

EAGAN-INVER GROVE HEIGHTS WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

DRAFT MINUTES BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING February 4, 2020

The Eagan-Inver Grove Heights Watershed Management Organization (WMO) Board of Managers (Board) met at the Eagan Maintenance Facility, 3501 Coachman Point, Eagan, Minnesota.

Board Managers Present:

Joe Reymann, Chair	Appointed by City of Eagan
Monica Foss	Appointed by City of Eagan
Sarah Saito	Appointed by City of Inver Grove Heights
Jennifer Workman-Jesness	Appointed by City of Eagan

Others Present:

Ashley Gallagher	Resource Conservationist, Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District
Steve Dodge	Assistant City Engineer, City of Inver Grove Heights
Eric Macbeth	Water Resources Manager, City of Eagan

I. Call to Order

Chair Reymann called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

II. Adopt Agenda

Motion by Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

III. Election of Officers

Motion by Saito, second by Workman-Jesness to re-elect current slate of officers, Reymann for Chair, Lencowski for Vice Chair and Workman-Jesness for Treasurer/Secretary. Motion carried.

IV. Approve Consent Agenda

- A. **Minutes of October 15, 2019 Meeting**
- B. **Invoices for Payment**
- C. **February 4, 2020 Year-to-Date Financial Summary**
- D. **December 31, 2019 Year-End Financial Summary**

Motion by Workman-Jesness, second by Foss to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

V. Watershed Based Implementation Funding

1. FY 2019 Update

- a. **Schulze Lake Alum Treatment** – Dakota County completed the first dose of alum in October 2019. They intend to monitor water quality during the 2020 monitoring season and apply a second dose of alum in the fall of 2020. Dakota County has submitted invoices and requested a partial payment of \$15,110. **Motion by** Reymann, second by Workman-Jesness to provide a partial payment of \$15,110 to Dakota County for the Schulze Lake project. Motion carried.

- b. **Eagan Pond DP-3 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter** – The City of Eagan completed construction on the new Iron Enhanced Sand Filter on a pond that drains to Le May Lake. The City of Eagan submitted invoices as well as the engineers final as-built and is requesting final payment for the total amount identified in the JPA of \$29,488. It was mentioned that this would be a good project for the Board to visit this summer. **Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Reymann to provide final payment of \$29,488 to the City of Eagan for the installation of an IESF on Eagan Pond DP-3. Motion carried.
2. **FY 2021 Convene Meeting and Delegation-** Gallagher provided an overview of the Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) policy from BWSR. The last cycle was a pilot program and funding was distributed by County boundaries. The program policy has changed, and funding is distributed on a major watershed boundary, of which the E-IGHWMO is in the Lower Minnesota South. This may be more competitive and harder for E-IGHWMO to secure funds than in previous years. BWSR will be hosting convene meetings. At these meetings the group will need to prioritize, target and measure and select projects that meet these parameters. The E-IGHWMO would eventually be able to submit a project to the group after the group is established. There was discussion on the measurability of education and outreach efforts. It is easy to track numbers, but behavior change is more difficult. E-IGHWMO should delegate a representative to the convene meetings and it can either be staff or Board. **Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Reymann to delegate the Administrator as the representative for E-IGHWMO at the convene meetings. Motion carried.

Gallagher also mentioned the One Watershed, One Plan process that may begin for the greater watershed. The boundaries are different than those for WBIF. Gallagher stated that most other entities in the metro that have cross over with a One Watershed, One Plan area have maintained their existing Plan but participated in the greater planning process. There is an upcoming meeting that Gallagher will attend, and she will keep the Board update to date on One Watershed, One Plan.

VI. School District 191 Programming

Discussions for in-school programming started between Burnsville and the SWCD. When they met with District 191, the District would like to expand the program to all elementary schools. There is one school, Rahn Elementary, that is within District 191 and the E-IGHWMO. The actual curriculum or potential costs have not yet been determined but the SWCD would like to know if E-IGHWMO is interested. There was discussion on how this could be taken further and have follow-up curriculum in later grades. Foss worked on some of this curriculum when she was at Echo Park. Found that it was very well received and there was a big benefit from students seeing professionals. The E-IGHWMO supports this education initiative but is looking for more details.

VII. Landscaping for Clean Water 2019 Review

The summary was included in the meeting packets. There were 9 raingardens and 1 native garden in the E-IGHWMO watershed in 2019. There was some discussion on the success of the program and whether it should be expanded. Current level seems to be manageable for the SWCD with volunteers and current number of projects funded by E-IGHWMO seems to be about right. Lawns to Legumes program will be mentioned during LCW presentations. There is an upcoming training for volunteers. It was mentioned that it would be nice for existing volunteers to get a refresher list or guidance without attending class.

VIII. Draft 2019 Annual Report

The Annual Report is a required document and upon approval would be sent to member cities for posting and distribution as well as BWSR. Board liked the look and thanked the Administrator for her work.

Motion by Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to approve the 2019 Annual Report. Motion carried.

IX. Draft 2021 Budget

The biggest discussion point on the budget was the future of the Master Water Stewards program. Eagan has administered and covered participation fees in the past but is looking to have the E-IGHWMO take it on. E-IGHWMO could do this but would need to increase budget. There was discussion on the fees and what value is to City or WMO. This should be further discussed as to whether to continue MWS or not, and who would administer the program. Other budget items discussed were increasing the education budget, showing the reserve for the watershed plan and there was a question on audit budget as its only needed every 5 years. If budget is not approved until June that is okay with both member cities.

X. Master Water Stewards Activity Updates

Foss presented a best practices for your yard checklist that she developed. It could be used to guide conversations with a homeowner. Could be useful for SWCD as well. Format is draft, so anyone is welcome to take the content and use as they see fit. She also continues to work on a tri-fold brochure about the WMO and how to get involved. This brochure could be used at tabling events. It was mentioned that the WMO could hire out or hire city staff to design as well.

Reymann met with Freshwater and Foss to discuss several education items. He will be assisting with rain barrel program coordination for this spring. He also continues to attend the Eagan pathways meetings and is trying to ensure people can access water via paths in Eagan.

XI. Community Updates

Inver Grove Heights continues work on upgrades including a 1970's neighborhood that will get a basin upgrade. They also have approximately \$300,000 in stormwater maintenance and improvements. IGH is working with the SWCD on two potential projects. They also have some State level Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG) projects to work through.

Eagan applied alum to 10 basins in 2019. They have aeration units on approximately 12 lakes this winter. Aeration takes a lot of coordination and requires many safety precautions. Fishing clinic was recently held at Blackhawk Lake. There were approximately 250 in attendance. Workman-Jesness attend and thought it was a fun event. Eagan completed a number of stormwater BMPs around the City Hall and Cascade Bay area. There is potential for the E-IGHWMO to assist with education centered on these practices. Reymann stated that he has been in conversation with Eagan staff about a tour during the dedication event. Macbeth will coordinate with Eagan staff on details. Eagan will be doing some media release to celebrate the 30th year of water resources. They will be hiring 2 interns with the primary duties of inspecting stormwater system for MPCA compliance as well as stormwater BMP condition. Two upcoming events include the Home and Leisure show which will be March 21st. MWS will plan to be in attendance, and Eagan staff plan to give a presentation on rain barrels again. Second event is this summer, Lakefest is scheduled for June 13th at Trapp Farm Park.

XII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- 2021 Budget
- Lakefest
- Rainbarrels
- WMO/BMP Brochure
- MWS
- Website

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.