

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Committee Members Present: Chair Peggy Leppik, Kirstin Beach, Roger Scherer, Russ Susag, Lynette Wittsack, Daniel Wolter

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Leppik called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 4:02 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11, 2007.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The agenda was amended to remove Item 2007-415 from consideration. It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Susag to approve the amended agenda

It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Susag to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2007 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **The motion carried.**

BUSINESS

2007-408 Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Contract No. 07P053 for Arc Flash and Short Circuit Coordination Study

It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Beach that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute MCES Contract No. 07P053 with Square D Services for Arc Flash and Short Circuit Coordination Study

Motion carried.

2007-409 Authorization to Reject all Bids for Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) Facility Roof Repair, Contract Number 07P093

It was moved by Susag, seconded by Wittsack that the Metropolitan Council authorize the rejection of all bids for Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) Facility Roof Repair, Contract Number 07P093.

Motion carried.

2007-410 Authorization to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Interceptor Modifications Necessitated By the I-35W Bridge Replacement

It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Beach that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for modification of facilities for interceptors 8255, 1-MN-310, and 1-MN-300 in the vicinity of the proposed I-35W Bridge construction.

Motion carried.

2007-411 Authorization for the Metropolitan Council to Participate in The Climate Registry

It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Susag that the Metropolitan Council the Regional Administrator to execute the attached Statement of Intent to participate in "The Climate Registry."

Beach opposed. **Motion carried.**

2007-412 Increase of Delegated Construction Contract Change Order Authority for Empire Outfall Phase 3, MCES Project Number 800922, Contract Number 04P024

It was moved by Susag, seconded by Wittsack that the Metropolitan Council increases the delegated construction contract change order authority of its General Manager, Environmental Services, from \$647,376 to \$710,376 for the Empire Outfall Phase 3, MCES Project No. 800922, Contract No. 04P024.

Motion carried.

INFORMATION

Update on Rural Areas

Bryce Pickart, Assistant General Manager of Technical Services, provided an update on Rural Area Planning, including interceptor extensions in the cities of Carver and Elko-New Market, future wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) in Scott, Carver, and western Hennepin counties, and the Diversified Rural area issues. Discussions have been held with Carver and Elko-New Market regarding interceptor extension, and with E. Bethel, Hampton, Mayer, New Germany and St. Frances on WWTPs. Diversified rural area issues include 1) planning area designation changes, 2) preservation of land for future sewered development, 3) density policy and 4) sewer service for existing unsewered development. Staff will be working with communities individually on comprehensive plan updates and wastewater system plans. Ordinances that hinder future economical sewered development will be discouraged, and cluster developments will be encouraged. Where unsewered development is involved, the Council will allow connection of failing systems, which will be excluded from density calculations, and include all connected non-failing systems in density calculations.

Update on Phosphorus Trading Issues

Rebecca Flood, Environmental Compliance Manager, informed the committee that two parties are interested in water quality trading – the City of Princeton and Central Lakes Regional Sanitary District. Flood reminded the committee that credit trading allows a new or expanded facility to discharge to an impaired water prior to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) completing a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). Once the TMDL is done, the load will be restored to the Council. Discussions are continuing with the City of Princeton and the Central Lakes Regional Sanitary District, and agreements will be proposed shortly.

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Harder
Recording Secretary