

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 10, 2020**

Members Present

Bushnell, Girard, Flo, Oltmans, Rechelbacher, Rosenberg, Salditt

Managers Present

Manager White

Others Present

MCWD Staff: Kate Moran, Kim LaBo, Becky Christopher, James Wisker

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Sixth virtual meeting of the 2020 Citizen Advisory Committee.

Meeting chaired by Rechelbacher and called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Salditt motioned to approve the agenda, Girard seconded, motion approved.

Girard motioned to approve the October 14, 2020 CAC meeting minutes, seconded by Flo, minutes approved.

Discussion Items:

MCWD Climate Conversations: SWOT Workshop- Moran

Purpose:

The CAC conducted a Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) workshop to inform the development of MCWD's climate adaptation strategy.

Background:

As the effects of climate change are increasingly experienced across the watershed, the District has recognized the need to develop a clear strategy to effectively respond to these changes. This strategy will need to map out the District's role(s) and actions, and how those intersect with the roles and actions of others.

The District is currently thinking about a process for ultimately developing a climate adaptation strategy as being broken into the following general phases of work:

- Phase I – Discovery and Grounding
- Phase II – Role Mapping and Situational Assessment
- Phase III – Develop Organizational Capabilities and Understanding
- Phase IV – Develop Climate Adaptation Implementation Strategy

As has been done with other strategic initiatives, the District has enlisted the help of the CAC to work through Phases I and II of this process with staff to inform and stress-test the District's thinking and provide a solid foundation for moving into Phase III. To date, this process has included the following climate adaptation conversation series with the CAC:

- Grounding in Climate Science (March 3, 2020)
- Scanning across Federal, state, regional, and local governments to map existing plans and defined roles in climate adaptation (June 16, 2020)
- Exploring how MCWD will approach defining its role(s) in climate adaptation (October 14, 2020)

- Strengths, Weaknesses, Threats and Opportunities (SWOT) Workshop (November 10, 2020)

At the November 10th meeting, staff built upon the input provided at the October workshop by conducting a full Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis with the CAC. Staff compiled the CAC's input from the SWOT workshop into a report back summary (attached). Based on the CAC climate adaptation conversation series and the input collected at these meetings a synthesis report will be developed by MCWD staff.

Action Steps:

The outcome of this CAC climate adaptation conversation series will include a staff written synthesis addressing: (1) how climate change will impact the watershed at a macro-level; (2) what other partners and entities are doing in this area; (3) summary of SWOT analysis findings; (4) proposed high-level framework for defining MCWD's role in climate adaptation; and (5) summary of recommended next steps. This report will be brought back to the CAC in early 2021 to wrap-up the climate adaptation conversation series.

Based on the CAC's input from this conversation series, it will then be used by District staff and Board of Managers to further develop and refine how MCWD will strategically respond to climate change impacts. The results of these conversations with District staff and Board of Managers in 2021 will be brought back to the CAC as updates throughout the process.

Updates:

President's Report- Manager White

The board has been focused on the implementation of plans that are now coming to fruition and which includes the following projects: 325 Blake Road, Long Lake Subwatershed, Wassermann Lake Preserve and the new website development.

Staff Report- LaBo

LaBo provided an update on the CAC appointment process. In October, staff received affirmation 11 of 12 existing CAC members are interested in being considered for reappointment. At the November 5th Board meeting the appointment process was discussed with the board and it was decided the District will not solicit additional applicants. This decision was primarily due to the fact the CAC will be undergoing reassessment in 2021 to clarify the CAC's purpose and focus. Due to this transition period and challenges with bringing on new committee members during COVID-19 restrictions, the board will only be considering existing CAC members for reappointment at the December 17th meeting.

Administrator Report -Wisker

Mr. Wisker informed the CAC that, as part of a continued dialog, the District recently received a letter from the City of Greenwood requesting the inclusion of Councilmember Fletcher's AIS prevention ideas into the 2021 budget. He noted that the District was processing this request and would keep the CAC informed.

Oltmans motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Bushnell. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting is Wednesday, December 9th, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Managers Liaison: Manager Hejmadi