



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

11360 Highway 212 West, Suite #2
Cologne, MN 55322
Phone (952) 466-5250 Fax (952) 466-5223
www.co.carver.mn.us/parks

Division of Public Works

11360 Hwy. 212 West, Suite #1
Cologne, MN 55322
Phone (952) 466-5200
Fax (952) 466-5223

Park Commission Meeting

Wednesday, February 13th, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Carver County Public Works Headquarters Building
11360 Hwy 212 West
Conference Room #3

Agenda

- 1) Welcome New Member Carroll Aasen
- 2) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (7:00 p.m.)
- 3) Nomination and Election of Officers
- 4) Approval of the January 9, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes (7:01 p.m.)
- 5) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (7:05 p.m.)
- 6) Approval of Agenda (7:07 p.m.)
- 7) Open to the Public (7:10 p.m.)

- 8) New Business (7:15 p.m.)
 - a. 2013 Aquatic Invasive Species Program

- 9) Staff Reports (8:00 p.m.)
 - a. Lake Minnewashta Park Off Leash Dog Area
 - b. Minnesota Astronomical Society Building Construction
 - c. Southwest Regional Trail
 - d. Events and Activities
- 10) Commission Member Reports (8:30 p.m.)
- 11) Set Next Meeting Date (8:35 p.m.)
- 12) Adjourn Meeting (8:40 p.m.)

Please note if a Commission Member cannot attend the meeting, please call the Park Office at 466 – 5250.

Draft
Meeting Minutes
January 9th, 2013

Members Present: Thomas Hermann, Myron Karki, Jim Manders, Ron Trick and Commissioner Tim Lynch

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Sam Pertz

CALL TO ORDER: Karki called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.
Karki acts as Park Commission Chair as Senior member.

MINUTES: 7:00p.m. Hermann motioned to approve the minutes of the November 14th, 2012 regular meeting minutes. Manders seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 to 0.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:
7:01p.m. N/A

AGENDA: 7:01p.m. Trick motioned to approve meeting agenda, Hermann seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 to 0.

Public Present: 7:02p.m. N/A

New Business: 7:03p.m.

A. Acquisition of 19 Acres at 809 Old Beach Ln for Lake Waconia Regional Park:
Staff share a PowerPoint presentation with background information and history of Lake Waconia Regional Park. The presentation uncovers the history of different plans for the park including early plans for the park in the 1970's; City of Waconia's support for Park location in their Comp Plan in 1990; Land Acquisition Plan adopted in 1995 and in 2000 a Development Master Plan was created by committee. Staff discusses the benefits of the County acquiring the land of: social, environmental, recreational, physical, economical, public safety as well as fulfilling the expectations of the City, County and Regional Park plans. Staff explains funding methods targeted for the acquisition, as well as next steps to finalize the purchase by March 15th.

B. Conceptual layout of DNR Public Water Access at Lake Waconia Regional Park:
Staff reviewed with the commission members planning between the County and State/DNR to construct a new public water access on Lake Waconia which would be constructed within the park. Walsh reviews the details of the State purchasing a portion of the Park land from the County to construct the boat access. Conceptual layouts for the primary components to the boat access are explained by staff, specifically parking area, road

alignment for the boat access. Staff also briefly review conceptual plans for park features that would be included in land acquisition. Trail entrance trail and removal of old Hwy 30, restoration of natural landscape of new acres, overlook opportunities to Lake Waconia and other recreational trails are shared. Hermann inquires about gate fees into the park, regarding the conceptual plans of the public water access. Staff informs commission members the State requires free access to the lake and purchase of land from the County would cooperate with that policy. Staff also explain that the gate to the Park would be relocated from its current placement. County Commissioner Lynch raises question for discussion, regarding the plan to potentially leave the old silo on the parcel to remain in place. Staff recommends it to be removed, due to safety concerns and current condition of the structure. Manders ask Staff about significant elevation of new parcel, and the intended use. Staff highlights the excellent overlook the elevated land would provide to Lake Waconia, as well as natural barrier from Park activity and residential area outside the Park.

No additional questions or comments.

Staff Reports (7:34p.m.)

Resignation of Jerry Moja:

Walsh shares with Commission members the resignation of Jerry Moja. Staff also informs Commission that the County Board has been notified and is taking steps to fill the vacancy.

No further questions or comments.

TH 41 Trail and Underpass Project:

Walsh updates and reviews with the Park Commission the completion level of the project since the November meeting. Staff informs members the project is mostly complete, short of some minor punch list items to be addressed in the spring, along with one large issue of gas main realignment along TH 41. Commission members ask about alternate options to major realignment work. Staff responds that alternate ideas have been considered and suggested, none of which are likely to meet inspection codes and regulations. Additional survey work will take place this spring to provide further detail.

Dakota Rail Regional Trail Phase II:

Staff reviews completion of project with Commission members since November meeting. Since November construction work has been done, and punch list items have been identified for spring of this year. Significant paving work has been identified to the contractor, specifically repaving of the trailhead parking area, as well as other portions of the trail.

Minnesota Astronomical Society Building Construction:

Staff report on construction activity for the two new Minnesota Astronomical Society facilities at Baylor Regional Park. The update provides pictures of both buildings (Casby

Observatory and Hotspot Education classroom) and explanation and timeline of the work completed.

No additional questions or comments.

Southwest Regional Trail:

Walsh reports final design and appraisal work has been completed. Staff hopes bidding of project can begin February or March of 2013.

No additional questions or comments.

Events and Activities:

Pertz informs Park Commission of recent programs and events since November meeting, highlighting Santa in the Park and the first of four Candlelit Ski/Walk Events of 2013. Staff explains additions to the events, report on participation numbers, share photographs and short stories of success from each event. Pertz also informs Commission members of January 8th opening in camping/shelter reservations. Reservations and revenue from 2013 to 2012 opening day are similar. Online reservation system continues to serve users well. Staff also informs the Park Commission of upcoming events and programs:

January 12th - Family Learn to Ski! at Baylor Regional Park 12-2p.m.

January 16th - Seniors Snowshoeing at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park 1-3p.m.

January 21st - Half-Day Camp: Winter Geocaching 9-12p.m. at Lake Ann Park-Register Here!

January 21st - Half-Day Camp: Indoor Archery 1-4p.m. at Chanhassen Rec. Center-Register Here!

January 26th - Candle Lit Ski at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park 6-9p.m. NEW - Photo Contest!

January 26th - Family Learn to Snowshoe! at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park 12-2p.m.

February 2nd - Candle Lit Ski at Baylor Regional Park 6-9p.m. NEW - Photo Contest!

February 3rd - Indoor Parent/Child Archery Session #6 at Waconia Ice Arena 1-2p.m. (4 weeks)

February 6th - Seniors Cross-country Skiing at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park 1-3p.m.

February 9th - Family Learn to Snowshoe! at Baylor Regional Park 12-2p.m.

No additional questions or comments.

Aquatic Invasive Species Update:

Pertz briefly reviews 2012 inspection services within the County. Staff explain the collaborate work that has taken place regarding 2013 inspection services in the County. Pertz explains the two Grant applications for program funding through the DNR. Staff goes on to explain the process in achieving the Delegation Agreement which grants authority to administer AIS programs. Walsh and Pertz provide insight on the efforts to develop a County wide AIS plan or policy. They indicate the most logical factor to determine program specifics is to classify by watershed district. Pertz explains next steps, which include submission of second Grant application and Delegation Agreement, as well as staffing, program implementation and allocations of funding.

No additional questions or comments.

Commission Member Reports: (7:54p.m.)

Manders reports on a sign at Lake Minnewashta Park that might be in poor location for cross-country skiers.

Commissioner Lynch shares his and County's excitement in hopes to be finalizing the Lake Waconia Land Acquisition.

Karki informs the group on two upcoming events, Lions Club Wild Game Dinner on February 2nd and Waconia Chamber of Commerce Open House on April 6th.

Next Meeting Date: (8:00p.m.)

February 13th 7:00pm Public Works Building Staff make note this meeting date is Ash Wednesday, and inform Park Commission to notify Staff if meeting date is of any conflict.

Adjourn Meeting: (8:01p.m.)

8:01p.m. Trick motioned to adjourn the meeting, Hermann seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 to 0.



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

11360 Highway 212 West, Suite 2
Cologne, MN 55322-8017
Phone (952) 466-5250 Fax (952) 466-5223
www.co.carver.mn.us/parks

Division of Public Works

11360 Hwy. 212 West, Suite 1
Cologne, MN 55322-8016
Phone (952) 466-5200
Fax (952) 466-5223

DIRECTORS REPORT

February 13th, 2013

REGULAR PARK COMMISSION MEETING

To: Members of the Park Commission
From: Martin Walsh, Parks Director
CC: Lyndon Robjent, County Engineer
Tim Lynch, County Commissioner
Date: 2/8/2013
Re: February 13, 2013 Regular Park Commission Meeting

Welcome New Member:

The County Board has appointed Carroll Aasen of Chaska.

Election of Officers

County Ordinance, which establishes the Parks Commission, states that the Commission shall meet during the second month to elect officers. Positions of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary (Secretary need not be a member of the Commission) are to be opened for nominations.

Recommendation: Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair will be taken. County Park Staff can fill the position of Secretary, as we have done in the past. Voting can proceed by show of hands or by written ballot, whichever the Commission is most comfortable with.

New Business:

A) 2013 Aquatic Invasive Species Program

Park Staff has been requested to prepare possible policy and AIS inspection service for the 2013 boating season.

Back ground information:

- There are approximately 30 public accesses on lakes and rivers within the County.

- During 2012, Carver County conducted aquatic invasive species inspections on the lakes of Minnewashta, Bavaria, Waconia, Hydes and Reitz
- City of Chanhassen provided inspection services on lakes Ann, Lotus, and Susan
- Christmas Lake Homeowners, in conjunction with MCWD, provided inspection service on Christmas Lake
- County-wide, 6,602 boats were inspected and approximately 2.9% of the boats or 193 were found to be noncompliant for weeds, zebra mussels, and water
- Four boats had confirmed zebra mussels
- Carver County, in conjunction with MCWD, DNR, and Friends of Lake Bavaria provided funding for AIS inspections during the 2012

This report summarizes 3 options for providing 2013 AIS inspection services for the commission's consideration and offers draft policy direction.

Option A

Option A asserts that it is a State responsibility to fund and administer AIS inspections at DNR owned accesses.

The County would be responsible for inspections at landings the County owns at Minnewashta and Lake Bavaria. Funding would be requested from Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) and Friends of Lake Bavaria (FLB) and supported with general funds.

Cost share would be 50% County and 50% non County. Example: The program estimated cost is \$44,000/yr. or at a similar service as was provided in 2012. The County share could be \$22,000, MCWD \$15,000, and the Friends of Lake Bavaria \$7,000. The County would hire and oversee the inspectors. Inspection service would begin opening fishing season and continue to mid September. Hours of operation are from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. all days of the week. This example would fall within the budgeted funds of \$50,000 the County has set aside for 2013 AIS program.

Funding Recap

Budgeted funding from Carver County/Carver County WMO

Lake Minnewashta (50%)	\$15,000
Lake Bavaria (50%)	<u>\$ 7,000</u>
Total	\$22,000

Anticipated funding from MCWD

Lake Minnewashta (50%)	Total \$15,000
------------------------	----------------

Anticipated Funding form FLB

Lake Bavaria	Total \$7,000
--------------	---------------

Grand Total \$44,000

Option B

Option B is an expanded level of service incorporating more lakes and anticipated funding from MCWD and the DNR grant programs. Under this option, watershed management organizations (WMO's) can fund AIS services to the level of service that meets their objectives. The service for Minnewashta and Bavaria would be the same as proposed in Option A.

The County/ County WMO would prioritize lakes within the County WMO as high, medium and low priority lakes. The County would set a base amount to match DNR grant opportunities for high priority lakes. A base amount would also be established for roving inspections on medium priority lakes, including roving inspectors that would respond to calls for service on low priority lakes within the WMO.

Example: Lake Minnewashta and Lake Bavaria would be funded as provided in Option A, 50% County Funding (\$30,000), 50% outside funding sources (\$30,000).

Wasserman and Pierson Lakes are proposed to receive \$33,000 grant from MCWD for roving inspections. The County would be responsible for hiring and supervising inspectors to receive the grant funds.

Carver County /Carver County WMO would provide a base amount of \$7,750 for the high priority lake of Lake Waconia which is based on use. No other lakes in the County WMO currently have a high priority status and similar use. Funds set aside for high priority lakes, would be used to match DNR grant opportunities of 1000 hours of inspection services and \$7,750 in grant funding. If grants are successful, it is envisioned that nearly full inspection coverage of the DNR boat access could be provided from opening fishing until mid September 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. all days of the week.

The Carver County/Carver County WMO would provide \$7,750 for roving inspections of medium priority lakes base on use such as Hydes, Reitz, and Eagle. These funds would also be used to respond to issues at low priority lakes when called. Service would primarily be provided on weekends and holidays with occasional spot checks during weekdays. This example would fall within the \$50,000 budgeted funds the County has set aside for 2013 AIS inspections.

Funding Recap

Anticipated grant funding from MCWD

Lake Minnewashta (50%)	\$15,000
Lakes Pierson and Wasserman	<u>\$33,000</u>
Total	\$48,000

Anticipated Funding from FLB

Lake Bavaria	Total	\$7,000
--------------	-------	---------

Budgeted funding from Carver County/Carver County WMO

Lake Minnewashta (50%)	\$15,000
Lake Bavaria (50%)	\$7,000
Lake Waconia, High Priority Lake (50%)	\$7,750
Hydes, Reitz, Eagle Lakes	\$7,750
Miscellaneous expenses & supervision	<u>\$12,500</u>
Total	\$50,000

Anticipated funding from DNR

Lake Waconia 1000 hours	\$12,000 (Estimated)
Matching Funds (50%)	<u>\$7,750</u>
Total	\$19,750

Grand Total \$124,750

Option C

Option C considers a 3 year Centralized Inspection Pilot Program (CIPP) for AIS inspection services. A draft proposal for a CIPP program was submitted to the County for consideration by Joe Shneider of Christmas Lake Homeowners Association. The draft proposal outlines a centralized inspection service for 5 lakes (Bavaria, Christmas, Minnewashta, Pierson and Wasserman). It would be proposed that the accesses to these lakes be equipped with an automatic controlled access system which would be connected to a centralized inspection site. Boaters would need to go to the centralized inspection station to be inspected before being provided a code for entering one of the access points.

The estimated cost for a 7 day a week coverage at a single access ranges from approximately \$30,000 to \$47,000 annually depending on length of program and number of hours of inspections per day. Assuming 5 accesses with 7 day week coverage would indicate a cost range of \$150,000 to \$235,000 if all accesses were staffed annually. The draft proposal seeks to minimize inspection cost by consolidating inspection service at one location. Over a 3 year period inspections cost would range between \$450,000 and \$705,000 if all accesses are staffed annually.

Details on what a centralized inspection station would cost are not known at this time.

In order to move forward beyond a draft Centralized Inspection Pilot Program proposal, it will be necessary for the multiple agencies to determine if they have interest in a program or not. Possible agency involvement could include Carver County, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, City of Shorewood and the Department of Natural Resources as the permitting authority for a centralized inspection program. Local lake associations can provide input and support to the agencies. These agencies would determine the scope of the project. Upon determining the project scope, development of letters of agreement outlining the roles and responsibilities of the agencies would be needed. Once letters of agreement are in place, plan development could begin and public input received. Plan development would define the details of the program and cost estimates could be prepared. Moving from plan development to construction, joint powers agreements would be formed between the agencies further defining agency role and cost participation. Implementation would follow after joint powers agreements are executed.

Draft Policy Direction for Consideration

1. Continue to fund AIS inspection for Lake Minnewashta and Lake Bavaria utilizing partnerships with Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and Friends of Lake Bavaria. Provide 50/50 cost share match up to \$15,000 per each. Program to begin mid May and continue until funding expires with full-time inspection hours 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.
2. Apply for DNR grant programs for AIS. The Carver County WMO will provide local matching funds for the grant applications on an annual basis for Lake Waconia as a high priority lake. Utilize grant funds and DNR staff hours to provide full-time inspection coverage from the May opening fishing season to mid September from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
3. Utilize \$7,750 of Carver County WMO funding for roving inspection service at medium priority lakes (Hydes, Reitz, Eagle) and respond to all other lakes on as need basis.
4. Work with DNR, WMO's and legislators for statewide and regional solutions

Recommendation:

Option B is recommended for the Park Commission's consideration. This option represents an expanded program as compared to last year and makes use of anticipated funding to be provided by the DNR, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and Friends of Lake Bavaria.

Staff Reports

A) Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Off-Leash Dog Area

Staff received an email notice dated Saturday, February 2, 2013 notifying the department that a dog was lost at the off-leash dog area in the park. It has been reported that the owners could not find the dog after it was chased by another dog. It was presumed that the dog went around the fence at the marsh area where they were unable to retrieve it. The owners did an extensive search but could not locate the dog. The dog is presumed lost.

The owners of the dog have complained that the off-leash area should be fenced entirely and that more notice should be provided advising users that the area is not entirely fenced. Staff has responded with putting up additional signage and is reviewing rules pertaining to off-leash dog areas. We are also looking into possible options to fence around the marsh.

B) Southwest Regional Trail

Final plan sets have been developed and will be submitted to MNDOT for approval. Appraisal work is completed. Offer letters for property are planned to be delivered the week of February 11, 2013.

C) Minnesota Astronomical Society Building Construction

Construction continues for the new facilities at Baylor Park with recent work of roofing the education classroom, as well as electrical work in that building.

D) Upcoming events and activities include:

- After school Beginners Archery at Chanhassen Rec. Center 4:00-5:00p.m. – each Wednesday in February
- Parent/Child Beginners Indoor Archery at Waconia Ice Arena 1:00-2:00p.m. – each Sunday in February
- February 18th - **Winter Survival Camp Blast** at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park 9-5p.m.
- February 21st - **Seniors Indoor Archery** at Chanhassen Rec. Center 1:30-3:30p.m.
- February 23rd - Family **Snowshoeing 101** with **Waconia P&R** at Lake Waconia Park 10-12:00p.m.
- February 23rd - **Candle Lit Ski** at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park 6-9p.m. **NEW - Photo Contest!**
- February 23rd - Family **Learn to Ski!** at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park 12-2p.m.
- March 3rd - **A Journey Through Winter** Family Event at Baylor Regional Park 9a.m.-5p.m.
- March 16th - Maple Syrup Open House at Baylor Regional Park