



**BROWN'S
CREEK
WATERSHED
DISTRICT**

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Minutes of the Joint Brown's Creek Watershed District and Oak Park Heights City Council Workshop July 28, 2009

Oak Park Heights City Hall, 14168 Oak Park Blvd N, Oak Park Heights, MN 55082

ROLL CALL

BCWD Board Present:

- Craig Leiser, President
- Rick Vanzwol, Vice-President
- Connie Taillon, Treasurer
- Gerald Johnson, Secretary

Approved

Gail Pundsack, Vice-President – Absent

Oak Park Heights Council Present:

- Mayor Dave Beaudet
- Councilmember Mark Swenson
- Councilmember Mike Runk
- Councilmember Les Abrahamson

Councilmember Mary McComber – Absent

Staff present:

- BCWD Administrator Karen Kill
- BCWD Engineer Lisa Tilman
- Oak Park Heights Administrator Eric Johnson
- Oak Park Heights Engineer Karen Erickson

1. Call Special Meeting to order @ 6:00 PM

President Leiser called the Special Joint Workshop to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Introductions & Objectives

President Leiser stated that the District's objective in requesting this joint workshop was for an informational meeting to establish lines of communication and identify areas of mutual interest. He expressed his desire for periodic joint meetings in the future.

1 **3. Kern Center Pond**

2 President Leiser stated that the Kern Center Pond was designed by the BCWD as a
3 regional stormwater ponding system. Unfortunately it is not performing to the original
4 design criteria. Lisa Tilman, EOR, presented the 2005-2007 monitoring data, 2008 soils
5 investigation data and preliminary retrofit opportunities. Ms. Tilman stated that the Kern
6 Center was designed with an expected infiltration rate of 0.25 inches/hour. The soils
7 exposed during reconstruction appeared to be consistent with the expectations for
8 infiltration. However, the monitoring data showed that the pond is not infiltrating as
9 expected. Further soils investigation in 2008 showed that neither algae nor fine
10 sediments seem to be the source of the problem. Although groundwater did not
11 originally appear to be a problem for infiltration, it now seems as though a perched
12 regional groundwater table may be the issue. The Kern Center Pond is meeting the
13 Districts rate control rules, but volume is being met for the 1.1-inch event rather than the
14 2.6-inch event. The pond's performance regarding water quality has not yet been
15 modeled or directly measured. The District Managers and City Council discussed
16 potential solutions, including ditch checks and additional stormwater ponding, as well as
17 the need to analyze cost-benefit of each solution. Oak Park Heights raised concerns
18 regarding the use of the ditches for infiltration because they are part of the 100-year
19 HWL. Manager Vanzwol indicated that the District has not taken action on corrective
20 solutions and any proposed solutions will be shared with the City.
21

22 **4. Long Lake**

23 Both the Kern Center and Menard's areas drain toward Long Lake. President Leiser
24 spoke to the water quality improvements efforts at Long Lake, explaining projects
25 implemented since 2006. The District has looked at both lake-wide alum treatment and a
26 temporary drawdown of the lake, but neither has been found to be effective in Long Lake
27 to reduce resuspension of internal nutrients. A TMDL workplan for Long/McKusick and
28 Lily lakes has been submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and will likely
29 be funded in 2010. The implementation plan from the TMDL will need to be
30 incorporated into the City's local water management plan and future MS4 permit.
31

32 **5. Brown's Creek Biota TMDL**

33 The TMDL plan for Brown's Creek has been submitted for comment to all stakeholders
34 and will be submitted to the MPCA later this fall for public comment. Flows from Oak
35 Park Heights reach Brown's Creek statistically only once every five years; the Brown's
36 Creek TMDL will have much less impact on the City than the Long/McKusick/Lily
37 TMDL or the St. Croix TMDL.
38

39 **6. Other areas of collaboration/Next Steps**

40 Both the BCWD and City agreed that the exchange of information was useful and
41 worthwhile. The next meeting will tentatively be in January 2010.
42

43 **7. Adjourn**

44 The workshop was adjourned at 7:00 PM.
45

46 Respectfully Submitted by
47 Karen Kill, BCWD Administrator