

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Committee Members Present: Vice-Chair Daniel Wolter, Polly Bowles, Craig Peterson, Roger Scherer, Lynette Wittsack, Wendy Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Chair Peggy Leppik, Kirstin Beach

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Vice-Chair Wolter called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2011.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Wulff, to approve the amended agenda. **The motion carried.**

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Scherer, to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2010 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **The motion carried.**

BUSINESS

2011-36 2011 Unified Operating Budget Amendment

It was moved by Scherer, seconded by Wulff, that the Metropolitan Council That the Metropolitan Council amend the 2011 Unified Operating Budget to increase expenditures and transfers in from the Wastewater Operating Contingency Reserve by \$616,200.

Motion carried.

2011-44 City of South Saint Paul 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update, Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review No. 20587-1

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Scherer, that the Metropolitan Council approve the City of South St. Paul's Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan.

Motion carried.

2011-45 Municipal Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) Grant Program Guideline Changes

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Wittsack, that the Metropolitan Council approves changes to the guidelines for the municipal publicly-owned infrastructure infiltration/inflow grant program and program guidelines.

Motion carried.

2011-55 Ratification of Declaration of Emergency for Flood Preparation and Protection

It was moved by Scherer, seconded by Wittsack, that the Metropolitan Council ratify the Justification for and Declaration of Emergency for flood preparation and protection.

Motion carried.

INFORMATION

1. Update on East Bethel

Bryce Pickart, Assistant General Manager, reminded the committee that the November election resulted in an East Bethel city council that questioned moving forward with sewer development. The Metropolitan Council sent a letter to the city

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to clarify its position, including expectation of reimbursement of \$2 million expended to date based on the city's request for wastewater service. The city has contracted for an independent assessment and it is anticipated that East Bethel will make its decision on whether to proceed with or cancel the project by the end of February.

2. 2010 Year-End Report

William G. Moore, General Manager, reviewed the division's performance during 2010. The goal of 99.8% NPDES compliance was met - December marked 47 consecutive months of effluent limit compliance. Incinerators all passed stack tests. The collection system had one fairly significant spill in 2010. There were two minor CSO events in 2010. Key capital improvements implemented included rehabilitation projects at Metro, improvement projects at Blue Lake, South Saint Paul and Plymouth forcemains, Shakopee projects, and Victoria interceptor replacement project. New service is under consideration for Elko/New Market, Carver, and East Bethel. Effective customer service demonstrated through the Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) program; at the end of 2010, 27 of 47 communities with excessive I/I completed their programs. Another 11 are expected to finish in 2011. The I/I task force and SAC task force worked on significant customer issues. Water supply planning is continuing ongoing studies. Staff effectively managed annual and capital budgets. The energy reduction goal to reduce purchase of energy by 15% by 2010 resulted in a 16.1% reduction. New goal is to reduce energy purchases by 25% of 2006 by 2015. There was a 12% decrease in OSHA recordable accidents in 2010 vs 2009, and a 49% decrease in accidents in last 5 years. 2011 challenges include Metro Plant Permit (PFOS), I/I, energy conservation, SAC fund, CSO permit, and East Bethel.

Moore thanked the committee for its support over the last eight years.

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Harder
Recording Secretary