

## **Steering Council Meeting Minutes** **March 1, 2007**

### **Meeting Called to Order 7:12PM**

#### **Roll Call**

Members in Attendance – Robert Livingston, Tom Porps, Corinne Krebs, Jamie Smith, Vytav Barcus, Tony Migon

Others in Attendance – Trustee Mike Moran, Bob Elkin from Northern Environmental, Andy Nelson from Northern Environmental

#### **Minutes**

None read or approved

#### **Special Item**

Robert briefed Bob Elkin and Andy Nelson on suggestions/comments made at the previous meeting with Craig Helker from the Wisconsin DNR. He expressed an interest to them in going after the Urban Non-Point Grant and reinforced the District's approach in getting the project done only if it can be partially funded by grants.

Tom questioned the representatives about available funding for grants this year, to which Andy explained that last year's funds went primarily to rural, non-point farm pollution projects. Andy went on to say that each region receives some money, but we would have to find out what other projects the District would be up against to determine the likelihood of receiving grant funding. Robert then talked about invoices the Village received for work completed, asking specifically about Northern Environmental's affiliation with Bonestroo since most of the bill seemed to be work completed by Bonestroo. Mr. Elkin explained that they needed support from Bonestroo for surveying and drafting services. He also explained that a hydrology study was done to move the project into the final planning stages. He reassured that although little remained in the budget from the initial proposal the project had a firm price and Northern Environmental would stick to the original quote provided.

Tom then asked them if they were willing to put forth the same amount of risk on the project as the District; meaning, if the District cannot obtain grant funding to move the project forward, Northern Environmental would not bill out the remaining funds for completing plans. Andy stated that he would need to do more investigative work on what projects were coming through for grant funding before answering the question. He stated that he would call Bob by March 15<sup>th</sup> with an answer and that there would still be plenty of time to complete any work necessary to reapply for the grants.

Robert then spoke to them about other projects the District was looking into having the firm work on with the District such as a spillway, Bayview channel, etc. implying a greater volume of work in the future. He then asked where the District stands as a client of Northern Environmental. Both Andy and Mr. Elkin agreed that the District is a typical client for their firm and this is a good time for the firm to be working with the District. Andy explained that mid-May the firm begins their field-season where office type work is a bit slow to completion, then, in August field work slows down and by Labor Day they are freed up again to work on office type things. Mr. Elkin stated that late-May through June slows down in the office for engineers but project supervision in the field picks up from there.

Members then asked the two representatives what the District could do further assist them. Andy suggested research into sediment loading on the site or something that would suggest it being an

area of specific sensitivity. He stated that by showing some urgency for the project, the District would likely obtain grant funding more easily.

Finally, the representatives were asked, knowing what they know and what the Council members know now, why did they pursue writing grants if chances were so low to begin with. Andy responded that little seemed to be coming from the Southeastern region and he believed chances were in the District's favor to obtain some funding based on fund allocations.

Council members thanked the representatives for coming to the meeting and asked that they respond as quickly as possible, so the Steering Council could determine what approach they would pursue in the future.

After Andy and Bob had left Council members turned their attention to another item on the agenda, a hydraulic power washing unit for the buoy boat. Tom explained to the other members that he did not plan for a hydraulic power washing unit in the initial stages of the boat planning. He went on to explain that the hydraulic unit can be turned on and off with a switch so buoys can be washed immediately upon being pulled for the winter. This presents a big advantage in reducing maintenance expenses ensuring the buoys are legible each year. Tom explained that if algae and lime from the water dry on the buoy it cannot be removed easily and usually at the expense of the warning or text on the buoy.

*Motion: To reallocate funds (approximately \$2,000.00) from Aquatic Plant budget and \$1500.00 from small projects to put toward hydraulic power washer for new buoy boat.*

*Made by: Tony Migon*

*Second: Tom Porps*

*Unanimously approved*

The next meeting was scheduled for March 29, 2007 at 7:00pm in the Twin Lakes Village Hall.

**Meeting Adjourned 9:05PM**