The Board convened workshop at 1:00 p.m.

Attendance: —Board members, Patricia Preiner, John Waller, Barbara Haake, Steve Wagamon, and Mike Bradley.

Absent: None.

Others: Administrator Phil Belfiori; Public Drainage Inspector Tom Schmidt (portion of meeting); Water Resource Specialist Kyle Axtell (portion of meeting); Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Nick Tomczik (portion of meeting); Lake and Stream Specialist Matthew Kocian (portion of meeting); Office Manager Theresa Stasica; District Engineers Mark Deutschman and Chris Otterness— Houston Engineering (HEI); Drainage Attorney John Kolb-Rinke Noonan (portion of meeting); and Jason Husveth-Critical Connection Environmental Services (CCES) (portion of meeting).

Discussion on rough draft preliminary 2016 budget.

Administrator Belfiori reviewed the proposed budget timeline and preliminary rough draft budget worksheets. He pointed out that, under the fund balance worksheet, a substantial part of the fund balance was already encumbered/designated by the Board to projects. He then outlined the rough draft budget highlights for 2016. The Board discussed proposed budget items and if they were interested in raising the levy to accomplish these projects. The Board by consensus directed Administrator Belfiori to provide initial research and investigate what the numbers would look like to increase the total levy amount while keeping the levy rate and levy impact the same as last year. The Board also reached consensus that the next draft preliminary 2016 budget should include an increase to the fund 80-02 ditch maintenance budget to include possible work on Anoka-Ramsey Judicial Ditch 1, Branch 4.

Update on the 2015 plans for monitoring vegetation and vegetative restoration on Browns Preserve.

Jason Husveth from Critical Connection Environmental Services (CCES) distributed figures and charts to the Board which identified the Brown’s Preserve wetland bank site Floristic Quality Assessment (FQA) scores, FQA scores from 2011-2014 and 2014 implemented restoration and management tasks by management area. He went on to inform the Board the inner core of Brown’s Preserve was reaching its vegetative/hydrologic potential but the outer part still needs some active management including prescribed burns, herbicide application, and seeding to reach its maximum points. From that point, the Board will need to consider potential additional efforts to improve quality for more potential credit.


Discussion on Anoka County Ditch 31 and Anoka County Ditch 46 repair project cost allocations.

District Engineer Otterness provided a brief description of several cost allocation options for ACD 31 and 46. Upon significant discussion, the Board reached consensus that a proposed motion should be drafted for Board consideration at the June 10 board meeting that identifies that the engineer should undertake a charge allocation analysis for the repairs of ACDs 31 and 46 that allocates the costs of easement avoidance and other ecological costs to ad valorem tax; allocates the cost of culvert and crossing repair and replacement as a charge to the applicable road authority; and allocates the remaining costs of restoring the hydrologic function of the drainage systems to water management district charges within the water management districts established for each drainage system. That, once complete, the engineer shall present the cost allocation analysis to the Board for further discussion or refinement.

RCWD letter related to Mirror Pond project.

Water Resource Specialist Kyle Axtell asked if the board had any questions or comments on the draft letter to the City of St. Anthony in the Board Packet for Wednesday to consider. There were no questions or comments from the board members.

Update on Rice Creek Commons (former TCAAP) Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan (CSMP).

Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Nick Tomczik reviewed with the Board the potential elements of the draft CSMP for Rice Creek Commons. The property is jointly owned by Ramsey County and the City of Arden Hills. They would likely see this item at a future Board meeting.

City of Columbus Round-About.

Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Nick Tomczik informed the Board of the Anoka County’s roundabout road project in Columbus and their application for BWSR road credits to satisfy the Wetland Conservation Act. At this time, BWSR is requesting additional information from the County. BWSR believes the information provided to date has not met the requirement for BWSR to grant the County credits from the road bank. The County believes what they provided is sufficient. Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Tomczik will keep the Board updated on future developments.

Discuss remaining 2015 Urban Stormwater Remediation Project.

Water Resource Specialist Kyle Axtell reviewed the board request from a past meeting that the Board look into funding the two Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share applications that were not funded at the meeting. At this time-the City of Arden Hills has removed the practice form their plans so they are no longer in need of funds. The White Bear Township project is still available. Upon further discussion, the Board reached consensus that funding the project from other areas of the District’s budget would not be appropriate. Water Resource Specialist Axtell updated the Board on the Roseville project that was approved for funding this year. The City has gone out for bids and the bids came in over budget. At this time the City is considering returning their Clean Water Fund grant to BWSR and reapplying for a larger grant this fall, and could still use the District funds if the grant was received. The City has 2 years to use the RCWD funds if they accept the cost-share agreement. He will keep the Board updated on the City’s final plans to approach the project. The Board by consensus decided if any funds were returned it would be rolled into next year’s program funding. White Bear Township should be encouraged to reapply in 2016 if they wish.
Update on Peltier Lake drawdown study.

Lake and Stream Specialist Matthew Kocian reminded the Board that the Peltier/Centerville TMDL was approved by the MPCA in 2013. The TMDL indicated that 62% of the phosphorus load is internal. The District, DNR, MPCA, and HEI have met to discuss different tools to reduce the internal load of phosphorus. The group’s recommendation was that a drawdown of the lake was most favorable. This would help control curlyleaf pondweed, promote native plant growth, and compact lake sediment. If this were to happen, the best time for this type of drawdown would be from fall to spring. Next steps would be to draft a feasibility study which includes cost estimates, drawdown goals, and analysis of what if any adverse impact downstream. Before the project could be done a DNR permit would be needed which requires a 75% landowner approval to proceed. There would also be a public information meeting, and meetings with potential partners such as Saint Paul Water Authority, cities and DNR.

Anoka-Washington Judicial Ditch 3 (AWJD3) historical review memo public information meeting

The Board by consensus agreed to schedule a landowner information meeting for 6:30 p.m., July 14, 2015 at Hugo City Hall.

The workshop was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.