Dane County Lakes & Watershed Commission
Budget Committee

Thursday, July 21, 2011
Room 321, City-County Building
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Madison, WI

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Chuck Erickson, Melissa Malott, Lyle Updike
County Staff Present: Richelle Anhalt, Kevin Connors, Mindy Habecker, Marcia Hartwig, Sue Jones, Amy Nyland-Schmook, Sgt. Dave Ritter, Mica Weber
Others Present: Greg Fries, Kirsti Sorsa

Call to Order
Erickson called the meeting to order at 8:14 a.m.

Approval of Minutes
Updike/Erickson moved approval of the 7/18/11 minutes; motion carried 2-0.

Public Comment
None.

Announcements
None.

2012 Budget Presentations
City of Madison Engineering: Greg Fries stated that the urban catchment grant program is a good program for all and would like see it continued. Their capital budget has been submitted to the Mayor, however he has not responded yet. He discussed some current and future projects related to stormwater in detail.

UWEX: Mindy Habecker stated that the only thing related to budget is her salary, which isn’t determined yet because she’s a state employee as well as county employee. She submitted last year’s numbers as a placeholder. She continues to run the Water Education Resource Center, which loans equipment out to 25-30 groups a year. The Commission contributes $500 annually to replace items, etc. MAMSWP has also provided storm drain markers and glue. In addition to many other duties, Habecker interacts and supports the LWC, friends/watershed groups and more. She currently staffs YLAG2, environmental council and runs their two grant programs as well as community development work, not all of which is water related. She also coordinates meetings to bring in revenue to her department.

Public Health Madison-Dane County: Kirsti Sorsa reported that Public Health Madison-Dane County is monitoring stormwater, county beaches, Stewart lake; and Rice Lake; lake and storm water outfall monitoring is done monthly; primary outfalls (some for road salt reporting), public
swimming pools and whirlpool testing at hotels, apartment complexes. Carpet cleaners often dump waste down the storm drains. One management company said they quit using a certain cleaning company because of this; so it becomes important to their business to learn. PHMDC has a new test to determine what product was actually used to better enforce the coal tar ordinance. Following up on complaints is labor and time intensive. Recent ordinance amendments raised fees and included language that improved enforcement, however are still unable to recoup time and material costs.

Dane County Sheriff Marine and Trail Enforcement: Sgt. Ritter stated they are asking for $55K to replace a boat at Fish Camp. Some old boats go to Joe Yaeger’s crew to set buoys etc, others go to auction. Some bring in only $200, sometimes less. The Sheriff’s Department uses them for five years, then Joe gets them, then they go away. Each has about 3,000 hours on them, which is equivalent to a car with 500,000 miles. A new track is also needed at Fish Camp as the one there is only rated for 1,500 pounds and doesn’t go far enough out into river. Sgt. Ritter was able to negotiate 50% reimbursement from state.

Land & Water Resources Department: Kevin Connors stated that there are no requests in 2012 for new barges or weed cutters. Plans are to continue Yahara CLEAN recommendations implementation, residential flood program, urban outfall grant program, and the water partnership program. He’s currently evaluating partnership with the City of Madison and UW–Madison regarding flow restrictions and developing the INFOS model, which will help identify restrictions and other lake management information. He encourages support for $65,000 capital funds to contract with UW Environmental & Civil Engineering to continue development of the INFOS model to get flow characteristics. Flow sensors and groundwater sensors have been purchased, purchase request for groundwater sensors denied $3600. When lake management was transferred to LWRD, no additional staff or funds were made available. INFOS model will aid in lake management.

He has been involved in discussions with State DOT regarding Hwy 51 upgrades from McFarland to the interstate. Improvements will impact Babcock and Viking parks. Discussions include ideas to improve flow at bridge for flow management. However, project has yet to be enumerated; so funding is not available if the price tag has not been identified. Still two years away from environmental assessment. May consider completing smaller stretches with smaller pots of money.

Revenue shortfall is attributed to fewer construction site permits sold, which is a reflection of economy. When staff find work is happening without permits, then permit fees are doubled. Half of permits were double-fee related, compliance is much better now. Since double fees are not as common, this also has a negative impact on revenue.

Set Next Meeting
The Budget Committee will meet July 25, July 27 and August 1 to continue discussion of budget recommendations.

Other Business/Adjourn
Malott/Updike moved adjournment at 10:42 a.m. Motion carried 3-0.