



Natural Resources and Groundwater Committee (NRGC)

Agenda
Tuesday, September 4, 2018
5:00 PM

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call:** Bake Baker, Mark Have, Keith Hoffman, David Husebye, Jack Kollmer
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
- 4. Approval of Minutes August 7, 2018**
- 5. Business**
 - A. Well Testing Update and water sampling of Valley Creek at Putnam
 - B. Well testing for Nitrates 2018 and prior
 - C. Well testing 2019 – coliforms and nitrates
 - D. Perflourochemicals (PFC) update
 - E. Bee action
 - F. List of reference items for NRGC
 - G. NRGC Management Organization Update
 1. Washington Conservation District
 2. South Washington County Watershed District
 3. Middle St. Croix Water Management Organization
 4. Valley Brand Watershed District
 - H. Update on City Council and Planning Commission Business – Council Member Palmquist
 - I. Additional agenda items proposed by members.
- 6. Next Meeting date listed October 2, 2018 at 5:00 pm**

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 7, 2018
5:00 PM

1. **Call to Order:** Jack Kollmer called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** In attendance were Jack Kollmer, Dave Husebye, Mark Have, and Keith Hoffmann. Bake Baker was an unexcused absentee. Bill Palmquist was in attendance representing the City Council.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was amended by adding Jack's topic about bees under business item 5E. Dave made a motion to accept the amended agenda, Keith seconded, and the motion passed 4 to 0.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Jack presented minutes from the 4 April 2018 and 10 July 2018 meetings. Because only Dave and Jack were at the 4 April 2018 meeting, and therefore, was not a quorum, Dave and Jack approved those minutes while Mark and Keith abstained from voting. Jack made a motion to approve the 10 July 2018 minutes, Keith seconded, and those minutes were approved 4 to 0.
5. **Business:**
 - A. **Appoint chair and vice chair and handling secretary responsibilities:** Jack, who is the chairman, intends to resign from the committee. Dave accepted the position of Chairman and Keith accepted the position of Vice Chairman. Secretary responsibilities of minute taking will be shared. Mark volunteered for this meeting, Keith volunteered for September, and Dave volunteered for October. If possible, Bake will take the minutes for November.
 - B. **Well testing and sampling Valley Creek:** Mark and Keith will prepare an article for the September Newsletter about the June nitrate results. Keith will see if Washington County Health could help in displaying nitrate results on a map that could then be put on the city's web page and published in the newsletter. Sampling for total coliform bacteria next spring or early summer was discussed; Washington County Health charges \$12 per sample. A consensus felt that a budget of \$2000 was appropriate for next year's sampling activities. MPCA needs volunteer help to sample Valley Creek at Putnam Blvd. Ron Moorse will send details when he gets them from Mayor Bend.
 - C. **Management organizations update:** Jack described the benefits of keeping an updated notebook along with reference material. He handed out information from MDH about PFC's. Mark said that VBWD, WCD, and SCRA are in the process of taking care of the erosion near Paradox End Avenue South, which is in the Kelle's Creek watershed. The gully is actively eroding even during dry periods due to groundwater influence.

The project will include a French drain to guide the groundwater flow. The project has a 10 year commitment to maintenance.

- D. **Update on council business:** Councilman Bill Palmquist from Ward 1 said that Barb Ronnigan is representing Afton as a member of a citizens' committee that is staying informed on the effects of the 3M settlement concerning PFC's. Bill will try to find an additional member or two for our committee.
 - E. **Additional news items:** Jack has educational material about bees that he will discuss with the administrative staff about including it in the September newsletter. The pollinator problem due to some of man's activities affecting the environment, could probably be mitigated through a better informed public; building bee houses and placing those houses in parks and open spaces could be a worthwhile project for boy scouts as well as for bees. It was mentioned that Belwin and Carpenter Nature Centers might be potential partners in accomplishing this.
6. Mark moved that the meeting be adjourned, Dave seconded, and with a 4 to 0 approval, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by Mark Have, acting secretary.