

# EAGAN-INVER GROVE HEIGHTS WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

## MINUTES BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING February 8, 2022

The Eagan-Inver Grove Heights Watershed Management Organization (WMO) Board of Managers (Board) met at the Eagan Maintenance Facility, 3501 Coachman Point, Eagan, MN 55122

### **Board Managers Present:**

Jennifer Workman-Jesness	Appointed by City of Eagan
Monica Foss	Appointed by City of Eagan
Sarah Saito	Appointed by City of Inver Grove Heights
Sharon Lencowski	Appointed by City of Inver Grove Heights

### **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**

Gallagher called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

### **II. Adopt Agenda**

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

### **III. Election of Officers**

Administrator opened nominations for Chair. Lencowski nominated Foss for Chair. Administrator called for nominations other nominations, there were none. **Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to close nominations and cast a white ballot for Foss for Chair. Motion carried.

Open nominations for Vice Chair. Workman-Jesness nominated Saito for Vice Chair. Called for other nominations, there were none. **Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Lencowski to close nominations and cast a white ballot for Saito for Vice Chair. Motion carried.

Open nominations for Treasurer/Secretary. Lencowski nominated Workman-Jesness for Treasurer/Secretary. Called for other nominations, there were none. **Motion by** Saito, second by Foss to close nominations and cast a white ballot for Workman-Jesness for Treasurer/Secretary. Motion carried.

### **IV. Approve Consent Agenda**

- A. Minutes of December 7, 2021 Meeting
- B. Invoices for Payment
- C. Year-end Financial Summary
- D. February 8, 2022 Year-to-Date Financial Summary

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

#### **V. Convene Process for Metro Watershed Based Implementation Funding**

Gallagher provided overview of the information provided in the meeting packet. This is now the third round of watershed based funding, but the process has changed each time. This time the Watershed Planning Area (WPA) is the same as the WMO boundaries. The WPA is allocated the minimum amount of \$75,000. Eligible plans are the WMO Plan, County Groundwater and potentially SWCD Plan. Convene process brings together partners to develop list of projects. Last round the WMO Board approved Administrator to vote in this process. Administrator would communicate proposed projects with WMO.

**Motion by** Foss, second by Workman-Jesness to have the Administrator vote on behalf of the WMO during convene meetings. Motion carried.

#### **VI. Smart Salting Outreach Updates**

Unable to place sign and cups at Costco, however the following businesses have hung a sign and distributed cups: Ace Hardware, Cub Foods, Walmart, Home Depot and Hardware Hank. Gallagher and Foss will distribute more cups to those businesses. City of Eagan is also able to utilize and distribute cups. Difficult to track behavior change from this program but should continue to think about tracking. WMO may consider doing this program again next winter.

#### **VII. Rain Barrels Spring Distribution Planning**

Reymann had previously taken the lead on coordination with Hardware Hank. Gallagher will check-in with them about a spring distribution event for the remaining 26 barrels. WMO will again have a pre-sale order form online. If there is a Home and Garden Show, this would be a good opportunity to promote the rain barrel sale.

#### **VIII. Clean-up/Earth Day Planning**

Earth Day may be too early in the year and too busy. Goal is to tackle one lake at a time, as multiple at one time would spread the group too thin. Burr Oaks was proposed as this year's clean up event that could also be a memorial event for Joe Reymann. His birthday was May 14<sup>th</sup>, which is a Saturday. Board selected this day for the clean-up. Workman-Jesness will coordinate promotion of the event with City of Eagan communications staff. Trach pickers can be borrowed from the City of Eagan, so there should be no materials needed.

#### **IX. Water Checklist (Watershed Stars) Planning**

Discussion as to whether the list is more of an ideas list or an actual certification. Could add two questions at the end of the online survey 1) if they would like a follow-up visit with a Minnesota Water Steward and 2) if they would like a sign to place in their yard. Could have a focus group or poll others on their ideas. Sometimes its best to just get started, Bald Lake may be good starting area due to current active residents. Opportunities to promote this idea include Lake Fest and if City of Eagan is hosting any workshops (Gregg Thompson). Gallagher will get the checklist into survey monkey, with a deadline of before the Home and Garden Show. Gradation of list was discussed, and it was decided that its too difficult/time consuming to track levels. WMO will start by using the list as education tool.

#### **X. Eagan BMP Signage Updates**

There are four signs total, each is planned at a 2ft x 3ft size. Design is near complete but minor edits could still be made. No quotes have been solicited yet but Macbeth estimates around \$600-\$800 per sign and post. Was asked if there was installation deadline, and no deadline but spring would be nice. The Board supports the signage design and would be willing to cover some of the cost. Macbeth will try to get two quotes for the next WMO meeting. The idea of a tour was mentioned once the signs are installed.

**XI. Draft 2021 Annual Report Review/Approve**

The Annual Report is a required document. Upon review and approval, Administrator would send out as a final version to BWSR and for distribution by member cities. One edit was made in LCW article.

**Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Lencowski to approve the 2021 Annual Report. Motion carried.

**XII. Minnesota Water Stewards Activity Updates**

No updates. There was a question about coordination with existing MWS. Reymann used to do a lot of coordination. Gregg from Eagan will be sure to coordinate with existing MWS even though the city is no longer sponsoring new MWS.

**XIII. Community Updates**

Inver Grove Heights: There is a new public works director. Continue to work on MS4 compliance, report not due to August. Presentation on bio-retention basins at the City Engineers Conference had three speakers, one was Gregg Thompson and another was an ecologist. Dodge found it to be very interesting. A stormwater staff is transitioning from purely maintenance to more of a policy position.

Eagan: Carlson Lake project should start in April. There was a Star Tribune article on the delisting of Le May Lake that has sparked some interest. First year of permitting for outdoor bulk salt storage is underway. Liaisons for from Board to City communications staff will be Saito for IGH and Workman-Jesness for Eagan.

**XIV. Agenda Items for April 19, 2022 Meeting**

- Rain barrels spring distribution
- Cleanup day – May 14<sup>th</sup>
- Water checklist (Watershed Stars)
- Eagan BMP Signage
- Newsletter Articles
- We Are Water Exhibit

**XV. Adjournment**

**Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.