

# EAGAN-INVER GROVE HEIGHTS WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

## MINUTES BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING June 21, 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
Gregg Thompson	Water Resources Staff, City of Eagan

### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Foss called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

### **II. Adopt Agenda**

**Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to approve the agenda with addition of bank discussion. Motion carried.

### **III. Approve Consent Agenda**

- A. Minutes of April 19, 2022 Meeting
- B. Invoices for Payment
- C. June 21, 2022 Year-to-Date Financial Summary

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

### **IV. New Bank Discussion**

Administrator checked with auditor on online banking and switching banks. Not an issue besides will need to be careful with logins and keep with Administrator. Set up to have duplicate statements sent out, preferably a hard copy mailed. Auditor mentioned needing collateral if over \$250,000 in the bank. Location of branches is important, Ideal Credit Union has a branch in Inver Grove Heights and Eagan. The WMO is allowed to have interest-bearing accounts. If interest is gained on grant funds, there are additional requirements.

**Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to move the checking account from Deerwood Bank to Ideal Credit Union. Motion carried.

**Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to Have signatories on the account as Foss, Saito and Workman-Jesness. Motion carried.

#### **V. Water Smart Yards Sign**

Cost of a small metal sign on metal post could be \$15-\$28 dollars based on previous costs of Landscaping for Clean Water Signs. Discussion on other types of sign, there are cheaper options but may lose quality/longevity. Could ask survey taker if they want to pay for their own sign at the end of the survey. The Board liked the design and the text on the draft sign design. City of Eagan has a QR code generating service and they could create a code for the sign. Currently a free service had been used to create code but no tracking options available with free service. Survey has only been taken by two people so far. Promotion just started, and will need to promote more if wanting higher participation. Keep the sign ready to go if survey becomes more popular. On a related note, Survey Monkey account used is through the SWCD. During budgeting and work planning the SWCD may need to charge the WMO a small fee as the current Survey Monkey subscription level is not sufficient for this Water Smart Survey project.

#### **VI. Newsletter Articles Ideas for Cities**

Promoting Water Smart Yards would be a good idea. However, after further discussion timing will be off with season and newsletters. IGH has a quarterly newsletter and Eagan is bi-monthly, but both cities have deadlines far in advance. Cities are doing some articles already to meet MS4 requirements. Administrator will pull together a draft calendar of newsletter dates, deadlines, and key events.

#### **VII. Rain Barrel Distribution Review**

Saito and Gallagher were at Hardware Hank to distribute the rain barrels. At the end of the day only about 7 remained, and they may have even been purchased at Hardware Hanks by now. The program has gone well, and Board would like to continue the program. Making decisions earlier will allow for more promotion time. Previous orders were for 66 rain barrels, Board feels this is an appropriate amount for the next order. Administrator will get quotes for the next meeting.

#### **VIII. Bur Oaks Clean-up Day Review**

Girls Scouts Troop said they enjoyed the event, as did the Reymann family. Timing of event was appropriate, good to have a start and stop and not an all-day commitment. People collected trash all around the lake and trails. Could try to incorporate other education components but also good to just focus on the clean-up.

#### **IX. LakeFest Review**

Was a nice day and had almost 500 participants. Volunteers used a cup game to help draw people to the table of information on programs. Fliers included Landscaping for Clean Water, Water Smart Yards, City of Eagan programs, and more. Activities offered at LakeFest included fishing (no license required) and canoeing. Canoeing was popular and would likely hire Wilderness Inquiry to offer canoeing at the next LakeFest. Gallagher mentioned in a previous position with a parks department the water resource department paid for her time to lead canoeing trips, point out storm drains and talk about stormwater. LakeFest is every other year on the first Saturday in June. Smart salting cups are all gone and will need to be re-ordered.

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

Signs are complete and locations for posting have been determined. The three signs highlight the pervious pavers, rain gardens and tree trenches all within the civic center park complex. City of Eagan will invoice the WMO. Signs near Cascade Bay will be mobile so they can be turned. They will be placed in the pedestrian plaza area for viewing as people leave Cascade Bay.

#### **XI. We Are Water Exhibit Updates**

There is a workgroup that continues to plan content and events in conjunction with the MN Humanities Center. Exhibits will be display in Hastings and Eagan this fall and there are a number of events being planned leading up to the exhibits. Focus is on human interaction with water. Foss will be interviewed as a resident living on Jensen Lake, volunteer for Lebanon Hills Regional Park and E-IGHWMO Board chair.

#### **XII. Minnesota Water Stewards Activity Updates**

Eagan staff Gregg Thompson has been coordinating with current MWS and providing volunteer opportunities. Opportunities include staffing booths/tables at events, adopt-a-drain, stormdrain cleaning/labeling and more. Some stewards are continuing to volunteer, others have not responded. Having a table at MarketFest has been atypical event for volunteering, City staff will be there June 29<sup>th</sup>, may need volunteers for Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is still a bin of tabling supplies, however the banner has the old MWS logo.

#### **XIII. Community Updates**

Eagan: Carlson Lake project is almost done; Gallagher will coordinate with City Engineer and Project Manager on final documentation for grant payment. Fitz and LeMay lake are officially removed from the TMDL list. Staff will start in-lake vegetation harvesting soon. Eric Macbeth will be retiring in September but will have a succession overlap with new employee so will still be at a few WMO meetings.

IGH: Pavement taskforce determined that too much money from roads was being spent on stormwater projects, but this is because stormwater is underfunded. Therefore, the taskforce recommended a stormwater fee increase. This will be phased in over time. City continues to work on MS4 reporting. IGH is meeting their requirements for the Lake Pepin TMDL. Still searching for an applicant to fill Sharon's position.

#### **XIV. Agenda Items for August 16, 2022 Meeting**

- Articles/Outreach calendar
- PRAP
- Potentially discuss MS4

#### **XV. Adjournment**

**Motion by** Workman-Jesness, second by Saito to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.