



BROWN'S
CREEK
WATERSHED
DISTRICT

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Minutes

**Brown's Creek Watershed District
Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting
Monday, August 12, 2024 at 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Margaret Rivers A Room, Stillwater Library**

CAC Members Attending:

Jyneen Thatcher
George Vania
Sandy Noreen-Ruben
Dory Herman
Anne Maule Miller (via Zoom)
Hallie Chasensky (via Zoom)

Others Attending:

Cameron Blake, BCWD Assistant
Celia Wirth, BCWD Board Liaison
Karen Kill, BCWD Administrator
Alexander Furneaux, EOR
Quinn Judge, Resident
Allison Mcginnis, Sustainable Stillwater MN

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- 1) Called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
 - 2) Approved Agenda
 - 3) Approved Minutes from June 10th, 2024
 - 4) New pending CAC members Dory Herman and Sandy Noreen-Ruben were present and introduced themselves.
 - 5) Management Plan Update Workshop (EOR)
Alexander explained the proposed timeline for the management plan update process, with the goal of having a draft plan by April. The Technical Advisory Committee will be following this process as well for their designated plan issue topics. Karen clarified that the CAC's role is to provide recommendations to the board. Alexander will provide a summary of the work completed at each meeting prior to the start of the plan activity.
The management plan issues covered in this meeting were "Recreation" and "Education, Outreach, and Stewardship".

MANAGERS:

KLAYTON ECKLES, PRESIDENT • CHUCK LEROUX, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT • GERALD JOHNSON,
TREASURER • CELIA WIRTH, VICE PRESIDENT • DEBRA SAHULKA, SECRETARY •



Karen explained the partnership of the BCWD with the East Metro Water Resources Education Program, and the Lower St. Croix Partnership in achieving many of the district's outreach and education goals up to this point, in addition to the activities the CAC have done. Jyneen requested the slideshow used tonight be shared with the CAC.

Outreach, education, and stewardship topics discussed included:

- Historical and current cost share project programming from the district
- Issues facing water quality in the district and how outreach could occur
- Relationship building with municipalities and the importance of name recognition as part of behavioral change
- Relationship and partnership building with other organizations conducting outreach and education on common issues
- A train-the-trainer tabling set up to have for participating in non-district events (such as Summer Tuesdays)

Recreation topics discussed included:

- Using partnerships with regulatory agencies to enforce issues facing natural resources such as shoreline tree clearing on Long Lake, and the creation of mountain bike trails
- Access creation and encouragement to natural resources in a way that does not hard the resources, such as access to recreational use of the water bodies in the district

6) 2024 Community Event Planning

Allison from Sustainable Stillwater was present via Zoom to discuss final details for the joint community event/bird festival. She said she had sent the promotional flyer to Stillwater city staff and council members. Karen asked if she could also send that to county commissioners Fran Miron and Gary Kriesel. The group discussed extending the invitation to school board members and the Lower St. Croix Partnership as well.

7) 2024 Event Schedule

There are two more Open Yard events for the year. The Brown's Creek Restoration project tour on August 21st and the Long Lake Chloride event on October 5th. The Chloride event location will likely be the FIRST UNITED Methodist church in Stillwater. EOR staff will give a presentation on chloride and there will be time after the presentation to discuss SMART Salting and the impact of chlorides from water softeners.

8) BCWD Project/Program Update

CAC members are encouraged to attend the August 21st event to learn more about the current Brown's Creek Restoration project. Cameron showed pictures from 2023 from the trail cameras at the Brown's Creek Conservation Area/110th St Property.

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George asked if the trails leading into the conservation area could be mowed, and Cameron said this can be done by seasonal WCD staff. Jyneen noted the dog at the neighboring property is getting used to the foot traffic from the biological surveying efforts on Wednesday mornings.

9) Adjourned Meeting at 7:50pm

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