



**Natural Resources and Groundwater Committee (NRGC) Meeting  
Tuesday, January 3, 2023  
5:00 PM**

**Note: The January 3, 2023 NRGC meeting will be held both remotely and in-person at City Hall. Instructions for participating in the meeting remotely are provided below.**

**Member David Husebye will participate remotely via Zoom from the following location:**

**5830 Osgood Ave. Ct. S.  
Afton, MN 55001**

**Instructions for Participating in the Meeting Remotely Via Zoom**

Options for Joining the Zoom Meeting:

RECOMMENDED: Use your computer, tablet or smart phone to join the meeting by logging on to:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86267455033?pwd=UEtOVnJNeHMvM2puVjQxRlM0b2ttZz09>

- Meeting ID: (862 6745 5033)  
Passcode: 194710
- Dial-in Number (to call in to the meeting)  
+1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter Meeting ID: 862 6745 5033

**Agenda**

1. Call to order
2. Roll call: Mark Have, David Husebye, Susan Loomis, Kim Myhers, Jack Kollmer and Elissa Thompson
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Election of Officers for 2023
5. Approval of Minutes of the December 6, 2022
6. Old Business
  - A. Well testing for Nitrates and coliforms
    - 1) Decision of when next to test
    - 2) Determine if Funding is Available
  - B. Perflourochemicals (PFC) update
  - C. List of reference items for NRGC and educational resources for community

D. NRGC items for Afton's monthly newsletter

1) Recycling update

E. Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)

F. Joint PC/NRGC Meetings from 2022

G. NRGC Management Organization update

1) Washington Conservation District

2) South Washington County Watershed District

3) Middle St. Croix Water Management Organization

4) Valley Branch Watershed District

5) Washington County Water Consortium

H. Update on CC and PC Business - Mayor Palmquist

I. Additional agenda items proposed by members

7. Next Meeting Date TBD: February 7, 2023 or March 7, 2023?

8. Adjourn

## Minutes--Draft

December 6, 2022 at 5:00 PM

- 1) Call to order. Chairperson Dave Husebye called the meeting to order at 5:02.
- 2) Roll call: Mark Have, David Husebye, Susan Loomis, Jack Kollmer, Kim Meyers, Elissa Thompson, all present. A quorum was present. The meeting was conducted via ZOOM. Mayor Palmquist was also in attendance.
- 3) Approval of Agenda. Additional items were added to the Agenda under 5) x). Motion / second by Loomis / Husebye to approve the Agenda for the December 6, 2022 meeting. The motion passed 6-0.
- 4) Approval of Minutes November 1, 2022. Motion / second by Myhers / Have to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2022 meeting. Motion approved 6-0.
- 5) Old Business
  - i) Well testing for Nitrates and coliforms 2022
    - (1) 2022 data presented to community via Afton newsletter. Dave reported he had forwarded the map presented at the last meeting along with a short article he reviewed with Mark to the City. Dave reported he followed up in early December, and discovered the email had not yet been opened by City Staff. Staff reported that the items would be in the January newsletter.
    - (2) Follow up on data on Afton Blvd. Dave reported he reviewed the results that were discussed in the last meeting (close sample sites with varied results). Looking at the database he had collected, the results were consistent with prior readings and did vary. Mark noted this was unusual and only with closer evaluation of where samples were taken could it be fully understood.
    - (3) Flow sheet on protocol for well sample from 2022. Dave reviewed the flow sheet he and Mark created, and notes it is enclosed in the packet for future reference.
  - ii) Perfluorochemicals (PFC) update. No new update.
  - iii) List of reference items for NRG. Dave reported that in the packet was a list he had collected in the past on reference items for the NRG. These and other items could be developed in the future for educational purposes, perhaps incorporated into the City's website.
  - iv) NRG items for Afton's monthly newsletter
    - (1) Recycling update. Kim reported she was in communication with Highland Sanitation who take the recycling to the Newport recycling center, and future item(s) could be developed.
    - (2) Dave noted well testing for 2022 has been forwarded and will be shared with the community.
    - (3) The possibility for future items from the community for educational purposes was discussed.
  - v) Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). Dave communicated with City staff, and was informed the CC has discussed this topic. Dave will reach out to the prior firm that did the NRI to see if this might be something to update.
  - vi) Monitoring of streams in Afton. Elissa had prepared a list of Stream Monitoring in Afton that was included in the packet for this meeting. This could be added to the above list of reference items for the community and community.
  - vii) NRG Management Organization update
    - (1) Washington Conservation District. Elissa reported no specific new updates. She did share information on groundwater education with members of the PC and the NRG.
    - (2) South Washington County Watershed District. Kim reported no new updates.

- (3) Middle St. Croix Water Management Organization. Susan noted the meeting was cancelled.
- (4) Valley Branch Watershed District. Mark reported there is to be some bank stabilization projects on Kelles Creek and Valley Creek in the future.
- (5) Washington County Water Consortium. Dave reported the last meeting had a presentation on the reduction of phosphorous going into the water systems by means of enhanced street cleaning activities. A number of studies are ongoing.

viii) Citizen Monitoring

- (1) Valley Creek Water Clarity Monitoring. Paused at this time.
- (2) Algae Alert Network for St. Croix River Association. Paused at this time.

ix) Update on CC and PC Business—Mayor Palmquist

x) Additional agenda items proposed by members

- (1) Jack requested a list of NRGCC members with addresses (home and email) and phone numbers. Dave will talk with City Staff to see about collecting this and getting this information shared. It was noted that some members might want certain pieces of information shared.
- (2) Jack requested a discussion of the approved Mountain Bike Park from this summer. This was discussed. The mayor was to have the resolution approved by the CC be forwarded to all NRGCC members to review.
- (3) Dave noted there had been a second PC/NRGCC meeting on water issues. There was discussion of what was reviewed. It Elissa provided a list of links for education purposes to the group. It was discussed this could be an area for the committee to explore further for education of Afton's residents on groundwater issues.

2) New business

- i) Committee Meeting Ideas For 2023. Dave reviewed how we currently came to the current meeting schedule. He noted the committee could make changes if it so desired. After discussion, it was decided to continue with meeting the first Tuesday of each month at 5:00 PM. Discussion of in person versus ZOOM also took place. The consensus was to meet in person, but have ZOOM available. It was noted this might be possible, but there might be some issues with the technology, but hopefully this could be resolved. A motion was made to meet January 3, 2023 at 5:00 at City Hall for the first meeting of 2023. This motion passed 5-0, one abstention (Have).

3) Next Meeting Date TBD: January 3, 2023.

4) Adjourn. Motion / second to adjourn by Kollmer / Have was made and approved 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30.

Submitted by Dave Husebye acting as secretary.



March 1, 2020

Bake Bakeman  
City of Afton  
Sent via email: bbafton@gmail.com

**Subject: Afton NRI Update**

Dear Mr. Bakeman:

Thank you for contacting EOR with your interest in updating the City of Afton Natural Resources Inventory. As you know, EOR completed the original work in the early 2000's. As nearly two decades have past, an update to the past work is recommended. From our phone conversation, EOR has compiled a list of tasks and estimated fees.

- A. Evaluation of Existing/Most Current GIS data and build a GIS layer containing most up-to-date and thorough information available integrating detailed knowledge of the city from our prior work. (20 hours). Estimated Fee= \$2,300
- B. Update historic landcover data using remote sensing (40 hours). Estimated Fee = \$4,300
  - a. Update landcover using contemporary aerial photography
  - b. Add layer to web map
  - c. Provide data analysis memo on land use changes, trends and areas/resources of interest
- C. Create Natural Resources Inventory (112 hours). Estimated Fee = \$12,500
  - a. Field inventory of notable areas of change (i.e. changes in development, high quality natural areas) – max of 24 hrs field time assumed.
  - b. Assess trends in landuse changes, invasive species trends/changes, etc.
  - c. Establish priority resource management objectives
  - d. Provide quality ranking for natural areas
- D. Build a web-based map to view existing data (40 hours). Estimated Fee = \$4,300
  - a. Develop an interactive web map to display the updated GIS data.
  - b. Additional features, maintenance and hosting can be discussed based on preferences.

We look forward to continuing conversations with you about this natural resources work. As your conversations progress at the city level, please let us know what additional information you need to develop a refined scope of work and fee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. R. Naber', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jason R. Naber  
Sr. Partner- Natural Resources Team Lead