Incorporation of proposed WMO project funding

Recommended WMO Advisory Committee Action:

- Recommendation on the proposed 2021 WMO budget and discussion.

Attachments:

- None (Powerpoint slides sent separately)

CCWMO Advisory Committee

June 30, 2020 Meeting

Business Item
Stormwater BMP Monitoring
Water Management Plan Related Goals
• The CCWMO will continue to monitor stormwater BMPs as needed to track trends over the long term and comply with TMDL studies and Implementation Plans • The CCWMO will use data to evaluate the performance of programs, projects, and best management practices. • The CCWMO will periodically review and update the Water Resource Management Ordinance. Regulatory standards will be updated in accordance with applicable Minnesota Statutes and with the involvement of cities, state agencies, and other stakeholders. When available, locally collected data will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of existing and proposed regulations.

Summary

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) are structural or non-structural practices designed to treat, prevent, or reduce water pollution. They are installed throughout the watershed to meet WMO requirements, and WMO staff are involved in the design, installation, and monitoring processes.

Discussion Points

This presentation will focus on the following topics:

- The WMO's role in the installation of BMPs
- Plans to update the WMO rules and guidelines based on experience with BMPs over time
- Summary of BMP types in the watershed
- Overview of the BMP monitoring process
- Analyses of the monitoring results

Recommended WMOAC Committee Action

- No formal action required. Discussion only.

CCWMO Advisory Committee

June 30th, 2020 Meeting

Business Item
Virtual tour site discussion
Water Management Plan Related Goals
• Protect, preserve, and manage natural surface and groundwater storage and retention systems. • Effectively and efficiently manage public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems. • Identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface and groundwater quality.

Summary

Each year, the Water Management Organization's Advisory Committee attends an annual tour. The purpose of the tour is to educate the committee about upcoming projects, completed projects and projects in progress. The tour also introduces committee members to different water management techniques, topics, issues, and current research.

Due to COVID19, staff have cancelled the in-person tour for June and are planning to create a virtual tour likely for the August meeting. The videos created about projects for the virtual tour will also be used to promote the projects to the public.

Discussion Points

- What projects would committee members like to learn about on the virtual tour?

Recommended WMOAC Committee Action

- No formal action required. Discussion only.

Carver County Water Management Organization Advisory Committee

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Meeting Type	Business Items
7/28/2020	Regular - WebEx	Board of Water & Soil Resources grant projects Stormwater reuse results
8/25/2020	Regular	Potential virtual tour
9/29/2020	Regular	
10/27/2020	Regular	

Other Events

Date	Program	Details
7/6/2020	Water Story time	Water themed story time with Carver County Libraries. Join through Facebook live on the Carver County Facebook site. https://www.facebook.com/CarverCountyLibrary/
8/4-5/2020	Road Salt Symposium	https://fortinconsulting.regfox.com/salt-symposium-2020
7/7/2020 – 9/29/2020 Some Tuesdays at 2pm	Watering Wise Webinar by U of MN Turfgrass Lab	Outdoor Water Use in the Twin Cities: Am I Using Too Much? - July 7, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Learning to Control Your Irrigation Controller - July 28, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Turfgrass Species for Low-Input Minnesota Lawns - August 18, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Lawn Care Best Management Practices - September 8, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Winterizing Your Lawn - September 29, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.