

**MINUTES**  
**SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**PLANNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

1:30 p.m.

SEWRPC Office Building  
Commissioners' Conference Room  
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive  
Waukesha, WI 53187

Meeting Occurred in Person and Virtually via Video and Telephone Conference

**Present:**

**Excused:**

Commissioners:

Daniel S. Schmidt, Chairman  
Charles L. Colman  
Michael A. Crowley  
Brian Holt  
Dewayne Johnson  
Natalia Minkel-Dumit  
Aloysius Nelson  
Robert W. Pitts  
Jeffrey D. Schleif  
Peggy L. Shumway  
David L. Stroik  
Adam Tindall-Schlicht

Donna Brown-Martin  
Jonathan Delagrave  
Mary Knipper  
James A. Ladwig  
John O'Day

Staff:

Benjamin R. McKay	Deputy Director
Elizabeth A. Larsen	Director of Administration
Catherine Pozum	Human Resources Assistant/Bookkeeper
Laura K. Herrick	Chief Environmental Engineer

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman Schmidt called the Planning and Research Committee meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present. Chairman Schmidt indicated for the record that Commissioners Brown-Martin, Delagrave, Knipper, Ladwig, and O'Day had asked to be excused.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 15, 2022, MEETING**

Chairman Schmidt asked if there were any changes or additions to the February 15, 2022, meeting minutes. There were none.

On a motion by Mr. Schleif, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the February 15, 2022, Planning and Research Committee Meeting were approved.

**REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN:**

**Village Of Menomonee Falls sanitary sewer service area (copy attached to official minutes)**

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. McKay to review the proposed amendment to the adopted regional water quality management plan pertaining to the Village of Menomonee Falls sanitary sewer service area. A copy of the preliminary draft of the SEWRPC Staff Memorandum dated April 25, 2022, concerning this matter was provided to the Committee members for review prior to the meeting.

Mr. McKay indicated that by letter dated December 13, 2021, the Village of Menomonee Falls requested that the Commission amend the sanitary sewer service area plan. He stated that a sewer service area plan was prepared in 1993 for the Villages of Lannon and Menomonee Falls. He then stated that the purpose of the amendment would be to include within the planned sewer service area certain lands located immediately adjacent to, but outside, the currently adopted sewer service area.

Mr. McKay directed the attention of the Committee members to Map 1, which identifies the proposed changes to the Menomonee Falls sanitary sewer service area. He stated that the area proposed to be added by the Village is in the portion of the sewer service area that is tributary to the Sussex wastewater treatment plant, and that the Village of Sussex expressed support of the amendment. He stated that it is an increase of about 421 acres, which is just over a 14 percent increase of the area tributary to the Sussex wastewater treatment plant. He then noted that future development in the proposed addition to the service area would consist primarily of low-density residential uses under the Village comprehensive plan. However, the Village comprehensive plan also recognizes that higher density residential development may be suitable for some parts of this area, subject to available sanitary sewer capacity. He further noted that the area proposed to be added could accommodate 613 housing units and a population of 1,660 people.

Mr. McKay then directed the attention of the Committee members to Maps 2 and 3 and stated that the proposed addition to the sanitary sewer service area would include 134 acres of environmentally significant lands consisting of 57 acres of primary environmental corridor, 52 acres of secondary environmental corridor, 21 acres of isolated natural resource area, and about four acres of wetlands outside of corridors.

Mr. McKay stated that the Sussex wastewater treatment plant serves the Village of Sussex and portions of the Village of Lannon, Town of Lisbon, and Village of Menomonee Falls. The plant has a design capacity of 5.1 million gallons per day (mgd) on an average annual basis. The average annual flow allocation for the Village of Menomonee Falls as set forth in a 2019 Intermunicipal Agreement is 0.55 mgd. The current average annual wastewater flow to the Sussex treatment plant for the entire service area is about 1.63 mgd. The current average annual flow from Menomonee Falls is about 0.17 mgd. The estimated flow from the proposed addition would be about 0.21 mgd, for a total flow of 0.38 mgd, which is below the allocation set forth in the 2019 agreement.

He then said that a public hearing was held on April 18, 2022. No objections to the proposed amendment were expressed at the hearing and the Menomonee Falls Village Board approved the sewer service area amendment. The amendment is consistent with the land use component of the VISION 2050, the regional

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water quality management plan, and Chapter NR 121 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code governing the preparation of areawide water quality management plans.

Mr. McKay stated that it is the staff recommendation that the Committee recommend that the Commission amend the Village of Menomonee Falls sanitary sewer service area. Upon adoption by the Commission, the amendment will be provided to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) for approval and the WDNR will then provide the amendment to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for certification.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman, Mr. McKay stated that access to the area adjacent to Main Street would cross a secondary environmental corridor.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Johnson, Mr. McKay stated that streets are considered compatible development with secondary environmental corridors.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman, Mr. McKay stated that the Silver Spring Country Club may be developed with a residential use in the future; however, the golf course is still operating.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Schleif, Mr. McKay stated that it is not unusual to hold a public hearing without objections from the public.

There being no further questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Schleif, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the Amendment to the Village of Menomonee Falls sanitary sewer service area was unanimously recommended by the Committee for adoption by the Commission.

**Village of Darien sanitary sewer service area (copy attached to official minutes)**

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. McKay to review the proposed amendment to the adopted regional water quality management plan pertaining to the Village of Darien sanitary sewer service area. A copy of the preliminary draft of the SEWRPC Staff Memorandum dated April 28, 2022, concerning this matter was provided to the Committee members for review prior to the meeting.

Mr. McKay indicated that by letter dated March 25, 2022, the Village of Darien and the Walworth County Metropolitan Sewerage District (WalCoMet) requested that the Commission amend the Darien sanitary sewer service area. He stated that the purpose of the amendment would be to include within the planned sewer service area certain lands located immediately adjacent to, but outside, the currently adopted sewer service area.

Mr. McKay directed the attention of the Committee members to Map 1, which identifies the proposed changes to the Village of Darien sanitary sewer service area. He stated that the area proposed to be added by the Village is an addition of 158 acres, which is an increase of just over 17 percent. The proposed addition has approximately 1.2 acres of environmentally significant lands, which consist of secondary environmental corridor. He then noted that the area is planned for industrial and commercial uses in the Village comprehensive plan and the population of the area to be added is not expected to increase in the future.

Mr. McKay stated that the Village of Darien sewer service area is tributary to the WalCoMet wastewater treatment plant in the City of Delavan. The facility currently has a design capacity of 7.0 million gallons per day (mgd) on an average annual basis. The current hydraulic loading to the plant is about 3.2 mgd on an average annual basis. The estimated wastewater flow from the proposed addition to the Village of Darien sewer service area would be about 0.24 mgd on an average annual basis. Thus, the treatment plant has available capacity to serve the proposed addition.

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He then said that a public hearing will be held on June 2, 2022. The amendment is consistent with the land use component of the VISION 2050, the regional water quality management plan, and Chapter NR 121 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code governing the preparation of areawide water quality management plans.

Mr. McKay stated it is the staff recommendation that the Committee, contingent upon any public comments received at the June 2, 2022, public hearing, recommend that the Commission amend the Village of Darien sanitary sewer service area. Upon adoption by the Commission, the amendment will be provided to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) for approval and the WDNR will then provide the amendment to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for certification.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Holt, Mr. McKay stated that if the local government does not approve the proposed amendment, the Commission would not act on the proposed amendment.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman, Mr. McKay stated that the area of this amendment is located south of CTH X, between CTH C and Wise Road.

There being no further questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Stroik seconded by Mr. Crowley, contingent upon the outcome of the June 2, 2022, public hearing and Village Board approval, the Amendment to the Village of Darien sanitary sewer service area was unanimously recommended by the Committee for adoption by the Commission.

**PRESENTATION PROVIDING AN OVERVIEW OF THE RESTORATION PLAN FOR THE OAK CREEK WATERSHED**

Chairman Schmidt asked Ms. Laura Herrick, Chief Environmental Engineer, to present an overview of the of the Restoration Plan for the Oak Creek Watershed.

During Ms. Herrick's presentation, the following comments and questions were made.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Stroik on the green infrastructure recommendations in the plan, Ms. Herrick stated that the recommendation is that only a portion of the alleys (in the center, along the drainage path) would be porous, which provides some stormwater storage benefit while maintaining winter plowing capabilities.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Schleif about maintenance of detention ponds by homeowners' associations (HOAs), Ms. Herrick stated that unfortunately maintenance often is not being done, either because the HOA does not know what is required or the HOA has incorrectly assumed the municipality is responsible for it.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman, Ms. Herrick noted that the island currently in the Mill Pond on Oak Creek may be a burial mound site, thus no excavation work is included at that location for any of the Mill Pond and dam alternatives included in the plan.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Johnson, Ms. Herrick stated this study was requested by the City of South Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD).

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Pitts, Ms. Herrick stated that the City of South Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, and MMSD all provided financial support for this project.

[Secretary's Note: The Oak Creek Watershed Restoration Plan was budgeted for a total cost of \$542,900.00. That budget consisted of: MMSD \$280,000.00; Milwaukee County \$18,950; City of South Milwaukee \$18,950; and SEWRPC \$225,000.00.]

Mr. Stroik stated this is a noble cause and it is good to see streams being restored.

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**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Planning and Research Committee will be held on August 9, 2022.

**CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. McKay if there were any correspondence or announcements. There were none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion by Mr. Schleif, seconded by Mr. Stroik, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin R. McKay  
Deputy Secretary

KJM/BRM/EAL/cp  
#262837