



## Capitol Region Watershed District

595 Aldine Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55104  
(651) 644-8888 • [capitolregionwd.org](http://capitolregionwd.org)

**December 11, 2024**  
Community Advisory Committee  
Meeting  
APPROVED

### Community Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

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#### **CAC Members Present:**

Barbara Hall  
Tori Philippi  
Mary Lilly  
Steve Duerre  
Richard Weil

#### **CAC Members Absent:**

Michelle Ulrich (excused)  
Mike MacDonald (excused)  
Lauren Wheeler (excused)  
Mike Trojan (excused)  
Gwen Willems (excused)  
Andrew Montain, (unexcused)  
Tom Elko, (unexcused)

#### **Staff/Board Present:**

Joe Collins Board Manager  
Britta Belden CRWD Staff  
Sarah Wein CRWD Staff  
Anna Eleria CRWD Staff

#### **Others Present:**

Alexandra Zerzan, MN Water Steward  
Barb Thoman, MN Water Steward  
Kerry Morgan, MN Water Steward  
Karlyn Eckman, MN Water Steward

#### **I. Welcome, Announcements, and Updates**

Ms. Lilly opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Round-the-room introductions were made for the benefit of the Guests. There were no announcements or updates.

#### **II. Public Comment for Issues Not on the Agenda**

none

#### **III. Approval of Agenda**

**CAC Motion 24-030:** *To approve the CAC November 13, 2024, Agenda.*

Weil/Duerre  
Unanimously approved

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

A) Approval of October 9, 2024, CAC Meeting Minutes

**CAC Motion 24-031:** *Approve the October 9, 2024, CAC Meeting Minutes.*

Philippi/Lilly  
Unanimously approved

#### **V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment, and Recommendations**

A) Chloride Management Plan - Issues ID (Wein & Belden)

Ms. Wein and Belden led a workshop with CAC and MN Water Steward members. Smaller groups were formed and asked to identify issues with Chloride Management in the District. Chloride is the #1 deicing agent used in Minnesota. It has many negative impacts on the environment; there is no feasible way to remove it from lakes and rivers, and there is a lot of impervious surfaces in the District. Como Lake is impaired for Chloride and McCarrons Lake is trending that way. The groups were asked to discuss the issues with chloride management, what CRWD's role should be, and what could be done if there were no limitations. Staff will use information from this workshop to help develop the Chloride Management Plan.

#### **VI. CAC Observer Update**

A) October 16, 2024, Board Meeting (Weil)

The meeting began at 7. Four permits were closed as their construction was complete.

An application was made for Pride in Living Apartments on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. This is a multi-story building with some commercial and retail space. When constructed, a rain garden will be removed. Approval of a variance is requested. This would reduce the total suspended solids rainwater removal in the parking lot from 90% to 81%. An engineer approved it with conditions, a bond, and a sign-off.

A detailed draft summary report on stormwater management within the entire Capitol Area was presented. This includes the former Sears Redevelopment Site, the University/Rice intersection, the Rice Street corridor, and the Capitol Mall. In each area, the stormwater best management practices' type(s) and size(s) were

determined, triple-bottom-line benefits were estimated, and potential partners were identified. Discussion occurred as the Board examined this information in detail, but no major objections were made.

The partner grant program was reviewed, and a discussion was held on how to streamline the process. It was determined that speeding up the process and making it consistent with other grant programs would be efficient.

Approval was made to fund a large rain garden at 2350 Territorial Road. This would include slope stabilization.

Next, the CHS field has had considerable difficulty utilizing its rainwater recovery system. The infrastructure has not worked well since installation and, in fact, has not been functional for some time. There was a discussion on the expense and time to rebuild and restore an operating system. The sense was that after evaluation, repair rather than complete reconstruction should be done as this is much cheaper but will likely still require new plumbing. Barr Engineering estimated that the work might take 12 weeks and cost about \$20,000.

We received a presentation last month on the new Como Lake signage.

It was explained how the CAC's meeting arrangements have changed for next year.

After other routine business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10.

#### B) November 6, 2024, Board Meeting (Trojan)

The Snelling-Midway area continues to undergo redevelopment, and office buildings are planned. CRWD is investigating increasing irrigation efficiency in that area, conducting some pilot work, and hiring Water in Motion.

There was a lengthy presentation and discussion on the Trout Brook Interceptor work. In 2023-24, 5000 feet of tunnel were examined and repaired, as needed, in the Willow Reserve area. This was identified as a CIP priority in 2019. Repairs were made in December and March, site restoration occurred in April, and the work was completed this past July. Repairs included concrete reinforcement, crack and fracture repair, and installation of manholes. One segment will need to be replaced.

There was a presentation on flood mitigation—this involved modeling and analyzing opportunities to mitigate flooding efficiently. The Board asked about the role of citizens in upstream detention and retention and opportunities for enhanced storage. Part of CRWD's work involves working with partners as opportunities arise and analyzing risk transference. One example of an opportunity involves the upcoming Rice Street work, where some areas for increasing storage may exist.

## **VII. Project and Program Updates**

None

### **VIII. CAC Initiatives**

#### A) CAC Reinvigoration Plan Update (Lilly)

Ms. Lilly reported that the CAC Reinvigoration Plan is close to being finished.

#### B) Conference Training Opportunity (Eleria)

Ms. Eleria informed the CAC about a Conference Training Opportunity at the U of M Water Resources Center in October 2025. CRWD will pay registration costs for any CAC member who wants to attend.

#### B) Teams Technology training for Virtual Meetings (Eleria)

Ms. Eleria announced that there will be a tutorial on Teams Technology for Virtual Meetings at the December CAC Meeting. Teams will be used for the remote CAC meetings starting in January 2025.

### **IX. Discussion**

#### A) New & Old Issues

The January CAC Meeting will be held on January 15 (the third Wednesday of the month) due to New Year's Day falling on a Wednesday. CRWD Awards Ceremony will be held on January 16.

#### B) CAC Observer for November 20, 2024, Board of Managers Meeting Mr. Duerre will attend

#### C) CAC Observer for December 2, 2024. Board of Managers Meeting. No attendee so far

#### D) The CAC minutes recorder will be Ms. Hall on December 11, 2024

### **X. Adjourn**

**CAC Motion 24-032:** *To adjourn the November 13, 2024, CAC Meeting.*

Hall/Philippi  
Unanimously Approved

Respectfully submitted  
Steven Duerre