



**Natural Resources and Groundwater Committee (NRGC) Meeting
Tuesday, September 3, 2019
5:30 PM**

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Roll call: Bake Baker, Mark Have, Keith Hoffmann, David Husebye, Valerie Stoehr
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes of the August 6, 2019 Meeting
5. Old Business
 - A. Well testing for Nitrates and coliforms 2019 and earlier
 - B. Perflourochemicals (PFC) update
 - C. List of reference items for NRGC
 - D. Citizen Monitoring
 - 1) Valley Creek Water Clarity Monitoring
 - 2) Algae Alert Network for St. Croix River Association
 - E. Wastewater Tour for Community
 - F. Budget request for Fiscal Year 2020 for Nitrates and coliform testing by NRGC for Afton
 - G. NRGC items for Afton's monthly newsletter
 - H. NRGC Management Organization update
 - 1) Washington Conservation District - Dave
 - 2) South Washington County Watershed District - Bake
 - 3) Middle St. Croix Water Management Organization - Dave
 - 4) Valley Branch Watershed District - Mark
 - 5) Washington County Water Consortium - Keith
 - I. Update on CC and PC Business - Mayor Palmquist
 - J. Additional agenda items proposed by members
6. Next Meeting Date: October 1, 2019
7. Adjourn

NRGC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday August 6, 2019
5:30 PM

1. **Call to Order:** Keith Hoffmann called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** In attendance were Keith Hoffmann, Mark Have, and Valerie Stoehr. Dave Husebye and Bake Baker were absent. Bill Palmquist was in attendance representing the City Council.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Mark made a motion to accept the agenda, Keith seconded, and the motion passed 3 to 0.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Valerie made a motion to approve the 2 July 2019 minutes, Mark seconded, and they were approved 3 to 0.
5. **Business:**
 - A. **Well testing for Nitrates for 2018 and prior:** Dave has been in contact with university professors about ways of getting historical data analyzed. Ideas like special projects for students or perhaps as part of a thesis for grad students might be possibilities.
 - B. **Well testing for nitrates and coliforms 2019:** Keith made an excel list of the June 2019 test results. Eighty eight tests for nitrate and coliform were done. Although 12 wells showed coliform present, none of the coliform bacteria were Escherichia coliform (E. coli). The absence of E. coli indicates that there is not sewage contamination. Also, the data do not show a correlation between nitrate concentration and coliform presence.
 - C. **Perflourochemicals (PFC's) update:** Bill Palmquist continues to attend said that some cities are beginning to advocate for the treatment of ground water that has been contaminated with PFC's.
 - D. **List of reference items for NRGC:** Materials that are helpful for committee members are scattered throughout the city's web site. Councilwoman Lucia W. and Dave will start consolidating appropriate references and material this fall.
 - E. **NRGC management organization update:** The Washington Conservation District posted over 6 months of minutes. Afton has had several grants moved forward; grants are mostly payments for projects planed in prior years. Carpenter Nature Center was receiving a large grant related to phosphorous reduction. Will Carlson is noted to working with the WCD per the February minutes on a habitat management plan for Afton Creek Preserve.
 - F. **Citizen Monitoring:** The Algae Alert Network water sampling has started for St. Croix River Association. Mark continues to monitor Valley Creek weekly. Clarity improved after backwater conditions ceased.

- G. Wastewater tour for community:** Val is coordinating this tour. A spring tour is planned.
 - H. Update on CC and PC Business:** Approved amending Article IX Sewer of Chapter 12 Land Use. Received update from City Engineer on the Afton Creek Preserve Construction.
- 6. New Business:**
- A. Budget request for Fiscal year 2020 for nitrates and coliform testing:** Mayor will tell Ron M. to budget \$3000 for testing next spring.
- 7. Next meeting:** September 3, 2019

Keith made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mark seconded the motion, and meeting was adjourned 3 to 0.

Minutes taken by Mark Have, acting secretary.