


DATE: October 15, 2019

TO: Board of Water and Soil Resources' Members, Advisors, and Staff

FROM: John Jaschke, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: BWSR Board Meeting Notice – October 23, 2019

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will meet on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the lower level Board Room, at 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul. Parking is available in the lot directly in front of the building (see hooded parking area).

The following information pertains to agenda items:

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

### *Central Region Committee*

1. **Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization Watershed Management Plan** – The Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) was originally formed in 1985 through a Joint Powers Agreement ratified by Columbus, East Bethel, and Linwood Township in order to cooperatively develop a Watershed Management Plan and form the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO). The City of Ham Lake was added to the JPA in 2000. The SRWMO encompasses approximately 45,300 acres in the northeast corner of Anoka County. The area has abundant of high-quality natural communities, including large areas of public lands. Their 3<sup>rd</sup> generation plan was completed in 2010 and expires May 26, 2020. In this 4<sup>th</sup> generation plan the SRWMO the primary focus is on water monitoring and implementation of water quality improvement projects. The Central Regional Committee met on October 10, 2019 to discuss the Plan and recommends approval of the Plan. **DECISION ITEM**
2. **Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan Extension** – The Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (PLSLWD) was originally established on March 4, 1970, by order of the Minnesota Water Resources Board (MWRB) under the authority of the Minnesota Watershed Act. The order was in response to a petition filed with the MWRB by residents within the watershed on June 24, 1969.

PLSLWD is approximately 42 square miles in north central Scott County and ultimately drains to the Minnesota River. There was no outflow from the watershed until 1983 when an outlet channel was constructed at the southwest end of Lower Prior Lake. Land use in the District is a mix of both suburban developed land and undeveloped agricultural land. Government units within the District include: Scott County, the cities of Prior Lake, Savage, and Shakopee, portions of Sand Creek and Spring Lake Townships, and a portion of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community.

On September 3, 2019, the Board received an initial petition from the PLSLWD requesting an extension to their Water Resources Management Plan from the current expiration date of December 31, 2019, until a new expiration date of December 21, 2020. The District formally began the Plan update process in February 2018 and has since been in process of updating the Plan. PLSLWD staff recently undertook a major effort to reformat the draft Plan to be more 'user-friendly', which has delayed the Plan update process. The District currently anticipates distributing the draft Plan for the 60-day review and comment period in December 2019.

BWSR staff have discussed the extension request with PLSLWD staff and is recommending that the extension request be provided to December 31, 2020 to ensure the District has adequate time to complete the Plan update process and to complete the review process. As a result of the plan extension approval, PLSLWD would maintain eligibility to apply for and receive grant funding through 2020.

On October 10, 2019, the Board's Central Region Committee met to consider the request and upon a unanimous vote, recommended approval of the extension request to the full Board. **DECISION ITEM**

3. **North Fork Crow River Watershed District Boundary Change and Enlargement** – The purpose of the petition is to correct the boundary between the North Fork Crow River Watershed and the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District and to have the legal boundary match the hydrologic boundary; and the area to be enlarged and included drains into the county ditch systems, under Minnesota Statutes 103E, and into the North Fork Crow River Watershed District are not included in the current boundary of the North Fork Crow River Watershed. **DECISION ITEM**

#### **Grants Program and Policy Committee**

1. **Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program and Policy** – This is a new program in fiscal year 2020 that is aimed at issuing grants for the creation of demonstration projects to plant residential lawns with native vegetation and pollinator-friendly forbs and legumes to protect a diversity of pollinators. A policy is needed to provide guidance to grantees on the requirements of this new program. **DECISION ITEM**

#### **Southern Region Committee**

1. **Buffalo Creek Watershed District Watershed Plan Amendment** – The petition proposes to amend the watershed district's watershed management plan to establish a water management district along the northern edge of the City of Glencoe. Territory is limited to the Central Ditch drainage area encompassing approximately 1,132 acres. The establishment of the water management district will allow the district to collect revenues to support a comprehensive stormwater management project over the drainage area of the ditch. **DECISION ITEM**
2. **Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan** – The Missouri River Watershed was selected by BWSR as one of the seven planning areas for the One Watershed, One Plan program in 2016. The watershed partnership Policy Committee, Advisory Committee, and Planning Work Group members have attended regularly scheduled meetings and submitted the Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan to BWSR on July 22, 2019, for review and approval. The Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met on September 26, 2019, to review the content of the Plan, State agency comments on the Plan, and to make a recommendation for approval. The Committee recommends approval by the full Board. **DECISION ITEM**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2020 State Water Plan** – The EQB is directed by statute (MS §[103B.151](#)) to prepare a state water plan, a “comprehensive long-range water resources planning” document, every ten years. The 2020 plan will be the fourth such plan since 1991. **INFORMATION ITEM**

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to call me at (651) 297-4290. We look forward to seeing you on October 23rd.

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD NORTH  
ST. PAUL, MN 55155  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019**

**AGENDA**

**9:00 AM CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2019 BOARD MEETING**

**PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM** (10-minute agenda time, two-minute limit/person)

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF**

- Megan Lennon, Legislative Coordinator
- Rita Weaver, Chief Engineer/Manager
- Jason Beckler, Easements Assistant Section Manager
- Aimee Gerhartz, Assistant Program Analyst

**REPORTS**

- Chair & Administrative Advisory Committee - Gerald Van Amburg
- Audit & Oversight Committee - Gerald Van Amburg
- Executive Director - John Jaschke
- Dispute Resolution and Compliance Report – Travis Germundson/Gerald Van Amburg
- Grants Program & Policy Committee - Steve Sunderland
- RIM Reserve Committee – Tom Loveall
- Water Management & Strategic Planning Committee - Jack Ditmore
- Wetland Conservation Committee - Tom Schulz
- Buffers, Soils & Drainage Committee - Kathryn Kelly
- Drainage Work Group - Tom Loveall/Tom Gile

**AGENCY REPORTS**

- Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Thom Petersen
- Minnesota Department of Health – Chris Elvrum
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Jess Richards
- Minnesota Extension Service – Joel Larson
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – Katrina Kessler

**ADVISORY COMMENTS**

- Association of Minnesota Counties – Brian Martinson
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees – Chessa Frahm
- Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships – Nathan Redalen
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts – Emily Javens
- Natural Resources Conservation Service – Troy Daniell

## **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### ***Central Region Committee***

1. Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization Watershed Management Plan – Dan Fabian and Kevin Bigalke – ***DECISION ITEM***
2. Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan Extension – Melissa King and Kevin Bigalke – ***DECISION ITEM***
3. North Fork Crow River Watershed District Boundary Change and Enlargement – Kevin Bigalke and Annie Felix-Gerth – ***DECISION ITEM***

### ***Grants Program and Policy Committee***

1. Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program and Policy – Nicole Clapp – ***DECISION ITEM***

### ***Southern Region Committee***

1. Buffalo Creek Watershed District Watershed Plan Amendment – Ed Lenz – ***DECISION ITEM***
2. Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan – Nathan Redalen – ***DECISION ITEM***

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2020 State Water Plan – Phil Belfiori and Erik Dahl, EQB – ***INFORMATION ITEM***

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Buffers, Soils, and Drainage Committee is scheduled to meet on October 29, 2019, in Wait Park in the BWSR Conference Room.
- BWSR Board Meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in the Lower Level Conference Rooms at 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul.

## **ADJOURN**



**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE LABS  
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD NORTH  
ST. PAUL, MN 55155  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jill Crafton, Jack Ditmore, Kathryn Kelly, Rich Sve, Sarah Strommen, DNR; Tom Loveall, Nathan Redalen, Tom Schulz, Thom Petersen, MDA; Steve Sunderland, Gerald Van Amburg, Joe Collins, Harvey Kruger, Joel Larson, University of Minnesota Extension; Katrina Kessler, MPCA, Andrea Date, Todd Holman, Chris Elvrum, MDH

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Paige Winebarger, Neil Peterson

**STAFF PRESENT:**

John Jaschke, Angie Becker Kudelka, Rachel Mueller, Kevin Bigalke, Ryan Hughes, Les Lemm, Ken Powell, Marcey Westrick, Melissa Lewis, Tim Fredbo, Sharon Doucette, Mary Peterson,

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jeff Berg, Shannon Carpenter, Dan Wagner, Mary Jo Youngbauer, Brian Martinson, Emily Javens, LeAnn Buck, Troy Daniell

**Chair Gerald VanAmburg called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM**

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**\*\***  
**19-49** **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** - Moved by Jill Crafton, seconded by Tom Schulz, to adopt the agenda as presented. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

**\*\***  
**19-50** **MINUTES OF AUGUST 29, 2019 BOARD MEETING** – Moved by Kathryn Kelly, seconded by Harvey Kruger, to approve the minutes of August 29, 2019, as amended. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

#### **PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM**

No members of the public provided comments to the board.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND NEW BWSR STAFF**

Chair Gerald Van Amburg welcomed new Board Members Andrea Date who is a Council Member from the city of Woodbury and Todd Holman who is a Council Member from the city of Baxter.

Chair Gerald Van Amburg welcomed the following new staff to BWSR:

- Siri Doyle, Wetlands Engineering Aide
- Josh Swanson, Wetlands Engineering Technician
- Anna Gillette, Office and Administrative Specialist

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

**Chair Van Amburg read the statement:**

*“A conflict of interest, whether actual, potential, or perceived, occurs when someone in a position of trust has competing professional or personal interests, and these competing interests make it difficult to fulfill professional duties impartially. At this time, members are requested to declare conflicts of interest they may have regarding today’s business. Any member who declares an actual conflict of interest must not vote on that agenda item. All actual, potential, and perceived conflicts of interest will be announced to the board by staff before any vote.”*

#### **REPORTS**

**Chair & Administrative Advisory Committee** – Chair Gerald Van Amburg reported that the Advisory Committee has not met.

Chair Van Amburg attended an EQB meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup> where they announced the establishment of the Environmental Review subcommittee. The purpose of the subcommittee is to provide more time and access for anyone that has a stake in the environmental review process and to create a transparent process for deliberation and decision making that will result in an effective environmental review program. EQB went over their 2020/2021 organizational work plan. The State 2020 Water Plan is put together every decade and the purpose of the plan is to present a clear vision of water action in response to climate change in the coming decade and details how climate change impacts Minnesota water resources. EQB hired Phil Belfiori to help work on the water plan.

An Environmental Congress will be held on December 3 in Mankato more information will become available.

**Audit and Oversight Committee** – Chair Gerald Van Amburg reported that the committee has not met.

**Executive Director's Report** - John Jaschke reported that it is climate week and BWSR has been putting out messages from various sources of the importance of soil health practices and conservation practices.

NRCS is moving forward with information on their new RCPP program and will be soliciting proposals between now and early December.

Attended a Red River Basin Commission meeting earlier this month. It's a large group that works across state and provincial boundaries mostly on water coordination work. One of the projects they are working on is the effects of tile drainage on water volume and rate issues in the Red River Valley.

BWSR had an all staff meeting in mid-September in Walker, Minnesota and incorporated field visits.

If interested in attending local government conferences let Rachel know. Rachel will take care of registration and can also take care of lodging if needed. The Chair will be working on updating the Committee assignments.

John Jaschke reviewed the packet and Snapshots stories provided to the board.

**Dispute Resolution Committee** – Travis Germundson reported there are presently three appeals pending. One new appeal filed since the board packets were issued. That appeal is in Wright County regarding a wetland conservation act restoration. Orders were issued to multiple land owners. The appeal is in reference to draining and filling of approximately five acres of wetland associated with construction of a new agriculture drainage ditch. Applications for exemptions and no-loss have been submitted to the LGU, currently no decision has been made on the appeal. The other two appeals are complicated and have a large area of impact. Both have resulted in applications to the local unit of government and by mutual agreement they have requested extensions of time so they can work through the process and applications.

The Buffer Program has received 25 notices of noncompliance from 12 counties where BWSR is responsible for enforcement. Overall there are 16 counties across the state where they are fully compliant, and 37 counties have enforcement cases in process.

**Grants Program & Policy Committee** - Steve Sunderland reported they met on September 17<sup>th</sup>. There is one decision item on the agenda today.

**RIM Reserve Committee** – Tom Loveall reported they met on September 4<sup>th</sup>. There are three decision items on the agenda today. They had some concerns on a RIM easement alteration that they did not bring forward; staff are getting more information and will update the committee.

CREP program update - 25,000 acres of the 60,000 acre goal have been signed up.

Wellhead Protection Partner Grants are one of the three tools available for wellhead protection, CREP being another and RIM. Two communities in southwest Minnesota are moving forward using it.

**Water Management & Strategic Planning Committee** - Jack Ditmore reported the committee did not meet. The next meeting will be October 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM in St. Paul.

**Wetland Conservation Committee** - Tom Schulz reported they have not met since the last meeting prior to the August Board Meeting and will bring one item forward today from that meeting.

**Buffers, Soils & Drainage Committee** - Kathryn Kelly reported Travis gave a good update. Committee has not met since the last meeting.

**Drainage Work Group (DWG)** - Tom Loveall reported they have not met since the last meeting.

#### **AGENCY REPORTS**

**Minnesota Department of Agriculture** – Thom Petersen reported they are building their certification program, and numbers are jumping quickly. Companies in Minnesota are showing interest and are looking at partnering with the water certification program. MDA is encouraged by the soil health events and looking at how they can support it through agency efforts.

**Minnesota Department of Health** – Chris Elvrum reported the Environmental Initiative along with the Citizens League is helping them develop/design a source water protection collaborative. Have had three meetings. These meetings with stakeholders help gather input on how partnerships can be formed to address source water protection.

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources** – Sarah Strommen reported they celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the Shoreland Protection Act, the Flood Plain Management Act, and the Scientific and Natural Area Program.

Putting out information throughout the week and directing people to the climate website. DNR is hosting a Twitter Town Hall. It's a new event for the public to interact with people from the climatology office as well as climate experts from across the agency.

**Minnesota Extension Service** – Joel Larson reported they are getting started on a project looking at economic costs and benefits.

Water Resources conference is coming up October 15 and 16. The Dave Ford Award has been announced. Bruce Montgomery and Al Kean are the two award winners and will be honored on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Minnesota Pollution Control Agency** – Katrina Kessler reported they are also holding events related to climate this week.

Announced that \$1.5 million in grants from the Volkswagen settlement grants were issued.

Commissioner Bishop and a 10-year-old from Circle Pines had an event at the MPCA. She wrote a letter to her city council and asked for action on climate. The city then decided to join the Green Steps Cities Program and take some action regarding stormwater and other climate benefits.

A package of TMDLs for the MN River came off notice last week. The TMDLs covered 12 main stream reaches and 49 upstream reaches, calling for a 50% reduction of sediment in the Minnesota River.

#### **ADVISORY COMMENTS**

**Association of Minnesota Counties** – Brian Martinson reported the association had a Fall Policy Conference and is thankful for the involvement of BWSR staff who attended and made presentations.

The Environmental Natural Resources Committee identified four priorities at this conference, two are related to the work of the BWSR Board. One is to continue focus and moving forward on the 404 Assumption, the other is to secure funding for the local Roads Wetland Replacement Program. The Wetland Replacement Program did not get the funding needed in the last legislative session and there are several bank service areas that don't have available credits at this time.

Local government Water Roundtable met, Kevin and John participated. Had a facilitator in to help guide them on what their next priorities may be.

**Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees** – No report was provided.

**Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts** – LeAnn Buck reported she is glad to see the new business item BWSR/SWCD/NRCS Watershed Conservation Planning Initiative on the agenda for today.

**Minnesota Association of Townships** – Nathan Redalen reported they are having an annual conference in Mankato. David Weirens will have a roundtable on Friday and Saturday in a breakout group on 1W1P.

**Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts** – Emily Javens reported they finalized their preconference workshops for their convention that will begin on Thursday December 5th. Will also have a drainage workshop and mindfulness training.

**Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Troy Daniell reported they recently announced their Regional Conservation Partnership Program. Announcement is out with an early December timeline. It's an opportunity to pull funding and people together on big projects for targeted conservation.

## **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Northern Region Committee**

**Lake of the Woods Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan** – Ryan Hughes presented the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan of the Lake of the Woods Watershed.

The Lake of the Woods Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan area is located in north-central Minnesota, encompassing portions of Roseau and Lake of the Woods Counties (including the Northwest Angle) and all of the Warroad River Watershed District. This Plan was developed as part of the One Watershed, One Plan program. Mike Hirst (Lake of the Woods SWCD) and Janine Lovold (Roseau SWCD) are the local lead staff responsible for development of the Plan.

On July 3, 2019, BWSR received the Plan, a record of the public hearings, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review. The Planning Partnership has responded to all comments received and incorporated appropriate revisions to the final Plan. The State agencies recommended that BWSR approve the Plan as submitted.

BWSR staff completed its review and subsequently found the Plan meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes and BWSR Policy.

On August 7, 2019, the Northern Regional Committee (Committee) met to review and discuss the Plan. The Committee's decision was to recommend approval of the Lake of the Woods Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan to the full Board per the attached draft Order.

\*\*  
19-51 Moved by Rich Sve seconded by Tom Schulz, to approve the Lake of the Woods Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

**Pine River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan** – Ryan Hughes presented Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan of the Pine River Watershed.

The Pine River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) area includes the Pine River 8-Digit Hydrologic Unit. The planning area contains portions of Cass, Crow Wing, Hubbard, and Aitkin counties in North Central MN. This Plan was developed as part of the One Watershed, One Plan program. Melissa Barrick (Crow Wing SWCD), Jacob Frie (Crow Wing County Land Services Department), Kelly Condiff and John Ringle (Cass Environmental Services Department and SWCD) are the local lead staff responsible for development of the Plan.

On July 2, 2019, BWSR received the Plan, a record of the public hearings, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board Resolution #14-46. The Planning Partnership has responded to all comments received and incorporated appropriate revisions to the final Plan. The State agencies recommended that BWSR approve the Plan as submitted.

BWSR staff completed its review and subsequently found the Plan meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes and BWSR Policy.

On August 7, 2019, the Northern Regional Committee (Committee) met to review and discuss the Plan. The Committee's decision was to recommend approval of the Pine River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan to the full Board per the attached draft Order.

Ryan Hughes brought to attention an incorrect date in the letter, which has been corrected.

Jack Ditmore asked if any of the land in the watershed was covered by Tribal Government. Ryan Hughes responded that it was not to his knowledge.

Jack Ditmore asked if there was a discussion on the implications of climate change. Ryan stated discussions did take place and committee members specifically asked those questions during the committee meeting. It was mentioned there is a reference on page 13-15 in the Pine River Watershed 1W1P handout on climate change.

\*\*  
19-52 Moved by Rich Sve, seconded by Tom Schulz, to approve the Pine River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

**Wetlands Committee**

**Minnesota Wetland Professional Certification Program Plan** – Less Lemm and Ken Powell presented the plan to establish the Minnesota Wetland Professional Certification Program.

As directed by the Board, BWSR staff have developed a program plan for transitioning the Wetland Delineator Certification Program (WDCP) currently administered by the University of Minnesota to a new certification program administered by BWSR. The University is prepared to end their administration of the WDCP program on January 1, 2020.

In 2002 the Board via resolution 02-104 endorsed development of an implementation plan to certify wetland delineators in Minnesota and to enter into agreements with the University of Minnesota to implement the plan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103G.2242, Subdivision 2(c). Pursuant to resolution 02-104, a certification plan for wetland delineators was developed and has been administered by the University of Minnesota and BWSR since 2002. The program has been referred to as the WDCP. The WDCP has successfully educated over 2,600 individuals and certified over 400 wetland delineators since inception. It remains an important component of the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) program. The science and methodology of wetland delineation as well as the academic preparedness of wetland professionals has changed considerably since 2002. This has created the need to adapt and evolve the WDCP to continue to make it relevant and useful for the implementation of WCA and other wetland regulatory programs in the state. The University of Minnesota Water Resources Center is not situated well to adapt the program to meet its future needs and desires to transfer full administration of the WDCP to BWSR. The transfer of the program to BWSR is likely to result in increased certification and program participation of local government unit staff, and it would allow for program expansion and diversification. The Wetland Committee at their August 27, 2019 meeting, reviewed this proposal and recommended the Board approve this order.

Joel gave thanks to Les, Ken, and staff on their work on this.

Jill asked if there will be a feedback group. It was stated that there will be continued evaluations and conversations insuring that the program is best meeting needs.

\*\*  
19-53 Moved by Tom Schulz, seconded by Kathryn Kelly, to approve the Minnesota Wetland Professional Certification Program Plan. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

#### **Grants Program and Policy Committee**

**Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program** – Marcey Westrick and Melissa Lewis presented the Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program.

BWSR staff have met over the past 12 months with an internal staff team (Clean Water Team), local government partners (Metro Forum and Local Government Water Roundtable Work Group), BWSR Executive Team, and BWSR Board Committees (Grants Program and Policy and Water Management and Strategic Planning) to discuss the policy, assurance measures, and allocations for the Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program. The Committees met jointly to provide direction to staff and develop recommendations to be included in the policy and grants authorization, with the Grants Committee assigned the final responsibility for making recommendations to the Board.

The BWSR Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed the policy and allocation authorizations on September 17, 2019 and made a recommendation to the full Board. The Draft 2020-2021 Clean Water Fund Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program policy and board order are attached based on the recommendations of the Grants Program and Policy Committee.

Jill Crafton attended the committee meeting but stated she was not appointed at the time. Mentioned the meeting lacked watershed district participation/representation. She spoke of the metro area working together, and recognized things to improve on and that this has not been an easy process. Appreciated all the hard work staff has done.



Steve Sunderland stated the new funding program/approach is difficult to get all involved to come together and agree, staff have done a great job working with what is required. In the future he would like to consider potential adjustments to the funding program to fit changing conditions, hydrology, etc.

Todd Holman asked when there are partnerships, who makes the determination to provide the match for the state's contribution to each watershed. It was stated that if it's a non-state match it would be a local decision.

Tom Loveall stated Jill expressed useful observations and concerns. He spoke of the metro planning area, saying it would be nice if they came to the table but statute states it's not required.

Chris Elvrum clarified the plan must be approved by the board and LGUs must enter into an implementation agreement before funds can be paid out. They can also still apply for other competitive grants.

Katrina asked how protection was considered in the breakdown of funds. It was stated that in the allocation formula there were conversations about protection and the amount of water. Staff noted that protection doesn't currently have a statewide dataset applied to a formula that could be used that's transparent. A handout was provided with background information on the formula elements.

John stated this was a two-year decision. There was a lot of input from stakeholders and is an ongoing process.

Harvey asked if there is a rough draft in progress for number two on the order. It was stated that staff are currently working on an interim version with Metro SWCDs. Harvey asked if the plans will be coming back to the board. It was stated that it will not come back to the board but will come back with process of how it's used if its invoked. Staff do not foresee this being used frequently.

Rich Sve asked about the formula 90% and 10%, when calculating the shoreline of public waters as 10% - which waters were included? Public waters were identified by the DNR and Rich asked if Lake Superior is one of those waters? It was stated that it is a public water but was not included in the calculation because the boundaries are different than the 1W1P boundaries from the GIS methodology. St. Croix River would be the same thing. Rich stated he would like to revisit in the future what waters are and are not included in this data set.

Joe Collins asked if private land includes the cities and other parks. It was stated that private land is considered non-state, non-federal, and non-tribal. All county and city is included in the private land.

\*\*  
19-54 Moved by Nathan Redalen, seconded by Steve Sutherland, to approve the Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

**Jamie Pauling RIM Easement Alteration (21-09-02-01-B)** – Tim Fredbo presented the Jamie Pauling RIM Easement Alteration (21-09-02-01-B).

William Teschendorf originally placed this land into a CREP/RIM Reserve easement in 2003. The 126.8 acre easement is a perpetual wetland restoration easement. The CRP contract expired in 2017.



In 2004, the Teschendorfs subdivided and sold the land into three separate parcels, with the 100 acre parcel (21-09-02-01-B) being sold to Tim Helgeson. After 2004, Mr. Helgeson built a new shed that encroached on the easement boundary. An examination of historical aerial photography shows this building first appeared on 2008 photography. The area was not in the USDA CRP contract acreage, but in a RIM-only area adjacent to the excluded building site. Both the Helgesons and Douglas SWCD staff thought this area was not within the RIM easement boundary when the new building was proposed. The area was not numbered or included in the plan map that was given to Mr. Helgeson by the SWCD after he purchased the land.

In 2015, the Helgesens sold the property containing the RIM easement to Jamie Pauling. The building on the easement was first discovered in 2016 and the Paulings were not aware of the situation when they purchased the property. The Paulings were contacted by the SWCD in early 2017 and are willing to replace the impacted acres at 2:1 as required by the Easement Alteration Policy in effect at that time, despite not being the owners who built on the easement. When Mr. Pauling was contacted by the SWCD about the issue, his offer to work with them resulted in the current proposal. The easement boundary was not staked by the SWCD and SWCD staff never realized the building was within the easement boundary until BWSR notices it in 2016 when working on an ownership change.

The current proposal is to release approximately 0.66 acres from within the current easement and proposes replacement with roughly 1.37 acres of non-cropland adjacent to the current RIM boundary. This proposal was developed by the SWCD and landowner together. The photo in the supporting documents attached show the locations of these areas in relation to the current RIM easement boundary.

Both the Douglas SWCD and the MN DNR Wildlife Specialist are in support of this request, as required by RIM rule and policy.

Tom Loveall stated he understands the situation and is comfortable with it.

\*\*  
19-55

Moved by Jill Crafton, seconded by Harvey Kruger, to approve the Jamie Pauling RIM Easement Alteration (21-09-02-01-B). ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

**Bruggeman RIM/PWP Easement Alteration (21-01-93-03-C)** – Tim Fredbo presented the Bruggeman RIM/PWP Easement Alteration (21-01-93-03-C).

Doug Bruggeman purchased a 38.8 acre portion of easement 21-01-93-03 from the original easement holder in 1998 with plans to eventually build a home on the 1 acre in the NE corner of the 40 acre parcel that was left out of the easement. When Mr. Bruggeman started to look into getting the necessary permits from the local zoning authorities to build on the site in 2014 it was discovered that the site was wet and not ideal for development.

Mr. Bruggeman contacted the Douglas SWCD in 2014 to request a change to his easement that would move the one acre exclusion area to a higher and drier location along the SW boundary, and enable him to get the required building permits. The request was approved by the Douglas SWCD Board at their September 8, 2014, Board meeting. The request was also approved on June 4, 2015, by Kevin Kotts, DNR Area Wildlife Supervisor.

According to Jerry Haggemiller, Coordinator for the SWCD, he was out of the office when the DNR approval letter came in to the Douglas SWCD office and Mr. Haggemiller never knew that it had been received and subsequently misfiled. Mr. Haggemiller lost track of the proposal until recently due to a

2018 spot check of the easement. Mr. Haggemiller has also informed BWSR easement staff that Mr. Bruggeman was under the impression that after the SWCD and DNR had approved his request, he was authorized to build on the site.

The original one acre building site proposed as the replacement site has never been altered. The vegetative cover remains intact and the same as the land under easement. Mr. Bruggeman owns no other land that is not under easement on this 40 acre parcel, so it will not be possible to meet the 2:1 replacement requirement.

Board members discussed if it is okay to do the 1:1 instead of the 2:1. The policy states the board has the ability to make the decision regarding the replacement amount.

John Jaschke noted that no members of the board have declared actual perceived, or potential conflict for any agenda items on today's agenda and so no members will need to abstain from votes due to conflict of interest.

\*\*  
19-56 Moved by Tom Loveall, seconded by Kathryn Kelly, to approve the Bruggeman RIM/PWP Easement Alteration (21-01-93-03-C). **Motion passed on a voice vote.**

**Resolution Authorizing the RIM Rum River Watershed Protection Program** – Sharon Doucette presented the Resolution Authorizing the RIM Rum River Watershed Protection Program.

ML 2019, 1st Special Session, Ch. 2, Art. 2 Sect. 7(l) appropriated \$3M of Clean Water Fund money to BWSR "to purchase permanent conservation easements to protect lands adjacent to public waters with good water quality but threatened with degradation." This project will utilize RIM easements to protect priority parcels in the Rum River Watershed, an important and threatened tributary to the Mississippi River and the source water for numerous Twin Cities metropolitan and rural communities while providing other benefits. This resolution authorizes staff to utilize these funds and develop and implement this program within the Rum River Watershed.

\*\*  
19-57 Moved by Tom Schulz, seconded by Todd Holman, to approve the Resolution Authorizing the RIM Rum River Watershed Protection Program. **Motion passed on a voice vote.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **BWSR/SWCD/NRCS Watershed Conservation Planning Initiative**

**Progress and Highlights** – Mary Peterson; Shannon Carpenter, NRCS; Dan Wermager, Root River Planner; and Mary Jo Youngbauer, Lower St. Croix Planner presented BWSR/SWCD/NRCS Watershed Conservation Planning Initiative.

WCPI BACKGROUND: USDA-NRCS entered into a contribution agreement with BWSR to increase landowner/producer readiness to implement conservation practices in seven major watersheds. The Purpose is to establish a partnership framework for cooperation between NRCS, BWSR and SWCDs on activities that involve the planning and implementation of conservation activities in these watersheds. The Goals include: 1) increase technical capacity of SWCDs to conduct resource assessments and prepare conservation plans within the selected watersheds; 2) target conservation planning assistance to high priority acres in these watersheds; 3) increase landowner readiness and participation in conservation programs; and 4) accelerate conservation practice implementation along with quantifying the environmental benefits. The Budget totals \$3 million, equally funded by NRCS and BWSR and funds

this Initiative through December 2021. The Approach includes working through participating SWCDs to recruit, hire/contract, and support dedicated watershed conservation planners to work with landowners and the watershed partners to achieve the goals.

WCPI partners provided an update on the progress toward the goals and presented highlights of local implementation.

A question was asked how we can replicate the good work their doing and asked if there will be a report showing what worked and what didn't. It was stated that the plan has been extended to 2021 and a mid-point report will be prepared.

Tom Loveall asked if they take into account development pressures when making these plans. It was stated they keep it in agriculture because they're planning with the farmer how they're able to stay sustainable and continue to make money - hopefully they won't make that switch and sell it for development.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Grants Program and Policy Committee will have a conference call on October 14, 2019, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Water Management and Strategic Planning Committee scheduled for October 14, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. in Conference Room 101 at 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul. Will have a conference call option.
- BWSR Board Meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in the Lower Level Conference Rooms at 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul.

Chair Van Amburg adjourned the meeting at 1:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald Van Amburg  
Chair



## Dispute Resolution and Compliance Report

October 9, 2019

By: Travis Germundson

There are presently **three** appeals pending. There have been **no** new appeals filed since the last Board Meeting (September 25, 2019).

Format note: New appeals that have been filed since last report to the Board.  
~~Appeals that have been decided since last report to the Board.~~

File 19-3 (9/20/19) This is an appeal of duplicate WCA restoration orders in Wright County. The appeal regards the alleged draining and filling of approximately 4.79 acres of wetland associated with construction of a drainage ditch. Applications for exemption and no-loss have been submitted to the LGU. *No decision has been made on the appeal.*

File 19-2 (6/6/19) This is an appeal of a WCA restoration order in Morrison County. The appeal regards the alleged drainage of approximately 11.5 acres of wetland associated with the placement of agricultural drain tile. Applications for exemption and no-loss determinations were submitted to the LGU concurrently with the appeal. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed for the Technical Evaluation Panel to develop written findings of fact and for the LGU to make a final decision on the applications. That decision has been amended to extend the time period on the stay of the restoration order.*

File 18-3 (10-31-18) This is an appeal of a WCA restoration order in Hennepin County. The appeal regards the alleged filling and draining of over 11 acres of wetland. Applications for exemption and no-loss determinations were submitted to the LGU concurrently with the appeal. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration stayed for the LGU to make a final decision on the applications. That decision has been amended several times to extend the time period on the stay of the restoration order.*

### Summary Table

Type of Decision	Total for Calendar Year 2018	Total for Calendar Year 2019
Order in favor of appellant		
Order not in favor of appellant	2	
Order Modified		
Order Remanded		
Order Place Appeal in Abeyance	1	1
Negotiated Settlement		
Withdrawn/Dismissed		1

Buffer Compliance Status: BWSR has received 25 Notifications of Noncompliance from the 12 counties BWSR is responsible for enforcement. Our staff continue to actively reach out to landowners to resolve any noncompliance on a voluntary basis prior initiating enforcement action through the issuance of a Correction Action Notice (CAN). So far three CANs have been issued by BWSR.

Statewide 17 counties are fully compliant, and 39 counties have enforcement cases in progress. Those counties have issued a total of 656 CANs and five Administrative Penalty Orders. Over 400 of those have been resolved.

## **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### ***Central Region Committee***

1. Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization Watershed Management Plan – Dan Fabian and Kevin Bigalke ***DECISION ITEM***
2. Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan Extension – Melissa King and Kevin Bigalke ***DECISION ITEM***
3. North Fork Crow River Watershed District Boundary Change and Enlargement –Annie Felix-Gerth and Kevin Bigalke ***DECISION ITEM***

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Sunrise River Watershed Management Plan approval of 10-yr Plan Amendment

**Meeting Date:** October 23, 2019

**Agenda Category:**  Committee Recommendation     New Business     Old Business

**Item Type:**  Decision     Discussion     Information

**Section/Region:** Central Region

**Contact:** Kevin Bigalke

**Prepared by:** Dan Fabian

**Reviewed by:** Central Region    Committee(s)

**Presented by:** Dan Fabian

**Time requested:** 5 minutes

**Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

**Attachments:**     Resolution     Order     Map     Other Supporting Information

**Fiscal/Policy Impact**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None          | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested     | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget      |

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Watershed Management Plan.

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Link to final draft of plan: <http://www.srwmo.org/watershed-plan-reports>

**SUMMARY** *(Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)*

**Background:**

The Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) was originally formed in 1985 through a Joint Powers Agreement ratified by Columbus, East Bethel, and Linwood Township in order to cooperatively develop a Watershed Management Plan and form the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO). The City of Ham Lake was added to the JPA in 2000.

The SRWMO is located on the fringe of the Twin Cities metropolitan area encompassing approximately 45,300 acres in the northeast corner of Anoka County, consisting of relatively flat topography that contains extensive lakes and wetland areas. The area also has large areas of high-quality natural communities, including



large areas of public lands many of which are used for recreation. Residential development historically occurred primarily around lakes. However even with its proximity to the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, future growth is expected to be light and mostly residential. While most watershed organization's boundaries are based on hydrological watershed boundaries, this is not entirely the case for the SRWMO. Because watershed organizations are only required in the seven-county metropolitan area, the SRWMO's north and east boundaries are the Anoka County boundaries. To the north, portions of Isanti County drain into the SRWMO jurisdiction. To the east, the SRWMO outlets into Chisago County via the West and South Branches of the Sunrise River. The SRWMO is currently participating in the Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan planning effort to help overcome the non-hydrological based boundaries.

### **Plan Process and Highlights:**

In 2016, prior to the SRRWMO starting their 10-yr Plan update, BWSR completed a Level II PRAP for the SRWMO. It was noted in the general conclusions that the SRWMO had many high value resources with population concentrated in proximity to those resources, and a low tax base relative to those resources. Nevertheless, it was further noted that the SRWMO had managed to accomplish or make progress on many items in their current watershed management plan. The SRWMO received four commendations in the PRAP report and two recommendations which were addressed during the development of this new plan.

Approximately a year after the completion of the PRAP the SRWMO, on January 19, 2018, initiated the planning process for completing the required 10-year update to their third generation Watershed Management Plan with the required "Notice of Decision to Update" their Plan and a request for Agency and local stakeholder input per 8410.0045 Subp. 2. and Subp. 3. The initial kick-off event and planning meeting, held on May 24, 2018, included a bus tour of the watershed for public officials and an open house for residents to learn about the SRWMO and to provide input through an issues/priority identification exercise. A subgroup of attendees was recruited to serve on the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The SRWMO utilized the CAC and TAC (technical advisory committee) throughout the planning process. Additionally, planning materials and drafts were posted on the SRWMO website. These stakeholder engagement efforts are documented in Appendix A of the plan.

The plan contains goals, policies, and an action plan to address the priority issues identified by the SRWMO planning process. The issues are grouped into one of three tiers "High Priority Issues," "Medium Priority Issues," and "Low Priority Issues." The extensive process followed to identify and then prioritize the issues into tiers is documented in **Section 6**. Then in **Section 7** specific goals and action items are assigned to address each priority. The individual goals and action items are numbered so they can be easily referenced back to, from the Implementation Plan Tables found in **Section 8**. As can be expected addressing the "High Priority Issues" of *1) Lake and stream quality; 2) Water monitoring; 3) Funding; 4) Communications with member communities; and 5) Outreach and education*, receive the bulk of the SRWMO's efforts and proportion of their limited budget funds during the 10-yr life of the plan. An example of an established high priority goal would be G8, which is a goal to achieve the pollutant reductions needed to delist currently impaired Martin and Linwood lakes.

"Medium and Low Priority Issues" while still important for plan implementation tend to be delegated to the Member Communities, with some oversight from the SRWMO. **Appendix C** provides a summary of assigned Member Community actions and Local Plan requirements. A key component for implementing the plan is a contracted administrator position that includes a responsibility for working with and oversight of Member Communities implementation of required actions. The specific tasks of the administrator are identified and budgeted for in the Implementation Plan. Currently (and for the expected future) the SRWMO is leveraging its successful partnership (as mentioned in the PRAP) with the Anoka Conservation District (ACD) and contracting with them for administrator services.

To help keep the plan concise and streamlined the SRWMO has incorporated into the Plan by reference “Guidance Documents,” which are key studies and reports that were used in the development of the Plan and will be used to guide implementation of this management plan. Included in the list of adopted guidance documents described in **Appendix D** are specific project prioritizing, targeting and feasibility documents that have been prepared to help target the most cost-effective projects for priority areas in the SRWMO. A procedure is also established for the SRWMO board to adopt future guidance documents and incorporate them into the Plan (most likely via the minor amendment process). An example of adopted guidance documents would be the carp management feasibility assessments for Martin, Typo, and Linwood lakes. The SRWMO will use these feasibility assessments to help direct their efforts in implementing projects to meet the G8 goal to delist Linwood and Martin lakes during the 10-yr life of this plan.

One concern we have for the proposed implementation program is that we would have liked it to be more aggressive in the amount of pollutant reduction projects sought to address other identified priority issues within a reasonable time frame. We do however understand the SRWMO Boards hesitancy to promise more than they feel they can deliver as well as the resistance/ability of their local communities to provide additional funds. We believe the plan has the potential to result in competitive grant applications and attract additional matching grant funds from partners, which would result in the budgeted match funds being able to go further. An additional concern we have is that many of the implementation program activities are delegated to member communities. The hiring of a part-time contracted administrator helps alleviate this concern.

**Formal Plan Review Process:**

The draft Plan was submitted to the Board, other state agencies, and local governments for the formal 60-day review on May 19, 2019, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7. The SRWMO prepared a written response to the 60-day comments and then held a public hearing on August 1, 2019. Following the hearing the SRWMO Managers approved a motion to send the revised draft Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (and State Review Agencies) for the final 90-day review and approval. This was received by the Board on August 5, 2019. Comments received during the 90-day review period were resolved to the satisfaction of the commenters with some additional minor revisions to the Final Draft Plan.

**Attachments:**

1. Draft order for approval of the SRWMO Watershed Management Plan.
2. SRWMO Plan Executive Summary.
3. SRWMO Implementation Plan
4. Map of the SRWMO

**Recommendation:**

Board staff recommends approval of the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization’s Fourth Generation Plan.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
520 Lafayette Road North  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

---

**In the Matter** of the review of the Watershed Management Plan for the **Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization**, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subdivision 9.

---

**ORDER  
APPROVING  
WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Whereas**, the Board of Managers of the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (Watershed) submitted a Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 9, and;

**Whereas**, the Board has completed its review of the Plan;

**Now Therefore**, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Watershed Management Organization Establishment.** The Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) was originally formed in 1985 through a Joint Powers Agreement ratified by Columbus, East Bethel, and Linwood Township in order to cooperatively develop a Watershed Management Plan and form the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO). The City of Ham Lake was added to the JPA in 2000.
- 2. Authority to Plan.** The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act requires the preparation of a watershed management plan for the subject watershed areas, which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.
- 3. Nature of the Watershed.** The SRWMO is located on the fringe of the Twin Cities metropolitan area encompassing approximately 45,300 acres in the northeast corner of Anoka County, consisting of relatively flat topography that contains extensive lakes and wetland areas. The watershed also has large areas of high-quality natural communities, including large areas of public lands many of which are used for recreation. Residential development historically occurred primarily around lakes. However even with its proximity to the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, future growth is expected to be light and mostly residential. While most watershed organization's boundaries are based on hydrological watershed boundaries, this is not entirely the case for the SRWMO. Because watershed management organizations are only required in the seven-county metropolitan area, the

SRWMO's north and east boundaries are the Anoka County boundaries. To the north, portions of Isanti County drain into the SRWMO jurisdiction. To the east, the SRWMO outlets into Chisago County via the West and South Branches of the Sunrise River. The SRWMO is currently participating in the Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan planning effort to help overcome the non-hydrological based boundaries.

4. **Plan Development and Review.** The SRWMO, on January 19, 2018, initiated the planning process for completing the required 10-yr update to their third generation Watershed Management Plan with the required "Notice of Decision to Update" their Plan and a request for Agency and local stakeholder input per 8410.0045 Subp. 2. and Subp. 3. The initial kick-off event and planning meeting, held on May 24, 2018, included a bus tour of the watershed for public officials and an open house for residents to learn about the SRWMO and to provide input through an issues/priority identification exercise. A subgroup of attendees was recruited to serve on the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The SRWMO utilized the CAC and TAC (technical advisory committee) throughout the planning process. Additionally, planning materials and drafts were posted on the SRWMO website. These stakeholder engagement efforts are documented in Appendix A of the plan.

"Medium and Low Priority Issues" while still important for plan implementation tend to be delegated to the Member Communities, with some oversight from the SRWMO. Appendix C provides a summary of assigned Member Community actions and Local Plan requirements. A key component for implementing the plan is a contracted administrator position that includes a responsibility for working with and oversight of Member Communities implementation of required actions. The specific tasks of the administrator are identified and budgeted for in the Implementation Plan. Currently (and for the expected future) the SRWMO is leveraging its successful partnership with the Anoka Conservation District (ACD) and contracting with them for administrator services.

The draft Plan was submitted to the Board, other state agencies, and local governments for the formal 60-day review on May 19, 2019, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7. The SRWMO prepared a written response to the 60-day comments and then held a public hearing on August 1, 2019. Following the hearing the SRWMO Managers approved a motion to send the revised draft Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (and State Review Agencies) for the final 90-day review and approval. This was received by the Board on August 5, 2019. Comments received during the 90-day review period were resolved to the satisfaction of the commenters with some additional minor revisions to the Final Draft Plan. Items "a" thru "g" below contain a summary of the comments received during the formal plan review process.

- a. **Local Review.** The SRWMO distributed copies of the draft Plan to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7. The SRWMO received comments from the Anoka County, and The City of Columbus. The SRWMO responded in writing to all stakeholders who commented during the 60- day review period, addressing each concern.

- b. **Metropolitan Council Review.** During the 60-day review the Council commended the SRWMO for preparation of a plan that includes a clear inventory of land and water resources, the inclusion of local and regional partners in the discussion of priority issues and opportunities, and a clear statement of goals and policies. They also stated that the Plan puts forth a good roadmap to protect water resources within the watershed and is consistent with the Council Policies outlined in the Council's 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan. For the 60-day review the Council commented on the need to include a consideration of wetland value when determining wetland replacement requirements. This issue was also identified as a remaining concern identified during their 90-day review comments. The SRWMO worked with council staff to include policy language in the Plan that addressed the issue to the satisfaction of the Council. Additional Council 60-day comments requested clarification on SRWMO payment for AIS maintenance treatments; chloride monitoring for lakes; monitoring data trend analysis (including an offer of Council assistance; raised a concern about the SRWMO having sufficient funding to accomplish the water improvement projects and feasibility studies called for in the Plan; and Council supported the continuance of SRWMO review of development plans. The URRWMO responded in writing to all Council comments received during the 60-day review period, addressing each concern
  
- c. **Department of Agriculture Review.** The MDA provided information on and suggested inclusion of the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) by reference. The MDA responded that they had no additional comments resulting from the final 90-day review.
  
- d. **Department of Health Review.** The MDH did not comment on the Plan.
  
- e. **Department of Natural Resources Review.** During the 60-day review, the DNR provided review comments from the Ecological and Water Resources Division and Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area staff. Comments included corrections on the Carlos Avery WMA descriptions; a recommendation that the WMO develop plans to work with agency and nonprofit partners on developing and promoting a voluntary conservation easement program to help preserve high quality natural areas; and raised a concern that the proposed budget only accounts for inflation and will not allow the WMO to expand the quantity or quality of the work it already does (increase existing capacity). The DNR responded that they had no additional comments resulting from the final 90-day review.
  
- f. **Pollution Control Agency Review.** During the 60-day review the MPCA comments noted that the Plan was consistent with rule requirements administered by the MPCA; requested clarification on design standards for sizing culverts and conveyances; as well as any new expected MS4 communities; recommended that the Plan be approved. The MPCA responded that they had no additional comments resulting from the final 90-day review.

- g. **Department of Transportation Review.** No comments were received from MNDDOT.
- h. **BWSR Review.** During the 60-day review BWSR staff commended the SRWMO Managers for their outreach efforts to obtain input from state review agencies and local governments and citizens throughout the entire plan development process as well as the WMO's self-assessment. The majority of BWSR comments were related to identifying any missing content; clarifying administration and self-evaluation of plan implementation; making the Plan more usable; and competitive for future grant applications; encouraging the use of proactive words like "will" or "shall" rather than "may", "might" or "could" when identifying implementation goals and actions that the SRWMO was committed to doing; as well as stating some goals so they were more measurable. BWSR staff also raised a concern about the caps on local member funds limiting SRWMO ability to consider larger projects or increase the SRWMO capacity to address issues and goals within a reasonable timeframe. The SRWMO responded in writing to all BWSR comments provided during the 60-day review period. During the 90-day review of the final draft BWSR remaining comments encouraged the SRWMO to still consider capacity analysis suggested in the 60-day comments (noting that a good time for the analysis would be when they are working on updating the JPA); identified a couple remaining needs for proactive word use by changing "may" to "will"; suggested clarification on the use of Guidance Documents and the content and the process of adopting new Guidance Documents into the Plan; requested clarification of timing and measurability of some goals primarily related to lake quality. The SRWMO worked with BWSR staff to address the remaining comments and incorporate the revisions into the final draft SRWMO Plan that is subject to this order.

5. **Plan Summary and Highlights.** The plan contains goals, policies, and an action plan to address the priority issues identified by the SRWMO planning process. The issues are grouped into one of three tiers "High Priority Issues", "Medium Priority Issues" and "Low Priority Issues". The extensive process followed to identify and then prioritize the issues into tiers is documented in Section 6. Then in Section 7 specific goals and action items are assigned to address each priority. The individual goals and action items are numbered so they can be easily referenced back to, from the Implementation Plan Tables found in Section 8. The plan addresses the "High Priority Issues" of 1) Lake and stream quality; 2) Water monitoring; 3) Funding; 4) Communications with member communities; and 5) Outreach and education. The majority of the SRWMO's efforts and proportion of their limited budget funds during the 10-yr life of the plan go toward high priority issues. An example of an established high priority goal would be G8, which is a goal to achieve enough pollutant reductions to delist currently impaired Martin and Linwood lakes.

"Medium and Low Priority Issues" while still important for plan implementation tend to be delegated to the Member Communities, with some oversight from the SRWMO. Appendix C provides a summary of assigned Member Community actions and Local Plan requirements. A key component for implementing the plan is a contracted administrator position that includes a responsibility for working with and oversight of Member Communities implementation of required actions. The specific tasks of the administrator are identified

and budgeted for in the Implementation Plan. Currently (and for the expected future) the SRWMO is leveraging its successful partnership with the Anoka Conservation District (ACD) and contracting with them for administrator services.

To help keep the plan concise and streamlined the SRWMO has incorporated into the Plan by reference “Guidance Documents” which are key studies and reports that were used in the development of the Plan and will be used to guide implementation of this management plan. Included in the list of adopted guidance documents described in Appendix D are specific project prioritizing, targeting and feasibility documents that have been prepared to help target the most cost-effective projects for priority areas in the SRWMO. A procedure is also established for the SRWMO board to adopt future guidance documents and incorporate them into the Plan (most likely via the minor amendment process). An example of adopted guidance documents would be the carp management feasibility assessments for Martin, Typo and Linwood lakes. The SRWMO will use these feasibility assessments to help direct their efforts in implementing projects to meet the G8 goal to delist Linwood and Martin lakes during the 10-yr life of this plan.

6. **Metro Region Committee Meeting.** On October 10, 2019, the Board’s Central Region Committee and staff met in Brooten Minnesota at the North Fork Crow River Watershed District Offices to review and discuss the final Plan. Those in attendance from the Board’s committee were Jack Ditmore, Joel Larson, Glenn Skuta, Dan Lais, Jill Crafton, Kathryn Kelly, and Joe Collins- chair. Board staff in attendance were Central Region Manager Kevin Bigalke and Board Conservationist Dan Fabian (via conference call). SRWMO representatives’ (via conference call) Leon Mager (SRWMO Chair), Sandy Flaherty (SRWMO Member), Janet Hegland (SRWMO Member) and Jamie Schurbon (Anoka CD/WMO Administrator) provided highlights of the Plan and process. Board staff recommended approval of the Plan.

After presentation and discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend the approval of the Plan to the full Board.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Watershed Management Plan for the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 9.
3. The Watershed Management Plan for Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization attached to this Order defines water and water-related problems within the Organization’s boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program.

4. The attached Watershed Management Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

**ORDER**

The Board hereby approves the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization Watershed 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Management Plan dated October 10, 2019

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2019.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

---

BY: Gerald Van Amburg, Chair



October 23, 2019

Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization  
c/o Jamie Schurbon, Watershed Coordinator  
Anoka Conservation District  
1318 McKay Dr. NE, Suite 300  
Ham Lake, Minnesota 55304

**RE: Approval of the Sunrise River WMO 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Watershed Management Plan**

Dear Chair and Managers:

I am pleased to inform you that the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has approved the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Watershed Management Plan (Plan) at its regular meeting held on October 23, 2019. Attached is the signed Board Order that documents approval of the Plan and indicates the Plan meets all relevant requirements of law and rule.

This update of the Plan is effective for a ten-year period until October 23, 2029. Please be advised that the URRWMO must adopt and implement the Plan within 120 days of the date of the Order, in accordance with MN Statutes 103B.231, Subd. 10 and distribute copies of the Plan within 30-days of adoption in accordance with MN Rule part 8410.0140, Subp. 5.

The managers, staff, consultants, advisory committee members, and all others involved in the planning process are to be commended for developing a plan that clearly presents water management goals, actions, and priorities of the watershed. With continued implementation of your Plan, the protection and management of the water resources within the watershed will be greatly enhanced to the benefit of the residents. The Board looks forward to working with you as you implement this Plan and document its outcomes.

Please contact Board Conservationist Dan Fabian of our staff at 651-332-0786, or [dan.fabian@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.fabian@state.mn.us) for further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Enclosure

cc: Jeanne Daniels, DNR (via email)  
John Freitag, MDH (via email)  
Jeff Berg, MDA (via email)  
Judy Sventek, Met Council (via email)  
Jeff Risberg, MPCA (via email)  
Beth Neuendorf, MN DOT (via email)  
Kevin Bigalke, BWSR (via email)  
Dan Fabian, BWSR (via email)  
File Copy

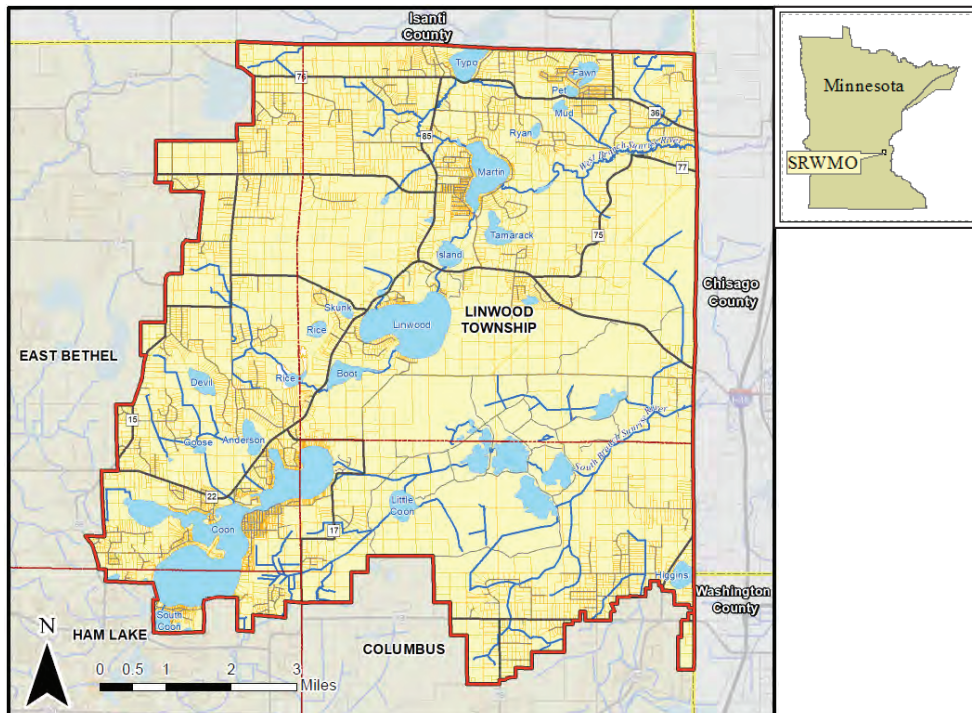
# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Watershed Management Plan guides the actions of the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) from 2020-2029. It was prepared with thoughtful input from constituents, professional water managers, municipal staff, municipal elected officials and the SRWMO Board. It includes water monitoring, water quality improvement projects, minimum standards for community ordinances and public outreach. The plan also sets financial goals, recognizing that water management need is greater than available funds. The plan seeks to be prioritized, targeted and aimed at producing measurable results.

The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act requires a watershed management organization and watershed management plan in all areas of the seven county Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO) was originally formed in 1985 when the Cities of East Bethel and Columbus, and Linwood Township, entered into a Joint Powers Agreement to establish a Watershed Management Organization (WMO). The current Joint Powers Agreement includes the City of Ham Lake. The agreement was drafted with the authority of Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.59. The Joint Powers Agreement provides for the preparation of a Watershed Management Plan (hereinafter called Plan) in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.231.

The portion of the Sunrise River Watershed covered by this plan is located in the northeast corner of Anoka County (Figure 1). This portion of the watershed is approximately 45,300 acres in size. The Sunrise River watershed does extend outside of Anoka County, but those areas are not part of the SRWMO. The SRWMO does participate in a Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan in order to achieve true watershed-scale management.

**Figure 1 – SRWMO location map**



Philosophies considered in this plan's development included:

- Water-related problems are community problems and not individual problems.
- Water resource management is a vital matter that cannot be effectively addressed by individual communities because watersheds cover multiple communities.
- Water resources should be managed on a watershed basis.
- Aquatic and terrestrial areas are integrally linked and cannot be effectively managed separately.

The WMO will serve the community by:

- Providing a forum to consider inter-community water problems.
- Collecting data and conducting resource monitoring to guide management.
- Facilitating water quality improvement projects, which often will be cooperative endeavors with others.
- Setting minimum standards for member community ordinances that consider local water resources issues. The SRWMO will not have its own permitting program.
- Providing a linkage between natural resources and land use planning decisions.
- Educating the public about water resources, and enabling or incentivizing individual action.
- Informing and engaging local elected officials about water problems, projects and the SRWMO.
- Ensuring expenditures result in corresponding benefits to the public.
- Avoiding duplication among government agencies and communities.

This plan contains goals, policies, and an action plan for each of these priority topics.

High Priority Issues

1. Lake and stream water quality
2. Water monitoring
3. Funding
4. Communications with member communities
5. Outreach and education

Medium Priority Issues

6. Aquatic invasive species (AIS)
7. Septic systems
8. Development
9. Multi-partner coordination
10. Stormwater management
11. Groundwater
12. Administrative efficiencies
13. Chlorides

Lower Priority Issues

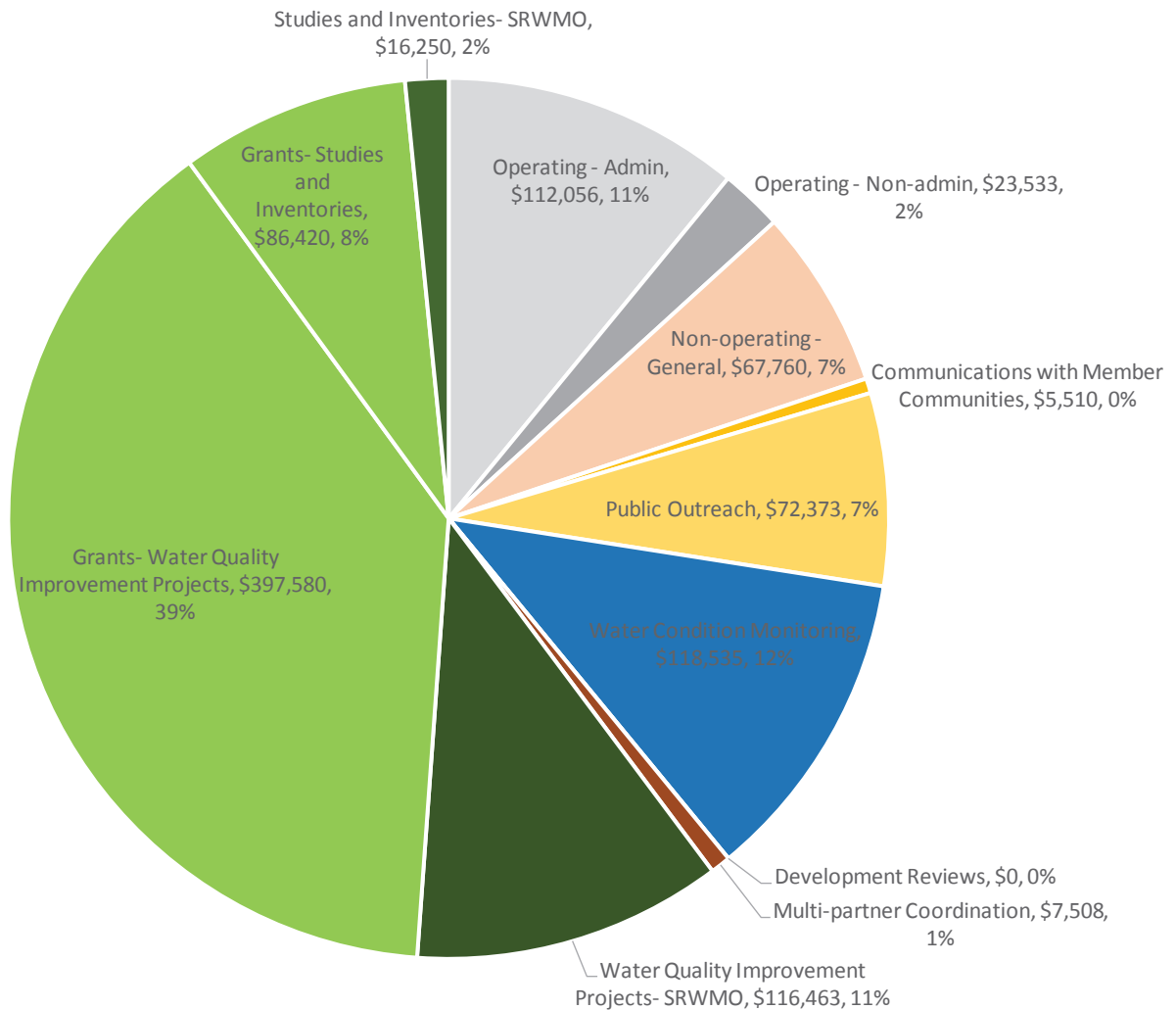
14. Ditching/Drainage
15. Climate change
16. Water quantity
17. Fisheries
18. Wildlife habitat

The SRWMO intends to run a financially lean, focused, transparent and effective program. This will be done by:

- Minimizing overhead (no staff, office or vehicles),
- Setting budgetary limits (\$50,000/yr until 2026 at which time an inflationary increase to \$60,000/yr will take place),
- Securing grants for 50% of anticipated expenditures in this plan (budget local funds required to match grants, have a strong plan that identifies priorities),
- Purposefully engaging with stakeholders (especially lake associations, many of whom are able to provide small but meaningful financial contributions),
- Keeping constituents, member community city councils and town board informed and part of the decision-making process.

The 10-year expenditures in this plan are shown in Figure 2.

**Figure 2. SRWMO 10-year planned expenditures. Note that grants are not yet secured.**



Some notable work within this plan includes:

- **Grant searches** - Annual efforts to secure grants.
- **Monitoring** - Monitor lakes and streams at a frequency adequate to detect changes.
- **Carp management** - Reach carp removal goals at Martin and Typo Lakes for water quality and habitat improvement.
- **Stormwater treatment** - Complete stormwater retrofit treatment projects already identified and ranked at Martin and Coon Lakes.
- **Grants to residents through lake associations** - Start a new grant program, run through lake associations, to incentivize lakeshore stewardship projects.
- **Targeted lakeshore outreach** – Approach residents with eroding shorelines to offer technical and financial assistance.
- **Alum studies** - Complete alum feasibility studies at impaired lakes. Implement treatments where supported.
- **Development reviews** - Begin reviewing sketch plans of new developments. Non-binding comments will be provided to the community.
- **1W1P** - Participate in the Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan. Participation includes both planning and implementation. Access to State Watershed Based Funding for implementation is anticipated.
- **Outreach coordinator** - Support a new-in-2018 Anoka County Water Resources Outreach Coordinator housed at the Anoka Conservation District. This position increases efficiency and consistency by having one person produce materials/programs that are used by many watershed organizations and cities.

While this plan strives to identify prioritized and targeted work that will achieve measurable results, it also anticipates annual fine-tuning. The plan incorporates by reference several guidance documents. These are studies or plans that contain science, professional judgement and stakeholder input regarding local water resources. These include a regional One Watershed One Plan, total maximum daily load studies, watershed restoration and protection strategies, and local studies. While today's favored projects are shown in the implementation section of this plan, the SRWMO may in time modify or replace these projects with others in the guidance documents. New science, social considerations or other factors might prompt a change.

In addition to serving as a guide to the SRWMO, this plan is also a guide for the member communities. Each member community must adopt a Local Water Plan consistent with Minnesota Statutes 130B.235 and this plan. Communities will also need to update portions of their ordinances for septic systems, wetlands and stormwater to be consistent with SRWMO standards.

This plan directs the SRWMO until approximately January 1, 2030. The actual expiration date will be 10 years after MN Board of Water and Soil Resources approval.

**Table 10. Implementation plan task descriptions.** Timing and estimated costs are in Table 11.

#	Plan Action Reference	Task	Task Description (see text for full description)	Likely Funding*	Likely Partners
<b>Operating Tasks (as defined by JPA)</b>					
1	A65	Recording Secretary services - contractual	Recording Secretary will create and distribute meeting agendas and minutes and help with record keeping.	SRWMO	
2	A65	Administrator services - contractual	Administrator will lead budgeting, preparing agendas and meeting packets, facilitating meeting discussions, administering cost share grants, correspondence, fielding questions or requests from agencies or residents and other miscellaneous administration.	SRWMO	
3	A25	Fiscal mgmt assistance - E Bethel Finance Director & Treasurer	East Bethel's Finance Director assists with general fiscal management including receiving bills, preparing checks and invoices and keeping an account ledger. The Treasurer provides financial reports at each SRWMO meeting, tracks funds for major SRWMO activity categories, and oversees finances.	SRWMO	East Bethel Finance Director, Treasurer
4	A27	Financial contributions calculation update	Update member community's financial contributions to the SRWMO in 2020 and 2025 with new tax base data. The revised contribution amounts will be used in the 2021 and 2026 budgets, respectively.	SRWMO	Member communities
5	A28	Financial audits	Obtain a financial audit by the state auditor or public accountant once every five years as required by MN Statutes 6.756 or when SRWMO revenues exceed the threshold amount in MN Statutes 412.591.	SRWMO	
6		Liability Insurance	Liability insurance, purchased through League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust in the past.	SRWMO	
7		Reports to BWSR, State Auditor	Annual reporting to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources required by MN Rules 8410.0150 and the State Auditor through the SAFES website.	SRWMO	
8	A31	Annual written communication to member communities	SRWMO's on-call administrator will prepare a brief annual written communication piece that summarizes SRWMO work, finances, leveraged funds and current events. It will be used during annual board member reporting to member communities.	SRWMO	
9	A60	Community ordinance reviews	Review member community ordinances and standards for consistency with SRWMO requirements. Communities have 180 after adoption of this plan to update ordinances (MN Statutes 103B.235 subd. 4).	SRWMO	
10		Review/approve community local water plans	SRWMO will review, comment upon and have approval authority over community local water management plans. Communities have 2 yrs after adoption of this plan to update ordinances (MN Statutes 103B.235 subd. 3).	SRWMO	
11		Seek bids for professional services	A WMO shall at least every two years solicit interest proposals for legal, professional, or technical consultant services before retaining the services of an attorney or consultant or extending an annual services agreement (MN Statutes 103B.227, sub. 5). Process led by SRWMO board members. Seek bids for the following year. Expenses are for any public notices.	SRWMO	
<b>Non-operating General</b>					
12		Grant search and applications	The SRWMO will annually review grant opportunities and prepare applications. Important grant sources include the MN DNR, MPCA, and BWSR.	SRWMO	ACD
13	A26	Undesignated reserve	Build and maintain an undesignated reserve of local funds capped at 15% of annual average expenditures for unforeseen circumstances.	SRWMO	
14		Update Watershed Plan	Approximately 1-2 years before expiration of this plan, the WMO will begin the update process. 5th Generation plan is due approx Dec. 31, 2029.	SRWMO	Planning consultant
<b>Communications with Member Communities</b>					
15	A30	Project reporting to member communities	Email project milestone accomplishments to member communities as they occur.	SRWMO	
16	A32	Annual board member reporting to member communities	Annually, SRWMO board members will report in-person to their city council or town board.	SRWMO	
17	A33	Project tours	Provide project tours to city elected officials and staff when major projects are initiated and/or completed.	SRWMO	
<b>Public Outreach</b>					
18	A34, A35, A46, A50, A73	Lake association and community newsletter content	Provide content for newsletters at each lake association following the Newsletters Schedule (separate table in this implementation plan).	SRWMO	Lake assoc's, member communities, Anoka Co Water Resource Outreach Collaborative (WROC)
19	A36	Newspaper press releases	Press releases to the Forest Lake Times newspaper to promote completed projects.	SRWMO	WROC
20	A37	Lakeshore restoration guidance materials	Create, or use already available, lakeshore stewardship and lakeshore restoration guidance materials. This will be used by the SRWMO and lake associations for promoting cost share grants.	SRWMO	WROC
21	A38	Shoreland stewardship display	Create a new display about shoreland stewardship to be used at community events.	SRWMO	WROC
22	A38	Community event displays	Host staffed displays at one community event annually. SRWMO board members shall be the primary "staffers" of the displays.	SRWMO	WROC
23	A56	Stakeholder event attendance	SRWMO board member(s) will attend two stakeholder/partner events per year. May include lake association or community events, partner meetings,	SRWMO	
24	A40, A51	Workshops promotion	Promote workshops led by others such as septic system maintenance or lakeshore stewardship. Promote one workshop by 2022 on a trial basis.	SRWMO	U of M Extension, ACD
25	A41-A43	Engage citizen leaders	Seek Eagle Scouts, Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists or similar to promote and lead SRWMO projects such as lakeshore restorations in public places, displays and staffing at community events, project maintenance, etc. The SRWMO will annually identify projects which might be suitable and reach out to these groups for assistance as appropriate.	SRWMO	Community groups
26	A42-A44	Websites	Maintain SRWMO website. Post SRWMO news, meeting dates, etc to Anoka Co Know the Flow website. Provide links amongst websites of SRWMO, member communities and lake associations. Overhaul SRWMO website in 2027 (9 yrs since last overhaul).	SRWMO	ACD, Anoka Co, member communities
27	A45	Anoka Co Outreach Coordinator position	Support a county-wide position housed at the Anoka Conservation District to assist the SRWMO and others with consistent, effective environmental outreach. Support dependent on program performance. Need may exceed SRWMO ability to fund so other partners and grants are important.	SRWMO	WROC
28	A36	Coloring contest	Begin a youth coloring contest to increase awareness of water quality topics. Preferably the program can be coordinated through the county-wide outreach coordinator.	SRWMO	WROC
29	A66	Advisory committees	Utilize technical and citizen advisory committees on an occasional, issue-specific basis.	SRWMO	Stakeholders
30	A61	Promote Well Water Wise	Provide Anoka Co Well Water Wise private well testing program on the SRWMO website.	SRWMO	Anoka Co



#	Plan Action Reference	Task	Task Description (see text for full description)	Likely Funding*	Likely Partners
<b>Water Condition Monitoring</b>					
31	A16-A23, A67	Water condition monitoring	Monitoring of water quality and quantity. See separate monitoring schedule table in this implementation plan.	SRWMO	Lake groups, volunteers, ACD
<b>Development Reviews</b>					
32	A52, A58, A72	Development reviews	Review and provide non-binding comments to member communities on development sketch plans. Costs are billed to the member community where the project occurs.	SRWMO	Member communities
<b>Multi-partner Coordination</b>					
33	A55, A63	Participate in 1W1P	Participate in One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) for the Lower St. Croix Watershed during 2018-2019. Consider adopting 1W1P in 2019-2020. In subsequent years participate in implementation and funding discussions.	SRWMO	Watershed orgs & counties of the Lower St. Croix watershed
<b>Water Improvement Projects</b>					
34	A1, A70	Ag conservation planning outreach	Assist with identification, prioritization and outreach to parcels where conservation plans can be done by the BWSR/NRCS funded Watershed Conservation Planner housed at Chisago SWCD. May include helping landowners find funding options. Goals of completing 10 plans and implementing five through federal or other existing programs.	SRWMO	Watershed Conservation Planner at Chisago SWCD, ACD
34	A2, A7, A9, A10, A49, A62	Cost share grant program - open to the public	Fund cost share grants for water quality improvement projects including shoreland, stormwater, agricultural and smart irrigation controllers. Lake groups may also apply to fill funding gaps for curly leaf pondweed treatment if the treatment will achieve water quality benefits. Grants will be administered through the Anoka Conservation District.	SRWMO	ACD
35	A6, A9, A49	Cost share grant program - through lake associations	Start a new lakeshore restorations program that provides project funding to be promoted through lake associations who are willing. The program purpose is to increase citizen BMP installations by running the incentives through neighborhood-level groups rather than directly from government. Lake associations will be part of the program and a first point of contact, but not run it solo. Allocated funds include both program setup and pass thru grants. Plan to request, but not require, a small supporting contribution from lake associations.	SRWMO, grants	Lake groups, ACD
36	A4, A50	Carp removals	Complete carp removals to achieve 100 lbs/hectare, or a level recommended in professional assessments of the carp population. This work is needed at Martin and Typo Lakes. Studies at Linwood, Martin and Typo Lakes are underway to determine removals needed. Removal projects should include tracking carp populations and lake vegetative response.	SRWMO, grants	Lake groups, ACD, Carp Solutions LLC
37	A11, A59	Stormwater retrofits	Build projects identified and ranked by cost-effectiveness in completed subwatershed analyses, and any subsequent additional studies. Studies are completed for Martin and Coon Lake direct drainages.	SRWMO, grants	Lake groups
38	A13, A71	Ditch 20 wetland restoration outreach	Sustain outreach to landowners along Ditch 20 where the SRWMO previously identified wetland restoration projects to benefit water quality. One contact should be made every two years or whenever new wetland restoration funding opportunities are known.	SRWMO	BWSR (wetland banking), USFWS
39	A57	Demonstration projects on public lands	Seek to implement shoreline or stormwater management demonstration projects, or educational outreach projects with Anoka County Parks, particularly at Coon, Linwood and Island Lakes, or lands owned by Coon Lake Beach Improvement Assoc. <u>Candidate projects at Anoka Co Parks include outreach at a \$50K new Island Lake fishing pier, outreach at the \$500K boardwalk and trail replacement at Camp Salie Island Lake, and adding a stormwater treatment demonstration at a \$515K Camp Salie improvements that include road and parking re-paving.</u>	SRWMO, grants	Anoka Co Parks
40	A5	Support carp barrier annual maintenance	Send spring and fall reminders of screen installation and removal, based on date and water temperature.	SRWMO	Linwood Township
41	A15	Model projects' pollutant reductions	Model pollutant reductions for SRWMO projects and report achievements to the St. Croix Basin Partnership Team. Done as part of project reporting.	Project's funding source	ACD
42	A68	Linwood Lake weir repair request	Request that the MN DNR consider placing the deteriorating Linwood Lake outlet weir on its list of weir replacement projects.	SRWMO	DNR
43		Point of Sale SSTS inspections	Develop ordinances and processes for point of sale subsurface sewage treatment systems (SSTS; septic systems) in Ham Lake and Linwood Township, and consider any options to improve efficiency or effectiveness in Columbus and East Bethel. This task is dependent upon securing a grant; member communities whose ordinance or process will benefit are to provide grant match.	SRWMO, Member community, grants	Member communities
44	Multiple	Projects identified in adopted guidance documents	Projects that are prioritized, targeted and measurable; vetted through scientific and stakeholder processes, and in adopted guidance documents.	SRWMO, grants	
<b>Studies and Inventories</b>					
45	A3	Carp management feasibility and effectiveness studies	Screen carp population levels in Linwood (2018-2019) and possibly Coon Lake (2025) to determine biomass per acre and carp management feasibility. In other years carp and vegetation studies will be done at lakes where carp removals have been done to determine effectiveness and future management. Notes: Vegetation surveys already being done at Coon Lake for AIS treatment. Whether work occurs at Coon Lake is dependent upon further discussion with stakeholders, DNR Fisheries. Substitute projects, based on guidance documents in this plan, may occur at Coon Lake instead.	SRWMO, grants	Carp Solutions LLC
46	A8	Lakeshore photo inventories	Complete georeferenced photo inventory of lakeshore at Coon, Linwood, Martin, Typo and Fawn Lakes. Use to map target audiences for shoreland BMP outreach. Repeat in 2026 and track changes.	SRWMO and/or ACD	ACD
47	A7	Alum feasibility studies	Conduct studies to determine the feasibility of alum treatments in impaired lakes. Alum chemical addition binds phosphorus. Any study will include an assessment of the social acceptability, costs and benefits. Before pursuing grant funding the SRWMO will discuss the concept with lake residents to gauge support considering effects of clearer water on macrophytes. In the event that an alum feasibility study is not pursued, a subwatershed stormwater retrofitting study for lands draining to Linwood Lake will receive strong consideration as the "backup priority."	SRWMO, grants will be essential	ACD, Consultant
48	A12	Linwood Lake subwatershed retrofitting study	A study to identify and rank by cost effectiveness water quality improvement projects on lands draining to Linwood Lake. A specific subwatershed may be chosen based on land uses and professional and resident input.	SRWMO, grants	ACD

\* Where "grants" are listed as a likely funding source the activity may not occur without a grant. The SRWMO & partners could provide grant matching funds.



**Table 11. Implementation plan timeline and estimated costs.**

#	Plan Action	Funding*	Estimated Expenditure										TOTAL
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
<b>Operating Tasks (as defined by JPA)</b>													
1	Recording Secretary services - contractual	SRWMO	\$1,400	\$1,449	\$1,500	\$1,552	\$1,607	\$1,663	\$1,721	\$1,781	\$1,844	\$1,908	\$16,424
2	Administrator services - contractual	SRWMO	\$6,000	\$6,210	\$6,427	\$6,652	\$6,885	\$7,126	\$7,376	\$7,634	\$7,901	\$8,177	\$70,388
3	Fiscal mgmt assistance - E Bethel Finance Director & Treasurer	SRWMO	Provided by East Bethel, no cost to SRWMO										\$0
4	Financial contributions calculation update	SRWMO	\$320					\$320					\$640
5	Financial audits	SRWMO	\$3,000					\$3,563					\$6,563
6	Liability Insurance	SRWMO	\$1,850	\$1,550	\$1,581	\$1,613	\$1,645	\$1,678	\$1,711	\$1,746	\$1,780	\$1,816	\$16,970
7	Reports to BWSR, State Auditor	SRWMO	\$1,100	\$1,139	\$1,178	\$1,220	\$1,262	\$1,306	\$1,352	\$1,400	\$1,448	\$1,499	\$12,905
8	Annual written communication to member communities	SRWMO	\$600	\$621	\$643	\$665	\$689	\$713	\$738	\$763	\$790	\$818	\$7,039
9	Community ordinance reviews	SRWMO	\$1,920										\$1,920
10	Review/approve community local water plans	SRWMO		\$2,240									\$2,240
11	Seek bids for professional services	SRWMO		\$100		\$100		\$100		\$100		\$100	\$500
<b>Non-operating General</b>													
12	Grant search and applications	SRWMO	\$1,000	\$1,035	\$1,071	\$1,109	\$1,148	\$1,188	\$1,229	\$1,272	\$1,317	\$1,363	\$11,731
13	Undesignated reserve	SRWMO	\$2,029										\$2,029
14	Update Watershed Plan	SRWMO									\$27,000	\$27,000	\$54,000
<b>Communications with Member Communities</b>													
15	Project reporting to member communities	SRWMO	Included in project costs and project manager duties										\$0
16	Annual board member reporting to member communities	SRWMO	Provided by SRWMO board members										\$0
17	Project tours	SRWMO	\$1,660					\$1,850				\$2,000	\$5,510
<b>Public Outreach</b>													
18	Lake association and community newsletter content	SRWMO	\$920	\$2,190	\$1,168	\$938	\$2,184	\$1,000	\$820	\$1,050	\$860	\$1,100	\$12,230
19	Newspaper press releases	SRWMO	Included in project costs and project manager duties										\$0
20	Lakeshore restoration guidance materials	SRWMO			\$3,300								\$3,300
21	Shoreland stewardship display	SRWMO	\$2,520										\$2,520
22	Community event displays	SRWMO	Provided by SRWMO board members										\$0
23	Stakeholder event attendance	SRWMO	Provided by SRWMO board members										\$0
24	Workshops promotion	SRWMO			\$815								\$815
25	Engage citizen leaders	SRWMO	Included in administrator duties										\$0
26	Websites	SRWMO	\$700	\$725	\$750	\$776	\$803	\$831	\$860	\$2,891	\$921	\$953	\$10,210
27	Anoka Co Outreach Coordinator position	SRWMO		\$2,500	\$4,450	\$4,606	\$4,767	\$4,934	\$5,106	\$5,285	\$5,470	\$5,662	\$42,780
29	Advisory committees	SRWMO	Included in administrator duties										\$0
30	Promote Well Water Wise	SRWMO		\$50	\$52	\$54	\$55	\$57	\$59	\$61	\$64	\$66	\$518
<b>Water Condition Monitoring</b>													
31	Water condition monitoring	SRWMO	\$8,541	\$16,446	\$10,369	\$9,125	\$18,535	\$9,775	\$8,114	\$17,780	\$8,632	\$11,217	\$118,535
<b>Development Reviews</b>													
32	Development reviews	MC**	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$10,000
<b>Multi-partner Coordination</b>													
33	Participate in 1W1P	SRWMO	\$640	\$662	\$686	\$710	\$734	\$760	\$787	\$814	\$843	\$872	\$7,508

#	Plan Action	Funding*	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	TOTAL
<b>Water Improvement Projects</b>													
34	Ag conservation planning outreach	SRWMO		\$1,120	\$1,120								\$2,240
		Grants											\$0
35	Cost share grant program- open to the public	SRWMO	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$13,500
		Grants											\$0
36	Cost share grant program - through lake associations	SRWMO			\$7,500	\$6,250		\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500			\$24,250
		Grants			\$30,000	\$25,000		\$14,000	\$14,000	\$14,000			\$97,000
37	Carp removals	SRWMO	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$7,500								\$25,000
		Grants	\$40,000	\$30,000	\$30,000								\$100,000
38	Stormwater retrofits	SRWMO	***										\$0
		Grants	\$133,580										\$133,580
39	Ditch 20 wetland restoration outreach	SRWMO		\$320		\$343		\$367		\$393			\$1,423
		Grants											\$0
40	Demonstration projects on public lands	SRWMO						\$6,750	\$6,750				\$13,500
		Grants						\$27,000	\$27,000				\$54,000
41	Support carp barrier annual maintenance	SRWMO	Included in administrator duties										\$0
		Grants											\$0
42	Model projects' pollutant reductions	SRWMO	Included in project costs and project manager duties										\$0
		Grants											\$0
43	Linwood Lake weir repair request	SRWMO	\$0										\$0
		Grants											\$0
44	Point of Sale SSTS inspections	SRWMO											\$0
		Communities			\$2,000								\$2,000
		Grants			\$8,000								\$8,000
45	Projects identified in adopted guidance documents	SRWMO	\$3,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,000	\$14,500	\$0	\$0	\$29,300
		Other****					\$6,000						
		Grants	\$15,200				\$24,000		\$44,000	\$58,000			\$141,200
<b>Studies and Inventories</b>													
46	Carp management feasibility and effectiveness studies	SRWMO	***			\$2,000		\$4,500					\$6,500
		Grants	\$21,420			\$8,000		\$18,000					\$47,420
47	Lakeshore photo inventories	SRWMO	Provided by ACD in 2020						\$2,000				\$2,000
		Grants						\$8,000					\$8,000
48	Alum feasibility studies	SRWMO				\$5,500	\$5,500						\$11,000
		Grants				\$22,000	\$22,000						\$44,000
49	Linwood Lake subwatershed retrofitting study	SRWMO				\$2,000	\$2,000						\$4,000
		Grants				\$8,000	\$8,000						\$16,000

<b>SRWMO Total</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$48,356</b>	<b>\$51,609</b>	<b>\$46,711</b>	<b>\$48,814</b>	<b>\$52,981</b>	<b>\$54,124</b>	<b>\$61,970</b>	<b>\$59,869</b>	<b>\$65,551</b>	<b>\$539,987</b>
<b>SRWMO grant match</b>	<b>\$13,800</b>	<b>\$8,620</b>	<b>\$16,120</b>	<b>\$10,250</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$14,750</b>	<b>\$21,250</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$104,790</b>
<b>Grants</b>	<b>\$210,200</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>\$63,000</b>	<b>\$54,000</b>	<b>\$59,000</b>	<b>\$93,000</b>	<b>\$72,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$641,200</b>
<b>Communities</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$275,000</b>	<b>\$87,976</b>	<b>\$130,729</b>	<b>\$120,961</b>	<b>\$105,814</b>	<b>\$127,731</b>	<b>\$169,374</b>	<b>\$152,970</b>	<b>\$60,869</b>	<b>\$66,551</b>	<b>\$1,297,977</b>

\*When both SRWMO and grants may fund a project, SRWMO are anticipated match for a grant, if secured.

\*\* MC= member community where the development is occurring.

\*\*\* SRWMO grant matching dollars provided in 2018-19. Watershed Based Funding grant secured in 2018, to be spent through 2021.

\*\*\*\* Other sources are most likely lake groups.

Grants are assumed to have a 25% match requirement. However, some grants require only 10% and the SRWMO expenditure may therefore be less.

The actual timing of water quality improvement projects and studies/inventories may differ from that shown above due to dependence on grant funding.

# Sunrise River WMO

**UPPER RUM RIVER**

**SUNRISE RIVER**

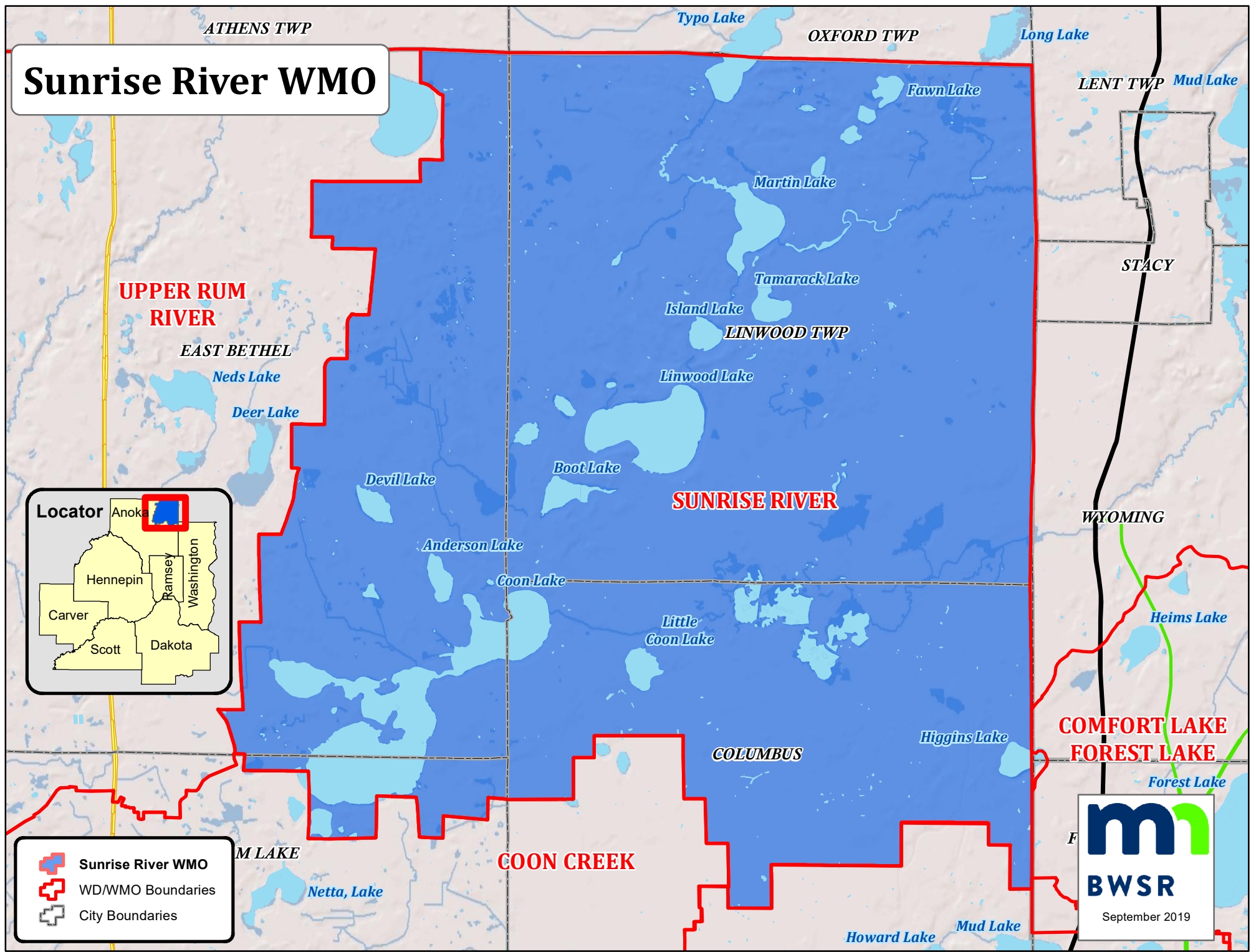
**COMFORT LAKE FOREST LAKE**

**COON CREEK**



- Sunrise River WMO
- WD/WMO Boundaries
- City Boundaries

**BWSR**  
September 2019



**BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM**

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan Extension

**Meeting Date:** October 23, 2019

**Agenda Category:**  Committee Recommendation     New Business     Old Business

**Item Type:**  Decision     Discussion     Information

**Section/Region:** Central Region

**Contact:** Melissa King

**Prepared by:** Melissa King

**Reviewed by:** Central Region    Committee(s)

**Presented by:** Melissa King, Kevin Bigalke

**Time requested:** 5 minutes

**Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

**Attachments:**     Resolution     Order     Map     Other Supporting Information

**Fiscal/Policy Impact**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None          | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested     | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget      |

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of the Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District’s Watershed Management Plan Extension Request.

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**SUMMARY** *(Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)*

The Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (PLSLWD) was originally established on March 4, 1970, by order of the Minnesota Water Resources Board (MWRB) under the authority of the Minnesota Watershed Act. The order was in response to a petition filed with the MWRB by residents within the watershed on June 24, 1969.

PLSLWD is approximately 42 square miles in north central Scott County and ultimately drains to the Minnesota River. There was no outflow from the watershed until 1983 when an outlet channel was constructed at the southwest end of Lower Prior Lake. Land use in the District is a mix of both suburban developed land and undeveloped agricultural land. Government units within the District include: Scott County, the cities of Prior

Lake, Savage, and Shakopee, portions of Sand Creek and Spring Lake Townships, and a portion of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community.

On September 3, 2019, the Board received an initial petition from the PLSLWD requesting an extension to their Water Resources Management Plan from the current expiration date of December 31, 2019, until a new expiration date of December 21, 2020. The District formally began the Plan update process in February 2018 and has since been in process of updating the Plan. PLSLWD staff recently undertook a major effort to reformat the draft Plan to be more 'user-friendly', which has delayed the Plan update process. The District currently anticipates distributing the draft Plan for the 60-day review and comment period in December 2019.

BWSR staff have discussed the extension request with PLSLWD staff and is recommending that the extension request be provided to December 31, 2020 to ensure the District has adequate time to complete the Plan update process and to complete the review process. As a result of the plan extension approval, PLSLWD would maintain eligibility to apply for and receive grant funding through 2020.

On October 10, 2019, the Board's Central Region Committee met to consider the request and upon a unanimous vote, recommended approval of the extension request to the full Board.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

---

In the matter of Extending the Watershed Management Plan for Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.3367.

---

**ORDER  
EXTENDING WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Whereas**, on June 23, 2010 the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board), by Board Order, approved the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (District) Watershed Management Plan that is effective until December 31, 2019; and

**Whereas**, the Board has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.3367; and

**Whereas**, the Board adopted Resolution #16-54 *Local Water Plan Extension and Amendment Policy* on June 22, 2016;

**Now Therefore**, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. On September 3, 2019, the Board received a petition from the District requesting an extension of their Plan. The effective date will change from the current date of December 31, 2019 to a new date of December 31, 2020. The following are the reasons for the request.
  - A. The District formally began the Plan update in February 2018. The District has since conducted a robust process to gather input from and engage stakeholders and undertook significant effort to make the Plan document more user-friendly. This additional engagement and plan development process has resulted the need to request an extension to the current plan. The District needs adequate time to complete the Plan update process and to complete the review process.
2. Central Regional Committee (Committee). On October 10, 2019 the Committee of the Board reviewed the Extension request. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Joe Collins – chair, Jill Crafton, Joel Larson, Kathryn Kelly, Jack Ditmore, Glenn Skuta, Dan Lais. Board staff in attendance was Kevin Bigalke, Assistant Director of Regional Operations. Board staff provided its recommendation of approval of the request to the Committee. Following discussion, the Committee voted unanimously to present a recommendation of approval of the Extension request to the full Board at its October 23, 2019 meeting.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending Comprehensive Local Water Management Plans, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.3367.
3. The Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan extension request is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.3367 and the Board's *Local Water Plan Extension and Amendment Policy* dated June 22, 2016.

## **ORDER**

The Board hereby approves the extension of of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed Management Plan until December 31, 2020.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, on October 23, 2019.

## **MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

---

BY: Gerald Van Amburg, Chair



October 23, 2019

Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Board of Managers  
c/o Diane Lynch, District Administrator  
4646 Dakota Street SE  
Prior Lake, MN 55372

**RE: Approval of the Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan Extension Request**

Dear Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Board of Managers:

The Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) is please to inform you that Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Watershed Management Plan extension request was approved on October 23, 2019. Attached is the signed Board Order that documents approval of the plan extension through December 31, 2020.

Please contact your Board Conservationist, Melissa King, at (651) 350-8845 or [Melissa.king@state.mn.us](mailto:Melissa.king@state.mn.us) for further assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Minnesota board of Water and Soil Resources

CC: Melissa King, Board Conservationist  
Kevin Bigalke, Assistant Director for Regional Operations  
Jeff Berg, MDA (via email)  
Jeanne Daniels, DNR (via email)  
John Freitag, MDH (via email)  
Judy Sventek, Met. Council (via email)  
Jeff Risberg, MPCA (via email)

*Equal Opportunity Employer*



PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE  
WATERSHED DISTRICT

September 10, 2019

Melissa King  
Board Conservationist  
Board of Water and Soil Resources  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms. King:

On behalf of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District, I am requesting an extension of our current 2010-2019 Water Resources Management Plan, which was completed in April 2010, revised in May 2013 and amended on June 12, 2018. The current plan is due to expire the end of 2019.

The District began the process of formally updating the current plan with a February 2, 2018 letter to state agencies, local and regional governments regarding our intention to initiate an update. Since that time, District managers, staff and consultants from Emmons and Olivier Resources have been diligently moving forward on that update through meetings with the public, our CAC and TAC, board and staff. In order to make the Plan more "user-friendly," staff undertook a major effort to reformat the draft Plan a few months ago. This process has resulted in us not moving forward with the revision as quickly as we had hoped and we will miss the December 31, 2019 deadline to complete the update.

We would like to extend our current 2010-2019 Water Resources Management Plan to December 31, 2020 to ensure that we will be able to meet all the deadlines for an update that are required by state statutes. Approval of this extension is paramount so that the District can continue to apply for and use existing BSWR grants as directed by BWSR's current and future grant policies.

The District's Board of Managers passed a resolution requesting this extension at its September 10 Board meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for assisting us with this important process!

Sincerely yours,

  
Diane P. Lynch  
District Administrator

# PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

---

## WATERSHED DISTRICT

### **Watershed District Request to the MN Board of Soil and Water Resources for Water Resources Management Plan 2010-2019 Extension Resolution 19-335**

WHEREAS, the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (PLSLWD) is a watershed management organization and political subdivision of the State of Minnesota established under and operating with powers and purposes set forth at Minnesota Statutes Chapters 103B and 103D; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410, Metropolitan Local Water Management, Subp. 19a. Ten Year Plan Amendment section requires that comprehensive amendments of a watershed management plan are done not less than five years and not more than ten years from the approval of the current plan by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR); and

WHEREAS, the District's 2010-2019 plan expires at the end of 2019; and

WHEREAS, the District has been updating its plan since 2017 and formally began the process with its letter of intention to initiate an update sent to local, metropolitan and state agencies on February 2, 2018; and

WHEREAS, numerous meetings have been held with the District's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), Farmer-led Council (FLC), the public, Board of Managers and staff as part of that update; and

WHEREAS, staff initiated a major format revision of the draft updated plan a few months ago, which has delayed the update process; and

WHEREAS, an extension of the District's Water Resource's Management Plan 2010-2019 is required for the District to apply for and use existing BWSR grants if it is not completed by December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the revised updated plan is expected to be completed and approved by December 31, 2020

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PLSLWD Board of Managers supports a request to the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources to extend the District's current plan from 2010-2019 to 2010-2020.

The Resolution was adopted/rejected by the following vote:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
MYSER	<i>mm</i>		
CORRIGAN	<i>CC</i>		
HENNES	<i>CH</i>		
LONEY	<i>BL</i>		
HOWLEY	<i>CH</i>		

Upon vote, the chair declared the resolution adopted.

*Bruce Loney*  
Bruce Loney, Secretary

Dated: *September 10*, 2019

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** North Fork Crow River Watershed District Watershed Boundary Change and Watershed District Enlargement

**Meeting Date:** October 23, 2019

**Agenda Category:**  Committee Recommendation     New Business     Old Business

**Item Type:**  Decision     Discussion     Information

**Section/Region:** Central Region

**Contact:** Annie Felix-Gerth

**Prepared by:** Annie Felix-Gerth

**Reviewed by:** Central Region    Committee(s)

**Presented by:** Annie Felix-Gerth, Kevin Bigalke

**Time requested:** 10 minutes

**Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

**Attachments:**     Resolution     Order     Map     Other Supporting Information

**Fiscal/Policy Impact**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None          | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested     | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget      |

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District Watershed boundary change and enlargement.

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

\*Enclosed in Board Packet

**SUMMARY** *(Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)*

The purpose of the petition is to correct the boundary between the North Fork Crow River Watershed and the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District and to have the legal boundary match the hydrologic boundary; and the area to be enlarged and included drains into the county ditch systems, under Minnesota Statutes 103E, and into the North Fork Crow River Watershed District are not included in the current boundary of the North Fork Crow River Watershed.



## BOARD ORDER

### Boundary change and enlargement for the North Fork Crow River Watershed District

#### PURPOSE

Approve a boundary change between the North Fork Crow River Watershed District (NFCRWD) and Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District (MFCRWD) and an enlargement of the NFCRWD.

#### RECITALS /FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The North Fork Crow River Watershed District (NFCRWD) filed a petition with the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on August 21, 2019, for a boundary change between the NFCRWD and the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District (MFCRWD) and an enlargement of the NFCRWD, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.251, and 103D.261.
2. The petition was accompanied by supporting resolutions from Pope and Stearns Counties (Exhibits 3, 4), and a letter of support from the MFCRWD (Exhibit 5).
3. The purpose of the boundary change is to correct errors and to have the legal boundary match the hydrologic boundary between the NFCRWD and the MFCRWD.
4. The purpose of the enlargement is to include areas that drain into the county ditch systems, under Minnesota Statutes 103E, and into the NFCRWD that are not included in the current boundary of the NFCRWD.
5. The petition is valid in accordance with Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.251, and 103D.261.
6. Legal notice of a public hearing on the petition, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.251, and 103D.261, was published in the Pope County Tribune, Sauk Centre Herald, Bonanza Valley Voice, Belgrade Observer, Paynesville Press.
7. A public hearing was held on October 10, 2019 at the NFCRWD office, 1030 Front Street, Brooten, Minnesota. The proceedings were recorded. The hearing panel consisted of the following Central Region Committee Board members: Joe Collins - chair, Joel Carlson, Dan Lais, Jack Ditmore, Glenn Skuta, Kathryn Kelly, Jill Crafton. Board staff in attendance were Kevin Bigalke and Jason Weirnerman. Exhibits a through j were entered into the record. Two people provided oral comments at the hearing. The following list of exhibits comprises the hearing record.
  - a. Enlargement and boundary change petition for the North Fork Crow River Watershed District, dated August 20, 2019.
  - b. Email from Cris Skonard, North Fork Crow River Watershed District Administrator, providing an addendum to the petition, dated August 22, 2019.
  - c. Resolution of support from Pope County for the enlargement and boundary change petition, dated August 20, 2019.
  - d. Resolution of support from Stearns County for the enlargement and boundary change petition.
  - e. Letter of support from Middle Fork Crow Watershed District for the enlargement and boundary change petition, dated April 25, 2019.

- f. Board of Water and Soil Resources' Order for public hearing to be held on the enlargement and boundary change petition for the North Fork Crow River Watershed District, dated August 29, 2019.
- g. Memorandum dated September 24, 2019 from Annie Felix-Gerth, Board of Water and Soil Resources to several addressees providing notice of the public hearing including legal notice, and list of addresses.
- h. Email dated October 2, 2019 from Kevin Bigalke, Board of Water and Soil Resources, to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' Central Region Committee on the petition, hearing date, location and supporting documentation (Exhibits 1, 3-7).
- i. Affidavit of publication dated September 30, 2019, of legal notice in the Pope County Tribune on September 23 and 30, 2019.
- j. Affidavit of publication dated October 3, 2019, of Legal Notice in the Sauk Centre Herald on Sept 23 and 30, 2019.

#### Exhibits Received After the Public Hearing

11. Affidavit of publication dated October 7, 2019, of Legal Notice in the Bonanza Valley Voice on Sept 26 and October 3, 2019.

12. Affidavit of publication dated October 9, 2019, of Legal Notice in the Paynesville Press on Sept 25 and October 2, 2019.

8. Staff participated with the NFCRWD and their legal counsel through the process, providing guidance, comments, and recommendations. All relevant, substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a boundary change and enlargement. The requested boundary change and enlargement is consistent with the purpose and the requirements of Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.251, and 103D.261. The boundary change and enlargement as proposed in the petition would be for the public welfare and public interest and would advance the purpose of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D. The boundaries of the NFCRWD and the MFCRWD as proposed in the petition are more accurately based on the hydrology of the subject area than the present boundaries. The proposed boundary change and enlargement should be approved per the petition. Therefore, staff recommends approval of the boundary change and enlargement as petitioned.
9. The Central Region Committee deliberated on October 10, 2019, following the close of the public hearing, at the NFCRWD office, 1030 Front Street, Broton, Minnesota. Based on the public hearing record, the proposed boundary change and watershed enlargement meets the requirements of Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.251, and 103D.261. After discussion and based on the entire record, the committee unanimously recommended approval of the NFCRWD boundary change and watershed enlargement.

#### **ORDER**

The Board hereby:

1. Approves a boundary change between the NFCRWD and the MFCRWD and an enlargement of the NFCRWD.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this October 23rd, 2019.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Board of Water and Soil Resources



**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA BOARD OF SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES**

**Petition to Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources for Boundary Change, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103D.251 and Enlarging of North Fork Crow River Watershed District, Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103D.261**

**WHEREAS**, the North Fork Crow River Watershed District is a Watershed District established pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103D; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103D.251, Subd. 3, this proceeding is to change the boundary between the North Fork Crow River Watershed District and the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District and is being petitioned to the Board of Water & Soil Resources, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103D.251; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103D.261, this proceeding is also to enlarge the Watershed District; and

**WHEREAS**, the area to correct the boundary between the North Fork Crow River Watershed and the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District is to correct errors and to have the legal boundary match the hydrologic boundary; and

**WHEREAS**, the area to be enlarged and included within the North Fork Crow River Watershed District was discovered as part of a Redetermination of Benefits of drainage systems within the jurisdiction of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District area. It was determined that areas that drain into the county ditch systems, under Minnesota Statutes 103E, and into the North Fork Crow River Watershed District are not included in the current boundary of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103D.251 and Minnesota Statutes 103D.261, the North Fork Crow River Watershed District provides the following information:

1. The affected Watershed District is the North Fork Crow River Watershed District and the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District.

2. The description in general terms of the property affected by the proposed boundary change and enlargement of the Watershed District is as follows:

See **Exhibit A** and **Exhibit B**.

3. The reason the proposed boundary change would benefit the North Fork Crow River Watershed District is that it would match the hydrologic boundaries with the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District and would also include benefitted property within the county ditch systems under the jurisdiction of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District and which are now not part of any Watershed District.
4. Attached is a map, labeled **Exhibit B**, of the proposed boundary changes that affect the North Fork Crow River Watershed District and Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District.
5. Attached is the map, labeled **Exhibit B**, which includes the areas to be enlarged into the North Fork Crow River Watershed District so that the benefitted property within county ditch systems under the jurisdiction of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District are within the political boundaries of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District.

**WHEREAS**, the North Fork Crow River Watershed District has passed a resolution, attached as **Exhibit C**, authorizing the proceeding for the boundary change and enlargement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District, Stearns County, and Pope County also have or are passing resolutions supporting the boundary change and enlargement; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Fork Crow River Watershed District requests that the Board of Water & Soil Resources proceed with all necessary notices and hearings as required by statute and to do so as expeditiously as possible as the North Fork Crow River Watershed District has a statutory duty to proceed with the Redetermination of Benefits as expeditiously as possible.

Dated this 20 day of August, 2019.

NORTH FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED  
DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS

By Robert Bruce  
Its Chairperson

## EXHIBIT A

The following 78 parcels not currently in a Watershed District will be added to the NFCRWD.

<b>PIN</b>	<b>County</b>
20-0013-000	Pope
20-0055-001	Pope
20-0051-001	Pope
20-0053-001	Pope
20-0054-000	Pope
20-0048-000	Pope
20-0049-001	Pope
20-0065-001	Pope
20-0063-002	Pope
20-0063-001	Pope
20-0063-000	Pope
20-0057-000	Pope
20-0058-000	Pope
20-0058-001	Pope
20-0058-002	Pope
20-0061-000	Pope
20-0142-003	Pope
11-0104-000	Pope
11-0099-000	Pope
11-0132-000	Pope
11-0129-001	Pope
11-0135-000	Pope
11-0134-000	Pope
11-0128-001	Pope
11-0130-000	Pope
11-0157-000	Pope
11-0167-000	Pope
11-0163-001	Pope
11-0165-000	Pope
11-0158-000	Pope
11-0159-000	Pope
11-0162-000	Pope
20-0012-000	Pope
20-0014-000	Pope
11-0164-000	Pope
11-0161-000	Pope
11-0160-000	Pope
11-0166-000	Pope

## EXHIBIT A

11-0166-001	Pope
11-0161-001	Pope
20-0016-000	Pope
06.03674.0000	Stearns
06.03706.0000	Stearns
06.03707.0000	Stearns
06.03707.0002	Stearns
06.03708.0000	Stearns
06.03710.0000	Stearns
06.03711.0000	Stearns
06.03712.0001	Stearns
06.03712.0002	Stearns
06.03716.0000	Stearns
06.03716.0004	Stearns
06.03717.0000	Stearns
06.03717.0010	Stearns
06.03717.0020	Stearns
06.03771.0000	Stearns
06.03771.0500	Stearns
06.03772.0500	Stearns
06.03774.0000	Stearns
06.03774.0010	Stearns
07.03931.0000	Stearns
07.03935.0002	Stearns
07.03935.0004	Stearns
07.03935.0010	Stearns
07.03936.0000	Stearns
07.03939.0000	Stearns
07.03978.0000	Stearns
07.03979.0000	Stearns
07.03982.0000	Stearns
07.03983.0000	Stearns
07.03984.0000	Stearns
06.03689.0037	Stearns
55-1*	Stearns
55-2*	Stearns
55-3*	Stearns
55-4*	Stearns

## EXHIBIT A

55-5*	Stearns
55-6*	Stearns

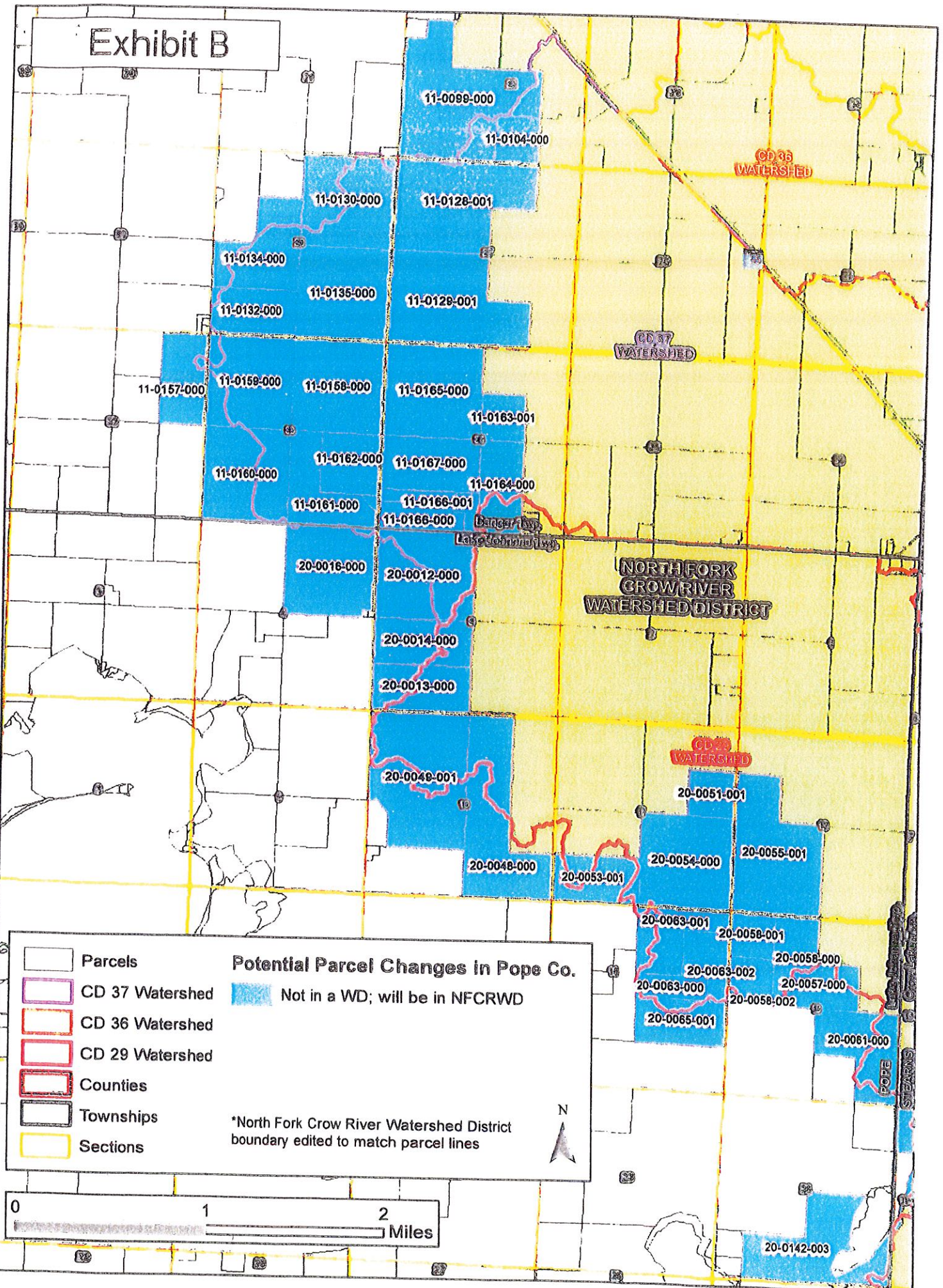
\*Parcel did not have a unique PIN in Stearns County parcel layer. The unique ID identified in this table correlates to a parcel boundary labeled on the maps in Exhibit B.

The following 27 parcels would be transferred from MFCRWD to NFCRWD:

<b>PIN</b>	<b>County</b>
06.03678.0000	Stearns
06.03679.0000	Stearns
06.03681.0005	Stearns
06.03714.0003	Stearns
06.03772.0000	Stearns
06.03772.0005	Stearns
06.03777.0005	Stearns
06.03874.0100	Stearns
07.03985.0000	Stearns
07.03985.0500	Stearns
07.03985.0510	Stearns
44.27200.0000	Stearns
44.27236.0000	Stearns
44.27238.0000	Stearns
44.27239.0000	Stearns
44.27240.0000	Stearns
44.27241.0000	Stearns
44.27244.0000	Stearns
44.27245.0000	Stearns
44.27246.0000	Stearns
44.27306.0000	Stearns
44.27307.0000	Stearns
44.27308.0000	Stearns
44.27309.0000	Stearns
44.27310.0000	Stearns
44.27311.0000	Stearns
44.27313.0000	Stearns




# Exhibit B



## Potential Parcel Changes in Pope Co.

-  Parcels
-  CD 37 Watershed
-  CD 36 Watershed
-  CD 29 Watershed
-  Counties
-  Townships
-  Sections

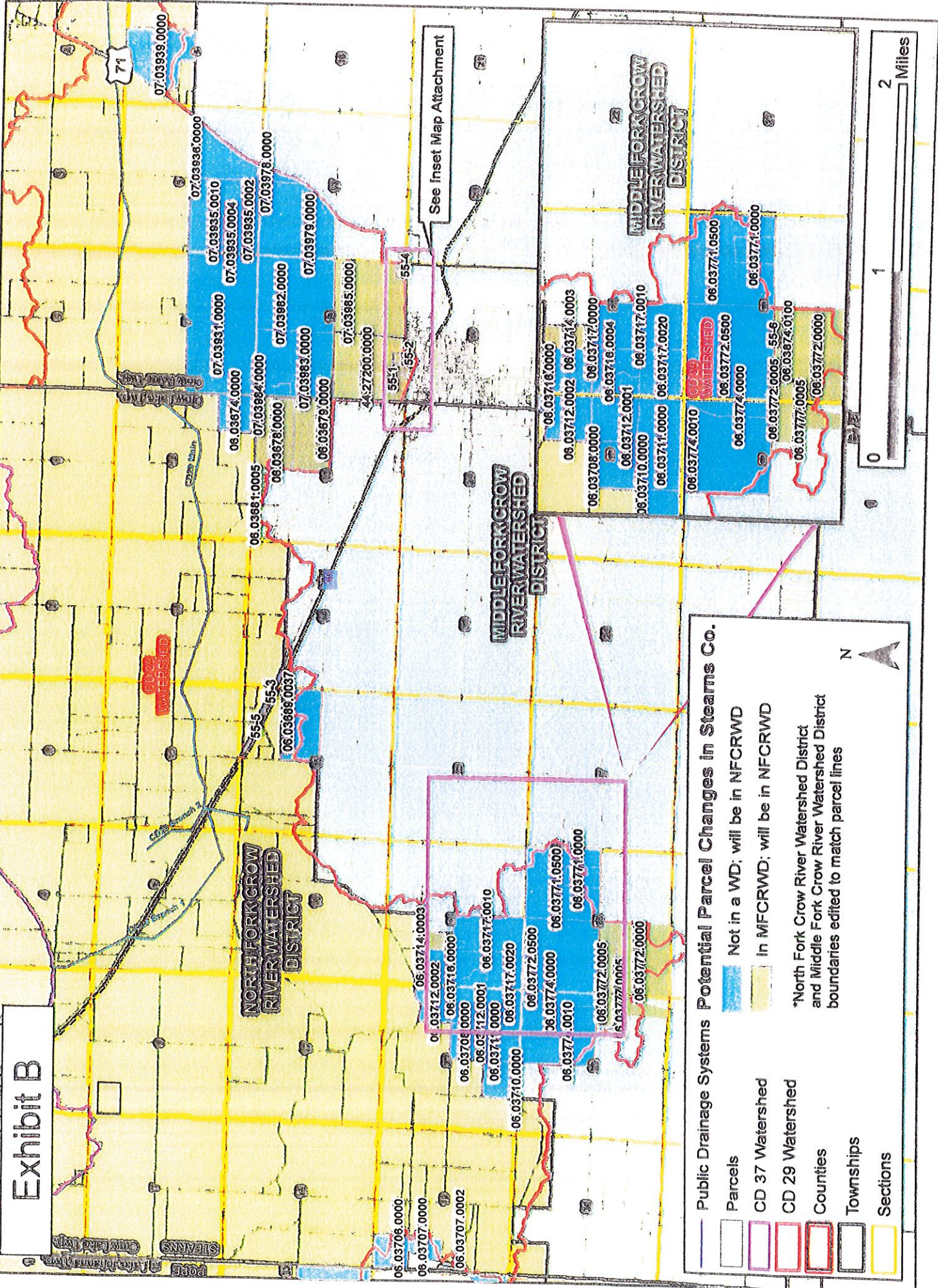
 Not in a WD; will be in NFCRWD

\*North Fork Crow River Watershed District boundary edited to match parcel lines





# Exhibit B



See Inset Map Attachment

**Public Drainage Systems Potential Parcel Changes in Stearns Co.**

- Parcels
- CD 37 Watershed
- CD 29 Watershed
- Counties
- Townships
- Sections

Not in a WD; will be in NFCRWD

In MFCRWD; will be in NFCRWD

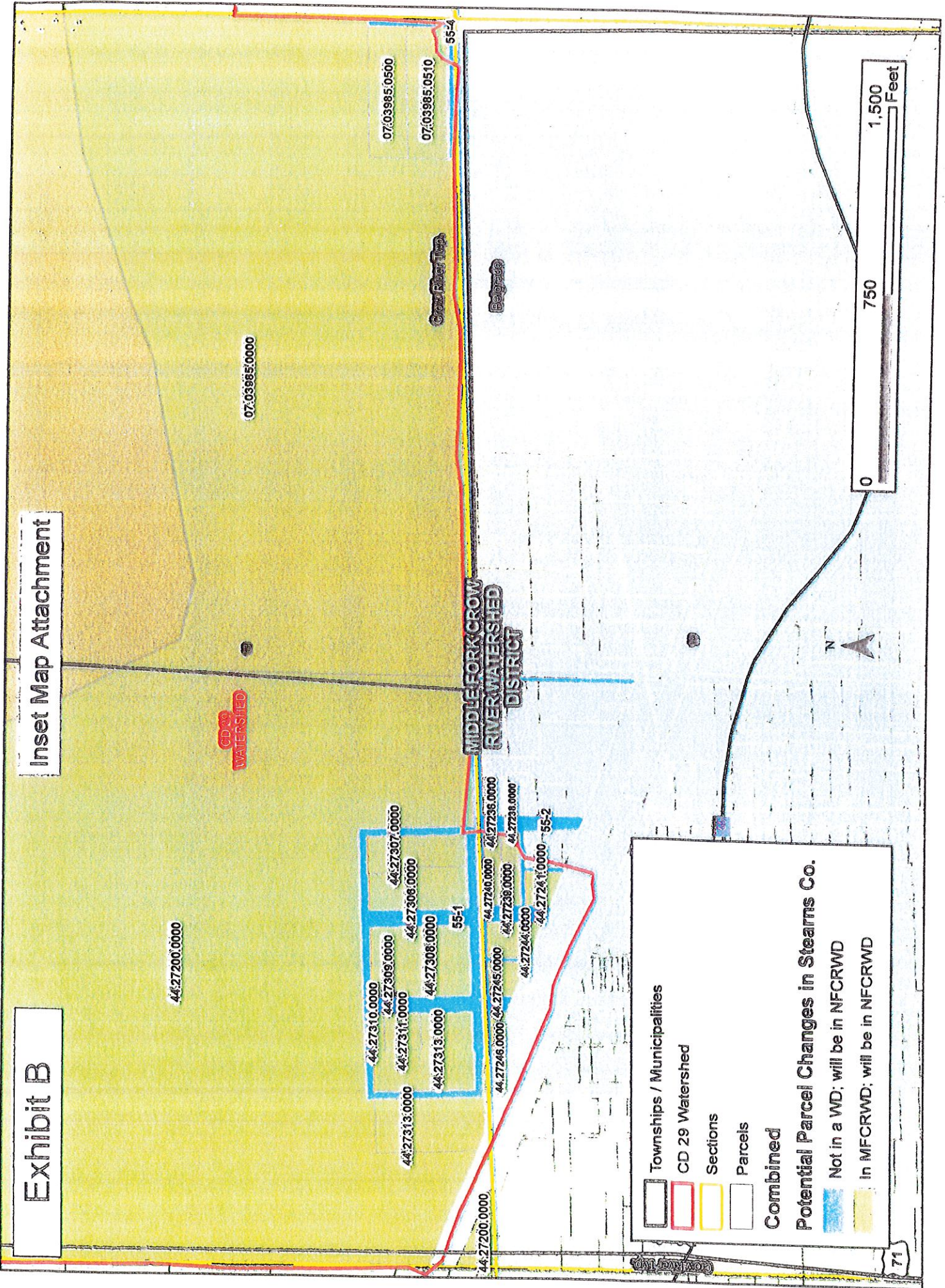
\*North Fork Crow River Watershed District and Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District boundaries edited to match parcel lines





# Exhibit B

# Inset Map Attachment



**Potential Parcel Changes in Stearns Co.**

- Townships / Municipalities
- CD 29 Watershed
- Sections
- Parcels
- Combined

Not in a WD; will be in NFCRWD  
In MFCRWD; will be in NFCRWD





# EXHIBIT C

## RESOLUTION NO. 2018-09

### NORTH FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE OF BOUNDARY PRIOR TO SIGNING A PETITION FOR A BOUNDARY CHANGE

Manager Brauchler offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Manager Barchenger:

**WHEREAS**, due to the generation of more precise topographic data, the hydrologic boundary of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District ("Watershed District") can be more precisely ascertained; and

**WHEREAS**, such improved data allow for a more accurate inclusion of properties located within the Watershed District's legal boundary; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D is to facilitate water resource management on a watershed basis, and that legal boundaries of watershed management organizations should conform as closely as is practicable to hydrologic boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, certain land parcels presently positioned outside the legal boundary of the Watershed District have been identified as falling within the hydrologic boundary of the Watershed District; and

**WHEREAS**, these parcels are shown on Exhibit A and are proposed to be included within a revised legal boundary of the Watershed District; and

**WHEREAS**, the parcels affected by this boundary change are contiguous to the Watershed District; and

**WHEREAS**, adjustment of the District's legal boundary will benefit the public welfare and public interest and advance the purposes of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D.

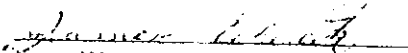
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Board of Managers of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District authorizes the boundary change and directs its staff to prepare and submit a petition to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §103D.251, to establish the District's proposed legal boundary change in accordance with Exhibit A.

The question was on the adoption of the Resolution and there were 5 yeas and 0 nays as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Absent
BARCHENGER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BERNDT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRAUCHLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HANSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
WUERTZ	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Upon vote, the Chair declared the Resolution carries.

EXHIBIT C

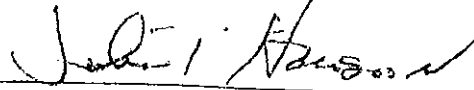
  
James Wuertz, President

Dated: December 10, 2018

\*\*\*\*\*

I, John Hanson, Secretary of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District, do hereby certify that I have compared the above resolution with the original thereof as the same appears of record and on file with the District and find the same to be a true and correct transcript thereof.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of December, 2018.

  
John Hanson, Secretary

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
NORTH FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT  
ENLARGEMENT AND BOUNDARY CHANGE**

**Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
520 Lafayette Road North  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155**

**In the matter of** the petition for an enlargement and a boundary change of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District (NFCRWD) pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103D.261 and §103D.251, and;

**Whereas**, the subject petition and supporting resolutions were received on August 20, 2019 and have been served on the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103D.261 and §103D.251.

Now therefore, the Board hereby issues the following:

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public hearing on the petition will be held on Thursday, October 10, 2019 from 7:00-8:00 PM, at the NFCRWD office, 1030 Front Street, Brooten MN 56316. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comments on the petition. At the hearing, all interested persons will be given opportunity to submit pertinent information before a decision is made on the proposed amendment.

The petition proposes to change the common boundaries of the NFCRWD and the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District (MFCRWD) and increase the territory of the NFCRWD. The proposed boundary change will transfer 679 acres from the MFCRWD to the NFCRWD. The enlargement will incorporate 4,457 acres in Pope County and 2,237 acres in Stearns County into the NFCRWD.

The Board must review the petition for conformance with state law and rule. A copy of the petition is available for inspection during normal business hours at the NFCRWD office, 1030 Front St, PO Box 40, Brooten, MN 56316, and at the Board's office at the address listed above.

For further information contact Annie Felix-Gerth of the Board at 651-238-0677.

Dated in Saint Paul, Minnesota this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019.

/s/ Annie Felix-Gerth  
Water Programs Coordinator

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

***Grants Program and Policy Committee***

1. Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program and Policy – Nicole Clapp –  
***DECISION ITEM***

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program and Policy

**Meeting Date:** October 23, 2019

**Agenda Category:**  Committee Recommendation     New Business     Old Business

**Item Type:**  Decision     Discussion     Information

**Section/Region:** Local Water Management

**Contact:** Nicole Clapp

**Prepared by:** Nicole Clapp

**Reviewed by:** Grants Program & Policy    Committee(s)

**Presented by:** Nicole Clapp

**Time requested:** 25 minutes

**Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

**Attachments:**     Resolution     Order     Map     Other Supporting Information

**Fiscal/Policy Impact**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None                            | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested        | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget      |

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of the Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program Policy and authorization for staff to finalize and issue the associated Request for Proposal.

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**SUMMARY** *(Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)*

This is a new program in fiscal year 2020 that is aimed at issuing grants for the creation of demonstration projects to plant residential lawns with native vegetation and pollinator-friendly forbs and legumes to protect a diversity of pollinators. A policy is needed to provide guidance to grantees on the requirements of this new program.

## BOARD ORDER

### Fiscal Year 2020 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program Policy

#### PURPOSE

Authorize a fiscal year 2020 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program and adopt fiscal year 2020 Lawns to Legumes Program Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program Policy.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session, Chapter 4, Article 2, Section 2, Subd. (f) appropriated \$900,000 from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to the Board for demonstration projects that provide grants or payments to plant residential lawns with native vegetation and pollinator-friendly forbs and legumes to protect a diversity of pollinators.
2. On July 17, 2019 the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) approved the workplan for this program, which included key goals of involving a wide range of conservation partners in the program including; cities, counties, watershed districts, soil and water conservation districts, tribes and nongovernmental organizations.
3. On January 28, 2010, the Board adopted resolution 10-05 regarding policies adopted by the Office of Grants Management relating to conflicts of interest and financial review of nongovernmental organizations. This resolution requires nongovernmental organizations to have a local government unit as a fiscal agent to receive BWSR grant funds.
4. This policy and the associated request for proposal were created to provide expectations for application to the fiscal year 2020 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program and subsequent activities conducted with these funds.
5. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their October 14, 2019 Meeting, reviewed the proposed Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program Policy and recommended approval to the Board.

#### ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Authorizes that nongovernmental organizations are eligible to directly receive grants for the Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program, notwithstanding Board Resolution 10-05.
2. Adopts the attached Lawns to Legumes Program Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program Policy, dated October 23, 2019.
3. Authorizes staff to finalize and issue a Request for Proposals for Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood grants.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this October 23, 2019.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

\_\_\_\_\_

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Program Policy

From the Board of Water and Soil Resources, State of Minnesota

Version: 1.00

Effective Date: TBD

Approval: Board Order #

## Policy Statement

---

The Lawns to Legumes program was established to provide demonstration projects to plant residential lawns with native vegetation and pollinator-friendly forbs and legumes to protect a diversity of pollinators, as authorized by Minnesota Session Laws 2019, Chapter 4, Article 2, Section 2, Subd. 8(f) and future similar appropriations.

## Reason for this Policy

---

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear expectations for the implementation of grants delivered through this program. More specific requirements or criteria may apply when specified by statute, rule, funding source, or appropriation language.

Grantees are responsible for the administration and decisions concerning the use of these funds in accordance with applicable Minnesota Statutes, state agency policies, and other applicable laws. BWSR will use grant agreements as contracts for assurance of deliverables and compliance with applicable laws and program policies.

**The BWSR Grants Administration Manual provides the primary framework for management of these funds.**

## Lawns to Legumes Program

---

### 1. Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include any of the following entities from across the State of Minnesota:

- Cities
- Counties
- Watershed Districts
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Nongovernmental organizations
- Tribal Governments

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, 103B.3369, grants for this program are exempt from the Local Water Plan requirements outlined in the Grants Administration Manual Local Water Plan Status and Grant Eligibility Policy.



Definition of non-governmental organization follows the Office of Grants Management definition as outlined in [Policy 08-06](#) on Financial Review of Nongovernmental Organizations.

## 2. Match Requirements

A minimum non-state match equal to at least 25% is required, except in areas identified by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as areas where there is a high potential for rusty patched bumble bees to be present, where only a 10% match is required. The linked [map](#) provides locations with high potential for rusty patched bumble bees to be present. The match must be cash or in-kind cash value of goods, materials, and services directly attributed to project accomplishments.

## 3. Eligible Activities

The primary purpose of activities funded through this program is to increase the populations of rusty patched bumble bees and other at-risk pollinators through planting residential lawns with native vegetation and pollinator-friendly forbs. Eligible activities include the following categories:

- 3.1. **Technical Assistance.** Eligible activities include but are not limited to: development of project plans and specifications.
- 3.2. **Grant Management and Reporting.** Grant funds may be used for local grant management and reporting that are directly related to and necessary for implementing the program.
- 3.3. **Conservation Practice Cost Share and Incentives.** Eligible expenses include site preparation, planting and management costs including but not limited to, tilling, burning, sod removal, weed barriers, seeds, containerized plants, flowering trees, flowering shrubs, seeding, inter-seeding, weed removal, in accordance with the approved grant work plan.
  - 3.3.1. Non-herbicide methods of site preparation and management are preferred, see Xerces Society guide to [“Organic Site Preparation Methods.”](#)
- 3.4. **Maintenance through grant period.** It is important that plantings that are funded through this program are maintained. All landowners receiving funding will be asked to sign a BWSR provided landowner agreement that summarizes the expected lifespan of the project and provides information about project maintenance. Maintenance must focus both on maintaining the habitat value and aesthetics of projects.

## 4. Ineligible Expenses

- 4.1. Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) funding cannot be used to pay for space and other associated overhead costs. Billing rates charged to these grants may include the employee’s base hourly rate plus benefits. Required match can be provided through other facilities and administration costs such as space, vehicle, computers, and other associated overhead costs. Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood grants can only be used for the Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood program and not for other Federal or State programs.
- 4.2. See the unallowable costs as defined in the Grant Administration Manual – [Allowable and Unallowable Cost](#) section.

## 5. Technical Quality Assurance

Technical advisors working with landowners on project design and implementation must have experience working on residential habitat, native vegetation projects, and be able to successfully guide project design and maintenance. In some cases, planting templates or pollinator lawn guidance developed by BWSR or Blue Thumb can be used as guidance for plantings. More complex plantings may need a planting plan. Applicants that do not have staff with sufficient technical knowledge can partner with Soil and Water Conservation Districts, other local governments, non-profits or consultants that have sufficient expertise.

## 6. Grant Work Plan and Reporting Requirements

To ensure the success of the program, development of grant work plans, regular reporting of expenditures, and technical assistance and accomplishments are required.

- 6.1. **Grant Execution.** Grant agreement must be executed before work can begin on this grant and all work must occur within the grant period.
- 6.2. **Grant Work Plan.** Work plans shall be developed in eLINK and must be approved before work can begin on this grant. Work plans shall reflect each eligible activity, a description of the anticipated activity accomplishments, and grant and match funding amounts to accomplish each of the activities.
- 6.3. **Grant Reporting.** Descriptions of actual results and financial expenditures for each work plan activity must be reported in eLINK by February 1 of each year.
- 6.4. **Grant Closeout.** Within thirty (30) calendar days of the expiration of each grant agreement or expenditure of all grant funds, whichever occurs first, grantees are required to:
  - a. Provide a summary of all work plan accomplishments with grant funding in eLINK; and
  - b. Submit a signed eLINK Financial Report to BWSR; and
  - c. Return any unspent funds.

## 7. BWSR Grant Administration Requirements

BWSR staff is authorized to review grant applicant's financial records to establish capacity to successfully manage state grant funds, develop grant agreements, including requirements and processes for work plans, project outcomes reporting, closeouts, and fiscal reconciliations. All grantees must follow the grant agreement and applicable sections of the Grants Administration Manual.

In the event there is a violation of the terms of the grant agreement, BWSR will enforce the grant agreement and evaluate appropriate actions, up to and including repayment of grant funds at a rate up to 100% of the grant agreement.

## History

---

Version	Description	Date
0.00	Lawns to Legumes Program Policy - new	October 23, 2019



## **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### ***Southern Region Committee***

1. Buffalo Creek Watershed District Watershed Plan Amendment – Ed Lenz – ***DECISION ITEM***
2. Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan – Nathan Redalen – ***DECISION ITEM***

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Buffalo Creek Watershed District Watershed Plan Amendment

---

**Meeting Date:** October 23, 2019

**Agenda Category:**  Committee Recommendation     New Business     Old Business

**Item Type:**  Decision     Discussion     Information

**Section/Region:** Southern Region

**Contact:** Annie Felix-Gerth

**Prepared by:** Annie Felix-Gerth

**Reviewed by:** Southern Region    Committee(s)

**Presented by:** Ed Lenz

**Time requested:** 10 minutes

**Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

**Attachments:**     Resolution     Order     Map     Other Supporting Information

**Fiscal/Policy Impact**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None          | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested     | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget      |

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of the Buffalo Creek Watershed District Watershed plan amendment.

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Draft order will be submitted soon.

**SUMMARY** *(Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)*

The petition proposes to amend the watershed district's watershed management plan to establish a water management district along the northern edge of the City of Glencoe. Territory is limited to the Central Ditch drainage area encompassing approximately 1,132 acres. The establishment of the water management district will allow the district to collect revenues to support a comprehensive stormwater management project over the drainage area of the ditch.



## BOARD ORDER

### Amendment of the Buffalo Creek Watershed District watershed management plan

#### PURPOSE

Approve an amendment to the Buffalo Creek Watershed District watershed management plan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 103D.411 and 103D.729.

#### RECITALS /FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Buffalo Creek Watershed District (BCWD) filed a petition for an amendment to the BCWD Watershed Management Plan dated March 26, 2019 with the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board). The BCWD submitted an addendum to the proposed amendment dated April 5, 2019 (Exhibit 1).
2. A watershed district is required to revise their watershed management plan at least once every ten years pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103D.405, Subd. 1 (a). The current BCWD Water Management Plan was approved by the Board on June 25, 2014. The BCWD Water Management Plan (2014-2023) highlights the Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Project as a priority. However, the plan does not propose the establishment of a water management district for that area.
3. The purpose of the proposed amendment is to establish a water management district for the Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Project pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103D.729. The proposed amendment (Exhibit 1) profiles the establishment of the water management district that would provide a funding mechanism to assist in the implementation of a comprehensive stormwater management project. The City of Glencoe previously petitioned the BCWD to establish the Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Project under Minn. Stat. §103D.605 and subsequent engineering reports were developed for the project area. As proposed, the water management district will fund a portion of the project and the remaining amount will be funding through Ad valorem levy.
4. The petition for an amendment to the BCWD Plan is valid in accordance with Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.411 and 103D.729.
5. Legal notice of the public hearing on the petition, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103D.411, was published in the Lakes Area Review (Exhibit 5), the McLeod County Chronicle (Exhibit 9), the News Mirror (Exhibit 6), the News and Times (Exhibit 8), and the Gaylord Hub (Exhibit 7). Further, a copy of the hearing notice was mailed to several addressees notifying them of the public hearing (Exhibit 4). No written comments were received during the notice period.
6. A public hearing was held on the Amendment on September 16, 2019, at the Glencoe City Center, 1107 11<sup>th</sup> St. E, Glencoe, Minnesota. The proceedings were recorded. The hearing panel consisted of the following Southern Region Committee Board members: Chris Elvrum, Jeff Berg, Tom Loveall, Harvey Kruger, Steve Sunderland, and Kathryn Kelly as chair. Board staff in attendance were Annie Felix-Gerth and Ed Lenz. Annie Felix-Gerth entered Exhibit 1 through Exhibit 10 into the record. No oral or written comments were provided from interested parties at the hearing. The following list of exhibits comprises the hearing record.

Exhibit 1. Amendment to Watershed Management Plan Petition for the Buffalo Creek Watershed District, dated March 26, 2019.

Exhibit 2. Board of Water and Soil Resources' Order for public hearing to be held on the amendment to watershed management plan petition for the Buffalo Creek Watershed District.

Exhibit 3. Email, dated August 2, 2019 from Ed Lenz, Board of Water and Soil Resources, to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' Southern Region Committee on the petition, hearing date and location.

Exhibit 4. Memorandum, dated August 19, 2019 from Annie Felix-Gerth, Board of Water and Soil Resources to several addressees providing notice of the public hearing including legal notice, and list of addresses.

Exhibit 5. Affidavit of Publication dated August 26, 2019, of Legal Notice in the Lakes Area Review on August 17 and August 24, 2019.

Exhibit 6. Affidavit of Publication dated August 26, 2019, of Legal Notice in the News Mirror on August 21 and August 28, 2019.

Exhibit 7. Affidavit of Publication dated August 29, 2019, of Legal Notice in the Gaylord Hub on August 15 and August 22, 2019.

Exhibit 8. Affidavit of Publication dated August 26, 2019, of Legal Notice in the News and Times on August 22 and August 29, 2019.

Exhibit 9. Affidavit of Publication dated September 10, 2019 of Legal Notice in the McLeod Chronicle on August 21, 2019.

Exhibit 10. Memorandum dated September 9, 2019 from Ed Lenz, Board of Water and Soil Resources, to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' Southern Region Committee on the petition, hearing date, location and supporting documentation (Exhibits 1, 2, 4).

7. Staff participated with the BCWD and their consultant through the amendment process, providing guidance, comments, and recommendations. The amendment will be inserted in the plan under "Appendix D, letter C." The final proposed amendment conforms to the requirements of Minnesota Statute 103D.411. Therefore, staff recommends approval of the proposed amendment.
8. The Southern Region committee deliberated on September 16, 2019, following the close of the public hearing, at the Glencoe City Center, 1107 11<sup>th</sup> Street East, in Glencoe Minnesota. Based on the public hearing record, the proposed amendment meets the requirements of Minn. Stat. §§103D.411 and 103D.729, and staff recommends approving the amendment. After discussion and based on the entire record, the committee unanimously recommended approval of the 2019 BCWD Watershed Management Plan amendment.
9. All relevant, substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
10. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving an amendment of a watershed management plan.
11. The attached amendment to the plan as proposed in the petition would be for the public welfare and public interest and the purpose of Minn. Stat. Chapter 103D would be served.

**ORDER**

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the attached plan amendment received on April 5, 2019, as a formal amendment to the 2014-2023 Watershed Management Plan for the Buffalo Creek Watershed District.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this October 23rd, 2019.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

\_\_\_\_\_

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



October 23, 2019

Buffalo Creek Watershed District  
c/o Donald Belter, Chair  
P.O. Box 55  
Glencoe, MN 55336

**RE: Approval of the Buffalo Creek Watershed District Watershed Management Plan Amendment**

Dear Buffalo Creek Watershed District Board of Managers:

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is pleased to inform you the amendment to the Buffalo Creek Watershed District (BCWD) Watershed Management Plan (Plan) was approved at its regular meeting held on October 23, 2019. Attached is the signed Board Order that documents approval of the plan amendment and indicates the Plan meets all relevant requirements of law and rule.

BWSR looks forward to working with you as you implement this plan and document its outcomes. Please contact Board Conservationist Jeremy Maul at 507-344-2824 or [jeremy.maul@state.mn.us](mailto:jeremy.maul@state.mn.us) for further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Enclosure: BWSR Board Order

cc: McLeod County Auditor  
Renville County Auditor  
Sibley County Auditor  
Carver County Auditor  
Kandiyohi County Auditor  
McLeod County SWCD  
Renville County SWCD  
Sibley County SWCD  
Carver County SWCD  
Kandiyohi County SWCD  
Mayor, City of Glencoe  
Rob Collett, DNR-Division of Ecological and Water Resources (email)  
John Kolb, Rinke Noonan (email)  
Chris Otterness, Houston Engineering, Inc. (email)  
Donald Belter, Buffalo Creek Watershed District (email)  
Kevin Bigalke, BWSR (email)  
Ed Lenz, BWSR (email)  
Jeremy Maul, BWSR (email)

*Equal Opportunity Employer*

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
BUFFALO CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT**

The matter of the Petition of the City of Glencoe for the establishment of the Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Project

**Petition to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for Amendment to Watershed Management Plan (Statutes Sections 103D.411 and .729)**

The Board of Managers of the Buffalo Creek Watershed District, at its regular meeting on January 22, 2019, considered the attached proposed amendments to its Watershed Management Plan to support the Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Project (Project Number 16-01). Based on a review of the proposed amendments and the project proceedings, Manager Henke moved, seconded by Manager Phillips to adopt the following Findings and Petition for amendment of the Watershed Management Plan:

**FINDINGS**

1. By petition dated July 19, 2016, the City of Glencoe petitioned the BCWD to establish a Basic Water Project under Minnesota Statutes, section 103D.605 as a comprehensive and integrated approach to stormwater management, flood damage reduction, and water quality enhancement within the Central-East stormwater management area of the City. The petition recommended the project be broken into the following phases:
  - a. Phase 1: Identifying and analyzing current conditions, challenges and opportunities related to stormwater management and flood damage and making recommendations of actions likely to address comprehensive stormwater management and flood damage issues within those downstream areas affected by stormwater runoff;
  - b. Phase 2: Developing a regional, comprehensive stormwater management and flood damage reduction plan, to include water quality features, which identifies capital improvements and other actions to be undertaken by the City and the Buffalo Creek Watershed District;
  - c. Phase 3: Developing implementation timelines and priorities, cost allocations and revenue generation methods for both implementation and long term maintenance of capital improvements and water quality features;

- d. Phase 4: Implementing one or more of the project components identified in Phase 2 as a coordinated series of capital improvements by the City and the Buffalo Creek Watershed District.
2. Upon the petition and review thereof, the Board adopted findings and issued an order initiating the project.
3. Phase 3, above, of the project development process is completed.
4. Based on coordination between the District and the City, both parties agree that establishment of a water management district and development of water management district charges are appropriate steps to ensure successful establishment and implementation of the project.
5. The Board's consulting engineer has developed the attached, proposed amendments to the District's Watershed Management Plan to provide for the establishment of a water management district and charges to support the project.
6. The Board approves the proposed amendments and petitions the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a plan amendment as contained herein.

Based on the foregoing Findings, the Board of Managers of the Buffalo Creek Watershed District petitions as follows:

#### **PETITION**

- a. Pursuant to statutes sections 103D.411 and .729, the Board of Managers of the Buffalo Creek Watershed District petitions the Board of Water and Soil Resources to approve the attached amendments to its Watershed Management Plan.
- b. The Board authorizes its engineer to transmit this petition and the proposed amendments to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for action pursuant to statutes section 103E.411.

After discussion, the President called the question. The question was on the adoption of the foregoing Findings and Petition and there were 5 yeas, 0 nays as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Donald Belter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Larry Phillips	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corey Henke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Larry Kramer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matt Melberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Upon vote, the President declared the motion passed.

Donald Belter  
Donald Belter, President

Dated: January 22, 2019

\* \* \* \* \*

I, Matt Melberg, Secretary of the Buffalo Creek Watershed District, do hereby certify that I have compared the above Resolution with the original thereof as the same appears of record and on file with the Board of Managers and find the same to be a true and correct transcript thereof. The above action was filed with me, Secretary of the Board of Managers, on January 22, 2019.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2019.

Matt Melberg  
Matt Melberg

# Buffalo Creek Watershed District Overall Plan (2014-2023)

## Appendix D: Water Management Districts

A. Use of Water Management Districts

B. Establishment of Marsh Water Management District

B.C. Establishment of Glencoe Central Water Management District

***Attachment 1*** – City of Glencoe’s Petition for Marsh Water Project (4/8/14)

***Attachment 2*** – Marsh Water Project Addendum to the Engineering Report (10/8/2014)

***Attachment 3*** – Marsh Water Project Implementation Preliminary Charge Analysis and Timeline

***Attachment 4*** – City of Glencoe’s Petition for Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Project (7/19/16)

***Attachment 5*** – Glencoe East and Central Basic Water Management Project – Phase 1: Existing Conditions and Conceptualization of Potential Projects (6/21/17)

**Attachment 6 – Glencoe East and Central Basic Water Management Project - Phase 2: Regional Comprehensive Stormwater and Flood Management Plan (7/17/18)**

**Attachment 7 – Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Plan – Priorities, Cost Allocation, and Schedule (1/15/19)**

# Water Management Districts

## A. Use of Water Management Districts

The Buffalo Creek Watershed District (BCWD) plans on using Water Management Districts (WMD) as one of several funding mechanisms for the implementation of activities to solve local and regional problems and issues. The provision for collection of charges found under Minnesota Statutes (MS) 103D.729 and 444.075) allows a watershed district, through the amendment of its plan or during an update to the Water Management Plan (WMP), the authority to establish one or more water management districts for the purpose of collecting revenues and paying the costs of projects initiated under MS 103B.231, 103D.601, 103D.605, 103D.611, or 103D.730.

To establish a water management district, the WMP update, or an amendment to the WMP, must describe the area to be included, the amount of the necessary charges, the methods used to determine the charges, and the length of time the water management district will remain in effect. After adoption, the amendment or WMP must be filed with the county auditor and county recorder of each county affected by the water management district. The water management district may be dissolved by the same procedures as prescribed for the establishment of the water management district.

A distinguishing element of the water management district over an assessment, or ad valorem tax is that the watershed district assumes the authority similar to that of a municipality; the ability to establish a system of charges based a prescribed method, such as a property's contribution of storm water and/or pollutants to a receiving body of water. Thus, funds generated by utilizing a water management district can be based upon a mechanism related to a property's contribution to a problem rather than the value of the property. Ultimately the water management district provides a supplemental financing tool for the BCWD and is especially useful in situations where project components are required to address a locally generated need or problem.

Through this amendment to the WMP (the addition of Appendix D in the Buffalo Creek Watershed District Overall Plan 2014-2023), the BCWD intends to establish the Marsh Water Management District (Marsh WMD) and the framework for creating and implementing additional water management districts by amendment to this Plan.

### Local Appeal Procedures for Water Management Districts

Subpart 1. Applicability. This part applies when an owner of land in a water management district disputes the charges to be collected for their land in the water management district. This part does not apply to the validity of a water management district being in place.

Subpart. 2. Petition. A petition may be made by an owner of land in a water management district to appeal the charges to be collected for their land in the water management district. A petition must be made in writing to the Buffalo Creek Watershed District. The petition must state the reasons the water management district charges are calculated improperly for their land.

### Subpart 3. Petition review process.

A. Within ten working days of receiving a petition, the watershed district, its staff, legal counsel or consultants (District), are required to acknowledge in writing to the petitioner receipt of the petition.

B. The District must complete an assessment of the reasons stated in the petition to revise the charges. The District may request further information from the petitioner, have discussions with the petitioner or their legal counsel, view the property that is the subject of the petition, conduct onsite investigations, and such other fact finding as the District deems necessary to evaluate the petition.

C. The results of the assessment shall be reviewed by the Board of Managers and a decision made on the findings and recommendations in the assessment.

D. Upon the Board of Managers approval of an assessment, the assessment must be provided to the petitioner or their legal counsel accompanied with notification of the deadline for the petitioner to submit evidence to the District refuting the assessment.

#### **Subpart 4. Decisions.**

A. The District must notify the petitioner or their legal counsel in writing at least ten working days before the meeting in item B takes place.

B. On receipt of any information from, or lapse of the time period in, subpart 3, item D, the Board of Managers must:

1. Advise staff to conduct additional fact finding it considers necessary and report back to the managers accordingly;
2. Direct staff to attempt to resolve the matter and to advise the managers further; or
3. Issue findings of fact and conclusions of its investigation on the petition.

C. The District shall provide written notice of the decision in item B to the petitioner or their legal counsel within five working days of the decision.

**Subpart 6. Limitations.** A petition may not be filed more than once in five years for a specific parcel of land unless significant land alterations or land use changes have occurred since the charges were calculated or since a previous petition was filed with the watershed district.

**Subpart 7. Withdrawal of petition.** If agreement is reached at any time before the above procedures are completed, the petitioner may withdraw their petition and the District may revise the charges if needed.

## **B. Establishment of the Marsh Water Management District**

***Establishment Purpose:*** Marsh Ditch is a privately constructed and owned ditch which conveys runoff from the west side of the City of Glencoe and portions of Glencoe Township, into Buffalo Creek. The drainage system is necessary for stormwater management. Because the drainage system is privately owned and not managed by a public entity, little or no coordinated efforts have been taken to repair the drainage system, and thus its condition and function has deteriorated throughout the system. To address this deterioration and provide an opportunity to address nutrient loading to Buffalo Creek, the BCWD initiated a watershed project called the "Marsh Water Project" which would provide a comprehensive stormwater management project over the entire contributing drainage area to Marsh Ditch.

On April 8, 2014 the City of Glencoe petitioned the BCWD to re-establish the Marsh Water Project under MS 103D.605 as a phased Basic Water Management Project. The petition, included as **Appendix D Attachment 1**, described the following four project phases:



- 1) Identifying existing conditions and opportunities for stormwater management;
- 2) Regional comprehensive stormwater management planning;
- 3) Development of implementation timelines and cost allocation; and
- 4) Project implementation.

The goals of Phase 1 were addressed through an August 13, 2012 report entitled, *Marsh Water Project – Engineering Report* (refer to Appendix C of the BCWD Overall Plan). Phase 2 was completed via a subsequent report, *Marsh Water Project - Addendum to the Engineering Report* dated October 8, 2014 (included as **Appendix D Attachment 2**). This addendum recommended five project components as a first phase to the Marsh Water Project, including:

- 1) Construction of a stormwater wetland;
- 2) Completion of repairs to the Main Trunk stormsewer system ;
- 3) Acquisition of easements for access and maintenance;
- 4) Replacement of culverts; and
- 5) Creation of buffer strips.

Funds collected through the Marsh WMD will be used to construct specific project features. The specific project features to be planned for, designed, constructed and maintained using the WMD are described with a May 15, 2015, memorandum entitled *Marsh Water Project Implementation Preliminary Charge Analysis and Timeline* (included as **Appendix D Attachment 3**) which concludes Phase 3 of the City of Glencoe's petition.

**Estimated Costs:** Charges will be based on properties that contribute runoff to Marsh Ditch. The charge collected will be used for the implementation of those features providing benefit to properties located within the boundary of the Marsh WMD. These features yield direct benefit by providing predictable drainage to largely agricultural lands now and urban stormwater conveyance as development proceeds. The Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost for the project is an estimated \$941,800 of which an estimated \$402,200 will be paid by the charge collected through the Marsh WMD. The remaining portion of the Opinion of Probable Cost, primarily for all or portions of those features which provide water quality benefit, will be paid for through the district-wide Ad valorem levy. The initial charge will be used to repay the capital construction cost. Continued maintenance and repairs to the system, as necessary, shall not exceed an average of \$25,000 annually with a public hearing and providing notice to the Board of Water and Soil Resources. In addition, Marsh WMD issues and charges will be readdressed in future revisions to the Buffalo Creek Watershed District Overall Plan.

**Area for Inclusion:** The hydrological boundary of the Marsh Ditch drainage system will comprise the area for the Marsh WMD as shown in **Map 1. Methods for Determining Charges:** The method to determine the per-acre charge will generally consist of evaluating the runoff amount by land use type. Specifics of the method of determining the stormwater charge are expected to include:

- Use soils and land use data to determine the existing curve numbers or runoff coefficients for each current land use within the Marsh WMD;
- Use the curve number or runoff coefficients for each current land use and the annual average precipitation depth to compute the annual runoff volume for each land use;

- Sum the annual runoff volumes for all land uses within the Marsh WMD to determine the total annual runoff volumes for current conditions. Divide the sum of the annual runoff volumes by the total annual runoff volume for each land use, respectively, within the Marsh WMD. This represents a “charge ratio” for each land use.
- Apply the charge ratio to the total amount of revenue needed for the Marsh WMD to carry out the projects, programs and activities of the BCWD within the Marsh WMD.
- The charge for a specific parcel will be determined by area-weighting the per acre charges based on the land use within a parcel.

This approach may be further defined or revised once the BCWD develops the necessary data required to determine the charge.

**Duration:** This Marsh WMD is intended to be a permanent WMD. Initial charges will be effective for a duration consistent with the time necessary to repay the capital cost for the project, which currently is estimated at 10 years. Thereafter, the Marsh WMD charges may be reinitiated to generate revenue to pay for project maintenance.

### **Local Appeal Procedures for Water Management Districts**

~~**Subpart 1. Applicability.** This part applies when an owner of land in a water management district disputes the charges to be collected for their land in the water management district. This part does not apply to the validity of a water management district being in place.~~

~~**Subpart 2. Petition.** A petition may be made by an owner of land in a water management district to appeal the charges to be collected for their land in the water management district. A petition must be made in writing to the Buffalo Creek Watershed District. The petition must state the reasons the water management district charges are calculated improperly for their land.~~

#### ~~**Subpart 3. Petition review process.**~~

~~A. Within ten working days of receiving a petition, the watershed district, its staff, legal counsel or consultants (District), are required to acknowledge in writing to the petitioner receipt of the petition.~~

~~B. The District must complete an assessment of the reasons stated in the petition to revise the charges. The District may request further information from the petitioner, have discussions with the petitioner or their legal counsel, view the property that is the subject of the petition, conduct onsite investigations, and such other fact finding as the District deems necessary to evaluate the petition.~~

~~C. The results of the assessment shall be reviewed by the Board of Managers and a decision made on the findings and recommendations in the assessment.~~

~~D. Upon the Board of Managers approval of an assessment, the assessment must be provided to the petitioner or their legal counsel accompanied with notification of the deadline for the petitioner to submit evidence to the District refuting the assessment.~~

#### ~~**Subpart 4. Decisions.**~~

~~A. The District must notify the petitioner or their legal counsel in writing at least ten working days before the meeting in item B takes place.~~

~~B. On receipt of any information from, or lapse of the time period in, subpart 3, item D, the Board of Managers must:~~

- ~~1. Advise staff to conduct additional fact finding it considers necessary and report back to the managers accordingly;~~
- ~~2. Direct staff to attempt to resolve the matter and to advise the managers further; or~~
- ~~3. Issue findings of fact and conclusions of its investigation on the petition.~~

~~C. The District shall provide written notice of the decision in item B to the petitioner or their legal counsel within five working days of the decision.~~

~~**Subpart 6. Limitations.** A petition may not be filed more than once in five years for a specific parcel of land unless significant land alterations or land use changes have occurred since the charges were calculated or since a previous petition was filed with the watershed district.~~

~~**Subpart 7. Withdrawal of petition.** If agreement is reached at any time before the above procedures are completed, the petitioner may withdraw their petition and the District may revise the charges if needed.~~

### **C. Establishment of the Glencoe Central Water Management District**

Establishment Purpose: The Glencoe Central Ditch and East Ditch are private drainage systems which convey runoff from the north and east sides of the City of Glencoe and portions of Glencoe Township, into Buffalo Creek. In 2013 and 2014 the area experienced two large rainfall events which caused significant flooding and damages. Subsequent coordination between the City of Glencoe, the District, and local stakeholders and local stakeholders made apparent the need for comprehensive water management planning in the Central and East Ditch subwatersheds.

On July 19, 2016 the City of Glencoe petitioned the Watershed District to establish the Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Project ([Project Number 16-01](#)) under MS 103D.605 as a phased Basic Water Management Project (see [Appendix D, Attachment 4](#)). The petition described four project phases:

- 1) Identifying existing conditions and opportunities for stormwater management; 2) Regional comprehensive stormwater management planning; 3) Development of implementation timelines and cost allocation; and 4) Project implementation.

The goals of Phase 1 were addressed through a June 21, 2017 report entitled, *Glencoe East and Central Basic Water Management Project – Phase 1: Existing Conditions and Conceptualization of Potential Projects* (see [Appendix D, Attachment 5](#)). Phase 2 was completed via a subsequent report, *Glencoe East and Central Basic Water Management Project - Phase 2: Regional Comprehensive Stormwater and Flood Management Plan* dated July 17, 2018 (see [Appendix D, Attachment 6](#)). The stakeholders used this second report to identify four project components as a first phase to the Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Project, including:

- Construction of an outlet at Morningside Drive [from the School Wetland to the 14<sup>th</sup> St. Pond](#);
- Expansion of the 14<sup>th</sup> St. Pond to accommodate the increase in discharge;
- Improvement of the Glencoe Regional Health Service (GRHS) and County Office Outlet; and
- Ditch Maintenance along the entire length of Central Ditch from just upstream of the North-Central Ponds to Garden Avenue (including establishment of easements and buffers).

Funds collected through a WMD will be used to construct specific project features. The specific project features to be planned for, designed, constructed and maintained using the WMD are described with a memorandum entitled *Glencoe Central-East Stormwater Basic Water Management Plan – Priorities, Cost Allocation, and Schedule*, as amended January 15, 2019, which concludes Phase 3 of the City of Glencoe’s petition.

Estimated Costs: The charge collected will be used for the implementation of those features providing benefit to properties located within the boundary of the Glencoe Central WMD. These features yield direct benefit by providing predictable drainage to largely agricultural lands now and urban stormwater conveyance as development proceeds. The Engineer’s Opinion of Probable Cost for the project is an estimated \$575,067, of which an estimated \$450,965 will be paid by the charge collected through the Glencoe Central WMD. The remaining portion of the Opinion of Probable Cost, primarily for all or portions of those features which provide water quality benefit, will be paid for through the district-wide Ad valorem levy and by the City of Glencoe. WMD charges will include an additional 20% (\$115,000) to be placed in a dedicated maintenance fund for project facilities. The total of WMD charges is capped at \$565,965 for the 10-year recovery period indicated below. The WMD charges will be used to repay the capital construction costs of project facilities and for the establishment of a maintenance fund as indicated above.

Area for Inclusion: The area of the Glencoe Central WMD, approximately 1,132 acres in size, is generally described as the portion of the watershed to Glencoe North Central Ponds and School wetlands that is outside of the City of Glencoe, as shown in **Map 2**.

Methods for Determining Charges: The method to determine the per-acre charge will generally consist of evaluating the runoff amount by land use type. Specifics of the method of determining the stormwater charge are expected to include:

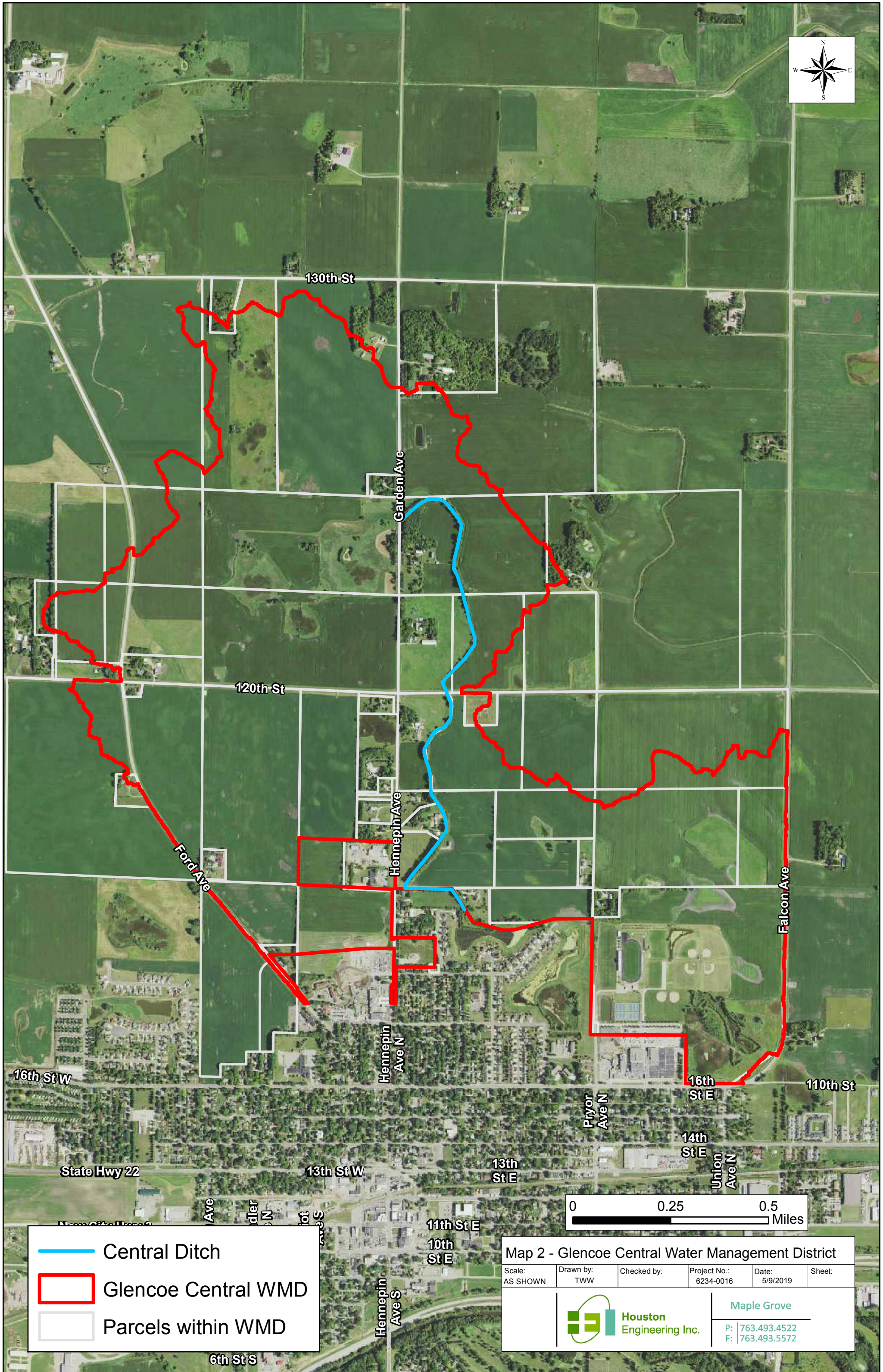
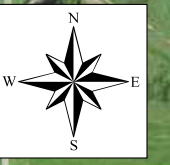
- Use soils and land use data to determine the existing curve numbers or runoff coefficients for each current land use within the Glencoe Central WMD;
- Use the curve number or runoff coefficients for each current land use and the annual average precipitation depth to compute the annual runoff volume for each land use;
- Sum the annual runoff volumes for all land uses within the Glencoe Central WMD to determine the total annual runoff volumes for current conditions. Divide the sum of the annual runoff volumes by the total annual runoff volume for each land use, respectively, within the Glencoe Central WMD. This represents a “charge ratio” for each land use.
- Apply the charge ratio to the total amount of revenue needed for the Glencoe Central WMD to carry out the projects, programs and activities of the BCWD within the Glencoe Central WMD.
- The charge for a specific parcel will be determined by area-weighting the per acre charges based on the land use within a parcel.




This approach may be further defined or revised once the BCWD develops the necessary data required to determine the charge and will be subject to review in the hearings process for both project establishment and charge establishment/implementation under statutes chapter 103D.

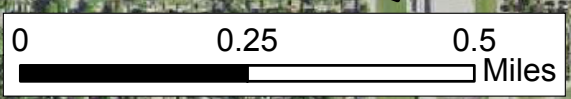
Duration: This Glencoe Central WMD will be effective for the duration consistent with the time necessary to repay the capital cost for the project, which currently is estimated at 10-years. The WMD may be renewed in subsequent revisions, update or amendments to the watershed management plan to support charges for other programs or projects within the WMD.

Map 2. Glencoe Central WMD






-  Central Ditch
-  Glencoe Central WMD
-  Parcels within WMD



**Map 2 - Glencoe Central Water Management District**

Scale: AS SHOWN	Drawn by: TWW	Checked by:	Project No.: 6234-0016	Date: 5/9/2019	Sheet:
--------------------	------------------	-------------	---------------------------	-------------------	--------



**Houston  
Engineering Inc.**

Maple Grove

P: 763.493.4522  
F: 763.493.5572



## BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

**Meeting Date:** October 23, 2019

**Agenda Category:**  Committee Recommendation     New Business     Old Business

**Item Type:**  Decision     Discussion     Information

**Section/Region:** Regional Operations/Southern

**Contact:** Ed Lenz

**Prepared by:** Douglas Goodrich

**Reviewed by:** Southern Regional    Committee(s)

**Presented by:** Nathan Redalen

**Time requested:** 5 minutes

**Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

**Attachments:**     Resolution     Order     Map     Other Supporting Information

**Fiscal/Policy Impact**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None          | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested     | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget      |

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approval of the Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan as recommended by the Southern Regional Committee.

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Plan is on the Nobles SWCD website: <https://www.noblesswcd.org/one-watershed-one-plan>

**SUMMARY** *(Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation)*

The Missouri River planning area includes all waters of the state that are tributaries to the Missouri River Basin and include the Upper Big Sioux, Lower Big Sioux, Rock River, and Little Rock River major watersheds in Minnesota. The Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan was a resultant plan associated with the “2016” round of One Watershed, One Plan planning grant applicants. The Plan area contains portions of the counties of Jackson, Lincoln, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, and Rock as well their Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Kanaranzi-Little Rock and Okabena-Ocheda Watershed Districts in southwest Minnesota. Dan Livdahl (Okabena-Ocheda WD) and Doug Bos (Rock County SWCD/Land Management Office) are the local lead staff responsible for development of the Plan.

On July 22, 2019, BWSR received the Plan, a record of the public hearings, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board Resolution #16-17. The Planning Partnership has responded to all comments received and incorporated appropriate revisions to the final Plan. The State agencies recommended that BWSR approve the Plan as submitted.

BWSR staff completed its review and subsequently found the Plan meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes and BWSR Policy.

On September 26, 2019, the Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met to review and discuss the Plan. The Committee's decision was to recommend approval of the Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan to the full Board per the attached draft Order.



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

---

**In the Matter** of the review of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Missouri River Watershed Partnership, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801.

---

**ORDER  
APPROVING  
COMPREHENSIVE  
WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Whereas**, the Policy Committee of the Missouri River Watershed Partnership submitted a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on July 22, 2019 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801 and Board Resolution #16-17, and;

**Whereas**, the Board has completed its review of the Plan;

**Now Therefore**, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

- Partnership Establishment.** The Partnership was established in 2017 through adoption of a Memorandum of Agreement for the purposes of developing a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The membership of the Partnership includes: The Counties of Jackson, Lincoln, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone and Rock by and through their respective County Board of Commissioners; the Jackson, Lincoln, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone and Rock Soil and Water Conservation Districts, by and through their respective Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors; and the Kanaranzi-Little Rock and Okabena-Ocheda Watershed Districts, by and through their respective Board of Managers.
- Authority to Plan.** Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 allows the Board to adopt resolutions, policies or orders that allow a comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D to serve as substitutes for one another or be replaced with a comprehensive watershed management plan. Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.801 established the Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; also known as One Watershed, One Plan. And, Board Resolution #16-17 adopted the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures and Plan Content Requirements policies.
- Nature of the Watershed.** The Missouri River Watershed Planning Area is a 1,783 square mile area consisting of the tributaries of the Greater Missouri River Basin within the state of Minnesota. The planning area resides in the southwest most corner of the state on the Couteau du Prairies and on

the far side of Buffalo Ridge from the rest of the state. The planning area encompasses the whole of Rock County, the majority of Pipestone County and Nobles County, and lesser portions of Lincoln, Murray, and Jackson Counties. The area is largely rural with roughly 30,000 people living in the watershed and most of the populous residing in the three cities of Worthington, Luverne, and Pipestone. The area land use is predominantly row cropped as is similar to the rest of southern and western Minnesota. Livestock operations, feedlots, and pasturelands are also a main component of the economy of the area. Groundwater is hard to come by in large parts of the area and cooperative water supplies are used to supplement groundwater that is produced. Many of the groundwater sources are susceptible to contamination due to surface water/groundwater connectivity. Some area wells can realize surface contamination contribution on the order of days, in the case of nitrates. Another feature that is predominant to the area would be the presence of wind turbines as the northeast boundary of the planning area runs along the spine of Buffalo Ridge and makes it a prime area for wind energy. The planning area is unique in that it encompasses portions of four separate major (HUC-8) watersheds (Upper Big Sioux, Lower Big Sioux, Rock River, and Little Sioux River). This plan uses those separate tributary areas through the creation of “planning regions” to further refine prioritization throughout the plan. Lakes are not prevalent in the planning area apart from in the headwaters of the Little Sioux River in Jackson and Nobles County. Plan priorities for this planning region reflect the importance of those area resources.

- 4. Plan Development.** The Partnership initiated the plan development process for the One Watershed, One Plan on May 23, 2017 by notifying the designated state plan review agencies, local government units, and other identified stakeholders that it was starting the planning process and soliciting each plan review agency’s priority issues, summaries of relevant water management goals, and water resource information. The Missouri Watershed Planning Partnership held two events for stakeholder and public involvement. The effort was officially kicked off on August 22, 2017, in Worthington and August 23, 2017, in Pipestone during a pair of open houses where citizens, stakeholders, elected and appointed officials, and staff were given the opportunity to share information, identify priority concerns, and provide comments for the planning process. This input was used in the development and prioritization of resource concerns, as well as strategies and actions to address these concerns and achieve measurability. Numerical measurable goals of the project were based on a Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) for the Missouri River Watershed planning area, groundwater test results and other information included in the Groundwater Restoration and Protection Strategies (GRAPS) document as well as TMDLs and local water plans. Rationale for goals were also underpinned in total or in part by results from modelling through the Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp) and spatial analysis. The PTMApp was used to identify the magnitude and distribution of potential pollution sources across the planning area, along with targeting locations for implementing practices to address issues impacting the resources of concern. Planning partners were then able to select specific practices based on pollutant reduction estimates and cost effectiveness. The reduction estimates from the targeted implementation schedule, along with the measurable goals established for the watershed, provided an estimated pace of progress that can be expected through the ten year planning period. Implementation categories and initiatives were then detailed to identify where funds will be utilized to accomplish the strategies and actions from the targeted implementation schedule. Goals for the plan where action strategies included structural and management implementation methods were tailored for each of the four planning regions in the plan and implementation schedules reflect the differing targeting methods for each region. The draft Plan was approved by the Policy Committee and then distributed to individuals, communities, Plan Review Authorities, and other stakeholders on February 22, 2019, for the required 60-day review and comment period. Written comments were received, considered, and

responded to by the Partnership and approved by the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee held public hearings in Edgerton on April 30, 2019, and Worthington later the same day. No additional comments were brought forth by the public. The final draft Plan and all required materials were submitted and officially received by the Board on July 22, 2019.

5. **Plan Review.** On July 22, 2019, the Board received the Plan, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board #16-17. State agency representatives attended and provided input at advisory committee meetings during development of the Plan. The following state review comments were received during the comment period.
  - A. Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA): MDA provided initial response to the planning process. During the 60 day comment period the MDA provided comments requesting revisions to the Plan including inclusion of MDA as partners in selected items of the implementation schedule and notes on goals and methods outlined in the appendices. MDA confirmed receipt of the Plan at the final formal review and responded that they did not have additional comments; recommends approval.
  - B. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH): MDH provided input throughout the planning process and participated in Advisory Committee meetings. During the 60-day review and comment period, MDH provided comments requesting revisions to the Plan adjusting the arsenic breakdown range as well denotation of public supply wells in figure 2-1; also an explanation of the measurable goal for groundwater quality and quantity. MDH confirmed receipt of the Plan at the final formal review and stated they had no additional comments; recommends approval.
  - C. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR): DNR provided input throughout the planning process and participated in Advisory Committee meetings. While the 60-day review period was underway, DNR provided many comments and most comments resulted in a change to the Plan. Major comments suggested that near-channel and in-channel stabilization have a major effect sediment contribution to surface waters and should have a greater consideration in the next update of the plan. DNR confirmed receipt of the Plan at the final formal review appreciated that some of their comments were incorporated into the final plan. DNR was satisfied with the responses to issues raised during the review; no additional comments will be necessary. DNR recommends MN BWSRs approval the plan.
  - D. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): MPCA provided input throughout the planning process and participated in Advisory Committee meetings. Responses to the 60-day review and comment period by MPCA included comments requesting numerous editorial changes as well as material changes to the Plan and revisions to map representations as well as reference clarifications. MPCA confirmed receipt of the Plan at the final formal review and recommend consideration of comments to be completed prior to final completion. The comments are editorial in nature, therefore their recommendation is for BWSR to approve the plan and that the planning partnership address these considerations prior to final adoption.
  - E. Minnesota Environmental Quality Board: No comments were received.
  - F. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff: BWSR staff provided early input to the planning process, participated in the Advisory Committee meetings, and provided assistance to the Planning Work Group during the plan development process. BWSR staff also took advantage of the opportunity to attend the public involvement activities held by the Partnership during the planning process. During the 60-day review, BWSR staff commended the Partnership for collaborating together in such an inclusive planning process and coordination of such a large

number of participants. Major BWSR staff comments included request for additional detail on how the groundwater quantity goals were derived. Also, requested that the plan flesh out and further outline recurring plan reviews and revision methods. Additionally, as ranked prioritization through the planning process generated priority practices at the field scale, priority areas were scattered throughout the planning boundary. BWSR staff suggested prioritization on a spatial scale for implementation activities which led to the Partnership's decision to construct mapping tools based on model outputs and spatial data to rank priority HUC-12 watersheds for implementation. The Partnership responded to all comments received. *BWSR staff recommends approval of the plan.*

G. Local Review: The partnership sought input from local units of government and local associations dealing with soil and water resources and habitat. The Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System, Rock County Rural Water District, City of Pipestone, City of Rushmore, and City of Worthington Public Utilities all commented in the initial planning comment request and had input as the plan was being built. The comments from local entities were nearly exclusive to considerations for Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMA) and actions to protect groundwater resources for quality and quantity. The Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA) made suggestions for the implementation section that were included for consideration prior to the 60-day review, as well. No comments were officially received from these entities during the 60 or 90 day period.

6. **Plan Summary and Highlights.** The highlights of the plan include:

- The Plan includes an informative Executive Summary summarizing resource concerns and issues, the method of establishing measurable goals, summarizing pace of progress toward goals attained by the planned activities, and short term cost of the 10 year implementation schedule.
- The Plan includes a thorough identification of the targeted areas through the use of PTMApp. PTMApp has estimated feasible locations for management practices and structural BMPs, as well as the associated annual costs and anticipated benefits arising from implementation. The result is a list of the best (most cost-effective and most effective toward load reduction goals) structural practices in each of the four planning regions.
- A-level priorities include: Drinking Water (public and private), Streams and Rivers, Rural Land Stewardship (soil health), and Functioning Wetlands. B-level priorities include: Surficial-Subsurface Hydrologic Connections, Terrestrial Habitat Fragmentation and Loss, Land Stewardship Related to Riparian/Bank Stability, Drainage Systems, and Aquatic Invasive Species.
- Groundwater issues were priority 1, 2, and 3 of 65 after public input was reviewed.
- Implementation schedules for structural and management practices are tailored to each of the four planning regions of the plan
- An estimated \$35,608,000 is needed to fully fund the Plan over its ten-year lifespan, a figure which does not factor Watershed Based Implementation Funds (WBIF) but is assumed in the plan in the state funding source description.
- Included in the Appendix are a series of maps and prioritization scenarios for HUC-12 watersheds created to be used as a tool for prioritization of subwatersheds in the planning regions for targeted implementation efforts.

7. **South Regional Committee.** On September 26, 2019, the South Regional Committee met to review and discuss the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Nathan Redalen, Kathryn Kelly, Harvey Kruger, Tom Loveall, and Jeff Berg (MDA). Board staff in attendance were

Southern Regional Manager Ed Lenz; Clean Water Specialists Mark Hiles and Shaina Keseley; Board Conservationists Douglas Goodrich, Jennifer Mocol-Johnson, and Jeremy Maul; Office and Administrative Specialist Carla Swanson-Cullen; and 1W1P Coordinator Julie Westerlund. The representatives from the Partnership were Dan Livdahl (Okabena-Ocheda WD), Doug Bos (Rock SWCD/LMO), John Shea (Nobles SWCD), Paul Langseth (Supervisor, Nobles SWCD), and Gene Metz (Commissioner, Nobles County), Consultant Rachel Olm (Houston Engineering Inc.). Board regional staff provided its recommendation of Plan approval to the Committee. After discussion, the Committee's decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan to the full Board.

8. This Plan will be in effect for a ten-year period until October 23, 2029.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Missouri River Watershed Partnership pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subd. 14 and 103B.801 and Board Resolution #16-17.
3. The Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the planning area; priority resource issues and possible solutions thereto; goals, objectives, and actions of the Partnership; and an implementation program.
4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.101, Subd. 14 and 103B.801 and Board Resolution #16-17.
5. The attached plan when adopted through local resolution by the members of the Partnership will serve as a replacement for the comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D, but only to the geographic area of the Plan and consistent with the One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map.

### **ORDER**

The Board hereby approves the attached Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan of the Missouri River Watershed Partnership, dated June, 2019.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 23rd of October, 2019.

### **MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

---

BY: Gerald Van Amburg, Chair



October 23, 2019

Missouri River Watershed Planning Partnership  
c/o Dan Livdahl, Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District  
960 Diagonal Road  
P.O. Box 114  
Worthington, MN 56187

**RE: Approval of the Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan**

Dear Missouri River Watershed Planning Group:

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is pleased to inform you the Missouri River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) developed through the One Watershed, One Plan program was approved at its regular meeting held on October 23, 2019. Attached is the signed Board Order that documents approval of the Plan and indicates the Plan meets all relevant requirements of law, rule, and policy.

This Plan is effective for a ten-year period until October 23, 2029. Please be advised, the partners must adopt and begin implementing the plan within 120 days of the date of the Order in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §103B.101, Subd. 14, and the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures.

The members of the partnership and participants in the plan development process are to be commended for writing a plan that clearly presents water management goals, actions, and priorities of the Partnership, and for participating in the development of the One Watershed, One Plan program. The BWSR looks forward to working with you as you implement this Plan and document its outcomes.

Please contact Board Conservationist Douglas Goodrich of our staff at 507-537-6636 or [mdouglas.goodrich@state.mn.us](mailto:mdouglas.goodrich@state.mn.us) for further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Enclosure: BWSR Board Order

October 23, 2019

CC: Margaret Wagner, MDA (via email)  
Jeff Berg, MDA (via email)  
Luke Stuewe, MDA (via email)  
Barbara Weisman, DNR (via email)  
Robert Collett, DNR (via email)  
Tom Kresko, DNR (via email)  
Carrie Raber, MDH (via email)  
Amanda Strommer, MDH (via email)  
Juline Holleran, MPCA (via email)  
Jeff Risberg, MPCA (via email)  
Wayne Cords, MPCA (via email)  
Mark Hanson, MPCA (via email)  
Erik Dahl, EQB (via email)  
Ed Lenz, BWSR (via email)  
Douglas Goodrich, BWSR (via email)  
Julie Westerlund, BWSR (via email)



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

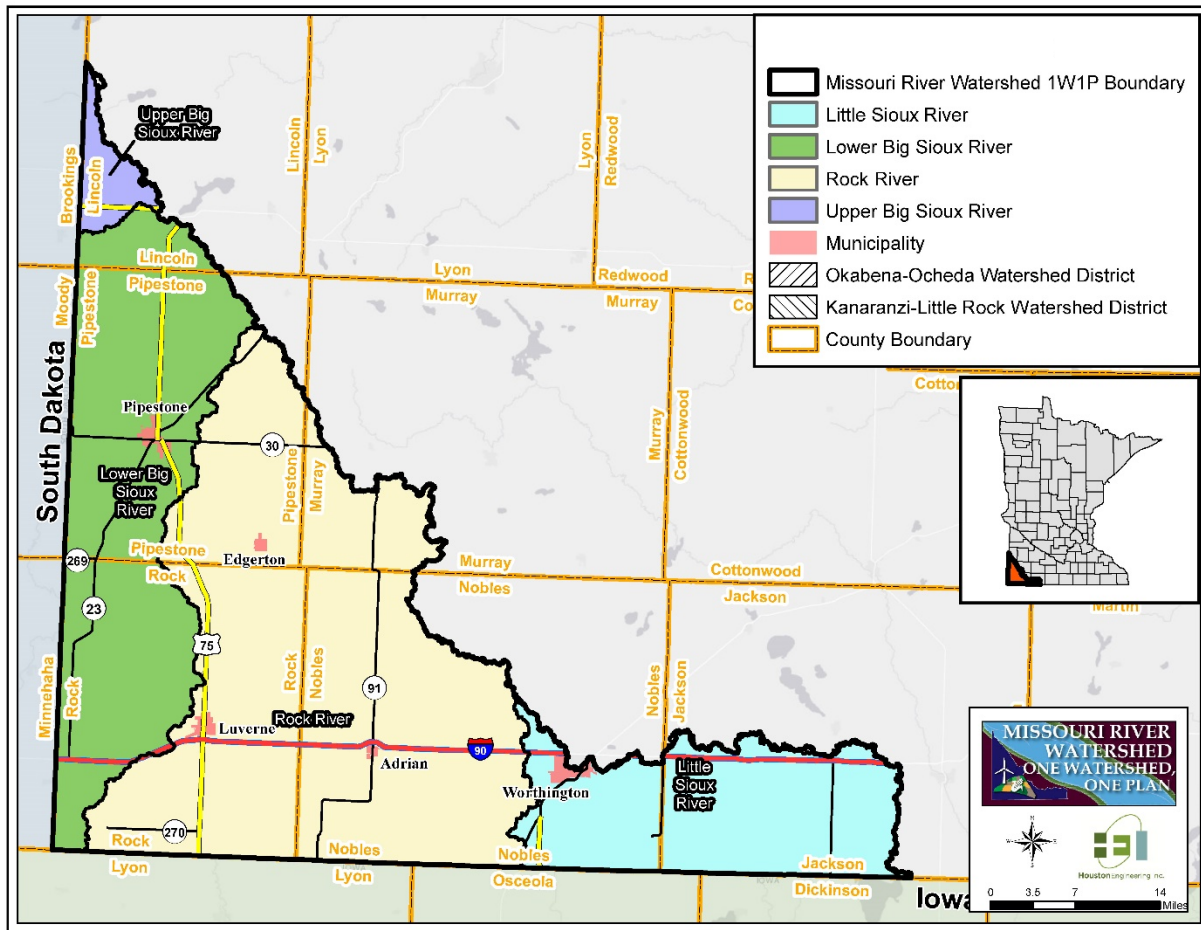
The Missouri River Watershed (MRW) One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) planning area is in the southwestern corner of Minnesota, encompassing all or portions of Rock, Pipestone, Nobles, Jackson, Lincoln, and Murray counties and the Kanaranzi-Little Rock and the Okabena-Ocheda watershed districts. This area of Minnesota has very fertile soils and has an important agricultural economy rich in crop production and livestock operations. The high ground that separates the Missouri River Basin from the Minnesota River Basin is also a prime place for wind turbines. The MRW 1W1P planning area drains 1.1 million acres (or 1,783 square miles) of predominately agricultural land. There are 25 towns and cities within the MRW, with populations clustered in its largest cities of Worthington, Luverne, and Pipestone.



A watershed is defined as an area where all the surface water drains into the same place—a river, stream or lake (MPCA, 2018a). Based on this definition, the MRW 1W1P planning area is hydrologically unique. As the MRW is in the corner of the state, four major watersheds are aggregated into the MRW 1W1P planning area, including the Upper Big Sioux River (Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 10170202), Lower Big Sioux River (HUC 10170203), Rock River (HUC 10170204), and Little Sioux River (HUC 10230003) watersheds. These watersheds are referred to as “planning regions” throughout this document and are shown in **Figure ES-1**.

In 2017, the members of the six counties, six soil and water conservation districts, and two watershed districts within the MRW joined together to create the MRW 1W1P Planning Group. The purpose of the MRW 1W1P Planning Group was to unite local entities that would otherwise have separate local plans under one comprehensive watershed management plan, creating a cohesive vision for implementing actions to improve locally prioritized issues. This plan is the result of that vision, and the first step toward accelerating prioritized, targeted, and measurable implementation efforts in the MRW.

Figure ES 1: Location of the Missouri River Watershed 1W1P Plan Area and Planning Regions



## IDENTIFYING AND PRIORITIZING ISSUES

The MRW is home to a diverse range of resources, including:

- a large network of streams, rivers, and agricultural drainage systems;
- 40 lakes, primarily in the eastern half of the watershed;
- over 20,000 acres of wetland;
- habitat areas for both aquatic and terrestrial species; and
- urban and rural land uses.

With all these resources, there are many issues to manage. In recognition of staff, time, and resource limitations, the MRW 1W1P Planning Group needed to prioritize issues as the focus of implementation efforts during the 10-year lifespan of this plan.

The MRW 1W1P Planning Group developed a comprehensive inventory of 15 resources and 65 issues impacting the watershed using a combination of existing reports, data, and stakeholder input. This comprehensive inventory was used to prioritize priority issues for implementation efforts. Issues were prioritized and designated as an A, B, C, D, or E priority tier based on stakeholder input.

From this initial inventory, 27 issues emerged as “priority issues” (shown as either A or B Priority Tier) (Table ES-1). These issues were assigned a measurable goal and will be considered the focus for initial implementation efforts. Those issues designated as Tier C, D, and E are not anticipated to be directly addressed within this plan.

Table ES 1: Priority issues for the Missouri River Watershed 1W1P

Resource Concern	Issue	Priority Tier
<i>Groundwater</i>		
Drinking Water	Elevated <b>nitrate-nitrogen</b> in groundwater wells	A
	Elevated bacteria (i.e. <i>Escherichia coli</i> ( <i>E. coli</i> ) and fecal coliform) in groundwater wells	B
	<b>Land use changes</b> where water enters aquifers, including Wellhead Protection Areas (WPAs) or Drinking Water Supply Management Areas ( <b>DWSMAs</b> )	A
	Sustainable quantities of <b>groundwater supplies</b> for drinking water use with suitable water quality	A
<i>Surface Waters</i>		
Streams and Rivers	Elevated suspended solids ( <b>sediment</b> ) and <b>phosphorus</b> levels	A
	Elevated bacteria (i.e. <i>E. coli</i> and fecal coliform) levels	B
	Elevated <b>nitrate-nitrogen</b> levels	B
	Increased spread of <b>aquatic invasive species</b>	B
	Land use changes contributing to <b>wind and overland runoff</b>	A
	<b>Streambank/riverbank erosion</b> causing loss of bank sediment	A
Lakes	Elevated phosphorus concentrations in the water and increased risk of <b>algal blooms</b>	B
Surface Runoff	Land use changes leading to loss of <b>vegetative cover and field residue</b>	A
	Land use changes leading to loss of <b>natural storage</b>	A
Wetlands	Loss of functioning <b>wetlands</b>	A
Agricultural Drainage Systems	Presence, width, and quality of <b>vegetated</b> areas alongside <b>ditches</b>	B
<i>Fish and Wildlife Habitat</i>		
Aquatic Habitat for Fish, Macroinvertebrates and Aquatic Life	Habitat loss from <b>bank erosion</b> in creeks, streams, and rivers	A
	Aquatic and <b>riparian habitat</b> loss from development and intense drainage	B
Terrestrial Habitat for Wildlife	Terrestrial <b>habitat fragmentation</b> and loss	B
<i>Local Knowledge Base and Technical Capacity</i>		
Landowner, Producer and Lake Shore Owner Engagement in Water Management	Lack of watershed-wide <b>education and outreach</b> on management and structural best management practices ( <b>BMPs</b> ) and their impact on farm profitability and the environment	B
Technology, Tools, Funding, and Existing Capabilities	Lack of <b>understanding</b> , agreement, and consensus about the hydrologic impacts of <b>tile drainage</b> and the benefits to producers	B
	Piecemeal approach and lack of long term and <b>consistent funding</b> for water management programs at the local level	A
<i>Local Development and Land Stewardship</i>		
Rural Land Stewardship	Decreased agricultural <b>soil health</b>	A
	Increased <b>sheet, rill, and wind erosion</b>	B
	<b>Manure application and disposal</b>	B
Riparian Stewardship	<b>Undercut and unstable streambanks</b>	B
	<b>Livestock accessibility</b> to streams and rivers	B
	<b>Vegetated buffer</b> along streams and rivers	B



## ESTABLISHING MEASURABLE GOALS

Measurable goals were established to address each MRW priority issue. Measurable goals describe a desired condition for a resource being impacted by an issue and are presented as either short-term or long-term goals:

- Short-term measurable goals describe the interim conditions to accomplish or make progress toward during the 10-year lifespan of this plan.
- Long-term measurable goals describe the desired future condition to accomplish, regardless of timeframe.

In some instances, measurable goals are focused on either protecting resources in good condition or restoring resources that have deteriorated. Short-term and long-term goals set milestones for resource improvement and allow for resource management flexibility during implementation efforts. They were designed to align with Missouri River Basin Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) efforts. As the four MRW planning regions have a unique set of resources and issues associated with them, the WRAPS set many goals at a watershed planning region scale. This plan mirrors that approach.

This plan outlines and describes the **19 measurable goals for this comprehensive plan in a series of easy-to-understand factsheets**, which collectively provide background for and address all priority issues. A single measurable goal may apply to one priority issue or to several priority issues. For a full list of plan measurable goal factsheets, see Section 3.

**MEASURABLE GOAL 3.2.5:**  
Streams and Rivers –  
Phosphorous Delivery and Load

**Resource Concern:**  
**Streams and Rivers**

Priority Issues:  
• **Suspended solids (sediment) and phosphorus levels** (Issue 2.1.1).

---

**Why These Issues Are Important**

Across the MRW, phosphorus is a significant stressor to aquatic life and recreation in both lake and river/stream systems. Across all four planning regions, **phosphorus was found to be a stressor in 44 of the 48 (92%) streams with bio-impairments** (MPCA, 2018). The MRW WRAPS used results from regional Stressor Identification Reports and TMDL studies to set 10-year and long-term targets for reducing phosphorus load delivered to lakes, streams, and rivers by planning region. **These WRAPS targets are used within this 1W1P to guide the phosphorus delivery and load reduction measurable goal.** During implementation, results from PTMApp will be used to track the progress that practice implementation makes towards stated goals.

**Goals:**

**Short-Term:**  
Short-term goals are set at planning region and reach-specific scales.

- **Planning Region scale:** Use the **10-year phosphorous reduction targets** outlined by the MRW WRAPS in each planning region:
  - **Restoration:** Upper Big Sioux River – 10%
  - **Restoration:** Lower Big Sioux River – 10%;
  - **Restoration:** Rock River – 10%; and
  - **Restoration:** Little Sioux River – 10%
- **Reach-specific scale:**
  - **Restoration:** Reduction in the number of streams classified as impaired (where a TMDL has been completed).

**Long-Term:**  
Long-term goals are set at planning region and reach-specific scales.

- **Planning Region scale:** Use the long-term targets outlined by the MRW WRAPS (called “watershed-wide” goals for each planning region) to meet phosphorous reduction goals in each planning region:
  - **Restoration:** Upper Big Sioux River – 30%;
  - **Restoration:** Lower Big Sioux River – 60%;
  - **Restoration:** Rock River – 60%; and
  - **Restoration:** Little Sioux River – 75%
- **Reach-specific scale:**
  - **Restoration:** Reduction in the number of streams classified as impaired

**EXAMPLE OF A MEASURABLE GOAL FACTSHEET, FOUND IN SECTION 3**

## TARGETING IMPLEMENTATION EFFORTS AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

Targeting means implementing the most cost-effective and measurable actions to make progress toward measurable goals. Targeted actions are housed within the **targeted implementation schedule**, which contains:

- A brief description of each action;
- The planning region where the action occurs;

- How much of the action will be implemented;
- How the action will be measured;
- When implementation will occur within the 10-year timeframe of the plan;
- The entities responsible and their role in implementing the action;
- Estimated cost of the action; and
- The measurable goal corresponding to the action.

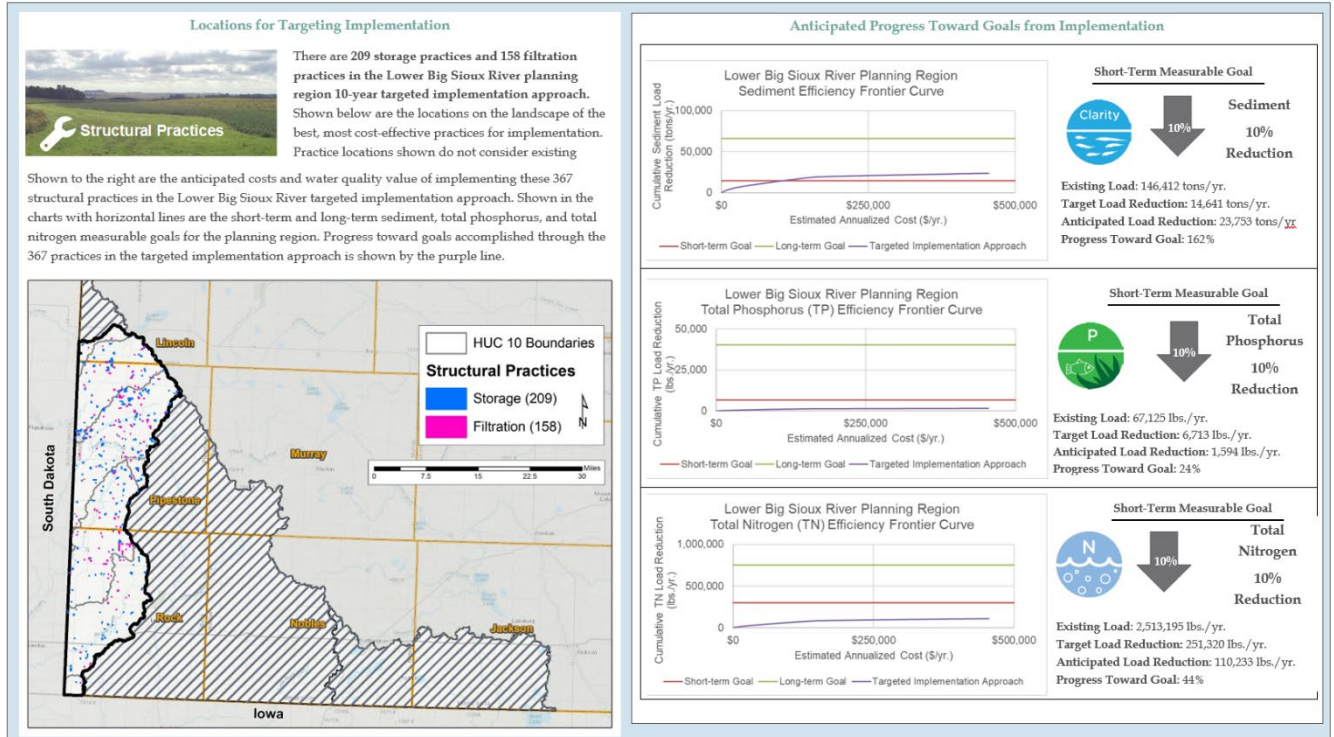
Many kinds of actions can be implemented in the MRW to make progress toward goals. These actions are grouped into one of six categories, including:

- Implementation of *structural practices*, such as water and sediment control basins (WASCOBS), grade stabilization structures, filter strips, and grassed waterways;
- Implementation of *management practices*, including planting cover crops, using conservation tillage methods, and fertilizer management methods;
- Delivering *education and outreach* to increase public engagement, improve communication, and increase understanding;
- Developing information to fill *data gaps* and complete *research*, and continue monitoring efforts;
- Executing local or state *regulatory* responsibilities; or
- Implementation of large, physical *capital improvement* projects.

Actions pertaining to education and outreach, data gaps and research, regulatory, and capital improvement are implemented watershed-wide, to create consistency and opportunity for shared services. Actions dealing with structural and management practices vary by MRW planning region because the physical landscape and measurable goals differ among the planning regions. **Planning region implementation profiles (Figure ES-2)** summarize current planning region resource conditions and present information about the number, type, and location of structural and management practices for each planning region. These profiles also present information about the relationship between the cost to implement practices and the progress practices make toward measurable goals.

Figure ES-2: An example planning region implementation profile for the Lower Big Sioux River Planning Region

LOWER BIG SIOUX RIVER PLANNING REGION: TARGETED IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH- BEST STRUCTURAL PRACTICES



The ability to achieve measurable goals—and the speed at which they are realized—largely depends on the amount of funding available to implement actions. However, the amount of funding for implementing this plan is uncertain. To address this challenge, there is more than one implementation funding scenario summarized in the targeted implementation schedule.

- The **targeted implementation approach** is the focus of this plan. This funding scenario assumes funding is like current (2017) funding focused on water issues within the plan area. Actions identified as a “targeted implementation approach” action level are the highest priority for plan implementation.
- If more funds are available for implementation, more actions within the targeted implementation schedule can be implemented, and more progress can be made toward measurable goals. Actions in the “**moderate increased funding scenario**” have a greater priority than those in the “**large increased funding scenario**,” and would be implemented first if additional dollars become available.

In Section 4, all three implementation funding scenarios show increases in funding and relative increased progress toward plan goals.

The MRW 1W1P Planning Group used the **Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp)** to estimate the locations, annual cost, water quality value (sediment, total nitrogen, and total phosphorous load reductions) and progress toward measurable goals arising from implementing the “best” structural practices which make up the targeted implementation approach. The MRW 1W1P targeted implementation approach was designed to select the most cost-effective practices for removing sediment

and nutrients (total phosphorus and total nitrogen) at the field edge, until the cost of practices equaled what planning partners are currently spending annually on structural projects within each planning region.

The MRW 1W1P Planning Group also designed the targeted implementation approach to select the practices most likely to be implemented based on landowner acceptance and history. Examples of locally accepted practices include storage practices (such as water and sediment control basins and grade stabilization) and filtration practices (such as grassed waterways). Designing the targeted implementation approach in this way identifies the most cost-effective practices in the plan area that are most likely to lead to voluntary implementation.

The results for implementing structural practices in the targeted implementation approach are summarized by planning region in **Table ES-2**. The environmental benefits arising from increasing soil health through management practices (such as cover crops and tillage management) are estimated using literature values. These are summarized elsewhere within Section 4.



Table ES-2: Structural practices in the targeted implementation approach and progress made towards short-term measurable goals for sediment, total phosphorus, and total nitrogen.

Planning Region	Treatment Group & Number of Structural Practices	Estimated Annualized Cost	Parameter	Unit	Existing Load Leaving Planning Region	Average Existing Load / Acre	Short-Term Measurable Goal		Load Reduction Expected from Implementation	Load Reduction Expected from Implementation (%)	Progress towards Short-Term Goal (%)
							Annual Load Reduction (%)	Target Load Reduction			
Upper Big Sioux River	Storage (19) Filtration (12)	\$36,663	Sediment	tons/yr.	25,059	1.0	Protection (Non-degradation)	N/A	1,414	5.6%	100+
			Total Phosphorus	lbs./yr.	7,647	0.3	10%	765	95	1.2%	12%
			Total Nitrogen	lbs./yr.	284,814	11.0	7%	19,937	7,238	2.5%	36%
Lower Big Sioux River	Storage (209) Filtration (158)	\$457,487	Sediment	tons/yr.	146,412	0.4	10%	14,641	23,753	16.2%	162%
			Total Phosphorus	lbs./yr.	67,125	0.2	10%	6,713	1,594	2.4%	24%
			Total Nitrogen	lbs./yr.	2,513,195	7.7	10%	251,320	110,233	4.4%	44%
Rock River	Storage (461) Filtration (250)	\$812,958	Sediment	tons/yr.	233,893	0.4	15%	35,084	47,394	20.3%	135%
			Total Phosphorus	lbs./yr.	172,711	0.3	10%	17,271	3,011	1.7%	17%
			Total Nitrogen	lbs./yr.	7,180,413	12.2	10%	718,041	222,575	3.1%	31%
Little Sioux River	Filtration (161) Storage (70)	\$286,926	Sediment	tons/yr.	122,892	0.6	7%	8,602	28,158	22.9%	327%
			Total Phosphorus	lbs./yr.	55,893	0.3	10%	5,589	2,078	3.7%	37%
			Total Nitrogen	lbs./yr.	2,750,094	13.7	10%	275,009	157,294	5.7%	57%

Green cells indicate achievement of short-term measurable goal through implementation of structural practices in the targeted implementation approach

Estimated number of practices, annualized cost, and progress toward achieving short-term measurable goals by planning region, based on implementing the “best”, most cost-effective structural practices as defined by the MRW 1W1P Planning Work Group. Estimates developed using the Prioritize, Target and Measure Application (PTMApp). Existing loads determined at the outlet(s) of each planning region. Load reduction benefits from practice implementation are summarized at the edge of the field, are cumulative, and do not consider implementation of upstream practices, and therefore are likely high. Benefits arising from implementation of management practices are not evaluated in this table.

Table Interpretation (top row): In the Upper Big Sioux River planning region, 19 storage practices and 12 filtration practices will cost an estimated \$36,663 annually to implement and maintain. Upon implementation of those 31 structural practices, PTMApp estimates that the sediment load delivered to surface waters in the planning region will be reduced by 1,414 tons/yr., or 5.6% from existing conditions. As this planning region has a nondegradation (protection) measurable goal, this sediment load reduction corresponds to over 100% of the target load reduction goal.

If the actions of the targeted implementation approach could be successfully completed, they would result in the implementation and anticipated load reduction benefits from all structural practices within each planning region shown in **Table ES-2**. Actions in the targeted implementation approach are also inclusive of actions to implement management practices, develop a consistent education and outreach program for the watershed area, implement research to close data gaps and expand monitoring efforts, continue regulatory implementation, and construct capital improvement projects.

The anticipated cost for implementing the targeted implementation approach is shown in **Table ES-3**. Again, the targeted implementation approach was designed to fund plan implementation at a cost at or near the estimated current (2017) funding focused on water issues within the plan area. Each action is funded by an implementation program, as described in Section 5 and summarized in **Table ES-3**.

*Table ES-3: Annualized and total plan cost for actions within the targeted implementation approach*

Implementation Action		Funded By (See Section 5)	Annualized Cost	Total Plan Cost (Over 10 Years)
Implementation	Structural Practices <sup>1</sup>	<i>Structural and Management Practices Cost-Share Program</i>	\$1,815,400	\$18,154,000
	Management Practices <sup>2</sup>	<i>Structural and Management Practices Cost-Share Program</i>	\$460,000	\$4,600,000
	Education and Outreach <sup>3</sup>	<i>Education and Outreach Implementation Program</i>	\$40,000	\$400,000
	Data Gaps and Research <sup>3</sup>	<i>Data Gaps and Research Implementation Program</i>	\$92,000	\$920,000
	Regulatory <sup>3</sup>	<i>Regulatory Administration Implementation Program</i>	\$330,000	\$3,300,000
	Capital Improvement <sup>4</sup>	<i>Capital Improvement Implementation Program</i>	\$500,000	\$5,000,000
<b>Additional Expenses</b>				
Plan Administration <sup>5</sup>		<i>Existing Budget</i>	\$323,740	\$3,237,400
<b>Total Estimated Funding Needs</b>			\$3,561,140	\$35,611,400

<sup>1</sup> Includes total cost of targeted implementation approach plus an additional 10% for technical assistance

<sup>2</sup> Assumes additional cost of \$10/acre for field walkovers

<sup>3</sup> Assumes annualized cost similar to estimated current (2017) local funding level

<sup>4</sup> Assumes two large investment projects (\$2,500,000 each)

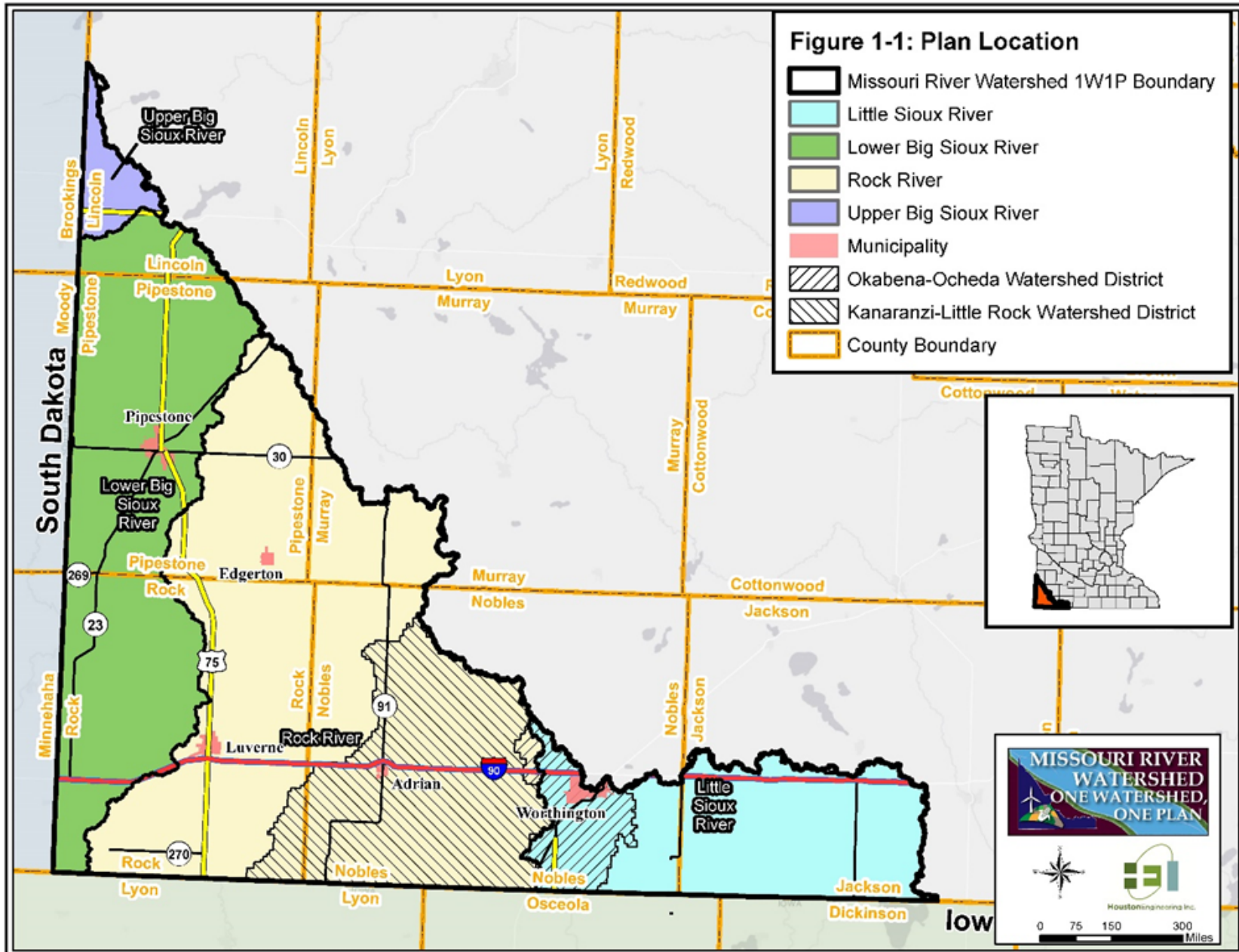
<sup>5</sup> Administration costs can be up to 10% of overall plan cost

The MRW 1W1P Planning Group previously entered into a formal agreement through a Memorandum of Agreement to lead the 1W1P planning process for the MRW. The parties will be entering into an agreement for purposes of implementing this plan. Expectations are that the roles of the local Policy Committee, Planning Work Group, and Advisory Committee will shift and change focus during plan implementation. **Table ES-4** shows the probable roles and functions related to plan implementation.

Table ES-4: Anticipated roles for the Missouri River Watershed 1W1P implementation

Committee Name	Primary Implementation Roles/Functions
Policy Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review the implementation funds from plan participants</li> <li>▪ Approve the annual work plan</li> <li>▪ Approve annual fiscal reports</li> <li>▪ Approve annual reports submitted to BWSR</li> <li>▪ Annual review and confirmation of Planning Work Group priority issue recommendations</li> <li>▪ Direction to Planning Work Group on addressing emerging issues</li> <li>▪ Approve plan amendments</li> <li>▪ Implement county ordinances and state statutory responsibilities separately from plan implementation</li> <li>▪ Approve grant applications</li> <li>▪ Approve annual assessment</li> </ul>
Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review and provide input for the annual work plan</li> <li>▪ Review and identify collaborative funding opportunities</li> <li>▪ Recommendations to Planning Work Group on program adjustments</li> <li>▪ Assist with execution of the targeted implementation schedule</li> </ul>
Planning Work Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review the status of available implementation funds from plan participants</li> <li>▪ Review opportunities for collaborative grants</li> <li>▪ Review annual fiscal reports</li> <li>▪ Review annual reports submitted to BWSR</li> <li>▪ Annual review and confirmation of priority issues</li> <li>▪ Evaluate and recommend response to emerging issues</li> <li>▪ Prepare plan amendments</li> <li>▪ Implement the targeted implementation schedule</li> </ul>
Local Fiscal/ Administrative Agent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Convene committee meetings</li> <li>▪ Prepare the annual work plan</li> <li>▪ Prepare and submit grant applications/funding requests</li> <li>▪ Research opportunities for collaborative grants</li> <li>▪ Compile annual results for annual assessment</li> </ul>

# Missouri River Watershed Planning Area and Major Watershed Boundaries



**NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2020 State Water Plan– Phil Belfiori and Erik Dahl – ***INFORMATION ITEM***

**BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM**

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** 2020 State Water Plan

**Meeting Date:** October 23, 2019

**Agenda Category:**  Committee Recommendation  New Business  Old Business

**Item Type:**  Decision  Discussion  Information

**Section/Region:** N/A

**Contact:** Suzanne Rhees

**Prepared by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reviewed by:** \_\_\_\_\_ Committee(s)

**Presented by:** Phil Belfiori and Erik Dahl, EQB

**Time requested:** 20 minutes

**Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

**Attachments:**  Resolution  Order  Map  Other Supporting Information

**Fiscal/Policy Impact**

- None  General Fund Budget
- Amended Policy Requested  Capital Budget
- New Policy Requested  Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
- Other:  Clean Water Fund Budget

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Update Board on development of 2020 State Water Plan; request their input and advice on outreach to their constituents.

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

PDF of PowerPoint provided in Board packet.

**SUMMARY** (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

The EQB is directed by statute (MS §103B.151) to prepare a state water plan, a “comprehensive long-range water resources planning” document, every ten years. The 2020 plan will be the fourth such plan since 1991.

# Board of Water and Soil Resources 2020 State Water Plan

**October 23, 2019**

Phil Belfiori

Katie Pratt

Erik Cedarleaf Dahl



# Today's Discussion

- I. Introduction and Project Approach
- II. Project Contributors and Interagency Planning Team Roster
- III. Anticipated Content Areas
- IV. Input and Engagement process
- V. Anticipated Timeline



MPCA

# 2020 Water Plan: Coordination Of Water Resource Planning

- **State Statute 103B.151**

*(EQB shall) coordinate comprehensive long-range water resources planning in furtherance of the Environmental Quality Board's "Minnesota Water Plan," published in January 1991, by September 15, 2000, and each ten-year interval afterwards;*

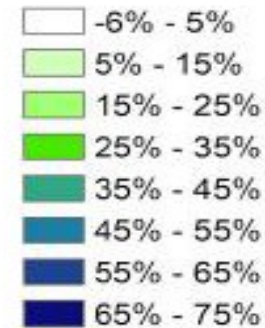
# 2020 Water Plan: 1991/2000/2010/2015 Water Plans

- *1991 – Minnesota Water Plan: Directions for Protecting and Conserving Minnesota's Waters*
- *2000 – Minnesota Watermarks: Gauging the Flow of Progress 2000-2010*
- *2010 – Working together to ensure clean water and health ecosystems for future generations*
- *2015 – Water Policy Report: Beyond the Status Quo*

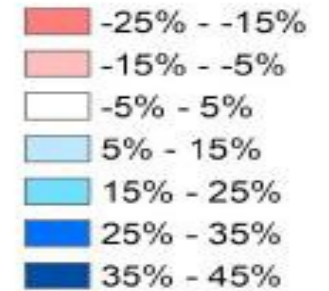
# 2020 Water Plan: Climate Change and Sustainable Water Management

- Why this focus?
  - Clear gap related to the intersection of climate and water
  - Planning fatigue- “don’t reinvent the wheel”
  - Drives clear and measurable actions
- Outcomes include:
  - Deeper understanding of how climate change /variability affects water management.
  - Prioritized actions for the coming decade
  - Shared priorities and vision across agencies

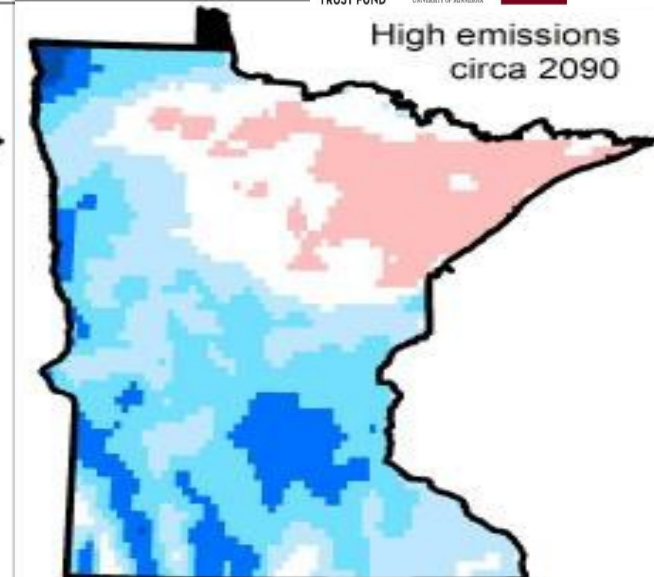
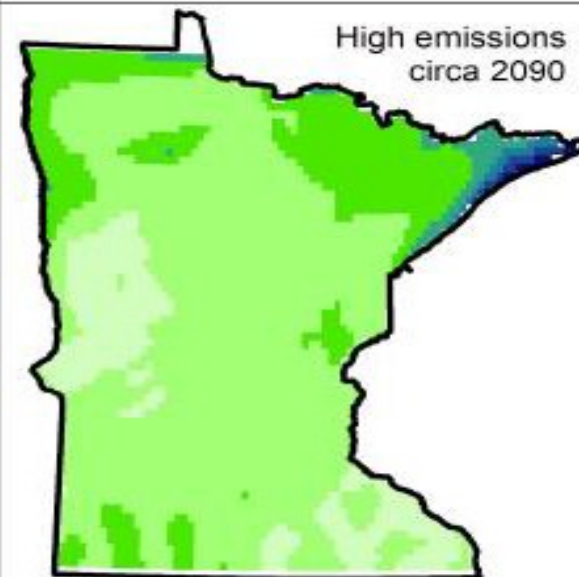
% change in annual amount of rain compared to circa 1990



% change in amount of rain in August compared to circa 1990



Climate change projections for improved management of infrastructure, industry, and water resources in Minnesota. U of M Humphrey School of Public Affairs. Keeler et al.





# 2020 Water Plan: Project Contributors and Roles

- Environmental Quality Board
- EQB staff team
- Interagency planning team
- Interagency Coordination Team



MPCA

2020 Agency	Water Plan: Interagency Representative to Interagency Planning Team	Interagency Planning Team Roster Alternate Team member
BWSR	Annie Felix-Gerth	Suzanne Rhees
DNR	Randall Doneen	Pooja Kanwar
MDA	Jeff Berg	Bob Patton
MDH	Alycia Overbo	Emmy Waldhart
MPCA	Jeff Risberg	Dave Wall
Met Council	Judy Sventek	Jen Kostrzewski
EQB	Phil Belfiori, Erik Dahl and Katie Pratt	
Commerce	Louise Miltich	
HSEM	Jen Nelson	Wayne Lamoreaux
MNDOT	Andrea Hendrickson	

# 2020 Water Plan: Summary of Anticipated Content Areas

- Climate Change and Sustainable Water Management – Issues and clear actions for the next decade:
  - Water Infrastructure
  - Natural Systems and Watershed
    - Water Quantity and Quality
  - Tribal Water Management
  - Equity and Environmental Justice
  - Water and Climate Education, Outreach, and Research
- Understanding the science: water management and climate change





# 2020 Water Plan: Focus on Coordinated Action

A focus of the 2020 Water Plan is to present a coordinated, strategic list of actions in relation to climate change and sustainable water management.



# 2020 Water Plan: Input and Engagement

- Assessment interviews & focus group meetings
  - Planned BWSR partner focus groups: SWCDs, WD/WMO's, Counties, farm groups, drainage work group, Red Board, MN Cities /MCSC
- Survey instrument
- Integration with other water events, meetings, and programs
- Collaboration with Minnesota Tribal Nations
- Regular updates at EQB meetings and off-site EQB meeting upon completion of the final Water Plan



***Requested BWSR Board feedback: what's the best way to communicate with your constituencies? Is there a focus group we are missing?***

# 2020 Water Plan: Anticipated Timeline

- **Fall 2019** – research and initial drafting; interviews
- **Winter 2020** – focus group meetings; interviews/survey; research and drafting continues
- **Spring 2020** – engagement and communication analysis; report revision
- **Summer 2020** – final revision and review
- **Fall 2020** – off-site EQB meeting to release Plan

# Questions?

## Follow Us!



**@MnEQB**



**Minnesota Environmental  
Quality Board**

**Phil Belfiori**

[phil.belfiori@state.mn.us](mailto:phil.belfiori@state.mn.us)

651-757-2082