COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: January 13, 2020  
AGENDA NUMBER: 7  
ITEM: Advisory Committees Report

AGENDA: Policy Discussion Information

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive Report

BACKGROUND
The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) did not have a December meeting. All current members were re-appointed at the December 9, 2019, CCWD Board meeting.
The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met December 12, 2019, and January 9, 2020. The CAC met on Wednesday, January 8, 2020. Updates from those meetings are underlined.
- The next CAC meeting is on Wednesday, February 12th, 5pm.

ISSUES/CONCERNS

Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
1. Addition of New Anoka County liaison, Joe MacPherson, the new County Engineer who replaced Doug Fischer who retired in 2019.
2. Review of organizational logistics – the CAC voted to keep the format under which it has been working including: having a Revolving Chair, meeting monthly at 4:45pm on 2nd Wednesdays except for December. A change was discussed about meeting if no agenda, agreed by all present.
3. Doering & Dornfeld gave presentation of CCWD 2019 Summary and 2020 Plans
4. Dornfeld reviewed Engagement activities available to members: Salt Watch, Adopt-a-Drain

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
1. 2020 Water Quality Cost-Share Grant presentation
   - Initiated in 2019, CCWD awards funds to city partners to implement water quality projects that go above and beyond required standards
     - City partners must match the grant with funds
   - The 2019 Cost-Share grant program was reviewed by Justine Dauphinais wherein:
     - 5 applications received
       - 4 were awarded for a total of $74,000, leaving $26,000 available
       - Positives: diversity of projects
       - Improvements needed:
         - include protection of waters not just Impaired
         - include Anoka Conservation District (ACD)
         - Fall Cost-Share grant application timeframe
     2020 guidelines were presented on Sharpboard with changes highlighted:
       - rolling quarterly review starting with 3/31
       - Match remains cash
       - unused $26,000 from 2019 not rolled over so stays at $100,000

There was a requested earlier application date.
• Discussion to move dates earlier, Jan-Feb, to be discussed internally and sent out by Justine Dauphinais.

2. MS4 new NPDES permit draft is out for public comment
   a. Concerns:
      i. more and more specific standards and reporting
      ii. ongoing monitoring of BMPs
      iii. cost isn’t taken into consideration by MPCA

It was noted that the MN Cities Stormwater Coalition (MCSC) is very concerned about increased cost ($5000 vs $400 for Blaine) for MS4 permit, and about putting MS4 communities at disadvantage as development moves away into non-MS4 areas with less regulation. Also, MCSC is frustrated that instead of MPCA giving suggestions of successful methods that work they instead add requirements; for example, phosphorous loading from ponds.

TK brought up additional concern – Mississippi River turbidity regional TMDL in south metro, but Dauphinais is not sure if we need to address since spreadsheet shows 0% reduction needed, though also showing a 154lbs/acre Waste Load Allocation (WLA) (In draft MS4 TMDL WLA list for permitted MS4s).

Northtown Mall discussion
Mention of regional system consideration (lack thereof) by MPCA led to Northtown Mall discussion; County Road 10 near 47 gets flooded regularly. Challenge is getting Northtown Mall involved; out-of-state contacts don’t respond to inquiries.

Blaine suggested a regional stormwater pond solution; Fridley responded that Springbrook (nature center wetland) already meets that need and can’t take more water. Meanwhile, Blaine applied for FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant for Aurelia Park project to get more storage. The CCWD Engineer suggested purchasing part of parking lot and put in underground system. However, high groundwater is an issue.

Street Reconstruction
Discussion continued from November TAC meeting, as requested by Coon Rapids. Since then, they met with CCWD staff in November, but still need help because can’t do infiltration like Fridley rain gardens/street recon program to which JK responded were mostly educational (implying not useful for infiltration requirements). Coon Rapids is still looking for guidance for Maximum Extent Practicable, otherwise will put in sumps and SAFL Baffles and explain why infiltration won’t work so can keep moving forward with street reconstruction planning process.

At next TAC meeting on Jan 9th, 2020, will have CCWD Regulatory staff Matt D and Erin E to go over road reconstruction process and maybe have cities go over their process. Coon Rapids gave an example of a notable BMP alternative: Arby’s put in a ribbon curb to deflect water to ditch rather than to pipe. CCWD wants to be open to such alternatives.

Finally, Tim Kelly gave a reminder of request of Mission Statements by Jan 1 by email.
TAC Meeting on 1-9-2020

1. New MS4 permit Comment period ends Saturday, January 11
   - Raising the fee for the MS4 permit significantly - MPCA is turning a profit and we don't know where the money is going
   - MN Cities Stormwater Coalition: Looking for clarification on "underlying soils", "regulatory mechanism", "owned/operated", "where feasible", "extent allowable", self inspection language, linear projects particularly railroad projects, separate trails, flexibility in inspection schedules, TMDLs and WLAs timelines
   - Engineered soils vs constructed soils
   - Conversation on "underlying soils" - sub-base and base materials, existing soils, sub-grade? Want clarification of what "underlying soils" really means - needs to be defined and used consistently

2. Mark Hansen presentation on their street reconstruction process, really more reclamation and mill & overlay compared to County definitions

3. Nick Dobda gave presentation on Anoka County road construction & rehab
   - Mill and Overlay
   - Full Depth Reclamation
   - Full Reconstruction
     - Right-of-way acquisition process- presented by Jason Orcutt

4. Matt (CCWD) gave presentation on Regulatory process - what & why requirements
   - MPCA road cross section and how they define the layers (different from Hwys):

5. Discussion continued for permits now: come in to CCWD early, give brief narrative of alternatives considered and why don’t work, have pre-application meetings in Fall next year

RECOMMENDATION
Receive Report