



Elm Creek
Watershed Management Commission
2018 Annual Activity Report

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This report was prepared
for the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission
by JASS, Inc.
For more information about this report, contact Judie@jass.biz

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of:
James Kujawa, Jason Swenson, Mary Karius and Kirsten Barta, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE)
Brian Vlach and Amy Timm, Three Rivers Park District

Cover photographs:
Plymouth Elm Creek Restoration Project
Ben Scharenbroich, City of Plymouth

This annual activity report, prepared by the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission in accordance with the annual reporting requirements of Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410.0150 Subp. 2-3, summarizes the activities undertaken by the Commission during calendar year 2018.

THE COMMISSION

The Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was established to protect and manage the natural resources of the Elm Creek watershed. A Board of Commissioners comprised of representatives appointed by the member communities was established as the governing body of the Commission. Its members are the cities of Champlin, Corcoran, Dayton, Maple Grove, Medina, Plymouth, and Rogers.

MEETINGS The Commission meets monthly on the second Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at Maple Grove City Hall, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway. The meetings are open to the public and visitors are welcome. Meeting notices, agendas and approved minutes are posted on the Commission’s website. www.elmcreekwatershed.org.

COMMISSIONERS | TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE | STAFF *Appendix 1* includes the names of the Commissioners and their Alternates appointed to serve in 2018. Also listed there are the members of the Commission’s Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) along with the individuals/firms serving as the Commission’s administrative, legal and technical support staff. The Commission has no employees.

THE WATERSHED

The Elm Creek watershed covers approximately 130.61 square miles and lies wholly within the north central part of Hennepin County, Minnesota. The Crow and Mississippi Rivers demarcate the northern boundary. Although some areas in the north drain to the Crow and Mississippi Rivers, they are within the legal boundaries of the Elm Creek watershed. Table 1 shows the area share of the member communities in the watershed. A map of the watershed may be viewed on the following page.

Table 1 - Area of Members within the Elm Creek Watershed

Local Government Unit	Area (Square Miles)	%age of Watershed
Champlin	3.08	2.36%
Corcoran	36.06	27.61%
Dayton	25.17	19.27%
Maple Grove	26.32	20.15%
Medina	9.34	7.15%
Plymouth	4.44	3.40%
Rogers	26.20	20.06%
Total	130.61	100.0%

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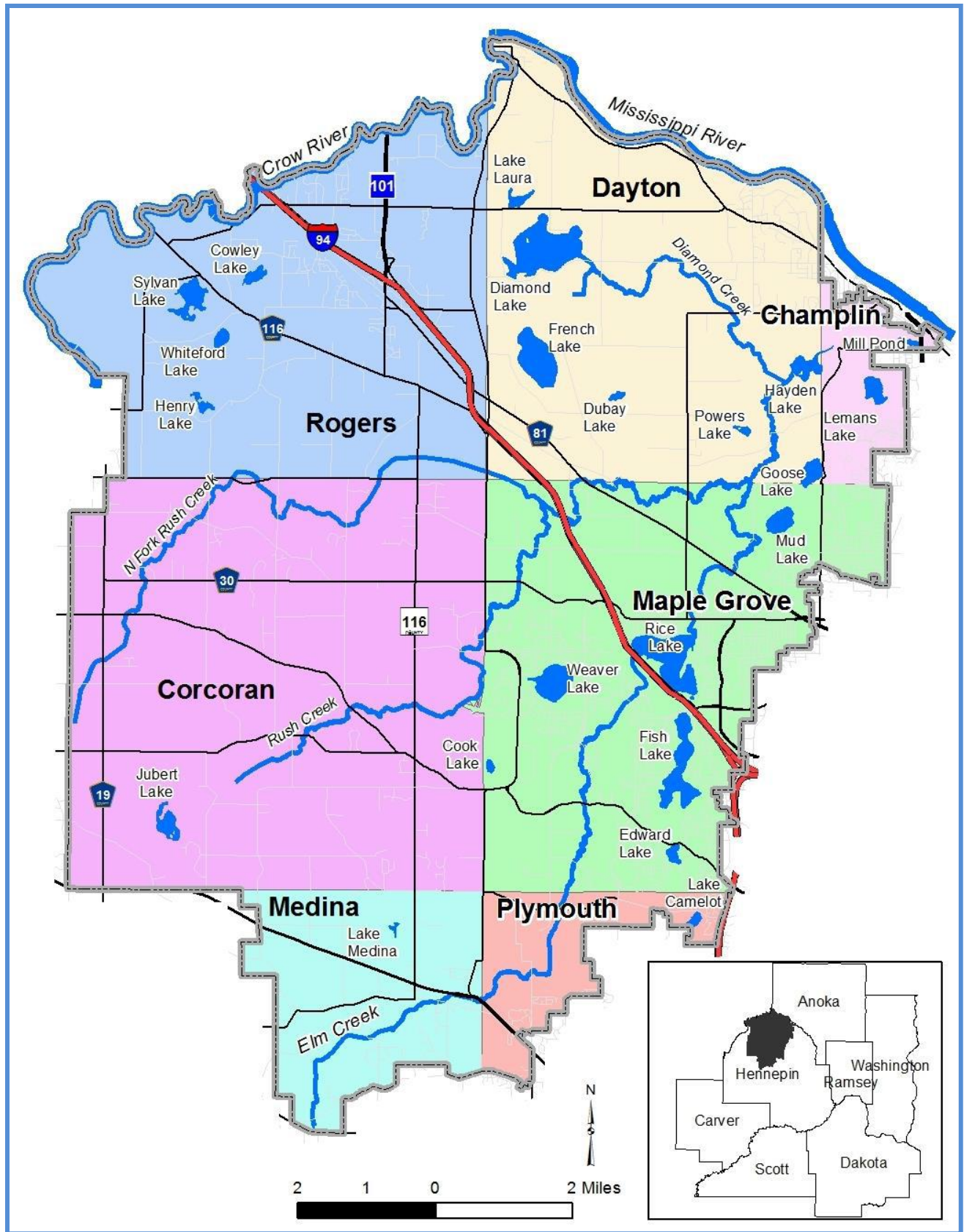
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WATERSHED PLAN

The Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission adopted its Third Generation Watershed Management Plan on October 14, 2015. The Third Generation Plan describes how the Commission will manage activities in the Elm Creek watershed in the ten-year period 2015-2024.

The Plan includes information required by Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 8410, Local Water Management: 1) an updated land and water resource inventory; 2) goals and policies; 3) an assessment of problems and identification of corrective actions; 4) an implementation program; and 5) a process for amending the Plan. This Plan also incorporates information and actions identified in the Elm Creek Watershed-wide Total Maximum Daily Load study (TMDL) and Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy study (WRAPS), completed between 2009 and 2016.

A summary of the Plan's issues, priorities, goals, implementation strategies, and Rules and Standards are outlined in *Appendix 2*.

LOCAL PLANS Local water management plans adopted by member cities pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.235 shall be consistent with the Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan. Local plans must comply with MN Statutes, Section 103B.235 and MN Rules 8410 regarding local plan content. (*Appendix 2*). At year-end the Commission had reviewed and approved the local surface water plans of the cities of Corcoran, Dayton, Maple Grove, Medina, and Plymouth. The plans for Champlin and Rogers were under review on December 31.

2018 WORK PLAN IN REVIEW

The Elm Creek Commission identified the following activities to be undertaken in 2018. Progress toward completing those activities is *italicized*. (Starred [***] items denote activities undertaken by the Commission in 2018 that were not included in the 2018 Work Plan.)

TECHNICAL

- Continue to review local development/redevelopment plans for conformance with the standards outlined in the Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan. Review the current project review fee schedule for fiscal conformity. *Fifty-four projects were reviewed by the Commission in 2018. The Commission does not have a permit program. The current fee schedule was not reviewed in 2018. A detailed description of the projects reviewed in 2018 along with a map showing their locations may be found in Appendix 3.*
- Continue to serve as the local government unit (LGU) for administering the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) for the City of Corcoran. *The Commission continued to serve as the LGU for Corcoran in 2018. In 2018 Technical staff assisted approximately 50 landowners/agency/developer contacts with wetland-related questions. On behalf of the Commission they reviewed the following types of wetland applications: 47 wetland boundary/type; ten no-loss, three exemptions, three sequencing, and three wetland replacement plans. Wetland impacts totaled 40,240 SF; wetland replacement totaled 78,698 SF. Five WCA violations were investigated and resolved; two others were determined not to be WCA/Commission violations. One violation is on-going. The Commission was involved in 12 Technical Evaluation Panels (TEPs) in the watershed. The Commission does not have a wetland banking program. Project reviews involving wetland review are also included in Appendix 3.*

- Develop a model manure management ordinance/policy regulating the placement of new small nonfood animal operations using the City of Medina ordinance as a reference. *At their September 12, 2018 meeting the Commission adopted a “Recommended Livestock Management Policy.” It was transmitted to the member cities for its adoption or adoption of other ordinances and practices that will accomplish its objectives. The policy is found in Appendix 4.*
- Seek grant funding to assist with the costs associated with projects identified on the Commission’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP). *A call for CIPs went out to the cities in January 2018. Proposed CIPs and CIP updates were reviewed for inclusion on the Commission’s CIP by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and their recommendation forwarded to the Commission. This activity required a Minor Plan Amendment to the Commission’s Third Generation Watershed Management Plan to add eight new projects and shift funding for two existing projects. A public meeting was held on May 9, 2018, to hear the proposed amendment, which was adopted by the Commission on that date. (Appendix 5.)*
- Continue to support City-sponsored projects using the ad valorem funding mechanism. *At a public hearing on September 12, 2018, the Commission approved four projects for ad valorem funding. On November 6, 2018, the Hennepin County Board approved the Commission’s request to fund the following:*

Project 2018-01: Rush Creek Main Stem Stream Stabilization Phase 3, Maple Grove. Stabilize and restore approx. 11,000 feet of Rush Creek stream bank. Estimated project cost is \$1,650,000, with \$1,575,000 borne by the City of Maple Grove and other sources and \$75,000 by the Commission through the ad valorem process.

Project 2018-02: Elm Creek Stream Restoration Reach D, Plymouth. Stabilize and restore 3,850 feet of stream bank. Estimated project cost is \$850,000, with \$637,500 borne by the City of Plymouth and other sources and \$212,500 by the Commission through the ad valorem process.

Project 2018-03: Elm Creek Stream Restoration Phase III, Champlin. Restore streambank and aquatic habitat on 2,287 LF of streambank. Estimated project cost is \$400,000, with \$300,000 borne by the City of Champlin and other sources and \$100,000 by the Commission through the ad valorem process.

Project 2018-04: Downs Road Trail Rain Gardens, Champlin. Construct rain gardens and other BMPs for areas tributary to the Mill Pond and Elm Creek and include in the Elm Creek Mill Pond Education Program. Estimated project cost is \$300,000, with \$225,000 borne by the City of Champlin and other sources and \$75,000 by the Commission through the ad valorem process.

In conjunction with this effort, the Commission adopted two resolutions in 2018. Resolution 2018-01 adopted a Minor Amendment to the Third Generation Watershed Management Plan to add eight projects to the Commission’s CIP and shift the timing of funding of two projects currently listed on the Commission’s CIP. Resolution 2018-03 ordered the four projects certified above, designated the members responsible for construction, and designated the Commission cost-share funding. (Appendix 6)

MONITORING

- Enter into a new five-year cooperative agreement with Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to share in the costs of conducting lake and stream monitoring in the watershed. *A new five-year cooperative agreement was approved at the Commission's March 14, 2018 meeting. Under the agreement TRPD will be responsible for monitoring three of twelve sampling stations every year for continuous flow measurements. The Commission may request the collection of water quality nutrient data at the continuous flow monitoring stations under the agreement. Water quality nutrient analysis requested for the flow measurement sites will be analyzed for Total Phosphorus, Soluble Reactive Phosphorus, Total Nitrogen, and Total Suspended Solids.*

TRPD will also be responsible for monitoring four of fifteen lakes in the Elm Creek watershed annually plus other specific lakes for which the Commission may request monitoring. The four Category I "sentinel" lakes will be monitored every year; the eight Category II lakes that have had data collected within the last ten years will be monitored occasionally; and the three Category III lakes that currently have insufficient data for an assessment determination of trophic conditions will be monitored within the next five-year cycle. The water quality constituents that will be analyzed for surface samples on all lakes (classified as deep or shallow) will include total phosphorus, soluble reactive phosphorus, total nitrogen, and chlorophyll-a. Those lakes that are classified as deep lakes will also have water quality samples collected at the top of the hypolimnion and 1-m from the bottom, and will be analyzed for total phosphorus and soluble reactive phosphorus.

In addition, under the agreement, the Commission and the Park District will provide financial support to assist the monitoring efforts of the USGS stream gauging station on Elm Creek within the Elm Creek Park Reserve.

- Conduct lake and stream monitoring programs to track water quality and quantity conditions. *The Commission undertook stream monitoring for continuous flow at monitoring sites DC on Diamond Creek, RT on Rush Creek main stem, and EC77 on Elm Creek above Rice Lake. In 2018, there were no water quality samples collected for analysis of nutrients requested under the Commission's contract. However, continuous flow and water quality nutrient data was collected for a separate contract agreement with the City of Plymouth at three sampling sites within the Elm Creek watershed. A total of 74 water quality samples (27 composite storm event and 47 grab samples) were collected for the analysis of nutrients from these three sampling sites in 2018. In addition, a dissolved oxygen (DO) longitudinal survey was conducted on Diamond Creek. See Appendix 7 for a more complete reporting of the stream monitoring that occurred in 2018.*

The Commission monitored the four sentinel lakes (Fish, Weaver, Diamond, and Rice Lake-main basin) on a bi-weekly basis for water quality. There was a total of 78 water quality samples collected and analyzed for water quality nutrients in the four lakes monitored in 2018. A point-intercept aquatic vegetation survey was also completed on Diamond Lake in the spring and fall. All monitoring outlined in this section was conducted in cooperation with Three Rivers Park District. The "lake report cards" found in Appendix 8 detail the lake monitoring performed by TRPD.

- Fund the monitoring of two lakes through Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP). *One lake, Lake Jubert, was selected to be monitored through the CAMP*

program in 2018. However, Lake Jubert was only monitored one time during the year. The data collected proved to be insufficient for analysis. *The Commission's lake monitoring history is included in Appendix 8.*

- Continue to operate the monitoring station in Champlin in cooperation with the United States Geological Survey (USGS). *Discharge measurements were made to define changes to the stage-discharge relation over the range of flows that occurred in order to compute an accurate record of streamflow. Twelve manual samples were collected monthly to represent the variations in hydrologic conditions that occur during the year. A refrigerated automatic sampler was used to collect eight composited samples of runoff events. Composite samples were collected during increasing or peak streamflow when many selected concentrations are expected to be greatest. Samples are analyzed for Total Phosphorus, Dissolved Phosphorus, Total Ammonia plus Organic Nitrogen, Dissolved Ammonia Nitrogen, Dissolved Nitrite plus Nitrate Nitrogen, Total Suspended Solids, Volatile Suspended Solids, * Oxygen Demand, Dissolved Chloride, Water Temperature, * Specific Conductance, pH, and Dissolved Oxygen. * Appendix 9 contains a detailed report of the monitoring that occurred at the USGS monitoring station in 2018.*
*(*Denotes not auto-sampled.)*
- Participate in the MN Wetland Health Evaluation Program (WHEP) with four wetlands in 2018. *Five sites were monitored as part of the WHEP program in 2018. They are (EC-1) Blundell Restoration, (EC-2) Bulduc Restoration, and (EC-3) Bulduc wetland, all in the City of Rogers; (EC-4) Cedar Hollow, Plymouth; and (EC-5) Northwest Greenway, also in Plymouth. View the 2018 WHEP report at <http://www.elmcreekwatershed.org/wetlands.html>*

PROJECTS

- Continue with the next phase of the Internal Phosphorus Loading Control Project on Fish Lake. *This project spans the years 2017-2019. An initial alum treatment occurred in September 2017. In 2018 TRPD collected sediment cores to determine the effectiveness of the first alum treatment by analyzing the Al:P binding capacity, determined the alum dosage calculations, and monitored the in-lake water quality. A report was completed for the sediment analysis study in 2018. At year-end the Commission sought bids to conduct a second alum treatment, which will occur in spring 2019. A synopsis of the 2018 Annual Progress Report is included in Appendix 10.*
- Undertake the Rush Creek Headwaters Subwatershed Assessment (SWA) Project. *In December 2017 an Open House was held for property owners living in the Corcoran portion of the SWA Study Area where they shared information about known problems, issues, and observations about conditions in their area. Wenck Associates and the Core Team reviewed this information as they moved forward with the assessment. The final report, found on the Commission's website at <http://www.elmcreekwatershed.org/rush-creek-swa.html>, was published in July 2018 and identified high priority projects, along with their cost-benefit, across the Study Area.*

On December 19, 2018 the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Board approved their staff recommendations to fund an application from Hennepin County for implementation of the Rush Creek SWA, which will be managed by Hennepin County. The application was funded in the full amount requested - \$142,110.00, with a required match of 25%.

- *****Update the Special Flood Hazard Areas in the Elm Creek watershed.** *The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources (MnDNR) a grant to update the Special Flood Hazard Areas in the Twin Cities HUC8 watershed. Pass-through grants were provided so that watershed management organizations (WMOs) can complete some or all of this work. Deliverables are due by April 2020. Cost estimates were based on MnDNR staff developing new hydrologic and hydraulic models using HEC-HMS and HEC-RAS, delineating all floodplains and x-section shapefiles, and developing the depth grids.*

The Commission's Technical Staff, working with MnDNR, put together a scope of work and cost estimate. Hennepin County staff have the capacity and will do the work. The total budget for this project is \$92,772.45 and does not require a local match. A contract agreement in the foregoing amount was approved and executed by the Commission at their May 9, 2018 meeting.

- Continue to meet with representatives from the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), other water management organizations, counties, and cities regarding a possible move from a competitive funding model towards a more systematic Clean Water Funding model for local water management authorities on a watershed basis. *On May 16, 2018 Hennepin County convened a formal meeting of eligible participants in BWSR's Watershed-Based Funding Pilot Program. Prior to the convening meeting a working group of representatives of the 11 watersheds in the county met informally to identify potential funding options for the \$1,018,000 allocated to Hennepin County watersheds for state fiscal years 2018 and 2019. The working group identified three potential options for allocating those funds: (1) Set aside a funding amount for chloride management, allocate the balance on either (2) or (3); (2) Allocate the full amount to basins based 50% land area/50% tax base; basin WMOs would then allocate based on their own strategies; and (3) Allocate the full amount to WMOs based 50% land area/50% tax base. For this pilot program it was a consensus to proceed with Options (1) and (3).*

The Elm Creek Stream Restoration Project Phase IV in Champlin was selected for funding through the pilot program. Watershed-based funding for this project totals \$134,486.

- *****Complete Subwatershed Assessments to identify priority projects.** *The City of Maple Grove requested funding assistance from the Commission to complete a subwatershed assessment for Fish Lake. The SWA will consist of hydrologic and water quality models to verify existing watershed conditions for the lake. The City's consultant estimates the cost to complete the SWA to be \$35,000. The City's request was approved at the Commission's October meeting.*

The Commission also considered requests from the City of Dayton to undertake a subwatershed assessment (SWA) of the Diamond Lake watershed and from the City of Corcoran seeking grant funding for a South Fork Rush Creek Subwatershed Assessment.

- *****Create a system for making application to the Commission for SWA funding assistance.** *In response to the increasing number of SWA requests from member cities, Staff implemented a system for bringing applications before the Commission for funding consideration, better aligning them with application due dates for BWSR accelerated implementation grants. In addition to creating a more structured timeline, priorities and criteria for selection were agreed upon by the Commission to aid in the selection of the applications to be funded. As a first step, the Commission revised its Cost Share Policy to include language pertaining to SWAs. (Appendix 11.)*

Next, an application form and criteria for identifying and scoring applications were developed. These are also shown in Appendix 11. The first round of applications is due January 15, 2019.

- *****Adopt a Closed Project Account.** *On November 14, 2018, the Commission adopted a Capital Improvement Program Closed Project account policy. In addition to creating a closed project account, the policy also addresses the issue of insufficient tax settlements received from the County, and will be in place beginning with the 2019 levy (payable 2020). (Appendix 12.)*
- **Work with the Hennepin County Rural Conservation Specialist.** *The Rural Conservation Specialist assisted cities as they worked to incorporate the Commission's Recommended Livestock Management Policy into their own ordinances/policies. She also assisted landowners to identify BMPs for implementation as part of the Rush Creek Subwatershed Assessment and in other areas of the watershed.*

EDUCATION

- **Continue as a member of the West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA).** *Continued to support the WMWA Educator Program and contributed to its e-newsletter Water Links. Promoted the Watershed PREP program to reach every 4th grade science class in the watershed. Participated in the Planting for Clean Water project. Conducted native plant sales at various city events around the watershed. Commission Chairman Doug Baines (Dayton) and Plymouth Alternate Commissioner Catherine Cesnik attended the monthly WMWA meetings to represent the Commission. WMWA's 2018 Annual Report can be found at <http://www.westmetrowateralliance.org/>*
- **Co-sponsor Rain Garden Workshops in conjunction with WMWA as part of the Commission's Education and Public Outreach Program.** *WMWA sponsored four Resilient Yard workshops and two Turf Alternative workshops presented by Metro Blooms in 2018. In the Elm Creek watershed Resilient Yard workshops were held in Champlin on April 4 and in Plymouth on April 17. A flyer promoting these workshops is included in Appendix 13.*
- **Continue as a member of Blue Thumb and WaterShed Partners and as a partner in the NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials) program.** *These memberships were renewed in 2018 with Staff regularly attending the Blue Thumb and WaterShed Partner meetings.*
- **Work in partnership with the University of Minnesota's agriculture specialist to help build relationships with the agricultural community in the watershed in order to encourage TMDL implementation.** *This is an ongoing activity.*
- *****Partner with others to create a healthier environment.** *Contributed \$500 from the Education Budget for the 15th Annual Crow-River Clean-up Day on September 15, 2018. Donations are used to provide food, beverages and T-shirts with donor logos for every volunteer in the event. In the past 14 years nearly 3400 volunteers from 30 communities have donated their time to remove 67 tons of garbage and debris from 503 miles of shoreline of the Crow River and its tributaries.*
- **Promote river stewardship through Hennepin County's RiverWatch program with three sites in 2018.** *Seven sites were monitored through RiverWatch in 2018 – Crow River at St. Michael Water Treatment Plant (CR-2) by students from St. Michael-Albertville High School; Rush Creek on west side of 101st Lane, Maple Grove (RC-1b) by Minnetonka High School students; Rush Creek on the*

east side of 101st Lane, Maple Grove (RC-1a) by Kaleidoscope Charter School; Elm Creek at Peony Lane behind Wayzata High School in Plymouth (EC-2) by WHS students; Elm Creek downstream from Rice Lake in Maple Grove (EC-4) by students from West Lutheran High School; Elm Creek at the Maple Grove Arboretum in Maple Grove (EC-6) by Osseo High School students; and Rush Creek at the Elm Creek Park Reserve in Maple Grove (RC-3) by students from Minnetonka High School. County staffers also hosted a streamside survey with a group of 4th graders on Elm Creek. Excerpts from the 2018 RiverWatch report are found in Appendix 13. The complete report can be viewed at <https://www.hennepin.us/business/work-with-henn-co/riverwatch>

- Continue to populate and maintain the Commission's website www.elmcreekwatershed.org to provide news to residents, students, developers and other individuals interested in the water resources of the watershed. *Using the tool Weebly, continued to update and enhance the website, adding links to other websites as well as to other useful information. Google analytics for 2018 are recapped in Appendix 13.*
- ***Continue to award Water Quality Education Grants. *Grant funds are used to increase awareness and knowledge of water resources issues within the Elm Creek watershed. No applications have been received in recent years. This program will be promoted more aggressively in future years.*

ADMINISTRATION

- Adopt a 2019 operating budget. *At its June 13, 2018 regular meeting, the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission approved a 2019 operating budget totaling \$943,296. The budget is based in part on the projected costs found in the Implementation section of the Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan and includes Capital Improvement Projects totaling \$462,500. To fund the 2019 operating budget the Commission approved an increase in member assessments to \$230,400, a 2.40% increase over the 2018 assessments. Financial activities undertaken by the Commission are found in Appendix 14.*
- Conduct the biennial solicitation of interest proposals for administrative, legal, technical and wetland consultants. *This task was not required in 2018. Solicitations for 2019-2020 will be published in the January 14, 2019 edition of the State Register.*
- Publish an annual activities report summarizing the Commission's yearly activities and financial reporting. *The 2017 Annual Activity Report was available on the Commission's website by the April 30, 2018 statutory deadline.*

FINANCIAL REPORTING

Appendix 14 includes the Commission's approved budget for 2018. The Commission's Joint Powers Agreement provides that each member community contributes toward the annual operating budget based on its share of the total market value of all property within the watershed. The 2018 assessments to the members are also shown in Appendix 14.

Of the \$466,831 operating budget for 2018 approved by the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission on May 10, 2017 revenue of \$90,000 was projected as proceeds from application fees, \$6,500 from partnership revenue, and \$1,000 from interest income, resulting in assessments to

the members totaling \$225,000. \$97,945 was projected as coming from reserves.

\$140,750 was projected as project review-related expense; \$48,795 for water monitoring; \$21,500 for education; and \$85,000 for special projects, studies and subwatershed assessments. \$124,400 was budgeted for administration, planning, and general operating expenses. The Commission also designated \$462,500 as its share of four CIP Projects. A Hennepin County ad valorem levy will be used to fund the Commission's share of these projects having a cumulative cost of \$3,200,000.

The Commission maintains a checking account at US Bank for current expenses and rolls uncommitted monies to its account in the 4M Fund, the Minnesota Municipal Money Market Fund.

An amendment of Minnesota Rules, Chapter 8410 became effective on July 13, 2015. One of the revisions to the Rules extends the annual audit due date to 180 days after the end of the fiscal year, in the case of the Elm Creek Commission, to June 30, 2019. The 2018 Audit Report, which is being prepared by Johnson & Company, Ltd., Certified Public Accountants, will be included in the Commission's *2019 Annual Activity Report*. Since the 2017 Audit was included in the *2017 Annual Activity Report*, no audit report will be included in this report.

The Commission follows Rule 54 of the Government Accounting Standard Board (GASB) to report Fund Balances. The fund balance classifications include:

- > *Nonspendable* – amounts that are not in a spendable form. The Commission does not have any items that fit this category.
- > *Restricted* – amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers. One example would be ad valorem levy funds received from the County for capital improvement projects. The unused portion of these funds must be set aside in a restricted account for similar projects. Another example would be BWSR Legacy Grant proceeds where the funds are received prior to the onset of a project and where any unused portion must be returned to the grantor.
- > *Committed* – amounts constrained to specific purposes by the Commission itself. An example would be residual funds carried over from one year to the next for Studies, Project Identification and Subwatershed Assessments.
- > *Assigned* – amounts the Commission intends to use for specific purposes. Most line items in the Commission's Operating Budget fall under this category.
- > *Unassigned* – amounts that are available for any purpose. These amounts are reported only in the general fund.

Amounts paid by the Commission per the 2018 Audit will be categorized as General Engineering, General Administration, Education, Programs, Projects, or Capital Projects.

PROJECTED 2019 WORK PLAN

Minnesota Rule 8410.0150 requires the Commission to submit to the Board of Water and Soil Resources a financial report, activity report and audit report for the preceding fiscal year. 8410.0150 Subp. 3 outlines the required content of the annual activity report. It includes an assessment of the previous year's annual work plan and development of a projected work plan for the following year.

The Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan identifies issues, priorities and goals for the ten-year period 2015-2024.

- Continue to review local development/redevelopment plans for conformance with the standards outlined in the Commission's Third Generation Plan. Review the current project review fee schedule for fiscal conformity.
- Transition the City of Corcoran Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) local government unit (LGU) administration from the Commission to the City. The Commission will still serve in the capacity as the LGU for the Ravinia wetland replacement plan monitoring. Costs incurring with this project have been previously escrowed with the Commission.
- Continue to partner with the Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to share in the costs of conducting lake and stream monitoring in the watershed under the five-year cooperative agreement approved in 2018.
- Fund the monitoring of one lake through Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP).
- Continue to operate the monitoring station in Champlin in cooperation with the United States Geological Survey (USGS).
- Promote river stewardship through Hennepin County's RiverWatch program with three sites in 2019.
- Participate in the MN Wetland Health Evaluation Program (WHEP) with four wetlands in 2019.
- Complete the review of member communities' local water management plans. Under Rule 8410.0160, subp. 6, local plans were to be approved by the Commission by December 31, 2018. At 2018 year-end the plans for Champlin and Rogers were still under review by Commission staff.
- Conduct the biennial solicitation of interest proposals for administrative, legal, technical and wetland consultants.
- Continue as a member of the West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA).
- Co-sponsor Rain Garden Workshops in conjunction with WMWA as part of the Commission's Education and Public Outreach Program.
- Continue as a member of Blue Thumb and WaterShed Partners and as a partner in the NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials) program.
- Continue to work in partnership with the University of Minnesota's agriculture specialist to help build relationships with the agricultural community in the watershed in order to achieve TMDL load reductions.
- Work with the Hennepin County Rural Conservation Specialist. Assist landowners in identifying BMPs for implementation throughout the watershed.
- Seek grant funding to assist with the costs associated with projects identified on the Commission's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Adopt Minor Plan Amendment to support proposed CIPs and CIP updates.

- Conduct a second alum treatment as part of the Internal Phosphorus Loading Control Project on Fish Lake.
 - Undertake high priority projects identified in the Rush Creek Headwaters Subwatershed Assessment.
 - Continue to support City-sponsored projects using the ad valorem funding mechanism. Conduct public hearing for identified projects.
 - Work to identify projects eligible for the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Watershed-Based funding. BWSR is meeting with a group comprised of representatives of each of the stakeholder groups to reach a consensus recommendation on how to fund future projects under this program.
 - Continue to update the Special Flood Hazard Areas on the FEMA Floodplain maps located within the watershed into current modeling packages. The term of the contract with the DNR extends into the year 2020.
 - Support the City of Maple Grove as it undertakes a subwatershed assessment for that portion of Fish Lake within the Elm Creek watershed.
 - Prioritize subwatershed assessment applications received in the first round of the Commission's SWA Cost Share Program.
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