

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 14, 2020**

Members Present

Bushnell, Flo, McGovern, Nyquist, Oltmans, Ordway, Rechelbacher, Rosenberg, Salditt

Managers Present

Manager Miller

Others Present

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

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Fifth virtual meeting of the 2020 Citizen Advisory Committee.

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

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

Bushnell motioned to approve the September 2, 2020 CAC meeting minutes, seconded by Nyquist minutes approved.

Discussion Items:

Operations Improvements Update-LaBo

Purpose:

Staff provided an update on the CAC operations improvements action plan.

Background:

In response to discussions with the CAC on the need to enhance CAC meeting discussions and maintain the flow of information to the committee, a number of improvements in CAC operations are being put in place. An action plan to implement the identified improvements was created and contains the following action steps:

1. Meeting discussion enhancements:
 - a. The virtual meeting platform will be changed to allow small group break-outs
 - b. Small group facilitation will be provided by the CAC liaison and one District staff member during break- out sessions
 - c. The committee liaison will communicate the enhanced meeting facilitation structure to staff and assist staff with meeting preparation and facilitation
 - d. Staff will rely on committee members reading CAC packet materials in advance of meetings and limit the amount of time reviewing this material in meetings
 - e. Real time meeting surveys and other relevant tools will be tested and assessed

2. Flow of information improvements:
 - a. Board packet materials will be regularly provided to CAC members
 - b. Feedback loops on District initiatives will be incorporated into the CAC agenda planning process and communicated to District staff

- c. The CAC staff liaison will identify and share via email information which meets the above listed framework criteria
- d. CAC packets and other information of relevance will be routinely posted in Dropbox

Action Steps:

The CAC operations improvement action plan was reviewed by the CAC Executive Committee at the October 7, 2020 meeting and brought before the full CAC for questions and comments at the October 14th, 2020 meeting. Staff will continue to implement improvements and make adjustments as needed.

MCWD Climate Adaptation Series: Process to Delineate MCWD Roles- Moran

Purpose:

The CAC discussed and stress tested a proposed high-level framework to delineate the District's role(s) within climate adaptation. The meeting had two primary goals:

- Goal 1: Provide brief overview of proposed framework to delineate MCWD role(s) in climate adaptation
- Goal 2: Compile a list of questions, potential pressure points, and role considerations regarding delineating the District's role(s) within climate adaptation

Background:

Responding to climate change is a large, complex issue and MCWD has started strategically looking at how it can approach developing the most effective role(s) that will provide value to its partners and residents. This prompted District staff to engage the CAC in a series of climate conversations to gather ideas on how the District will define its role(s) to strategically respond to climate change.

The previous two climate conversations provided a solid foundational understanding of climate science and governance structure. At this third meeting, staff coarsely framed defining MCWD's role as Understand, Plan, and Implement. CAC members participated in a workshop that explored opportunities and threats to the District posed by climate change, including the anticipated impacts to water resources and pressures the District and its partners may face. Staff compiled the CAC's input and insights into a report back summary (attached) that will then be used to support the CAC's ongoing input in this climate conversation series.

Next Steps:

The input from the CAC will help inform the development of the District's climate adaption strategy. The outcome of this CAC climate adaptation series will include a staff written synthesis of: (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 synthesis, based on the CAC's input from this conservation series, 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.

Bushnell motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Nyquist. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Next Meeting is Tuesday, November 10th, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Managers Liaison: Manager White