



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Regular Meeting & Planning Workshop

Thursday, January 18, 2024

8:30 a.m.

Council Conference Room

Golden Valley City Hall @ 7800 Golden Valley Rd.

MEETING AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – *Members of the public may address the Commission about any item not contained on the regular agenda. A maximum of 15 minutes is allowed for the Forum. If the full 15 minutes are not needed for the Forum, the Commission will continue with the agenda. The Commission will take no official action on items discussed at the Forum, except for referral to staff or a Commissions Committee for a recommendation to be brought back to the Commission for discussion/action.*

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. CONSENT AGENDA (10 minutes)

- A. Approval of Minutes – December 21, 2023 Commission Meeting
- B. Acceptance of January 2024 Financial Report
- C. Approval of Payment of Invoices
 - i. Keystone Waters, LLC – December 2023 Administration
 - ii. Keystone Waters, LLC – December 2023 Administrative Expenses
 - iii. Barr Engineering – December 2023 Engineering Services
 - iv. Redpath – December 2023 Accounting Services
 - v. Triple D Espresso – Meeting Catering
 - vi. CNA Surety – 2024 Bond Insurance
- D. Approval of Resolution of Appreciation for Commissioner Anderson
- E. Approval of Resolution 24-01 to Transfer Funds from CIP Account to Administrative Account
- F. Approval of Resolution 24-02 Transferring Funds from Next Generation Plan Development and Flood Control Project Long Term Accounts to Administrative Fund
- G. Approval of Resolution 24-03 to Transfer Funds from Administrative Account to Channel Maintenance Fund and Long-Term Maintenance Fund
- H. Approval of Resolution 24-04 Designating Depositories
- I. Approval of Golden Valley 2024 Pavement Management Program Project

5. BUSINESS

- A. Consider Directing Commission Attorney to Update Joint Powers Agreement (15 min)
- B. Consider Approval of AIS Prevention Grant Application for Sweeney Lake (10 min)
- C. Review Results of Staff Evaluations (10 min)

6. COMMUNICATIONS (10 minutes)

- A. Administrator's Report
 - i. Election of Officers & Committee Appointment Reminders
 - ii. Discover Plymouth Event
- B. Engineer
 - i. Update on Schaper Pond 2023 Monitoring
- C. Legal Counsel
- D. Chair
- E. Commissioners
 - i. Report on MN Watersheds Conference and Business Meeting
- F. TAC Members
 - i. Next Meeting February 7
- G. Committees

7. INFORMATION ONLY (Information online only)

- A. BCWMC Administrative Calendar
- B. CIP Project Updates www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects
- C. Grant Tracking Summary and Spreadsheet
- D. Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) Notice, Plymouth

8. 2025 WATERSHED PLAN DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP (90 Min)

- A. Plan Development Overview and Background
- B. Small Group Breakout Discussions
- C. Whole Group Feedback

9. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Metro Watersheds Quarterly Meeting: Tuesday, January 16th, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
- BCWMC Plan Steering Committee Meeting: Wednesday, February 7th, 8:30 a.m, Wirth Lake Room, Brookview
- BCWMC Technical Advisory Committee Meeting: Wednesday, February 7th, 10:30 a.m, Wirth Lake Room, Brookview
- BCWMC Regular Meeting: Thursday February 15th, 8:30 a.m., Golden Valley City Hall
- MN Watersheds Legislative Days: March 6 – 7, 2024: St. Paul www.mnwatersheds.com/legislative-event
- Discover Plymouth Event: March 23, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.: Plymouth Community Center Fieldhouse



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

AGENDA MEMO

Date: January 11, 2024

To: BCWMC Commissioners

From: Laura Jester, Administrator

RE: **Background Information for 1/18/24 BCWMC Meeting**

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**
2. **PUBLIC FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ACTION ITEM with attachment**
4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Approval of Minutes – December 21, 2023 Commission Meeting- **ACTION ITEM with attachment**
 - B. Acceptance of January Financial Report - **ACTION ITEM with attachment**
 - C. Approval of Payment of Invoices - **ACTION ITEM with attachments (online)** – *I reviewed the following invoices and recommend payment.*
 - i. Keystone Waters, LLC – December 2023 Administration
 - ii. Keystone Waters, LLC – December 2023 Administrative Expenses
 - iii. Barr Engineering – December 2023 Engineering Services
 - iv. Redpath – December 2023 Accounting Services
 - v. Triple D Espresso – Meeting Catering
 - vi. CNA Surety – 2024 Bond Insurance
 - D. Approval of Resolution of Appreciation for Commissioner Anderson – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *Commissioner Anderson is stepping down at the end of his term January 31st. He has served the Commission for more than five years and served on the Budget Committee during his entire tenure. Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution of appreciation.*
 - E. Approval of Resolution 24-01 to Transfer Funds from CIP Account to Administrative Account - **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *Per its fiscal policies, each year the Commission transfers up to 2.5% of the taxes levied for CIP projects to the Commission’s administrative account (annual operating funds) to offset the administrative costs of managing the CIP projects. In 2023, the Commission levied \$2,207,000 through Hennepin County. Staff recommends approving the resolution to transfer 2.0% of the levy amount or \$44,140 from the CIP account to the administrative account.*
 - F. Approval of Resolution 24-02 Transferring Funds from Next Generation Plan Development and Flood Control Project Long Term Accounts to Administrative Fund - **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *The Commission’s 2023 budget includes reimbursement to the Administrative Fund from the Flood Control Project (FCP) Long Term Maintenance Account for expenses related to this fiscal year’s FCP inspections (\$20,200). Additionally, the 2023 budget includes the use of \$9,000 from the Next Generation Plan Development long term account to offset Plan development activities this year. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.*
 - G. Approval of Resolution 24-03 to Transfer Funds from Administrative Account to Channel Maintenance Fund and Long-Term Maintenance Fund - **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *Per its fiscal policies, each*

year the Commission transfers funds from the administrative account into the Channel Maintenance Fund and the Flood Control Project Long Term Maintenance Fund to help fund its channel maintenance program and inspections of the Flood Control Project infrastructure. Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution to transfer the funds, as budgeted.

- H. Approval of Resolution 24-04 Designating Depositories - ACTION ITEM with attachment – The Commission must annually designate official depositories for its funds. Although this action is usually taken at the February meeting, the Commission’s new accounting staff at the city of Plymouth recommend adopting this resolution now as we transition accounts from Redpath to Plymouth. They also recommend moving the Commission’s checking account from Wells Fargo to U.S. Bank as the City of Plymouth uses U.S. Bank and it is logistically easier and likely to have fewer banking fees.
- I. Approval of Golden Valley 2024 Pavement Management Program Project - ACTION ITEM with attachment – This project includes street reconstruction including paving, concrete curb and gutter installation, concrete sidewalks installation, water main replacements, storm sewer improvements, and sanitary sewer repairs and replacements. The project reduces impervious surface by 0.46 acres, does not impact floodplain or wetlands, and meets all BCWMC requirements for linear projects. Staff recommends approval.

5. BUSINESS

- A. Consider Directing Commission Attorney to Update Joint Powers Agreement (15 min) – ACTION ITEM with attachment – The BCWMC Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) – an agreement among all nine member cities – expires January 1, 2025. Although no substantive changes are recommended, as those would need to come from the Commission, the Commission Attorney recommends streamlining and reorganizing the document. Staff recommends directing Attorney Anderson to update the JPA as outlined in the attached memo.
- B. Consider Approval of AIS Prevention Grant Application for Sweeney Lake (10 min) – ACTION ITEM with attachment – Hennepin County is accepting applications for grant funding for aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention projects. Late last summer, Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) was discovered in Sweeney Lake during a routine plant survey. The Commission’s AIS Rapid Response Plan was used and the EWM plants were treated with herbicide 5 days after discovery. However, another small bed of EWM was found in October – too late for another herbicide treatment. Because of the newness of the infestation and the relatively small area it covers, eradication from the lake is still possible. The Commission Engineer developed a plan for plant surveys and EWM treatment in 2024. If awarded, the grant would aid considerably in implementing the plan. The local match of \$7,100 could be covered by Commission funding or could be partially or wholly covered by other partners. Since the grant was due January 11th, it has already been submitted but can be pulled from consideration if the Commission wishes.
- C. Review Results of Staff Evaluations (10 min) – DISCUSSION ITEM no attachment - Alternate Commissioner Harwell will review the results of the performance evaluations for Barr Engineering and me that were submitted by commissioners, alternate commissioners, and TAC members late last year. The information is considered non-public data and therefore is not included with public meeting materials.

6. COMMUNICATIONS (10 minutes)

- A. Administrator’s Report – see attachment

- i. Election of Officers & Committee Appointment Reminders
- ii. Discover Plymouth Event
- B. Engineer
 - i. Update on Schaper Pond 2023 Monitoring
- C. Legal Counsel
- D. Chair
- E. Commissioners
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 - i. Next meeting Feb 7th
- G. Committees

7. INFORMATION ONLY (Information online only)

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- B. CIP Project Updates www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects
- C. Grant Tracking Summary and Spreadsheet
- D. Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) Notice, Plymouth

8. 2025 WATERSHED PLAN DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP (90 Min) – DISCUSSION ITEM with attachment - *This meeting will include a whole-Commission workshop to review recommendations from the Plan Steering Committee on some of the draft issue statements and goals for the 2025 Watershed Management Plan. Please see the attached document containing background information; previously approved issues and their priority; and draft issue statements, desired future conditions, and 10-year goals.*

- A. Plan Development Overview and Background
- B. Small Group Breakout Discussions
- C. Whole Group Feedback

9. ADJOURNMENT

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Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

DRAFT Minutes of Regular Meeting
Thursday, December 21, 2023
8:30 a.m.
Golden Valley City Hall, 7800 Golden Valley Road

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

On Thursday December 21, 2023 at 8:31 a.m. Chair Cesnik called the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (Commission) to order.

Commissioners, city staff, and others present

| City | Commissioner | Alternate Commissioner | Technical Advisory Committee Members (City Staff) |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| Crystal | Dave Anderson | Joan Hauer | Ben Perkey |
| Golden Valley | Paula Pentel | <i>Absent</i> | Eric Eckman |
| Medicine Lake | Clint Carlson | <i>Absent</i> | <i>Absent</i> |
| Minneapolis | <i>Absent</i> | Jodi Polzin | Liz Stout |
| Minnetonka | <i>Absent</i> | Stacy Harwell | Leslie Yetka |
| New Hope | Jere Gwin-Lenth | Jen Leonardson | Nick Macklem |
| Plymouth | Catherine Cesnik | Monika Vadali | Ben Scharenbroich |
| Robbinsdale | <i>Absent</i> | Bob Stamos | Richard McCoy, Jenna Wolf |
| St. Louis Park | <i>Absent</i> | David Johnston | Erick Francis |
| Administrator | Laura Jester, Keystone Waters, LLC | | |
| Engineers | Karen Chandler, Stephanie Johnson - Barr Engineering | | |
| Recording Secretary | <i>Vacant Position</i> | | |
| Legal Counsel | Dave Anderson, Kennedy & Graven | | |
| Presenters/ Guests/Public | | | |

2. PUBLIC FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Administrator Jester requested removing Item 5I Review Results of Staff Evaluations from the agenda. Alternate Commissioner Harwell had noted she will be better prepared to share results of the evaluations at the January meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Gwin-Lenth moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Carlson seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 9-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Upon request from Commission Pentel, Items 4D Approval of Bryn Mawr Meadows CIP Project Partial Reimbursement to MPRB was removed from the consent agenda and Administrator Jester requested the removal of 4F Conditional Approval of Hopkins Crossroads Trail Improvements, Minnetonka from the consent agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Carlson moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 9-0.

The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda.

- Approval of Minutes – November 15, 2023 Commission Meeting
- Acceptance of December 2023 Financial Report
- Approval of Payment of Invoices
- Approval to Appoint Chad Guse, City of Plymouth, as BCWMC Deputy Treasurer
- Approval to Direct Commission Engineer to Submit Flood Control Inspection Report to Cities, Minnesota DNR, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Approval of Contract with Stantec for WOMP Services

4D. Approval of Bryn Mawr Meadows CIP Project Partial Reimbursement to MPRB

Commissioner Pentel asked about the status of the Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project and inquired about how much additional funding would be requested for reimbursement from the Minneapolis Park and Rec Board (MPRB). Administrator Jester reported that the project is largely complete although a recent post construction survey revealed that a weir was installed at the wrong elevation. She noted that Commission Engineers are working with the MPRB and their contractors to fix that. She also noted that additional project costs of about \$1M would be requested for reimbursement from Minneapolis and the MPRB after a long term maintenance plan and agreement is established between the two entities.

MOTION: Commissioner Pentel moved to approve the reimbursement of \$400,000 to the Minneapolis Park and Rec Board for the Bryn Mawr Meadows construction. Alternate Commissioner Polzin seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 9-0.

4F. Conditional Approval of Hopkins Crossroads Trail Improvements, Minnetonka

Administrator Jester reported that Alternate Commission Harwell had brought to staff's attention the need for more explicit language in review memos in referencing or describing BCWMC jurisdictional floodplains vs. FEMA floodplains. As such she recommended revising the project review memo to indicate reference to the BCWMC floodplain in the first sentence of the "Floodplain" section and remove reference to the "base flood elevation" which is more commonly used when referencing FEMA floodplains.

Alternate Commissioner Polzin also asked if wetland buffer information was provided at the time of project review. Commission Engineer Chandler noted that wetland buffer requirements are enforced through city ordinances and that buffer information should be submitted to the city with project plans.

MOTION: Alternate Commission Polzin moved approval of the Hopkins Crossroad Trail Improvement Project with the changes to floodplain language suggested by the Administrator and conditions outlined in the memo with the addition of requirement to provide wetland buffer information. Commission Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 9-0.

5. BUSINESS

A. Consider Budget Committee and Technical Advisory Committee Recommendations

Administrator Jester reported that the Budget Committee met on November 20th to discuss a proposed amendment to the 2024 operating budget and a policy on use of investment income. In the absence of Budget Committee Chair Sicora, she walked through the committee's recommendation on the 2024 budget amendment and noted that amending a budget was not an action often taken or needed but that circumstances warranted it for 2024. She reviewed the recommendations including an increase in total expenses from \$914,720 to \$958,640 (a 4.8% increase) to increase the legal services line item, increase the Plan development line item, and add monitoring of Medicine Lake to the 2024 routine monitoring program. Staff reviewed the accompanying memo that outlined reasons for these increases.

Administrator Jester also noted the committee's recommendation to increase the 2024 income from \$846,940 to \$851,940 by utilizing additional funds from the Plan Development savings account and dipping further into the BCWMC fund balance. She noted this would avoid increasing 2024 city assessments but would likely result in the fund balance being below the recommended level of 50% of annual operating costs.

There was brief discussion about the need to add Medicine Lake monitoring in 2024. Administrator Jester noted that staff had inadvertently left Medicine Lake monitoring off the regular monitoring schedule because the schedule had been revised a few years back for budgeting purposes and staff forgot to appropriately adjust the schedule moving forward. She noted they have new safeguards against that type of oversight in the future. Commission Engineer Chandler also noted that Medicine Lake is annually monitored by Three Rivers Park District and that BCWMC monitoring adds an additional monitoring site (because the lake is so large) and adds zooplankton and phytoplankton monitoring. She noted TRPD assisting with our monitoring efforts results in a cost savings and there are no duplicative monitoring efforts.

Moving onto the second Budget Committee recommendation, Administrator Jester reviewed the committee's recommended policy regarding the use of investment income. She noted that staff and committee members recommend setting aside the funds in a "special projects fund" with the primary purpose of paying for studies or plans (such as subwatershed analyses) to target and prioritize Commission CIP projects or other programs. She noted that subwatershed analyses are a great tool to determine where and what projects or programs can help "move the needle" toward a resource improvement goal but that there is not currently a good way to fund these large endeavors. She also noted the recommended policy includes some flexibility to use the funds for other purposes only in exceptional circumstances and with consideration of recommendations from the Budget Committee.

Administrator Jester also noted that the Budget Committee had requested input from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on the policy. The TAC recommended that the policy be revised to remove the ability to use the funds for purposes other than targeting studies.

There was considerable discussion on whether or not the policy should include flexibility. Some commissioners noted it could be seen as a "slush fund" which could lead to inappropriate or unsustainable use of the funds. TAC members Scharenbroich and McCoy reiterated the TAC's concern about using the funds to backfill operating budget gaps. Alternate Commissioner Polzin (a Budget Committee member) noted that the committee is very knowledgeable about the fluctuating nature of investment income and that flexible use of the funds would only be after considerable discussion and approval by the Commission. There was a recommendation to add review of potential use of special project funds for activities outside targeting studies to be reviewed by the TAC in addition to the Budget Committee. There was also discussion about how commissioners should be meeting with city staff and have a good understanding of city input. There were more comments from TAC members about how most of the investment funds originated with tax levies intended for CIP projects so that use of investment income for targeting CIP projects is appropriate but use of the funds for other purposes is not. Chair Cesnik noted that even if flexibility was taken out of the policy language, the Commission could revisit the policy and update as needed.

Commissioner Pentel reiterated her position agreeing with TAC members to avoid the "slippery slope" of using the funds for other purposes. She advocated for removing the flexible language from the policy. Alternate Commissioner Polzin noted that even with language allowing some flexibility in the policy, it is meant as a rare possibility only to be used under extenuating circumstances and with significant consideration.

MOTION: Alternate Commissioner Polzin moved to approve the Budget Committee’s recommended policy on use of investment income with the addition of TAC review of any proposed “flexible” use of funds. Commissioner Carlson seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed 5-4 with the cities of Crystal, Medicine Lake, Minneapolis, New Hope, and St. Louis Park voting in favor and the cities of Golden Valley, Minnetonka, Plymouth, and Robbinsdale voting against.

B. Consider Approval of Scope and Budget for Medicine Lake TMDL Status Assessment

Commission Engineer Chandler noted that at the October meeting the Commission directed the Commission Engineer to develop a scope and budget for an assessment of the status of the Medicine Lake nutrient Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study. She walked through the components of the study, first noting the large size of the Medicine Lake subwatershed and the multiple stakeholders involved. She noted the study would include reviewing existing water quality data and sediment analyses data, identifying projects that have already been implemented that would impact the lake, calculating phosphorus load reductions needed to meet water quality standards, and determining the likely internal load of phosphorus. She noted the assessment would result in a list of projects, programs, or practices that could be included in the 2025 Watershed Plan to help reach the goal of delisting the lake. She noted the study does not include additional sediment analyses because TRPD already performed these analyses in 2018 and additional data may not be needed.

Alternate Commissioner Polzin asked if the study could help determine the impact of the Commission’s development requirements and shed light on whether or not the requirements should be updated. Administrator Jester noted the Commission’s current standards have only been in place since 2015 and the TMDL is based on 2006 data. Engineer Chandler noted the study would do a better job of looking forward at the impact of existing standards rather than backward.

TAC member Scharenbroich from Plymouth noted the similarity to the Bass Lake TMDL assessment where internal loading was determined to be a large source of phosphorus even though it wasn’t identified in the TMDL. He noted the city is committed to helping with this study and providing as much information as possible. There was some discussion on the age of the sediment data. Engineer Chandler noted that if the existing sediment data are not sufficient, she will report this as soon as possible so the Commission can consider adding sediment testing to the scope and budget. Commissioner Pentel noted her support of the study and acknowledged that it will take time and effort from stakeholders including staff members with various cities.

There was further discussion on the notion of using this study to help determine if Commission development requirements should be updated. Alternate Commissioner Polzin reiterated that this study and perhaps future subwatershed analyses could shed light on the effectiveness of Commission requirements and that the Plan Steering Committee will eventually consider that question when they discuss policies and tools for resource improvements. Alternate Commissioner Harwell noted that stricter requirements will likely increase the cost of development and redevelopment. It was acknowledged that the cost benefit of revising standards should be considered and that perhaps maintenance of existing BMPs is a better area to focus efforts.

MOTION: Commissioner Polzin moved to approve the scope and budget as presented for the Medicine Lake TMDL Status Assessment with funding to come from the Special Projects Fund. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 9-0.

[Chair Cesnik called a 5-minute break.]

[Alternate Commissioner Harwell departs the meeting.]

C. Consider Approval of Budget Amendment for Parkers Lake Chloride Dilution/Extraction Study

Commission Engineer Chandler reminded commissioners that at the November meeting, Commission Engineer Wilson presented the results of the Parkers Lake Chloride Dilution/Extraction Study, which was an in-depth and cutting-edge analysis of options to remove chloride from Parkers Lake. She reported she is requesting additional budget of \$4,100 for that study due to its complicated nature and detailed correspondence with permitting agencies. She noted that typically she would come to the Commission requesting additional budget before the work was completed but that this project was moving too quickly and had more than expected questions from the Commission Administrator and

Plymouth staff near the very end of the project. Administrator Jester noted the CIP project budget has a balance of almost \$255,000.

Alternate Commissioner Polzin noted her agreement for the request but noted that information on where funding would come from should have been included in the memo. Commissioner Carlson asked if there were any tasks undertaken that might be considered training or education for Barr staff. Engineer Chandler noted that the project was not new research, just a different application of existing technology. She noted the results would likely be used by other entities. Administrator Jester noted she was proud that the Commission completed this innovative analysis and that information sharing is an important function of government.

MOTION: Commissioner Carlson moved to approve the additional \$4,100 budget for the Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Project. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0 with City of Minnetonka absent from the vote.

D. Review Draft Comment Letter on 2024 Draft Impaired Waters List

Commission Engineer Chandler reviewed the map of existing impaired waters, proposed impaired waters, existing and proposed delisted waters. She noted Commission Engineers and Administrator have communicated with MPCA regarding discrepancies in proposed listings and she reviewed the comments staff recommends be submitted to the MPCA regarding the draft 2024 impaired waters list.

MOTION: Commissioner Pentel moved to approve submittal of the comment letter on the draft 2024 impaired waters list as presented. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0 with City of Minnetonka absent from the vote.

E. Receive Report on Minnesota Watersheds Annual Conference and Meeting

Administrator Jester reported that it was a good conference, that she and Commissioner Welch helped facilitate a conference session and that she gave a talk about the Low Salt No Salt Minnesota campaign. She also noted that Alternate Commissioner Kennedy was elected to the Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors. Alternate Commissioner Hauer report that she enjoyed the education sessions and the business meeting went smoothly.

F. Receive Update from Plan Steering Committee

Administrator Jester reported that the Plan Steering Committee (PSC) continues to develop goals and discuss possible implementation actions during their monthly meetings. She noted the Plan TAC which includes review agencies and member cities also met the previous week and provided some good feedback. Finally, she noted that the January Commission meeting would include an important whole-Commission workshop to review and discuss PSC recommendations to date. Commissioners indicated it would be helpful to receive materials for that workshop with as much time as possible for review.

G. Review Final Reports for Mt. Olivet Stream Restoration Project (ML-20) and Parkers Lake Drainage Improvement Project (PL-7) and Consider Reimbursement Requests

- i. Mt. Olivet Final Report
- ii. Parkers Lake Final Report
- iii. Reimbursement Requests

TAC member Scharenbroich with Plymouth presented the final reports for two BCWMC CIP projects recently completed in the city. He noted the projects were designed at the same time by WSB and Associates and were included in one construction bid for efficiency. He reported the Mt. Olivet Stream Restoration Project included much erosion repair along 3 different stream reaches and a wetland restoration component. He noted that due to tree canopy cover and steep banks some of the sections needed more hard armoring such as riprap than originally hoped but that construction followed the approved design plans. He noted that significant gully erosion from the Mt. Olivet church parking lot was repaired and that the stream is tributary to Medicine Lake and thus should help improve water quality in the lake.

For the Parkers Lake Drainage Improvement Project, TAC member Scharenbroich indicated that some erosion repair techniques were used along the drainage way that is tributary to Parkers Lake but that more natural stabilization techniques were able to be constructed. He noted the vegetation is establishing nicely.

TAC member Scharenbroich reviewed the reimbursement request noting that the Mt. Olivet project was slightly over budget but that the city would cover those costs.

MOTION: Commissioner Carlson moved to approve the reimbursement to the City of Plymouth of \$134,942.58 for the Mt. Olivet Stream Restoration Project and \$114,060.00 for the Parkers Lake Drainage Improvement Project. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0 with the City of Minnetonka absent from the vote.

[Alternate Commissioner Harwell returns to the meeting.]

Commissioner Harwell requested that her vote be revised from “approve” to “abstain” for the item approved on the consent agenda that approved the contract with Stantec for WOMP services. She noted that because she is an employee of Stantec there is possibly a perceived conflict of interest.

MOTION: Chair Cesnik moved to reconsider Item 4H - the approval of the contract with Stantec for WOMP services. Alternate Commissioner Polzin seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0 with all members voting aye and Commissioner Harwell abstaining.

MOTION: Commissioner Pentel moved to approve the contract with Stantec for WOMP services. Commissioner Carlson seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0 with all members voting aye and Commissioner Harwell abstaining.

[Alternate Commissioner Harwell departs the meeting.]

H. Receive Final Report on Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project and Consider TAC Recommendations on Future Dredging Projects

Commission Engineer Chandler provided a high level overview of the project including the project location and noted that the Commission designed, owned, and constructed the project. She reviewed the original design to dredge Lagoons D, E, and F to a depth of 6 feet and reported that the contractor ended up only dredging to about 4 feet in each pond, hence the settlement agreement and funds returned to the Commission from the contractor. She noted the actual outcomes of the project and then reviewed the lessons learned and a list of TAC recommendations to consider for future dredging projects.

MOTION: Commissioner Carlson moved to approve the TAC recommendations. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion passed 8-0 with the City of Minnetonka absent from the vote.

I. Review Results of Staff Evaluations – removed from the agenda.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Administrator’s Report - Administrator Jester reminded commissioners about the campaign finance forms they should receive from the State of Minnesota with a deadline for completion by January 30th. She also reported that she will likely help the Sweeney Lake Association with a Hennepin County AIS Prevention Grant Application.
- B. Engineer –Commission Engineer Chandler reported that a technical stakeholder meeting was recently held for the Plymouth Creek Restoration Project
- C. Legal Counsel – No report
- D. Chair – No report
- E. Commissioners – Commissioner Pentel reported that she recently reported to the City of Golden Valley about a large pile of road salt in the Hidden Lakes neighborhood. City staff contacted the homeowners association who required the contractor to clean it up.
- F. TAC Members – The newly elected TAC chair, Ben Scharenbroich, reported that the City of Plymouth had collaborated on an article about reducing salt use and that he had recently reached out to the DNR to get an update on the FEMA mapping project. He noted the next TAC meeting is Feb 7th. Commissioner Pentel volunteered to be the liaison at that meeting.

- G. Committees – The Education Committee continues to work on the watershed map. Commissioner Engineers will be asked to assist with gathering GIS data for the project.

7. INFORMATION ONLY

- A. BCWMC Administrative Calendar
- B. CIP Project Updates www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects
- C. Grant Tracking Summary and Spreadsheet
- D. WCA Notices Plymouth
- E. Minnesota Watersheds Statewide Survey Results
- F. Minnesota Watersheds Strategic Plan Accomplishments

- 8. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

DRAFT

| Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Statement of Financial Position | | | | | | |
| | | | | Capital Improvement Projects | General Fund | TOTAL |
| ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Current Assets | | | | | | |
| Checking/Savings | | | | | | |
| | | 101 · Wells Fargo Checking | | -1,465,136.23 | 1,972,375.83 | 507,239.60 |
| | | 102 · 4MP Fund Investment | | 3,501,986.62 | 234,930.82 | 3,736,917.44 |
| | | 103 · 4M Fund Investment | | 3,533,650.36 | -191,935.70 | 3,341,714.66 |
| | | Total Checking/Savings | | 5,570,500.75 | 2,015,370.95 | 7,585,871.70 |
| Accounts Receivable | | | | | | |
| | | 111 · Accounts Receivable | | 0.00 | 600.67 | 600.67 |
| | | 112 · Due from Other Governments | | 52,806.40 | -0.26 | 52,806.14 |
| | | 113 · Delinquent Taxes Receivable | | 11,396.55 | 0.00 | 11,396.55 |
| | | Total Accounts Receivable | | 64,202.95 | 600.41 | 64,803.36 |
| Other Current Assets | | | | | | |
| | | 114 · Prepays | | 0.00 | 2,978.75 | 2,978.75 |
| | | 116 · Undeposited Funds | | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| | | Total Other Current Assets | | 0.00 | 4,478.75 | 4,478.75 |
| | | Total Current Assets | | 5,634,703.70 | 2,020,450.11 | 7,655,153.81 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | | | 5,634,703.70 | 2,020,450.11 | 7,655,153.81 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | | | | | | |
| Liabilities | | | | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | | |
| Accounts Payable | | | | | | |
| | | 211 · Accounts Payable | | 12,880.50 | 76,222.90 | 89,103.40 |
| | | Total Accounts Payable | | 12,880.50 | 76,222.90 | 89,103.40 |
| Other Current Liabilities | | | | | | |
| | | 212 · Unearned Revenue | | 438,823.00 | 0.00 | 438,823.00 |
| | | 251 · Unavailable Rev - property tax | | 11,396.55 | 0.00 | 11,396.55 |
| | | Total Other Current Liabilities | | 450,219.55 | 0.00 | 450,219.55 |
| | | Total Current Liabilities | | 463,100.05 | 76,222.90 | 539,322.95 |
| | | Total Liabilities | | 463,100.05 | 76,222.90 | 539,322.95 |
| Equity | | | | | | |
| | | 311 · Nonspendable prepaids | | 0.00 | 2,978.75 | 2,978.75 |
| | | 312 · Restricted for improvements | | 4,562,582.00 | 0.00 | 4,562,582.00 |
| | | 315 · Unassigned Funds | | 0.00 | 375,424.57 | 375,424.57 |
| | | 32000 · Retained Earnings | | 1,198,999.33 | 108,188.52 | 1,307,187.85 |
| | | Net Income | | 445,398.39 | 422,259.30 | 867,657.69 |
| | | Total Equity | | 6,206,979.72 | 908,851.14 | 7,115,830.86 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | | | | 6,670,079.77 | 985,074.04 | 7,655,153.81 |
| UNBALANCED CLASSES | | | | -1,035,376.07 | 1,035,376.07 | 0.00 |

| Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission | | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - General Fund | | | | |
| | Annual Budget | Dec 21, '23 - Jan 18, 24 | Year to Date | Budget Balance |
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | | |
| Income | | | | |
| 410 · Special Projects Fund | | 307,994.58 | 307,994.58 | -307,994.58 |
| 411 · Assessments to Cities | 617,430.00 | 0.00 | 617,430.00 | 0.00 |
| 412 · Project Review Fees | 80,000.00 | 6,000.00 | 79,170.50 | 829.50 |
| 413 · WOMP Reimbursement | 5,000.00 | 0.00 | 4,500.00 | 500.00 |
| 414 · State of MN Grants | | 378.54 | 12,636.26 | -12,636.26 |
| 415 · Investment earnings | | -276,272.55 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 416 · TRPD Reimbursement | 5,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5,000.00 |
| 417 · Transfer from LT & CIP | 68,000.00 | 64,340.00 | 64,340.00 | 3,660.00 |
| 419 · Insurance Dividend | | 359.00 | 359.00 | -359.00 |
| Total Income | 775,430.00 | 162,799.57 | 1,146,430.34 | -350,800.34 |
| Expense | | | | |
| 1000 · Engineering | | | | |
| 1010 · Technical Services | 145,000.00 | 11,734.50 | 132,299.68 | 12,700.32 |
| 1020 · Development/Project Reviews | 80,000.00 | 4,602.50 | 70,620.86 | 9,379.14 |
| 1030 · Non-fee and Preliminary Reviews | 30,000.00 | 628.00 | 16,333.38 | 13,666.62 |
| 1040 · Commission and TAC Meetings | 15,000.00 | 1,100.00 | 14,778.78 | 221.22 |
| 1050 · Surveys and Studies | 15,000.00 | 4,087.00 | 6,572.00 | 8,428.00 |
| 1060 · Water Quality / Monitoring | 105,000.00 | 4,874.50 | 69,084.07 | 35,915.93 |
| 1070 · Water Quantity | 9,000.00 | 43.00 | 7,184.46 | 1,815.54 |
| 1080 · Annual Flood Control Inspection | 15,000.00 | 4,484.50 | 19,212.36 | -4,212.36 |
| 1090 · Municipal Plan Review | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,860.00 | 140.00 |
| 1100 · Watershed Monitoring Program | 27,000.00 | 0.00 | 22,249.03 | 4,750.97 |
| 1110 · Annual XP-SWMM Model Updates | 3,000.00 | 430.00 | 1,058.00 | 1,942.00 |
| 1120 · TMDL Implementation Reporting | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1130 · APM/AIS Work | 40,000.00 | 0.00 | 44,674.84 | -4,674.84 |
| 1140 · Erosion Control Inspections | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1000 · Engineering - Other | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total 1000 · Engineering | 486,000.00 | 31,984.00 | 405,927.46 | 80,072.54 |
| 2000 · Plan Development | | | | |
| 2010 · Next Gen Plan Development | 53,250.00 | 7,203.00 | 78,431.56 | -25,181.56 |
| 2000 · Plan Development - Other | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total 2000 · Plan Development | 53,250.00 | 7,203.00 | 78,431.56 | -25,181.56 |
| 3000 · Administration | | | | |
| 3010 · Administrator | 78,750.00 | 4,350.00 | 64,761.26 | 13,988.74 |
| 3020 · MAWD Dues | 7,500.00 | 0.00 | 7,500.00 | 0.00 |
| 3030 · Legal | 17,000.00 | 0.00 | 20,480.33 | -3,480.33 |
| 3040 · Financial Management | 14,540.00 | 1,075.00 | 12,665.00 | 1,875.00 |
| 3050 · Audit, Insurance & Bond | 18,700.00 | 100.00 | 20,805.00 | -2,105.00 |
| 3060 · Meeting Catering | 2,400.00 | 161.23 | 1,934.76 | 465.24 |
| 3070 · Administrative Services | 7,240.00 | 239.92 | 2,949.68 | 4,290.32 |
| 3000 · Administration - Other | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total 3000 · Administration | 146,130.00 | 5,926.15 | 131,096.03 | 15,033.97 |
| 4000 · Education | | | | |
| 4010 · Publications / Annual Report | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 1,338.00 | -338.00 |
| 4020 · Website | 1,600.00 | 0.00 | 687.16 | 912.84 |
| 4030 · Watershed Education Partnership | 18,350.00 | 0.00 | 9,500.00 | 8,850.00 |
| 4040 · Education and Public Outreach | 28,000.00 | 0.00 | 15,727.31 | 12,272.69 |
| 4050 · Public Communications | 1,100.00 | 0.00 | 1,263.52 | -163.52 |
| 4000 · Education - Other | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total 4000 · Education | 50,050.00 | 0.00 | 28,515.99 | 21,534.01 |
| 5000 · Maintenance | | | | |
| 5010 · Channel Maintenance Fund | 25,000.00 | 25,000.00 | 25,000.00 | 0.00 |
| 5020 · Flood Control Project Long-Term | 35,000.00 | 35,000.00 | 35,000.00 | 0.00 |
| 5000 · Maintenance - Other | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total 5000 · Maintenance | 60,000.00 | 60,000.00 | 60,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Expense | 795,430.00 | 125,313.15 | 724,171.04 | 91,458.96 |
| Net Ordinary Income | -20,000.00 | 37,486.42 | 422,259.30 | -442,259.30 |
| Net Income | -20,000.00 | 37,486.42 | 422,259.30 | -442,259.30 |



BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF DAVE ANDERSON
TO THE BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (the "Commission") is a joint powers organization formed by the cities of Crystal, Golden Valley, Medicine Lake, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, New Hope, Plymouth, Robbinsdale and St. Louis Park; and

WHEREAS, the Commission serves as the duly constituted watershed management organization for the Bassett Creek watershed pursuant to the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act); and

WHEREAS, under the Act and the Commission's joint powers agreement the Commission is charged with responsibility for the management of storm water to protect persons and property from flooding and to protect and preserve the water quality of lakes, streams and wetlands of the Bassett Creek Watershed and downstream receiving waters; and

WHEREAS, Dave Anderson served as a representative from the City of Crystal from August 2018 to January 2024; and

WHEREAS, Dave lent his expertise and experience by serving on the Budget Committee during his entire tenure with the Commission providing sound financial recommendations and helping to craft fiscal policies; and

WHEREAS, Dave gave his time and talents, without compensation, to protect and improve the environment and to serve the public with integrity, vision, and respect for others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, its member cities, and the public hereby express its sincere and grateful appreciation to Dave Anderson for his distinguished service to the public.

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission this 18th day of January, 2024.

Chair



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 24-03

Member _____ introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION FUNDS FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNT TO THE EROSION/SEDIMENT (CHANNEL MAINTENANCE) ACCOUNT AND THE FLOOD CONTROL LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission by the Cities of Crystal, Golden Valley, Medicine Lake, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, New Hope, Plymouth, Robbinsdale, and St. Louis Park that:

1. \$25,000 will be transferred from the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's Administrative Account to the Erosion/Sediment (Channel Maintenance Fund) account.
2. \$35,000 will be transferred from the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's Administrative Account to the Flood Control Long-Term Maintenance account.

Chair

Date

Attest:

Secretary

Date

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Member _____ and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: ___ members, and the following voted against the same: ___ members, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.



Memorandum

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC)
From: Barr Engineering Co. (Barr) (Jim Herbert, PE; Gabby Campagnola)
Subject: Item 4I: Golden Valley 2024 Pavement Management Program (PMP) Project – Golden Valley, MN
BCWMC January 18, 2024 Meeting Agenda
Date: January 11, 2024
Project: 23270051.53 2023 2332

4I Golden Valley 2024 Pavement Management Program (PMP) Project – Golden Valley, MN BCWMC 2023-25

Summary:

Proposed Work: Street reconstruction including paving, concrete curb and gutter installation, concrete sidewalks installation, water main replacements, storm sewer improvements, and sanitary sewer repairs and replacements

Project Proposer: City of Golden Valley

Project Schedule: 2024 construction

Basis for Review at Commission Meeting: Linear project with more than five acres of disturbance

Impervious Surface Area: Decrease approximately 0.46 acres

Recommendation for Commission Action: Approval

General Project Information

The proposed linear project is in the City of Golden Valley within the Bassett Creek Main Stem subwatershed (see attached map for locations). The proposed linear project includes reconstruction of City of Golden Valley streets and utility improvements, including water main, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer, resulting in 7.26 acres of grading (disturbance). The proposed linear project creates 5.05 acres of fully reconstructed impervious surfaces and a decrease of 0.46 acres of impervious surfaces, from 5.51 acres (existing) to 5.05 acres (proposed).

The initial submittal was received on December 18, 2023. The BCWMC engineer reviewed the submittal and provided comments to the City on January 4, 2024. The City addressed the comments and revised plans were submitted on January 5, 2024.

Floodplain

The proposed project does not involve work in the BCWMC 100-year floodplain; therefore, BCWMC floodplain review is not required.

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC)
From: Barr Engineering Co. (Barr) (Jim Herbert, PE; Gabby Campagnola)
Subject: Item 4I: Golden Valley 2024 Pavement Management Program (PMP) Project – Golden Valley, MN
Date: January 11, 2024
Page: 2

Wetlands

The City of Golden Valley is the local government unit (LGU) responsible for administering the Wetland Conservation Act; therefore, BCWMC wetland review is not required. There are no wetland impacts as part of the project.

Rate Control

The proposed linear project does not create one or more acres of net new impervious surfaces; therefore, BCWMC rate control review is not required.

Water Quality

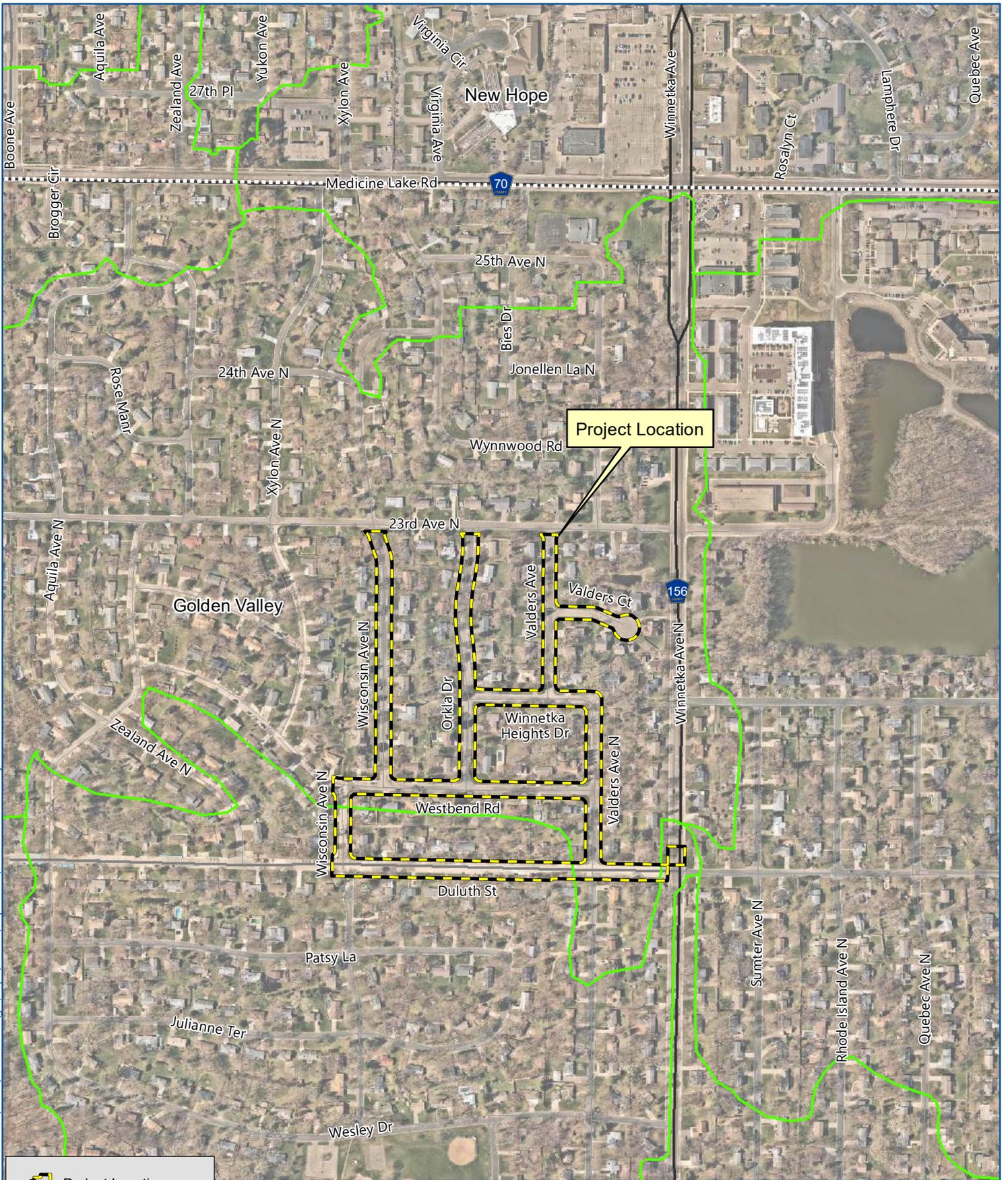
The proposed linear project does not create one or more acres of net new impervious surfaces; therefore, BCWMC water quality review is not required. However, the proposed linear project includes three manholes with four-foot-deep sumps and SAFL baffles to provide water quality improvements.

Erosion and Sediment Control

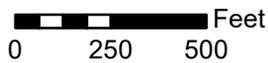
The proposed linear project results in one or more acres of land disturbance; therefore, the proposed project must meet the BCWMC erosion and sediment control requirements. Proposed temporary erosion and sediment control features include rock construction entrances, sediment control logs, silt fence, and storm drain inlet protection. Permanent erosion and sediment control features include stabilization with sod.

Recommendation for Commission Action

Approval



-  Project Location
-  Municipality
-  BCWMC Legal Boundary
-  Major Subwatershed
-  BCWMC Hydrologic Boundary
-  Bassett Creek



BCWMC 2023-25
GOLDEN VALLEY 2024 PMP
Golden Valley, MN

LOCATION MAP



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

MEMO

To: BCWMC Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners
From: Laura Jester, Administrator
Date: January 10, 2024

RE: Consider Approval to Refine and Update BCWMC Joint Powers Agreement

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission was created through a [joint powers agreement](#) (JPA) among all nine member cities in 1969. The JPA has been renewed on several occasions over past decades with minimal substantive changes and few editorial changes. The current JPA expires on January 1, 2025. The JPA must be approved and signed by all nine member cities in order for the BCWMC to remain in existence. The refusal of just one city to sign the agreement would result in dissolution of the BCWMC and management of the watershed would have to take another form.

Commission Attorney Anderson recently reviewed the JPA in detail and developed a general list of areas that should be considered for updates to streamline and organize the agreement. Staff recommends that the Commission direct the Commission Attorney to make his recommended edits to the document (shown as tracked changes) for review by the Commission. The estimated cost for this work is up to \$2,000 which would come from the legal services line in the operating budget.

Commission Attorney Anderson recommends:

1. Simplifying the document. The current JPA is extremely long, slightly disorganized, and contains a lot of history and details about Bassett Creek and the Commission that, while interesting, detract from the user-friendliness of the document. The JPA should be simplified by removing many of the unnecessary details. Additionally, it should flow better, use clean headings/formatting, and be reorganized so pertinent sections can be found quickly. For example, there are several important provisions buried in the "Miscellaneous" section, including language about eminent domain, property ownership, etc. Those items should be in a more prominent location so they aren't overlooked.
2. Clarify and update provisions based on current policies and practices, especially those that relate to processes that are dictated by state law. It's clear when the JPA was originally drafted that there were a lot of uncertainties about how the Commission would function and how projects would be carried out and the document has not been updated to include more current information. Some information should simply reference state law rather than be reiterated in the document and in some cases, the JPA references outdated statutes.
3. Confirm that the updated JPA includes all of the mandated provisions contained in Minnesota Rules, section 8410.0030. This Rule contains an exhaustive list of various components that must be in the JPA. It appears that the current agreement likely adheres to most, if not all of those requirements, but that should be confirmed.

It should be noted that Commission Attorney Anderson has not recommended substantive changes to the JPA, i.e. changes that would increase or decrease Commission powers or fundamentally alter the makeup and operation of the Commission. He points out that the scope of the JPA depends entirely on the desire of the member cities because it is a written agreement among those cities. That said, if there's a desire on the part of the Commission to recommend substantive, policy-related amendments to the JPA – that is a matter of public policy for the Commissioners to decide. The Commission is afforded the right to recommend any changes to the JPA to its member cities, but ultimately the member cities will need to individually agree to any such changes before they take effect.

The Commission and/or the Administrative Services Committee can discuss potential substantive changes to the JPA outside of, but concurrent with, the effort by the Commission Attorney to refine and update the document. Discussions on substantive change, if any are proposed, should include significant conversation and feedback from city staff and city officials.

Ideally, the final JPA document will be completed by the June 20th Commission meeting to allow plenty of time for approval by member cities and complete execution by the end of the year.

**Sweeney Lake Eurasian Watermilfoil Eradication Project
Hennepin County AIS Prevention Grant Application**

AIS prevention application (Attachment 2)

Project goals and summary description of project

| | |
|---|--|
| Organization name: | Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission |
| Project title: | Sweeney Lake EWM Eradication Project |
| Primary project category (select one): | <input type="checkbox"/> Early Detection <input type="checkbox"/> Pathway Analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Decontamination <input type="checkbox"/> Access Re-design <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Management |
| Other project categories: (select all that apply) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Early Detection <input type="checkbox"/> Pathway Analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Decontamination <input type="checkbox"/> Access Re-design <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Management |
| Project location: | Sweeney Lake, Twin Lake, upstream ponds |
| Applicant name/organization: | Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission |
| Phone number(s): | 952-270-1990 |
| Amount request: | \$13,680 |

Upon completion, how will your project prevent the introduction or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species? (1 or 2 sentences).

This project aims to eradicate a new infestation of Eurasian watermilfoil from Sweeney Lake to prevent it from damaging recreation and ecological function in Sweeney Lake and prevent it from spreading to other lakes, including Twin Lake. It builds on the rapid response activities implemented in the lake in 2023 and includes outreach and early detection training to lake residents.

ADDENDUM NO. 1 TO THE REQUEST FOR GRANT PROPOSALS was reviewed.

Executive summary: This project aims to eradicate a new infestation of Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) from Sweeney Lake. In August 2023, a small patch of EWM was discovered in the southern end of Sweeney Lake during a routine plant survey. The BCWMC, DNR, Hennepin County, and lake homeowners implemented a rapid response; EWM was treated with herbicide 5 days after discovery. In October, another survey revealed a second patch of EWM, however, it was too late in the year for an herbicide treatment. Sweeney Lake is a high priority deep lake that outlets to Bassett Creek and is connected to Twin Lake. Twin Lake, lying half within Theodore Wirth Park, is also a high priority with the best water quality of all BCWMC lakes and a nearly completely undisturbed shoreline. Allowing EWM to become established in Twin Lake would destroy one of the highest quality natural resources in the area. This project will survey and treat EWM in Sweeney and will survey Twin Lake to ensure EWM is not present already. The project will also survey

ponds tributary to Sweeney Lake as a potential source of the EWM, and will engage with lake homeowners on the lake pledge and AIS early detection.

Project activities and outcomes

- **Project description:**

This project includes multiple activities with the goal of eradicating Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) from Sweeney Lake in the City of Golden Valley and educating lake residents about the importance of personal responsibility, their role in preventing the spread of AIS, and the identification of new AIS infestations.

The good news is that Sweeney Lake is being delisted for a nutrient impairment this year due to significant, recent investments in projects to improve the lake's water quality. And – we have a good chance to eradicate the new EWM infestation due to early detection and rapid response in 2023. Overall, this project is a multi-pronged approach to ensure that Sweeney and Twin Lakes are protected from the harmful effects of a EWM infestation.

Background:

In late August 2023, an AIS Rapid Response was initiated after a small patch of EWM was discovered through a BCWMC routine plant survey. BCWMC coordinated with multiple partners including Hennepin County, the DNR, and the city of Golden Valley. The Sweeney Lake Association (SLA) successfully stopped all boating on the lake for the 5 days leading up to an herbicide treatment, which the SLA funded. Unfortunately, a post treatment survey in October found another small patch of EWM in a separate area of the lake but it was too late in the season to treat that area. This project continues to implement the rapid response and aims to eradicate EWM from the lake.

This project expands on the rapid response activities to include significant outreach to lakeshore residents. BCWMC staff and SLA volunteers will convey information about and gather responses to Hennepin County's lake pledge. Further, Bolton and Menk will be hired to provide in-person and on the water training on AIS detection and best practices for preventing the spread of AIS.

Finally, this project will survey Twin Lake for EWM along with ponds that are tributary to Sweeney Lake. Twin Lake is a high quality lake connected to Sweeney via a navigable channel. If EWM has already reached Twin Lake, we need to take swift action there, too. And, upstream ponds will be surveyed to determine if they are the source of EWM to Sweeney.

Task A: Sweeney Lake plant surveys

Timeframe: April or May 2024 + 6 weeks post treatment

Responsible Party: BCWMC Engineers, Barr Engineering subcontracting with Matt Berg, Endangered Resource Services

This activity will identify all locations of EWM in Sweeney Lake prior to a planned herbicide treatment in the spring and again 6 weeks post treatment. This activity builds on plant surveys conducted in 2023 when the new infestation was first discovered and treated. The outcome will be a map(s) and GIS coordinates delineating the EWM beds for the herbicide treatment (pre-treatment), and a confirmation that all EWM was treated (post-treatment). If additional EWM is discovered post treatment, a second delineation map will be generated for use with a second herbicide treatment.

Task B: Herbicide Treatment in Sweeney Lake

Timeframe: May or June 2024 + late summer 2024 if warranted

Responsible Party: BCWMC staff contracting with certified herbicide contractor

This activity includes securing an herbicide application permit from the DNR and performing an herbicide treatment using ProcellaCor applied by a certified herbicide contractor. This activity assumes up to 2.0 acres of EWM will be treated initially (based on the fall 2023 survey). The budget also includes treating up to 1.0 acre later in the summer if additional EWM is discovered in a post treatment survey. BCWMC Engineers, Barr Engineering, will provide technical assistance and oversight. BCWMC Administrator will apply for DNR permit and will coordinate with lake homeowners and the City of Golden Valley.

Task C: Twin Lake and Tributary Ponds Plant Surveys

Timeframe: Summer 2024

Responsible Party: BCWMC Engineers, Barr Engineering subcontracting with Matt Berg, Endangered Resource Services

This activity includes performing a whole-lake plant survey of Twin Lake which is connected to Sweeney Lake through a navigable channel and is a high quality, deep lake lying half within Theodore Wirth Regional Park and with a nearly completely undisturbed shoreline. It is important to ensure EWM isn't already in the lake. Further, in an attempt to help identify the source of the EWM in Sweeney Lake, ponds that are tributary to Sweeney will be surveyed for possible EWM beds. Detailed survey results and EWM delineation maps, if needed, will be outcomes of this activity.

Task D: Sweeney Lake Homeowner Engagement

Timeframe: Spring – Summer 2024

Responsible Party: BCWMC staff with assistance from Sweeney Lake Association (SLA), Hennepin County staff, and Bolton and Menk

This activity will include significant engagement with homeowners around the lake. Because Sweeney Lake does not have public access (aside from carry-in access), lakeshore owners are the best and most important audience for targeting outreach and education. The Sweeney Lake Association (SLA) will assist with relaying the importance of taking Hennepin County's lake pledge, facilitating and gathering pledge responses, and recruiting participants for an AIS Early Detection Training workshop. The workshop will be hosted by BCWMC and SLA, and will be facilitated by staff at Bolton and Menk. In-person and on-water training, specifically for Sweeney Lake homeowners, is planned. The outcome of this activity is a community of better informed and watchful lakeshore homeowners who can detect new AIS before they become established and will understand their role in preventing the spread of AIS. Outcomes can be measured by the number of new lake pledge participants and workshop attendance.

Project staff, partners and volunteers

- **Project coordinator and organization information**

- Organization: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
- Primary project coordinator (name, title, role): Laura Jester, BCWMC Administrator; project coordinator
- P.O. Box 250827, Golden Valley MN 55427; 952-270-1990;
laura.jester@keystonewaters.com
- Organization website: www.bassettcreekwmo.org
- Describe the organization's mission and goals.

Mission: Stewardship of water resources to protect and enhance our communities.

This project aligns with multiple goals and policies within the 2015 Bassett Creek Watershed Management Plan including policy #79: *The BCWMC will support and collaborate with other entities to manage and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive*

species. Further, the BCWMC's [policies on AIS and aquatic plant management](#) includes activities related to education and outreach, early detection training, rapid response, and management of established AIS.

- **Contracting organization information**

- Contracting organization (*if different than above*): Same
- Designated contract signatory: BCWMC Chairperson
- Address and phone number: P.O. Box 250827, Golden Valley MN 55427 current chair's phone: 571-275-7757
- Has the organization received funding from the county in the last three years?
Yes: The BCWMC received an AIS Prevention Grant in 2022 that was ultimately cancelled in order to more directly coordinate AIS signage development directly through the county. The BCWMC has also received two Opportunity Grants (2019 and 2023) for the Plymouth Creek Restoration Project (completed 2019) and Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project (final report submitted Dec 2023).

- **Staff and volunteers:**

BCWMC Administrator, Laura Jester – Administrator with BCWMC for 11+ years. She will provide project management, reporting, and coordination. She is skilled in project management, budget and timeline tracking, grant reporting, coordinating with partners, and facilitating education and outreach programs.

BCWMC Engineers – Meg Rattei will be the primary Barr staff assisting with the technical aspects of the project including plant survey coordination, data QA, EWM management design, and herbicide treatment coordination. She has worked on water monitoring activities for the BCWMC for more than 50 years and was the architect of the BCWMC AIS Rapid Response Plan.

Endangered Resource Services, Matt Berg – Has been contracted by Barr Engineering for aquatic plant surveys throughout the Metro for many years. He has earned a reputation for performing thorough and accurate surveys and discovering new species and AIS in multiple lakes.

Certified Herbicide Contractors – We expect to use PLM Land and Lake Management for the herbicide treatments as they performed the EWM treatments in 2023. They are reputable and trusted herbicide applicator.

Sweeney Lake Association, President Jennell Bilek – Ms. Bilek worked quickly and tirelessly to communicate with lake residents, BCWMC staff, city of Golden Valley, and herbicide contractors in 2023 when EWM was first discovered. For this project she will be the liaison with the lake homeowners and will be a critical volunteer with outreach and engagement efforts.

Budget – see spreadsheet

Total project cost: \$20,780

Grant request: \$13,680

Local match; \$7,100: source is Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission which may include contributions from the Sweeney Lake Association or the City of Golden Valley

Note: Please feel free to edit to work best for your specific application.

| <u>Expense Category</u> | <u>Description/ Role</u> | <u>Hourly Rate/ Cost per Item</u> | <u>Number Hours/Items</u> | <u>Funds Requested</u> | <u>In-kind/ Matching*</u> | <u>Total Project Costs</u> |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (A) Staff and Personnel | | | | | (*if any) | |
| Administrative staff | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| Project management staff | Project coordination, reporting, outreach assistance | \$75.00 | 16 | \$0.00 | \$1,200.00 | \$1,200.00 |
| Community Volunteers | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| Outside consultants | Barr Engineering technical services | varies | | \$0.00 | \$5,900.00 | \$5,900.00 |
| Other | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| | | | SUBTOTAL = | \$0.00 | \$7,100.00 | \$7,100.00 |
| (B) Reimbursable Expenses | | | | | | |
| 1. Project Supplies/Materials -- List all of the supplies/materials needed for your project (add rows below as needed) | | | | | | |
| | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| 2. Professional Services | | | | | | |
| Certified herbicide contractor; herbicide treatment(s) | | | | \$7,500.00 | | \$7,500.00 |
| Endangered Resource Services; Sweeney Lake plant surveys | | | | \$1,800.00 | | \$1,800.00 |
| Endangered Resource Services; Twin Lake and pond plant surveys | | | | \$2,230.00 | | \$2,230.00 |
| 3. Incentives -- Must be tied directly to an action or activity that motivates environmentally-responsible behavior (add rows below as needed) | | | | | | |
| | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| 4. Marketing and Communications | | | | | | |
| Printing | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| Mailing | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| Distribution | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| 5. Other Expenses (add rows below as needed) | | | | | | |
| AIS Early Detection Training by Bolton & Menk | | | | \$2,150.00 | | \$2,150.00 |
| | | | | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 |
| | | | SUBTOTAL = | \$13,680.00 | \$0.00 | \$13,680.00 |
| | | | TOTAL = | \$13,680.00 | \$7,100.00 | \$20,780.00 |



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission MEMO

Date: January 11, 2024
From: Laura Jester, Administrator
To: BCWMC Commissioners
RE: **Administrator's Report**

Aside from this month's agenda items, the Commission Engineers, city staff, committee members, and I continue to work on the following Commission projects and issues.

CIP Projects (more resources at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects.>)

2019 Medicine Lake Road and Winnetka Avenue Area Long Term Flood Mitigation Plan Implementation Phase I: DeCola Ponds B & C Improvement Project (BC-2, BC-3 & BC-8) Golden Valley (No change since Nov 2021): A feasibility study for this project was completed in May 2018 after months of study, development of concepts and input from residents at two public open houses. At the May 2018 meeting, the Commission approved Concept 3 and set a maximum 2019 levy. Also in May 2018, the Minnesota Legislature passed the bonding bill and the MDNR has since committed \$2.3M for the project. The Hennepin County Board approved a maximum 2019 levy request at their meeting in July 2018. A BCWMC public hearing on this project was held on August 16, 2018 with no comments being received. Also at that meeting the Commission officially ordered the project and entered an agreement with the City of Golden Valley to design and construct the project. In September 2018, the City of Golden Valley approved the agreement with the BCWMC. The [Sun Post](#) ran an article on this project October 2018. Another public open house and presentation of 50% designs was held February 6, 2019. An EAW report was completed and available for public review and comment December 17 – January 16, 2019. At their meeting in February 2019, the Commission approved the 50% design plans. Another public open house was held April 10th and a public hearing on the water level drawdown was held April 16th. 90% Design Plans were approved at the April Commission meeting. It was determined a Phase 1 investigation of the site is not required. The City awarded a contract to Dahn Construction for the first phase of the project, which involves earthwork, utilities, and trail paving and extends through June 2020. Dewatering began late summer 2019. Tree removal was completed in early winter; excavation was ongoing through the winter. As of early June 2020, earth work and infrastructure work by Dahn Construction is nearly complete and trail paving is complete. Vegetative restoration by AES is underway including soil prep and seeding. Plants, shrubs, and trees will begin soon along with placement to goose protection fencing to help ensure successful restoration. The construction phase of this project was completed in June with minor punch list items completed in September. The restoration and planting phase is complete except for minor punch list items and monitoring and establishment of vegetation over three growing seasons. A final grant report for BWSR's Watershed Based Implementation Funding was submitted at the end of January. City staff recently completed a site walk through to document dead or dying trees and shrubs in need of replacement (under warranty). This project (along with Golden Valley's Liberty Crossing Project) recently received the award for "Project of the Year" from the Minnesota Association of Floodplain Managers as part of the overall Project website: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=433> .

2020 Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project (BC-5), Minneapolis (See Item 4D): A feasibility study by the Commission Engineer was developed in 2018 and approved in January 2019. The study included wetland delineations, soil borings, public open houses held in conjunction with MPRB's Bryn Mawr Meadows Park improvement project, and input from MPRB's staff and design consultants. Project construction year was revised from 2020 and 2022 to better coincide with the MPRB's planning and implementation of significant improvements and redevelopment Bryn Mawr Meadows Park where the project will be located. A public hearing for this project was held September 19, 2019. The project was officially ordered at that meeting. In January 2020 this project was awarded a \$400,000 Clean Water Fund grant from BWSR; a grant work plan was completed and the grant with BWSR was fully executed in early May 2020. The project and the grant award was the subject of an article in the Southwest Journal in February: <https://www.southwestjournal.com/voices/green-digest/2020/02/state-awards-grant-to-bryn-mawr-runoff-project/>. In September 2020, Minneapolis and MPRB staff met to review the implementation agreement and maintenance roles.

BCWMC developed options for contracting and implementation which were presented at the November meeting. At that meeting staff was directed to develop a memorandum of understanding or agreement among BCWMC, MPRB, and city of Minneapolis to recognize and assign roles and responsibilities for implementation more formally. The draft agreement was developed over several months and multiple conversations among the parties. At the May 2021 meeting the Commission approved to waive potential conflict of the Commission legal counsel and reviewed a proposal for project design by the Commission Engineer. The updated design proposal and the design agreement among all three parties were approved at the June 2021 meeting. Four public open houses were held in the park in 2021 to gather input on park concepts. Project partners met regularly throughout design to discuss schedules, planning and design components, and next steps. Concept designs were approved by the MRPB Board in late 2021. Staff met with MnDOT regarding clean out of Penn Pond and continue discussions. 50% design plans were approved by the Commission at the January 2022 meeting; 90% design plans were approved at the March 2022 meeting along with an agreement with MPRB and Minneapolis for construction. The agreement was approved by all three bodies. Commission Engineers finalized designs and assisted with bidding documents. Bids were returned in early August. At the meeting in August, the Commission approved moving forward with project construction (through MPRB), and approved a construction budget (higher than previously budgeted) and an amended engineering services budget. MPRB awarded the construction contract. In late November the contractor began the initial earthwork and started on portions of the stormwater pond excavations. By late December the 1st phase of construction was complete with the ponds formed and constructed. The contractor began driving piles in late January and began installing underground piping in early February. At the March meeting, the Commission approved an increase to the engineering services budget and learned the construction budget is currently tracking well under budget. The change order resulting from the City of Minneapolis' request to replace a city sewer pipe resulted in extra design/engineering costs that were approved by the Administrator so work could continue without delays. The MPRB will reimburse the Commission for those extra costs and will, in-turn, be paid by the city. In early May construction was focused in the Morgan / Laurel intersection. The right-of-way storm sewer work is complete including the rerouting of some of the existing storm infrastructure and installation of the stormwater diversion structures. Construction of the ponds is complete and stormwater from the neighborhood to the west is now being routed through new storm sewers to the ponds. Vegetation is currently being established around the ponds. At the October meeting the Commission approved an amendment to the agreement with MPRB and Minneapolis in order to facilitate grant closeout. At the December meeting the Commission approved a partial reimbursement to MPRB for \$400,000. Corrections to a weir that was installed at the wrong elevation are currently being developed. Commission Engineers are evaluating options to correct it. Project website: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/bryn-mawr-meadows-water-quality-improvement-project>

2020 Jevne Park Stormwater Improvement Project (ML-21) Medicine Lake (No change since July): At their meeting in July 2018, the Commission approved a proposal from the Commission Engineer to prepare a feasibility study for this project. The study got underway last fall and the city's project team met on multiple occasions with the Administrator and Commission Engineer. The Administrator and Engineer also presented the draft feasibility study to the Medicine Lake City Council on February 4, 2019 and a public open house was held on February 28th. The feasibility study was approved at the April Commission meeting with intent to move forward with option 1. The city's project team is continuing to assess the project and understand its implications on city finances, infrastructure, and future management. The city received proposals from 3 engineering firms for project design and construction. At their meeting on August 5th, the Medicine Lake City Council voted to continue moving forward with the project and negotiating the terms of the agreement with BCWMC. Staff was directed to continue negotiations on the agreement and plan to order the project pending a public hearing at this meeting. Staff continues to correspond with the city's project team and city consultants regarding language in the agreement. The BCWMC held a public hearing on this project on September 19, 2019 and received comments from residents both in favor and opposed to the project. The project was officially ordered on September 19, 2019. On October 4, 2019, the Medicine Lake City Council took action not to move forward with the project. At their meeting in October 2019, the Commission moved to table discussion on the project. The project remains on the 2020 CIP list. In a letter dated January 3, 2022, the city of Medicine Lake requested that the Commission direct its engineer to analyze alternatives to the Jevne Park Project that could result in the same or similar pollutant removals and/or stormwater storage capacity. At the March meeting, the Commission directed the Commission Engineer to prepare a scope and budget for the alternatives analysis which were presented and discussed at the April 2022 meeting. No action was taken at that meeting to move forward with alternatives analysis. In May and June 2023, Commission staff discussed the possibility of incorporating stormwater management features into a redevelopment of Jevne Park currently being considered by the City of Medicine Lake. After review of the preliminary park design plans, the Commission Engineer and I recommended implementation of the original CIP Project to the City. Project webpage: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=467>.

2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project and Carp Management, Golden Valley (SL-3) (No change since July): Repairs to the baffle structure were made in 2017 after anchor weights pulled away from the bottom of the pond and some vandalism occurred in 2016. The city continues to monitor the baffle and check the anchors, as needed. Vegetation around the pond was planted in 2016 and a final inspection of the vegetation was completed last fall. Once final vegetation has been completed, erosion control will be pulled and the contract will be closed. The Commission Engineer began the Schaper Pond Effectiveness Monitoring Project last summer and presented results and recommendations at the May 2018 meeting. Additional effectiveness monitoring is being performed this summer. At the July meeting the Commission Engineer reported that over 200 carp were discovered in the pond during a recent carp survey. At the September meeting the Commission approved the Engineer's recommendation to perform a more in-depth survey of carp including transmitters to learn where and when carp are moving through the system. At the October 2020 meeting, the Commission received a report on the carp surveys and recommendations for carp removal and management. Carp removals were performed through the Sweeney Lake Water Quality Improvement Project. Results were presented at the February 2021 meeting along with a list of options for long term carp control. Commission took action approving evaluation of the long-term options to be paid from this Schaper Pond Project. Commission and Golden Valley staff met in March 2021 to further discuss pros and cons of various options. At the September 2021 meeting, the Commission approved utilizing an adaptive management approach to carp management in the pond (\$8,000) and directed staff to discuss use of stocking panfish to predate carp eggs. Commission Engineers will survey the carp in 2022. At the April meeting, the Commission approved panfish stocking in Schaper Pond along with a scope and budget for carp removals to be implemented later in 2022 if needed. Commission staff informed lake association and city about summer activities and plans for a fall alum treatment. Approximately 1,000 bluegills were released into Schaper Pond in late May. Carp population assessments by electroshocking in Sweeney Lake and Schaper Pond were completed last summer. A report on the carp assessment was presented in January. Monitoring in Schaper Pond in 2023 and a reassessment of carp populations in 2024 were approved in early 2023. Carp box netting in 2024 is also approved, as needed. Water monitoring in the pond is underway summer 2023, although the lack of precipitation is making for a challenging year to gather data! Project webpage: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=277>.

2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2): (No change since June 2018) At their March 2015 meeting, the Commission approved the project specifications and directed the city to finalize specifications and solicit bids for the project. The contract was awarded to HAB Aquatic Solutions. The alum treatment spanned two days: May 18- 19, 2015 with 15,070 gallons being applied. Water temperatures and water pH stayed within the desired ranges for the treatment. Early transparency data from before and after the treatment indicates a change in Secchi depth from 1.2 meters before the treatment to 4.8 meters on May 20th. There were no complaints or comments from residents during or since the treatment.

Water monitoring continues to determine if and when a second alum treatment is necessary. Lake monitoring results from 2017 were presented at the June 2018 meeting. Commissioners agreed with staff recommendations to keep the CIP funding remaining for this project as a 2nd treatment may be needed in the future. Project webpage: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=278>.

2013 Four Seasons Area Water Quality Project (NL-2) (No change since Nov): At their meeting in December 2016, the Commission took action to contribute up to \$830,000 of Four Seasons CIP funds for stormwater management at the Agora development on the old Four Seasons Mall location. At their February 2017 meeting the Commission approved an agreement with Rock Hill Management (RHM) and an agreement with the City of Plymouth allowing the developer access to a city-owned parcel to construct a wetland restoration project and to ensure ongoing maintenance of the CIP project components. At the August 2017 meeting, the Commission approved the 90% design plans for the CIP portion of the project. At the April 2018 meeting, Commissioner Prom notified the Commission that RHM recently disbanded its efforts to purchase the property for redevelopment. In 2019, a new potential buyer/developer (Dominium) began preparing plans for redevelopment at the site. City staff, the Commission Engineer and I have met on numerous occasions with the developer and their consulting engineers to discuss stormwater management and opportunities with "above and beyond" pollutant reductions. Concurrently, the Commission attorney has been working to draft an agreement to transfer BCWMC CIP funds for the above and beyond treatment. At their meeting in December, Dominium shared preliminary project plans and the Commission discussed the redevelopment and potential "above and beyond" stormwater management techniques. At the April 2020 meeting, the Commission conditionally approved the 90% project plans. The agreements with Dominium and the city of Plymouth to construct the project were approved May 2020 and project designers coordinated with Commission Engineers to finalize plans per conditions. In June 2021,

the City of Plymouth purchased the property from Walmart. The TAC discussed a potential plan for timing of construction of the stormwater management BMPs by the city in advance of full redevelopment. At the August 2021 meeting, the Commission approved development of an agreement per TAC recommendations. The city recently demolished the mall building and removed much of the parking lot. At the December meeting the Commission approved the 90% design plans and a concept for the city to build the CIP project ahead of development and allow the future developer to take credit for the total phosphorus removal over and above 100 pounds. At the July meeting, the Commission approved an agreement with the city to design, construct, and maintain the CIP project components and allow a future developer to use pollutant removal capacity above 100 pounds of total phosphorus. A fully executed agreement is now filed. The updated 90% project plans were approved at the September meeting. Unfortunately, city staff recently indicated that due to permitting inconsistencies with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the project will not be built this winter as planned. The city is now planning to construct the project in the fall and winter of 2024. Project webpage: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=282>.

2021 Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Project (PL-7) (No change since December): The feasibility study for this project was approved in May 2020 with Alternative 3 being approved for the drainage improvement work. After a public hearing was held with no public in attendance, the Commission ordered the project on September 17, 2020 and entered an agreement with the city of Plymouth to implement the project in coordination with commission staff. City staff and I have had an initial conversation about this project. The city plans to collect additional chloride data this winter in order to better pinpoint the source of high chlorides loads within the subwatershed. Partners involved in the Hennepin County Chloride Initiative (HCCI) are interested in collaborating on this project. A proposal from Plymouth and BCWMC for the “Parkers Lake Chloride Project Facilitation Plan” was approved for \$20,750 in funding by the HCCI at their meeting in March. The project will 1) Compile available land use data and chloride concentrations, 2) Develop consensus on the chloride sources to Parkers Lake and potential projects to address these sources, and 3) Develop a recommendation for a future pilot project to reduce chloride concentrations in Parkers Lake, which may be able to be replicated in other areas of Hennepin County, and 4) help target education and training needs by landuse. A series of technical stakeholder meetings were held last fall and winter to develop recommendations on BMPs. A technical findings report was presented at the July 2022 meeting. At the September 2022 meeting, the Commission approved a scope and budget for a study of the feasibility of in-lake chloride reduction activities which was presented at the November meeting. Following direction from the Commission, Commission staff are preparing a scope for a holistic plan for addressing chloride runoff from the most highly contributing subwatershed. That scope will be presented at a future meeting. Project website: www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/parkers-lake-drainage-improvement-project

2022 Medley Park Stormwater Treatment Facility (ML-12) (No change since July): The feasibility study for this project is complete after the Commission Engineer’s scope of work was approved last August. City staff, Commission Engineers and I collaborated on developing materials for public engagement over the fall/early winter. A project kick-off meeting was held in September, an internal public engagement planning meeting was held in October, and a Technical Stakeholder meeting with state agencies was held in November. A [story map of the project](#) was created and a survey to gather input from residents closed in December. Commission Engineers reviewed concepts and cost estimates have been reviewed by city staff and me. Another public engagement session was held in April to showcase and receive feedback on concept designs. The feasibility report was approved at the June meeting with a decision to implement Concept #3. At the July meeting the Commission directed staff to submit a Clean Water Fund grant application, if warranted. A grant application was developed and submitted. Funding decisions are expected in early December. A public hearing on this project was held in September with no members of the public attending. In September, a resolution was approved to officially order the project, submit levy amounts to the county, and enter an agreement with the city to design and construct the project. The city hired Barr Engineering to develop the project designs which are now underway. The BCWMC received a \$300,000 Clean Water Fund grant from BWSR in December 2021 and the grant agreement approved in March 2022. 50% design plans were approved in February 2022 and 90% plans were approved at the May 2022 meeting. Final plans and bid documents were developed by the city’s consultation (Barr Engineering). Construction began in November and winter construction was finished in late January 2023. Activities this spring included completing grading (topsoil adjustments); paving (concrete, bituminous); light pole and fixture install; benches install; site clean up and prep for restoration contractor. In late May, Peterson Companies completed their construction tasks and the project transitioned to Traverse de Sioux for site restoration and planting. A small area of unexpected disturbance from construction was added to the overall area to be restored with native plants through a minor change order. Site restoration, planting, and seeding was completed in late June. www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/medley-park-stormwater-treatment-facility

2022 SEA School-Wildwood Park Flood Reduction Project (BC-2, 3, 8, 10) (No change since December): The feasibility study for this project is complete after the Commission Engineer's scope of work was approved last August. A project kick-off meeting with city staff was held in late November. Meetings with city staff, Robbinsdale Area School representatives, and technical stakeholders were held in December, along with a public input planning meeting. A virtual open house video and comment form were offered to the public including live chat sessions on April 8th. The feasibility study report was approved in June with a decision to implement Concept #3. A public hearing on this project was held in September with no members of the public attending. In September, a resolution was approved to officially order the project, submit levy amounts to the county, and enter an agreement with the city to design and construct the project. The city hired Barr Engineering to develop the project designs which are now underway. A virtual public open house was held February 3rd. 50% Design Plans were approved at the January meeting. A public open house was held September 29th. 90% were approved at the October Commission meeting. Six construction bids were received in late February with several of them under engineer's estimates. The city contracted with Rachel Contracting and construction got underway earlier this spring. By late June excavation was completed and the playground area was prepped and ready for concrete work to begin on July 5. Bids were open for the SEA School/Wildwood Park restoration project on June 20. Three bids were received and two came in right around our estimate. The city is recommending the low bidder (Landbridge Ecological). At the end of July utility crews lowered the watermain and installed the storm sewer diversions into the park from along Duluth Street. The hydrodynamic separator was also set (with a crane). Crews also worked on the iron-enhanced sand filter and the outlet installation, stone work on the steepened slopes, trail prep, bituminous paving, and concrete work (curb and gutter, pads, and ADA ramps). The preconstruction meeting for the restoration work was held with work to begin late August or early September. The city awarded the contract for the DeCola Pond D outlet work to Bituminous Roadways Inc. in August. The SEA School site construction is complete and restoration work is complete for the season. The DeCola Pond D outlet replacement and site restoration is also now complete.

Project webpage: www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/sea-school-wildwood-park-flood-reduction-project.

Bassett Creek Restoration Project: Regent Ave. to Golden Valley Rd. (2024 CR-M), Golden Valley (No change since Nov):

A feasibility study for this project got underway in fall 2022. A public open house was held March 1st with 30 residents attending. The draft feasibility report was presented at the April meeting. A final feasibility report was presented at the June meeting where the Commission approved the implementation of Alternative 3: to restore all high, medium, and low priority sites. A Clean Water Fund grant application for \$350,000 was recently developed and submitted to BWSR. The Commission held a public hearing on this project at its September meeting and officially ordered the project and set the final levy. An agreement with the City of Golden Valley to implement the project was drafted by the Commission Attorney and is being reviewed by city staff. Project website: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/bassett-creek-restoration-project-regent-ave-golden-valley-r>

Ponderosa Woods Stream Restoration Project, Plymouth (ML-22) (No change since Nov) A feasibility study for this project got underway in fall 2022. A public open house was held February 13th with 3 residents attending. The draft feasibility report was presented at the May meeting and additional information was presented at the June meeting where the Commission approved implementing Alternative 1.5. The Commission held a public hearing on this project at its September meeting and officially ordered the project, set the final levy, and approved an agreement with the City of Plymouth for project implementation. Plymouth staff have drafted a Request for Proposals for engineering firms that will go out soon. Design and construction are planned for 2024. Project website: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/ponderosa-woods-stream-restoration-project>.

Sochacki Park Water Quality Improvement Project (BC-14) (No change since Nov) This project is proposed to be added to the CIP through a minor plan amendment as approved at the March Commission meeting with CIP funding set at \$600,000. The project involves a suite of projects totaling an estimated \$2.3M aimed improving the water quality in three ponds and Bassett Creek based on a subwatershed analysis by Three Rivers Park District (TRPD). A memorandum of understanding about the implementation process, schedules, and procedural requirements for the project was executed in April among BCWMC, TRPD, and the cities of Golden Valley and Robbinsdale. A feasibility study is underway for the project and is being funded by TRPD. The feasibility study kick off meeting was held June 5th. Information on the project and an update on the feasibility study was presented at the June meeting. A technical stakeholder meeting was held July 10th. A public open house was held July 26th and a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was recently completed. The draft feasibility study was presented at the August meeting and the final feasibility study was approved at the September meeting. The Commission held a public hearing on this project at its September meeting and officially ordered the project and set the final levy. The

Sochacki Park Joint Powers Organization is meeting in the coming weeks and will get an update on the project. Project partners plan to meet after that to further discuss design and construction sequencing, funding availability, and cooperative agreement options. Project webpage: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/sochacki-park-water-quality-improvement-project>.

Plymouth Creek Restoration Project Dunkirk Lane to 38th Ave. North (2026 CR-P): A scope and budget for a feasibility study was approved at the October meeting. A project kick off meeting was held November 3rd and a technical stakeholder meeting was held December 5th. Field investigations and desktop analyses are complete. The hydrologic modeling is underway along with development of design concepts. A project webpage was created: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/plymouth-creek-restoration-dunkirk-lane-38th-ave-n>.

Administrator Activities December 14, 2023 – January 11, 2024

| Subject | Work Progress |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| CIP and Technical Projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project</u>: Corresponded with Commission Attorneys re: settlement payment; received payment and mailed to Redpath for deposit; assisted with drafting final project report and posted final report online • <u>Plymouth Creek Restoration Project Dunkirk to 38th Ave. N</u>: Reviewed notes from technical stakeholder meeting • <u>Parkers Lake Drainage Improvement Project</u>: Posted final report online; closed out project • <u>Mt. Olivet Stream Restoration Project</u>: Posted final report online; closed out project • <u>Medicine Lake TMDL Status Assessment Study</u>: Arranged for in person project kick off meeting |
| Education and Outreach | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corresponded with watershed map contractor and Commission Engineer re: GIS data and map configuration, fonts, etc. • Reviewed meeting materials and participated in West Metro Water Alliance meeting • Reviewed work plan for Low Salt, No Salt MN outreach campaign in Parkers Lake subwatershed by West Metro Water Alliance education coordinator |
| Administration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed agenda; reviewed invoices and submitted expenses spreadsheet to Redpath; developed Administrator’s report; reviewed bank statements, investment statements and financial report; drafted December meeting minutes; reviewed memos, reports, documents and presentations for Commission meeting; printed and disseminated meeting information to commissioners, staff, and TAC; updated online calendar; drafted meeting follow up email; ordered catering for January Commission meeting • Participated in pre-meeting call with Commission Engineer and Chair Cesnik • Participated in call with Alternate Commissioner Harwell, Minnetonka staff, and Commission Engineer re: project in Minnetonka and floodplain terminology in review memo • Corresponded with S. Virnig, Plymouth staff, Wells Fargo representatives, and Redpath staff re: transferring account access • Provided updated commissioner information to State Campaign Finance Department • Developed fiscal resolutions for funds transfers for January meeting • Submitted comment letter to MPCA on 2024 draft impaired waters list, and corresponded with Commission Engineers and MPCA staff regarding Crane Lake listing status • Developed and sent 2024 city assessment invoices to all cities • Communicated with Sweeney Lake Association, Commission Engineers and Hennepin County staff re: AIS grant for Eurasian watermilfoil control in Sweeney; developed and submitted grant application • Updated online calendar, CIP pages, commission roster • Spoke with Commissioner Welch re: future implementation capacity of Commission • Spoke with Commissioner Carlson re: Medicine Lake TMDL assessment and future implementation of Commission • Corresponded with Met council and City of Minneapolis re: WOMP station location • Drafted memo on JPA update project |
| MN Watersheds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in MN Association of Watershed Administrators executive committee meeting • Assisted with developing agenda and corresponding with speakers for Metro Watershed meeting |
| 2025 Watershed Management Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Commission Engineers for bi-weekly check in meetings • Drafted meeting minutes for December PSC meeting • Participated in 12/15 Plan TAC meeting and drafted meeting notes • Prepared agenda and assisted with preparing materials for January PSC meeting; attended meeting • Developed and sent agenda and materials for January 18th Commission workshop |



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

MEMO

To: BCWMC Commissioners, Alternate Commissioners, TAC Members
From: Laura Jester, Administrator
Date: January 5, 2024

RE: January 18th Watershed Management Plan Development Workshop Agenda and Materials

During the regular BCWMC meeting on January 18th, we'll hold a whole-Commission workshop to review recommendations from the Plan Steering Committee on some of the draft issue statements and goals for the 2025 Watershed Management Plan.

The watershed plan is the most important document you will help develop in your tenure as a commissioner. The plan will guide every aspect of the Commission's work for ten years 2025 – 2035. Commissioner input on the issues and goals discussed at this workshop is a critical step in the plan development process. The issues and goals provide the basis for developing the rest of the plan - where the BCWMC will prioritize its work, the policies it will set in place, and the level of time, effort, and funding that will go into implementation of projects and programs. Ultimately, implementation of the plan will result in improvements in water resources.

Attached here is an outline of the workshop agenda with materials to review ahead of time and questions to consider.

Workshop Outline (approximately 90 minutes)

1. Introduction and background information (see attached)
 - Plan process and timeline
 - Stakeholder input
 - Prioritized watershed issues
2. Small group discussions: review and discuss draft issue statements, desired future conditions, and 10-year goals. Note that these are all part of the “Waterbody & Watershed Quality” issue category (see attached starting page 6)
 - Review and discuss sections in orange:
 - i. Issue Statement: Brief statement defining the problem and why it should be addressed. (Additional context about the issue will be included in the narrative of the plan.)
 - ii. Desired Future Condition: This is the overarching, long-range goal related to the issue but not a goal that can necessarily be reached within the 10-year life of the plan.
 - iii. 10-year Goal: This is a measurable outcome that should be attainable within the life of the plan for distinct waterbodies, resources, or watersheds.
 - Consider these questions about the 10-year goals as you review and discuss:
 - i. Which goals are you most excited to get working on?
 - ii. Are there any goals that make you nervous or give you pause?
 - iii. What are you still curious about? Where do you need more information?
 - iv. Are there any local issues or goals missing?
 - v. If the goals are achieved, will they result in noticeable improvements for ecosystems and communities?
 - vi. Are there any goals that you believe are likely unachievable?
 - Grayed sections won’t be discussed at this workshop - they include a non-exhaustive list of potential strategies, policies, and actions that will be considered in the future when the implementation section of the plan is developed. The PSC keeps a list of these possible strategies as a placeholder for future discussions. The PSC is also finalizing issue statements and goals for the remaining Waterbody and Watershed Quality issues. These are also grayed out.
3. Whole group discussion: report out highlights, questions, key critiques

Plan Development Process

APRIL – DECEMBER 2022

Gather Initial Stakeholder Input

- Hear about issues and concerns from cities
- Get input from agencies, Hennepin County, and technical partners
- Collect input from residents and communities through events and surveys
- Prioritize issues

APRIL 2022 – APRIL 2023

Analyze More Challenging Issues

- Perform gaps analysis
- Gather data and options to address challenging issues

MAY 2023 – DECEMBER 2024

Develop Plan Content

- Define issues and priority resources
- Develop measurable 10-year goals
- Craft targeted policies, programs, and standards
- Develop 10-year implementation schedule and budget

JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2025

Gather Feedback and Finalize Plan

- Submit draft plan for official 60-day review
- Gather feedback and respond to all comments
- Hold public hearing
- Submit plan for final agency review
- Adopt final plan – **TARGET: September 2025**

Timeline and Background

Watershed Plan documents can be found at: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/document/2025-plan-update>

Timeline of Plan Development to Date:

April 2022: Equity in Watershed Management Workshop (materials available online)

April – December 2022: Gathered stakeholder input from member cities, review agencies, an online survey, and a public open house. Input is summarized in this [document](#).

July 2022: [BCWMC Workshop to Identify Issues](#)

February 2023: Public Open House

May 2023: Plan Steering Committee (PSC) begins meeting monthly

August 2023: BCWMC Workshop to Identify and Prioritize Issues - Commissioners approved the Plan Steering Committee’s recommendations on issue categories, identified issues and their priority level (see below)

December 2023: Plan TAC meeting (including review agencies and member cities) to discuss issues and goals

| Issue Category | Item ID | Issue Title and Description | Priority Level |
|-------------------------------|---------|---|----------------|
| Waterbody & Watershed Quality | 1 | Impaired waterbodies – Some lakes and streams within the Bassett Creek watershed do not meet State water quality standards; some are listed as impaired for aquatic life function and recreational due to pollutants such as nutrients, chloride, bacteria, and other stressors. | High |
| | 2 | Chloride loading – High chloride loading from overuse of winter deicers across the Bassett Creek watershed negatively impacts lakes streams, and groundwater water quality. | High |
| | 3 | Streambank and gully erosion – Excessive erosion along streambanks and gullies negatively impacts stream geomorphology, water quality, aquatic habitat, and floodplain function. | Medium |
| | 4 | Lakeshore erosion – Erosion along lake shorelines degrades water quality and negatively impacts lake ecology. | Medium |
| | 5 | Wetland health and restoration – The function, value and quantity of wetlands within the Bassett Creek watershed have been negatively impacted by development and the changing climate. | Medium |
| | 6 | Aquatic invasive species – Aquatic invasive species (AIS) present in the Bassett Creek watershed negatively impact water quality, lake and stream ecology, and climate resiliency. | Medium |
| | 7 | Ground-/surface water interaction – The flow of water between groundwater and lakes, streams, and wetlands complicates the protection, restoration, and responsible management of natural resources. | Medium |
| | 8 | Degradation of riparian areas – Degraded riparian areas allow excess pollutant loading to lakes and streams, contribute to impairments (water quality and biological), and result in poor ecological function and habitat. | Low |
| | 9 | Degradation/loss of upland areas – Natural areas in uplands may be threatened by development pressure, lack of proper management, and negative impacts from climate change. | Low |
| | 10 | Groundwater quality – Groundwater quality impacts public health as a source of drinking water and may be threatened by infiltration of stormwater and associated pollutants. | Low |

Prioritized Issues Continued

| Issue Category | Item ID | Issue Title and Description | Priority Level |
|------------------------------|----------------|--|-----------------------|
| Climate Resiliency | 11 | Impact of climate change on hydrology, water levels, and flood risk – Increasing precipitation amounts, intensities, and drought cycles can increase flood risk and contribute to water level and flow fluctuations that may negatively impact ecology, water quality, and recreation | High |
| | 12 | Bassett Creek Valley stormwater management – Projects in the Bassett Creek Valley would provide an essential opportunity to reduce flood risk and promote implementation of partner-coordinated projects | High |
| | 13 | Groundwater quantity – Groundwater sustainability may be negatively impacted by overuse and loss of recharge | Low |
| Education & Outreach | 14 | Insufficient outreach to and relationships with diverse communities – Additional efforts are needed to reach communities under- represented in past BCWMC planning and projects | Medium |
| | 15 | Protect recreation opportunities – Minnesota Statutes 103B references WMOs’ role in protecting recreation facilities | Low |
| Organizational Effectiveness | 16 | Organizational assessment of capacity and staffing – Current capacity may not be sufficient to achieve intended goals and execute projects and programs | High |
| | 17 | BCWMC funding mechanisms – Assessment of funding sources is necessary to determine if intended actions can be reasonably achieved and goals met | High |
| | 18 | Progress assessment – Rules 8410 require WMOs to assess progress towards measurable goals every 2 years | High |
| | 19 | Projects and programs implemented through a DEI lens – Additional focus is needed to ensure equity in BCWMC projects and programs. | Medium |
| | 20 | Public ditch management – The Plan must address management of three public ditches within BCWMC jurisdiction (per MN Statutes 103B) | Low |
| | 21 | Carbon footprint of BCWMC projects – Carbon released in the construction and ongoing maintenance of BCWMC projects is not currently considered and contributes to climate change | Low |

| Impaired Waters – High Priority | | |
|---|---|--|
| Issue Statement: Some lakes and streams within the Bassett Creek watershed do not meet State water quality standards; some are listed as impaired for aquatic life function and recreational use due to pollutants such as nutrients, chloride, bacteria, and other stressors. | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | POTENTIAL EXAMPLES: Strategy, Action, or Task (<u>underline</u> = new activity) – estimated costs in 2023 dollars |
| Water quality in priority waterbodies meets or is better than applicable State water quality standards | Achieve State eutrophication standard in Medicine Lake (see table) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess TMDL implementation status and existing conditions (\$ TBD; scope being developed) - Manage curly-leaf pondweed in Medicine Lake (\$14,000) - Assess feasibility/perform alum treatment to manage sediment TP load - CIP - Identify and implement stormwater treatment projects in tributary subwatersheds – CIP - <u>Provide education to lake homeowners including shoreland restoration workshops</u> – (\$5,000) - <u>Encourage/fund buffers on private lakeshore property</u> – (\$10,000) - Monitor Medicine Lake water quality (\$14,000 every 3 years) - Review development and redevelopment projects for compliance with BCWMC standards (fee for service) - <u>Ensure compliance with BCWMC standards (enforce/inspect)</u> – (\$ unknown) |
| | Make statistically significant improvement in water quality toward achieving State eutrophication standards (see table) in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Northwood Lake - Lost Lake | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Perform subwatershed analyses for Lost and Northwood Lakes (or cooperate on TMDL)</u> – (one time \$50,000 possible estimate) - Identify and implement stormwater treatment projects in tributary subwatersheds – CIP - <u>Provide education to lake homeowners including shoreland restoration workshops</u> (\$5,000) - <u>Encourage/fund buffers on private lakeshore property</u> - (\$10,000) |

| Impaired Waters – High Priority | | |
|---|---|---|
| Issue Statement: Some lakes and streams within the Bassett Creek watershed do not meet State water quality standards; some are listed as impaired for aquatic life function and recreational use due to pollutants such as nutrients, chloride, bacteria, and other stressors. | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | POTENTIAL EXAMPLES: Strategy, Action, or Task (<u>underline = new activity</u>) – estimated costs in 2023 dollars |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor water quality of Lost and Northwood (\$71,000 every 3 years) - Review development and redevelopment projects for compliance with BCWMC standards – fee for service - <u>Ensure compliance with BCWMC standards (enforce/inspect)</u> – (\$ unknown) |
| | Protect current conditions or improve water quality in priority lakes currently meeting State eutrophication standards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cavanaugh Pond, Crane Lake, Parkers Lake, Sweeney Lake, Twin Lake, Westwood Lake, Wirth Lake, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor water quality of priority waterbodies (\$30,000/lake every 1 to 3 years) - <u>Cooperate on any future TMDLs</u> – (\$ unknown) - Review development and redevelopment projects for compliance with BCWMC standards – fee for service - <u>Ensure compliance with BCWMC standards (enforce/inspect)</u> – (\$ unknown) - Education and outreach to watershed residents (\$46,000 current education programs) |
| | Reduce sources of bacteria to Bassett Creek Main Stem, North Branch Bassett Creek Plymouth Creek, and Sweeney Branch Bassett Creek | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Establish baseline of bacteria concentrations</u> – (\$20,000 possible estimate) - <u>Identify possible sources</u> – (\$20,000 possible estimate) - Install signage regarding pet waste and other best practices to reduce bacterial loading - \$0 (city expense) - Identify and implement projects to improve shoreline integrity along priority streams (indirect benefit) – CIP - Continue to participate in the Metropolitan Council’s watershed outlet monitoring program (WOMP) (\$27,000) - Education and outreach to watershed residents (\$46,000 current education programs) |

| Impaired Waters – High Priority | | |
|---|--|--|
| Issue Statement: Some lakes and streams within the Bassett Creek watershed do not meet State water quality standards; some are listed as impaired for aquatic life function and recreational use due to pollutants such as nutrients, chloride, bacteria, and other stressors. | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | POTENTIAL EXAMPLES: Strategy, Action, or Task (<u>underline</u> = new activity) – estimated costs in 2023 dollars |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote goose management (coordinates with lakeshore management) |
| | Maintain or improve water quality in priority streams to achieve State eutrophication standards (see table) – Bassett Creek Main Stem, North Branch Bassett Creek, Plymouth Creek, and Sweeney Branch Bassett Creek. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and implement projects to improve shoreline integrity along priority streams - CIP - Identify and implement watershed stormwater treatment projects - CIP - Continue to participate in the Metropolitan Council’s watershed outlet monitoring program (WOMP) (\$27,000) - Review development and redevelopment projects for compliance with BCWMC standards – fee for service - <u>Ensure compliance with BCWMC standards (enforce/inspect)</u> – (\$ unknown) - Education and outreach to watershed residents (\$46,000 current education programs) |
| | Maintain total phosphorus loading to the Mississippi River of 0.35 lb/acre/year or less (as defined in the Lake Pepin TMDL) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and implement watershed stormwater treatment projects - CIP - Continue to participate in the Metropolitan Council’s watershed outlet monitoring program (WOMP) (\$27,000) - Review development and redevelopment projects for compliance with BCWMC standards - fee for service - <u>Ensure compliance with BCWMC standards (enforce/inspect)</u> – (\$ unknown) |
| | Maintain or improve macroinvertebrate indices of biological integrity (MIBI) in priority streams (see table) – Bassett Creek Main Stem, North Branch Bassett Creek, Plymouth Creek, and Sweeney Branch Bassett Creek | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Encourage/fund buffers on private riparian property</u> – (\$10,000) - Identify and implement projects to stabilize degraded riparian areas – CIP/channel maintenance funds - Continue MIBI monitoring (\$8,000) |

| Impaired Waters – High Priority | | |
|---|---|---|
| Issue Statement: Some lakes and streams within the Bassett Creek watershed do not meet State water quality standards; some are listed as impaired for aquatic life function and recreational use due to pollutants such as nutrients, chloride, bacteria, and other stressors. | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | POTENTIAL EXAMPLES: Strategy, Action, or Task (<u>underline</u> = new activity) – estimated costs in 2023 dollars |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Data review to identify areas/zones where specific stressors are most significant</u> – (\$10,000 possible estimate) - Incorporate elements to improve in-stream habitat or address stream impairment stressors on all stream-focused BCWMC capital improvement projects - CIP - Review development and redevelopment projects for compliance with BCWMC standards – fee for service - <u>Ensure compliance with BCWMC standards (enforce/inspect)</u> – (\$ unknown) |
| | Maintain or improve lake floristic quality indices (FQIs) and number of species towards achieving State standards for aquatic vegetation in Cavanaugh Pond, Crane Lake, Lost Lake, Medicine Lake, Northwood Lake, Parkers Lake, Sweeney Lake, Twin Lake, Westwood Lake, and Wirth Lake (see table). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vegetation surveys of priority lakes (\$1,500) - In-lake aquatic plant management (e.g., AIS treatment) (see AIS issue below) - Education and outreach to watershed residents (\$46,000 current education programs) |

DRAFT CONTENT for 1/18/23 Commission Workshop – Review & Discuss Orange Cells

Summary of Priority Lake Eutrophication Data vs. State Standards

| Priority Lake | State Std TP (ug/L) | Current Condition TP (ug/L) ¹ | State Std Chl a (ug/L) | Current Condition Chl a (ug/L) ¹ | State Std Secchi (m) | Current Condition Secchi (m) ¹ |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--|------------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| Cavanaugh Pond | 60 | 39 | 20 | 9.1 | ≥1.0 | 1.8 |
| Crane Lake | 60 | 28 | 20 | 7.0 | ≥1.0 | 0.9 ⁴ |
| Lost Lake | 60 | 95 | 20 | 50 | ≥1.0 | 0.8 |
| Medicine Lake ² | 40 | 54 | 14 | 30 | ≥1.4 | 1.8 |
| Northwood Lake | 60 | 223 | 20 | 72 | ≥1.0 | 0.7 |
| Parkers Lake | 40 | 27 | 14 | 11 | ≥1.4 | 2.8 |
| Sweeney Lake ³ | 40 | 34 | 14 | 14 | ≥1.4 | 1.6 |
| Twin Lake | 40 | 15 | 14 | 3.6 | ≥1.4 | 3.5 |
| Westwood Lake | 60 | 32 | 20 | 4.9 | ≥1.0 | 1.3 |
| Wirth Lake | 40 | 28 | 14 | 8.1 | ≥1.4 | 2.8 |

TP = total phosphorus; Chl a = chlorophyll a; SD = Secchi disc transparency

Red = does not meet standard/goal

(1) Based on summer average data collected 2013-2022

(2) Main basin

(3) North basin

(4) Crane Lake Secchi disc depth is limited due to dense aquatic plant growth impeding travel of the Secchi disc

Summary of Priority Stream Water Quality Data vs. State Standards

| Priority Stream | State Std TP (ug/L) | Current Condition TP (ug/L) ¹ | State Std TSS (mg/L) | Current Condition TSS (mg/L) | State Std E. coli (#/100 mL) ² | Current Condition (#/100 mL) |
|------------------------------|---------------------|--|----------------------|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Bassett Creek Main Stem | 100 | 195 | 30 | 19.7 | 126 | 168 |
| North Branch Bassett Creek | 100 | 91 | 30 | 73 | 126 | -- |
| Plymouth Creek | 100 | 227 | 30 | 23.8 | 126 | 853 |
| Sweeney Branch Bassett Creek | 100 | 101 | 30 | 21.4 | 126 | 257 |

TP = total phosphorus; TSS = total suspended solids; E. coli = Escherichia coli

Current condition is based on data collected from: 2013-2022 for Main Stem Bassett Creek, 2018 for North Branch Bassett Creek, 2020 for Sweeney Branch Bassett Creek, and 2022 for Plymouth Creek

Red = does not meet standard/goal

(1) based on summer average values (June through September)

(2) 126 organisms per 100 mL as a geometric mean of not less than five samples within any month, nor shall more than 10% of all samples within a month exceed 1,260 organisms per 100 mL (note that BCWMC monitoring is limited to fewer than 5 samples per month)

(3) A stream is considered impaired if two or more measurements exceed the chronic criterion (230 mg/L) within a 3-year period or if one measurement exceeds the acute criterion (860 mg/L)

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Summary of Priority Stream Macroinvertebrate Data vs. State Standards

| Priority Stream | Location | State Std MIBI | Current Condition MIBI ¹ | Years of Current MIBI |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bassett Creek Main Stem | East of Brookridge | ≥37 | 22.9 | 2015, 2018 |
| Bassett Creek Main Stem | Irving Avenue | ≥37 | 22.0 | 2015, 2018 |
| Bassett Creek Main Stem | Rhode Island Avenue | ≥37 | 17.6 | 2015, 2018 |
| North Branch Bassett Creek | 34 th Street | ≥37 | 23.0 | 2015, 2018 |
| Plymouth Creek | Industrial Park Blvd | ≥37 | 15.9 | 2015, 2022 |
| Sweeney Branch Bassett Creek | Woodstock Avenue | ≥43 | 45.5 | 2015, 2020 |

MIBI = Macroinvertebrate Index of Biological Integrity

State MIBI standards are based on “general use” category for Class 5 southern high-gradient streams (MIBI = 37) or Class 6 southern forest low-gradient stream (MIBI = 43)

Red = does not meet standard/goal

(1) based on average of listed years

Summary of Priority Lake Floristic Quality Index (FQI) and Species Richness vs. State Standards

| Priority Lake | State Std FQI | Most Recent FQI ¹ | 10-year Average FQI ² | State Std Species Richness | Most Recent Species Richness ¹ | 10-year Average Species Richness ² | Year of Most Recent Data | Years of Average Data |
|----------------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Cavanaugh Pond | >17.8 | 25.0 | 25.0 | 11 | 19 | 19 | 2019 | 2019 |
| Crane Lake | >17.8 | 18.6 | 18.8 | 11 | 13.5 | 14 | 2021 | 2016, 2021 |
| Lost Lake | >17.8 | 20.6 | 11.8 | 11 | 8.0 | 14.5 | 2022 | 2017, 2022 |
| Medicine Lake | >18.6 | 27.6 | 25.3 | 12 | 21 | 23.5 | 2020 | 2016, 2020 |
| Northwood Lake | >17.8 | 14.1 | 14.5 | 11 | 11.2 | 11 | 2022 | 2016, 2019, 2022 |
| Parkers Lake | >18.6 | 19.5 | 18.9 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 2021 | 2018, 2021 |
| Sweeney Lake | >18.6 | 25.2 | 21.7 | 12 | 15.3 | 19.5 | 2020 | 2014, 2017, 2019, 2020 |
| Twin Lake | >18.6 | 28.3 | 24.7 | 12 | 19 | 23 | 2020 | 2014, 2017, 2019, 2020 |
| Westwood Lake | >17.8 | 20.1 | 19.0 | 11 | 13.7 | 15.5 | 2021 | 2015, 2018, 2021 |
| Wirth Lake | >17.8 | -- | -- | 11 | -- | -- | -- | -- |

FQI = Floristic Quality Index; FQI is a measure of the quality of aquatic vegetation

Red = does not meet standard/goal based on 10-year average FQI

(1) Reflects the average of June and August measurements during the most recent monitoring year

(2) Reflects average of all measurements in the 10-year period from 2014-2023

| Chloride Loading – High Priority | | |
|---|--|---|
| Issue Statement: High chloride loading from overuse of winter deicers across the Bassett Creek watershed negatively impacts lakes streams, and groundwater water quality. | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity) |
| Priority waterbodies meet applicable State chloride standards | Reduce chloride loading to and concentrations in lakes and streams at risk of chloride impairment and those not meeting State standards. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Perform subwatershed analyses for chloride-impaired lakes to identify pollution hotspots and to target implementation</u> – (\$75,000 possible estimate) - <u>Aside from the above, identify waterbodies and/or subwatersheds at greatest risk to chloride pollution or impairment (overlays?)</u> – (\$10,000 possible estimate) - <u>Incentivize/require Smart Salt training</u> – (\$2,000) - <u>Require winter maintenance plans for applicable projects/locations</u> –\$0 - <u>Develop/identify/require(?) design strategies to minimize salt use</u> –(\$10,000 possible estimate) - <u>Update development and redevelopment standards (watershed-wide or select areas?)</u> – (\$ unknown; could do during plan development) - <u>Develop plans for priority waterbodies similar to Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Study</u> – (\$45,000 per lake) - <u>Education targeted to private applicators</u> – (\$10,000) - Monitor chlorides in priority waterbodies (\$ included with monitoring budgets) - <u>Provide or improve methods for residents to report oversalting</u> – |
| | Reduce average chloride concentrations in Bassett Creek by 10% at the Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP) station. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>All action items from goal above</i> |

DRAFT CONTENT for 1/18/23 Commission Workshop – Review & Discuss Orange Cells

Summary of Priority Lake Chloride Data vs. State Standards

| Priority Waterbody | State Chronic Std Chloride (mg/L) | Current Condition Average Chloride ¹ (mg/L) | State Acute Std Chloride (mg/L) | Current Condition Maximum Chloride ² (mg/L) | Number of Observations |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Cavanaugh Pond | 230 | 59 | 860 | 70 | 12 |
| Crane Lake ⁴ | 230 | 718 | 860 | 820 | 6 |
| Lost Lake | 230 | 31 | 860 | 33 | 12 |
| Medicine Lake | 230 | 162 | 860 | 375 | 318 |
| Northwood Lake | 230 | 104 | 860 | 274 | 12 |
| Parkers Lake ⁴ | 230 | 257 | 860 | 716 | 103 |
| Sweeney Lake ⁴ | 230 | 276 | 860 | 371 | 48 |
| Twin Lake | 230 | 117 | 860 | 139 | 26 |
| Westwood Lake | 230 | 81 | 860 | 99 | 12 |
| Wirth Lake | 230 | 200 | 860 | 512 | 306 |
| Bassett Creek Main Stem ^{3,4} | 230 | 165 | 860 | 664 | 259 |
| North Branch Bassett Creek | 230 | 88 | 860 | 219 | 12 |
| Plymouth Creek | 230 | 180 | 860 | 382 | 25 |
| Sweeney Branch Bassett Creek | 230 | 218 | 860 | 348 | 18 |

Red = does not meet standard/goal

(1) Based on all measurements 2013-2022

(2) Based on maximum concentration observed between 2013-2022

(3) As measured at watershed outlet monitoring program (WOMP) location

(4) A stream is considered impaired if two or more measurements exceed the chronic criterion within a 3-year period or if one measurement exceeds the acute criterion

| Streambank and Gully Erosion – Medium Priority | | |
|---|---|---|
| Issue Statement: Excessive erosion along streambanks and gullies negatively impacts stream geomorphology, water quality, aquatic habitat, and floodplain function. | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity) |
| Streambanks and gullies throughout the watershed are naturally stable with no excessive erosion that negatively impact the beneficial functions of waterbodies or infrastructure. | <p>Achieve stable streambanks along all priority streams (Bassett Creek Main Stem, North Branch Bassett Creek, Plymouth Creek, and Sweeney Branch Bassett Creek) such that streambanks are not contributing to pollution downstream nor threatening infrastructure or public health.</p> <p>Stabilize gullies that most significantly contribute to reduced water quality downstream.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor and evaluate stream habitat and macroinvertebrate communities. (\$8,000/creek) - <u>Biennially assess the condition of streambanks along BCWMC priority streams and prioritize areas for action</u> – (\$25,000 possible estimate) - <u>Monitor and evaluate impact of eroding streambanks and gullies on water quality in downstream impaired waters including lakes and streams partially</u> new activity (\$ unknown) - Identify and implement streambank restoration projects to stabilize banks, limit erosion, and improve ecological health - CIP - Continue setting aside funds in Channel Maintenance Fund – (\$25,000) - Require vegetated buffers adjacent to priority streams for projects triggering BCWMC review (ensure enforcement of existing stream buffer standards) \$0 |

| Lakeshore Erosion – Medium Priority | | |
|---|--|---|
| Issue Statement: Erosion along lake shorelines degrades water quality and negatively impacts lake ecology. | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity) |
| Shorelines along priority lakes have buffers with native vegetation and no excessive erosion. | <p>Establish a baseline of lakeshore conditions along all priority lakes.</p> <p>Increase percentage of properties with native buffers on nutrient impaired lakes.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Inventory lakeshore conditions in priority lakes</u> – (\$10,000/lake) - <u>Education to lake homeowners w/ shoreland restoration workshops</u> – (\$5,000) - <u>Encourage/fund buffers on public or private lakeshore property</u> – (\$10,000) - Sponsor vegetated buffer project for purpose of public education for shoreland property owners and general public (need more info) - Support existing city/partner programs to stabilize shorelines |

| Wetland Health and Restoration – Medium Priority | | |
|---|---|---|
| Issue Statement: The function, value and quantity of wetlands within the Bassett Creek watershed have been negatively impacted by development and the changing climate. | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity) |
| Wetland function and values are sustained and enhanced, and no additional wetland acres are lost to development. | Establish baseline wetland conditions through watershed wide wetland inventory and assessment; identify priority wetlands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inventory wetlands and their conditions throughout watershed - Require vegetated buffers adjacent to wetlands for projects triggering BCWMC review \$0 - <u>Ensure enforcement of existing wetland buffer standard</u> – (\$ unknown) - Assist partners with education to residents on wetland health and native buffers – (\$46,000 current education programs) |
| | Restore or enhance priority wetlands as opportunities arise or adjacent CIP projects are planned | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with cities to create list of priority wetlands in need of restoration - Encourage cities to restore or enhance wetlands during city projects or through development processes - \$0 - Identify opportunities for wetland restoration and enhancement through BCWMC CIP projects |

| Aquatic Invasive Species – Medium Priority | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Issue Statement: Aquatic invasive species (AIS) present in the Bassett Creek watershed negatively impact water quality, lake and stream ecology, and climate resiliency. | | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity) | |
| No new AIS infestations in lakes or creeks. Existing AIS are eradicated or well under control. | Prevent new AIS infestations in lakes or creeks throughout the watershed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement BCWMC’s aquatic plant management/aquatic invasive species (APM/AIS) policies (\$40,000) - Assist TRPD, Hennepin County, and others with AIS inspection programs (\$5,000) - Work with partners and agencies to identify and track emerging AIS threats – (\$ unknown) - Work with Hennepin County, member cities, and other partners to provide signage, education, and early detection training to residents, boaters, anglers, and lakeshore landowners (\$46,000 current education programs) | |
| | Mitigate the impact of existing AIS infestations through application of BCWMC policies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement BCWMC’s aquatic plant management/ aquatic invasive species (APM/AIS) policies (\$40,000) - Work with TRPD and MnDNR to manage and assess curly-leaf pondweed, starry stonewort, and zebra mussels in Medicine Lake (included in \$40,000 above) - Follow AIS Rapid Response Plan when needed - \$ unknown | |

| Groundwater – Surface Water Interactions – Medium Priority | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Issue Statement: The flow of water between groundwater and lakes, streams, and wetlands complicates the protection, restoration, and responsible management of natural resources. | | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity) | |
| Areas with groundwater – surface interaction are identified and negative impacts due to interaction are minimized. Hennepin County develops and implements county groundwater plan. | Evaluate the groundwater-surface water interaction characteristics of BCWMC priority waterbodies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Work with Met Council or other agencies to map groundwatersheds and evaluate groundwater-surface water interactions</u> – (\$50,000 possible estimate) - <u>Lobby Hennepin County to develop county-wide groundwater management plan (similar to Dakota and Washington Counties)</u> - \$0 | |
| | Consider and mitigate negative impacts of groundwater-surface water interactions during development and project implementation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Assist with development of regional or statewide policies regarding infiltration of stormwater</u> – (\$5,000 possible estimate) - Through BCWMC Requirements Document: maintain requirements detailing circumstances where stormwater infiltration is limited or prohibited for the protection of groundwater resources (consistent with the MPCA Construction Stormwater General Permit) – fee for service - Consider updating BWCMC requirements so infiltration is also consistent with MDH guidance | |

| Degradation of Riparian Areas – Low Priority | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Issue Statement: Degraded riparian areas allow excess pollutant loading to lakes and streams, contribute to impairments (water quality and biological), and result in poor ecological function and habitat. | | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity)) | |
| Riparian areas throughout the watershed are ecologically healthy with well established, diverse native vegetation. | Establish and maintain vegetated stream buffers where required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Require vegetated buffers adjacent to priority streams for projects triggering BCWMC review (ensure enforcement of existing stream buffer standard –\$ unknown)</u> - <u>Provide education to creek homeowners including riparian protection/ restoration workshops –(\$5,000)</u> | |
| | Restore degraded riparian areas along BCWMC CIP projects. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Assess the condition of riparian areas on BCWMC priority streams and lakes and prioritize areas for action – (\$ included in activities under other issues) [determine where this activity would apply – along all waters or only where CIP projects are proposed?]</u> - Incorporate elements to improve riparian areas on all stream-focused and lake-adjacent BCWMC capital improvement projects. - CIP | |

| Degradation of Upland Areas – Low Priority | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Issue Statement: Natural areas in uplands may be threatened by development pressure, lack of proper management, and negative impacts from climate change. | | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity) | |
| <p>Natural areas throughout the watershed are well managed, ecologically healthy, and accessible to the public, where possible. High quality uplands are not lost or negatively impacted by development projects.</p> | <p>Consider protection or enhancement of upland natural areas during BCWMC planning and projects.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluate aesthetics, habitat, and accessibility during CIP project selection and prioritization - CIP - Encourage and support public and private landowners to maintain, preserve or restore open space and native habitats (\$46,000 current education programs) - Member cities shall consider opportunities to maintain, enhance, or provide new open spaces and/or habitat. \$0 - Cooperate with the MDNR and other entities, as requested, to protect rare and endangered species under the State’s Endangered Species Statute. The BCWMC will review the Natural Heritage Information System during the design phase of Commission projects - CIP - Incorporate trails, parks, and natural areas into BCWMC watershed map. (to be included with current map update) | |

| Groundwater Quality – Low Priority | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Issue Statement: Groundwater quality impacts public health as a source of drinking water and may be threatened by infiltration of stormwater and associated pollutants. | | | |
| Desired Future Condition | Goal (10-year) | Strategy, Action, or Task (some potential examples; <u>underline</u> = new activity) | |
| Groundwater is safe to drink, meets all drinking water standards, and is not adversely impacted by elevated chloride levels. | Prevent negative impacts to groundwater quality from proposed projects reviewed by the BCWMC. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through BCWMC Requirements Document: maintain requirements detailing circumstances where stormwater infiltration is limited or prohibited for the protection of groundwater resources (consisted with the MPCA Construction Stormwater General Permit) – fee for service - Review all MDNR groundwater appropriation permit applications in the BCWMC excluding applications for temporary appropriations permits - \$3,000 | |
| | Prevent negative impacts to groundwater quality from BCWMC projects. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CIP projects are evaluated for potential impacts to groundwater before implementation. - CIP | |