

elm creek Watershed Management Commission

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447
PH: 763.553.1144
email: judie@jass.biz
www.elmcreekwatershed.org

September 1, 2021

Representatives
Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission
Hennepin County, MN

The meeting packet for this meeting may be found on the Commission's website:
<http://www.elmcreekwatershed.org/minutes--meeting-packets.html>

Dear Representatives:

A regular meeting of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission will be held on **Wednesday, September 8, 2021, at 11:30 a.m.** **We will continue to meet virtually.**

To join the meeting, click <https://zoom.us/j/990970201> or go to www.zoom.us and click **Join A Meeting**. The meeting ID is **990-970-201**.

If your computer is not equipped with audio capability, you need to dial into one of these numbers:

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Meetings remain open to the public via the instructions above.

The Commission will suspend its regular meeting at 11:30 a.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on two proposed capital improvements:

Project 2021-01:	Elm Road Area/Everest Lane Stream Restoration, Maple Grove.
Project 2021-02:	Elm Creek Stream Restoration Phase V Hayden Lake Outfall Champlin.

The regular meeting will resume immediately after the public hearing concludes.

Please email me at judie@jass.biz to confirm whether you or your Alternate will be attending the regular meeting.

Thank you.



Judie A. Anderson
Administrator
JAA:tim

Encls: Meeting Packet

cc:	Alternates	Ross Mullen	James Kujawa	Joe Waln	DNR
	TAC Members	Karen Galles	Brian Vlach	Ed Matthiesen	BWSR
	City Clerks	Kris Guentzel	Met Council	Diane Spector	MPCA
	Official Newspaper				

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AGENDA Regular Meeting and Public Hearing September 8, 2021

The meeting packet may be found on the Commission's website: <http://elm creek watershed.org/minutes--meeting-packets.html>

Until further notice, all meetings will be held online to reduce the spread of COVID-19. To join this meeting, click <https://zoom.us/j/990970201> or go to www.zoom.us and click Join A Meeting. The meeting ID is **990-970-201**. The password is **water**.

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1. Call Regular Meeting to Order.
 - a. Approve Agenda.*
2. Consent Agenda.
 - a. Minutes last Meeting.*
 - b. Treasurer's Report and Claims.*
 - 1) Annual Update.*

Suspend meeting

3. Public Hearing for Capital Improvement Projects
 - Project 2021-01: Elm Road Area/Everest Lane Stream Restoration, Maple Grove.
 - Project 2021-02: Elm Creek Stream Restoration Phase V Hayden Lake Outfall, Champlin.
 - a. Staff Report.*
 - b. Commission discussion.
 - c. Open Public Hearing.
 - 1) Receive comments from member cities.
 - 2) Receive comments from public.
 - d. Close public hearing.
 - e. Commission discussion.
 - f. Consider Resolution 2021-04 Ordering 2021 Improvement Projects.*
 - g. Approve Cooperative Agreements* with cities of Champlin and Maple Grove.

Resume meeting.

4. Open Forum.
 - a. Draft PRAP report.*
5. Action Items.
 - a. Project Reviews – see Staff Report.*
 - b. Approve Cost Share Policy for Non-Structural Practices.*
 - c. Approve 2021 USGS Cooperative Agreement.*

*in meeting packet
**available at meeting or on website

6. Old Business.
7. New Business.
8. Communications.
 - a. Staff Report.*
 - 1) FEMA Mapping Project Update.*
 - b. County Staff Report.*
9. Education.
 - a. WMWA – next meeting – September 14, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. This will be a **virtual** meeting.
10. Grant Opportunities and Updates.
11. Project Reviews.

Item No.	A	E	I R PFI	AR	Project No.	Project Name
			RP DD			
					W=wetland project	
ah.				AR	2014-015	Rogers Drive Extension, Rogers.
ai.				AR	2015-030	Kiddiegarten Child Care Center, Maple Grove.
aj.				AR	2016-005W	Ravinia Wetland Bank Plan, Corcoran.
ak.				AR	2017-014	Laurel Creek, Rogers.
al.				AR	2017-029	Brayburn Trails, Dayton.
a.					2017-050W	Ernie Mayers Wetland/floodplain violation, Corcoran.
b.					2018-020	North 101 Storage, Rogers.
am.				AR	2018-046	Graco, Rogers.
an.				AR	2018-048	Faithbrook Church Phase 2, Dayton.
ao.				AR	2019-002	Parkside Villas, Champlin.
ap.				AR	2019-021	Brenly Meadows, Rogers.
aq.				AR	2019-026	Interstate Power Systems, Rogers.
ar.				AR	2019-027	Havenwood at Maple Grove.
as.				AR	2019-032	OSI Expansion, Medina.
at.				AR	2020-001	Outlot L, Markets at Rush Creek, Maple Grove.
au.				AR	2020-008	Ione Gardens, Dayton.
av.				AR	2020-009	Stetler Barn, Medina.
aw.				AR	2020-017	Meadow View Townhomes, Medina.
ax.				AR	2020-023	Ziegler Dayton Site Upgrades, Dayton.
ay.				AR	2020-025	Paulsen Farms, Corcoran.
az.				AR	2020-027	Kariniemi Addition, Corcoran.
ba.				AR	2020-032	Enclave Rogers - Commerce Boulevard, Rogers.
bb.				AR	2020-033	Weston Woods, Medina.
bc.				AR	2020-036	Balsam Pointe, Dayton.
bd.				AR	2021-007	Birchwood 2nd Addition, Rogers
c.					2021-012	The Oaks at Bauer Farms, Champlin.
be.					2021-013	Rush Creek Reserve, Corcoran.
d.					2021-015	66th Avenue/Gleason Parkway, Corcoran.
bf.					2021-016	Territorial Lofts, Rogers.
e.					2021-017	The Park Group Building, Rogers.

*in meeting packet

**available at meeting or on website

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Item No.	A	E	I R PFI	AR	Project No.	Project Name
			RP DD			
f.					2021-019	Kwik Trip Store 1157, Dayton.
g.					2021-020	Crew Carwash, Maple Grove.
h.					2021-021	Territorial Triangle, Dayton.
i.					2021-022	ISD 728 Rogers High School Trail & Batting Cage Improvements
j.					2021-023	Maple Grove Medial Office Building (MOB).
k.					2021-024	River Walk, Dayton
l.					2021-025	Hackamore Road Reconstruction, Medina/Corcoran.
m.	A	E			2021-026	Prairie Creek Subdivision, Medina.
n.					2021-027	Xcel Energy Elm Creek Substation, Maple Grove
o.					2021-028	The Cubes at French Lake, Dayton
p.					2021-029	Tri-Care Grocery / Retail, Maple Grove
q.					2021-030	Tri-Care Grading and Roads, Maple Grove
r.					2021-031	Cook Lake Edgewater, Maple Grove
s.					2021-032	Dayton Park Industrial Center EAW, Dayton.
t.					2021-033	Westin Commons, Maple Grove
u.					2021-034	BAPS Hindu Temple, Medina.
v.		E			2021-035	Mister Car Wash - Rogers
w.					2021-036	D & D Service, Corcoran.
x.					2021-037	Marsh Point, Medina.
y.					2021-038	Bellwether 6th/Amberly, Corcoran.
z.					2021-039	1-94 Logistics Center, Rogers.

= Action item E = Enclosure provided I = Informational update will be provided at meeting R PFI - removed pending further information
 R = Will be removed RP= Information will be provided in revised meeting packet..... D = Project is denied AR awaiting recordation

12. Other Business.

13. Adjournment.

Z:\Elm Creek\Meetings\Meetings 2021\09 Regular Meeting and Public Hearing Agenda.docx

*in meeting packet
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Regular Meeting Minutes August 11, 2021

I. A virtual meeting of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 11:34 a.m., Wednesday, August 11, 2021, by Vice Chair Elizabeth Weir.

Commissioners present: Bill Walraven, Champlin; Tom Anderson, Corcoran; Travis Henderson, Dayton; Dan Riggs, Maple Grove; Elizabeth Weir, Medina; and Catherine Cesnik, Plymouth.

Not represented: Rogers.

Technical Advisory Committee members present: Kevin Mattson, Corcoran; Mark Lahtinen, Maple Grove; and Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth.

Not represented: Champlin, Dayton, Medina, and Rogers.

Also present: Terry Sharp, Medina; Ross Mullen and Ed Matthiesen, Wenck/Stantec; James Kujawa, Surface Water Solutions; Joe Waln, Barr Engineering; Rebecca Carlson, Resilience Resources; Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); Kris Guentzel and Kevin Ellis, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

A. Motion by Cesnik, second by Weir to approve the **revised agenda**.** Motion carried unanimously.*

[Walraven arrived 11:37 a.m.]

B. Motion by Cesnik, second by Walraven to approve the **Minutes*** of the July 14, 2021, meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Motion by Walraven, second by Weir to approve the August **Treasurer's Report** and **Claims*** totaling \$32,706.98. *Motion carried unanimously.* Included with the Treasurer's Report were:

1. **Year-to-Date Detail*** of expenses and revenue, percentage of budget expended/realized year-to-date, and expenses/revenue extrapolated through the end of the 2021 budget year. Staff was requested to add a column showing the *percentage* extrapolated.

2. **Balance Sheet*** showing the various fund balances and the unrestricted funds available.

3. **Project Billing Detail*** from Wenck/Stantec showing activity through July 2021.

II. **Open Forum.**

III. **Action Items.**

A. **Project Reviews.**

1. **2021-021 Territorial Triangle, Dayton.*** This site is in the easterly triangle of the Territorial Road and CR 81 intersection near the border of Dayton and Maple Grove. Rush Creek flows

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**included in meeting packet*

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west to east, near the ROW of CR 81 along the south lot line on this property. The applicant is proposing to subdivide the 14+ acre parcel into 30 rowhome units and 56 townhome units. The project was reviewed for compliance with Rules D, E, F, and I. Two ponding basins are proposed for stormwater management. This work will disturb approximately 10 acres and create 5.7 acres of new impervious areas. Staff recommends approval of their findings dated July 22, 2021, contingent upon (a) final application escrow fee balance determination by the Commission administrator. Additional payment or refund of the fees will be determined when all conditions for approval are met and (b) The applicant shall provide a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement for the irrigation system that is acceptable to the City and the Commission within 90 days after the plat is recorded. Note: Staff administratively approved grading and erosion plans, contingent upon the applicant (1) receiving grading approvals from the City of Dayton and (2) accepting responsibility for any changes required for final approval by the Commission. Motion by Walraven, second by Riggs approve this project with the contingencies noted above. *Motion carried unanimously.*

2. 2021-022 Rogers High School Batting Cages and Trail Improvements, Rogers.* This project is for improvements to existing batting cages and replacement of an existing trail. The work will disturb 1.55 acres and create 0.09 acres of new impervious surface. Stormwater management is provided by the existing on-site infiltration basin in the northeast corner of the site. The project was reviewed for Rules D and E. In their findings dated August 3, 2021, Staff recommended approval conditioned on escrow fee balance determination. Motion by Walraven, second by Henderson approve this project with that condition. *Motion carried unanimously.*

[T. Anderson arrived 12:23 p.m.]

3. 2021-024 Riverwalk, Dayton.* This site is south of CR 12 (Dayton River Road) and west of River Hills Parkway approximately ¼ mile north of CR 144 (Diamond Lake Road). The applicant proposes to construct a new single family residential subdivision with 242 lots including one amenity lot and a city well site. Site development will include removal of an existing home site, grading 94 acres, and installation of municipal sewer and water, streets, and stormwater systems. The project was reviewed for Rules D, E, G, and I. In their findings dated August 4, 2021, Staff recommended approval with four conditions: (a) final application escrow fee balance determination. Additional payment or refund of the fees will be determined when all conditions for approval are met; (b) wetland alteration must be approved by the LGU (Dayton) prior to impacts; (c) wetland buffer vegetation establishment, including maintenance for two full growing seasons after planting, must be provided with the site plans; and (d) soil infiltration on basin 1NW must be determined with this basin designed according to infiltration volumes and discharges verified by the soil testing and MPCA design criteria. Motion by Walraven, second by Riggs to approve this project with those conditions. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. At their July 22, 2021, meeting the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed and revised its draft **Policy on Funding Internal Load Reduction Projects*** and has forwarded it to the Commission for approval. The policy serves as the basis for consideration by the Commission of internal load reduction projects and partnership with member communities. Funding shall be up to 100% of the cost of the project and shall otherwise comply with Commission's Capital Improvement Program policies and standards. Motion by Walraven, second by Riggs to adopt the policy, effective August 11, 2021.

C. Cost-Share Programs.* At their July 22, 2021, meeting the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) discussed ways to fund small city projects as well as BMPs (Best Management Practices) on private property. These projects are identified as "too small" to be placed on the CIP individually. Instead, these programs would each be placed on the CIP annually and monies would be used to fund projects as they are

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identified. Unallocated funds will carry over year-to-year and be maintained in designated fund accounts. Projects must be reviewed by the TAC and the TAC has discretion on a case-by-case basis to consider and recommend to the Commission projects that do not meet the letter of the proposed guidelines. Members of the TAC approved for recommendation to the Commission two programs:

1. Cost Share Guidelines on Municipal Property.* Projects must be for water quality improvements that cost less than \$100,000 and be for improvements above and beyond what would be required to meet Commissions rules. Only the cost of the upsizing is eligible for this program. The Commission would share in funding the projects on a 1:1 basis.

2. Cost Share Guidelines on Private Property.* Projects must be for water quality improvements that cost \$10,000 to \$50,000 and be for improvements above and beyond what would be required to meet Commissions rules. Only the cost of the upsizing is eligible for this program. The Commission may fund up to 100% of the cost of the qualifying BMPs.

Motion by Walraven, second by T. Anderson to approve the Cost Share Guidelines for projects on both municipal and private property. *Motion carried unanimously.*

D. Included in the meeting packet is a sample **final project review approval letter.*** The letter would be sent to the member city where the project is occurring, denoting the final approval action taken by the Commission at their regular meeting. Accompanying the letter would be the final review findings submitted by the Commission's technical consultant. The letter would be copied to the project engineer, the City's Elm Creek Commissioner, the Commission's reviewing consultant, and the City's TAC member. Motion by Henderson, second by Walraven to approve the letter. *Motion carried unanimously.*

E. Crow-Hassan Dog Park Stairs.* Three Rivers Park District is considering constructing a 15' long by 3' wide helical pile supported staircase to provide access to the Crow River in the Crow-Hassan off-leash dog park. The stairs will provide a safe access over an existing foot path that is steep and covered in tree roots. A photograph of the foot path over the bank is shown in Staff's August 6, 2021, memo as is the proposed Glulam stairs. The construction of these stairs will reduce erosion near the Crow River caused by foot traffic over the bank, which is limiting the growth of vegetation that reinforces the bank resulting in significant erosion. Elm Creek watershed staff visited the site of the proposed stairs on July 1, 2021.

Under Elm Creek WMC's rules, construction of the proposed stairs in the sand bar area would be classified as a "*land disturbing activity*" adjacent to the Crow River and, therefore, would trigger watershed rules D, E, I and possibly F. Based on the limited site design, Staff recommend to the Commission that the rules be waived due to the limited impact as described by the following:

1. Rules D and E. The proposed alteration would require a negligible amount of site disturbance and includes no new impervious surfaces. Therefore, construction of BMPs to meet the Commission's rate controls, water quality controls, and volume controls is not applicable. Similarly, erosion and sediment controls for the plan are not necessary as construction/placement of these erosion control devices will create more disturbance than the project itself. The proposed helical piles will ensure that existing root wads remain in place, resulting in reduced erosion.

2. Rule F. Staff have discussed the placement of riprap around the stairs to locally reduce the velocity and limit scour around the stairs. Because the existing foot path has resulted in erosion of the site, the placement of a small amount of riprap to restore the bank is not considered floodplain fill (as it is not reducing the conveyance of the Crow River).

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3. Rule I. Pursuant to Rule I.5.g.i, an unimproved access strip through the buffer less than 20 feet wide, is allowed for recreational access to the watercourse.

Motion by Walraven, second by Riggs to approve Staff's recommendation. *Motion carried unanimously.*

IV. Old Business.

V. New Business.

A. Review of BWSR's **Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP)** report has been rescheduled to the September meeting.

B. Included in the meeting packet were **Staff's August 3, 2021 memo*** regarding in-person meetings, along with a **Presiding Officer Statement to Return to In-Person Meetings.*** Last month it was anticipated the Commission would be returning to in-person meetings beginning with today's meeting. However, the inability to reserve a room large enough to accommodate social distancing and the bringing in of lunches resulted in this being a virtual meeting.

Since the July meeting, concern regarding the Delta variant and the number of vaccinated folks contracting the variant has resulted in hesitation to resume in-person meetings. Also included in the packet was an email* from the Commission's Attorney Joel Jamnik responding to this concern. He cited 13D.021 , Subd. 1. Conditions:

A meeting governed by this section and section 13D.01, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5, may be conducted by telephone or other electronic means so long as the following conditions are met:

(1) *the presiding officer, chief legal counsel, or chief administrative officer for the affected governing body determines that an in-person meeting or a meeting conducted under section 13D.02 is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under chapter 12;*

(2) all members of the body participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;

(3) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the body can hear all discussion and testimony and all votes of the members of the body, unless attendance at the regular meeting location is not feasible due to the health pandemic or emergency declaration;

(4) at least one member of the body, chief legal counsel, or chief administrative officer is physically present at the regular meeting location, unless unfeasible due to the health pandemic or emergency declaration; and

(5) all votes are conducted by roll call, so each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded.

It was a consensus of the members to call future meetings on a case-by-case basis. In-person meetings would be held in the same location as before the pandemic, in the Mayor's Conference Room at Maple Grove City Hall. Virtual meetings would be held via Zoom. The decision will be the prerogative of the Chair and will be made timely and announced prior to the meeting notice.

C. 2021 Capital Improvement Program.* A Minor Plan Amendment revising the 2021 CIP was approved at the Commission's June 9, 2021, meeting. The Commission subsequently established proposed maximum levies for two projects:

1. Project 2021-01 Elm Road Area/Everest Lane Stream Restoration, Maple Grove. Stream restoration along 800 LF of intermittent stream to reduce sediment and nutrient release to Elm Creek, reducing Ph and TSS loading by 15 lbs./year and 15 tons/year, respectively, and improving DO and habitat for fish and invertebrates. Proposed Levy: \$132,563.

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2. Project 2021-02 Elm Creek Stream Restoration Phase V Hayden Lake Outfall, Champlin. Includes 3,800 LF of stream bank restoration located upgradient of the Mill Ponds. Proposed construction will improve impaired water with low DO, restoring the stream banks and providing habitat structure. Proposed Levy: \$159,075.

A letter emailed to Hennepin County on June 10, 2021, expressed the Commission's intent to partially fund these projects through the County's ad valorem levy process. Feasibility studies have been received, reviewed, and accepted by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Chairman Doug Baines attended the July 27 Hennepin County Board committee meeting to represent the Commission. At that time the Commission's maximum levy request was recommended for approval.

The final step in the CIP process is to hold a public hearing on the proposed projects. This should occur at the Commission's regular September 9, 2021, meeting. At that time the Commission will formally order the projects, certify the levy to Hennepin County, and authorize the execution of cooperative agreements with the lead cities to contract the ordered projects.

Motion by Walraven, second by Henderson to call for a public hearing on September 8, 2021, for the purpose of certifying the 2021 (pay 2022) levy to Hennepin County, and to authorize the execution of cooperative agreements with the cities of Maple Grove and Champlin. *Motion carried unanimously.*

VI. Communications.

A. Staff Report.* Staff reports provide updates on the development projects currently under review by Staff or awaiting final recordations. The projects listed in the table beginning on page 8 of these minutes are discussed in this month's report.

As part of the Staff Report, Mullen provided an update on the **FEMA Modeling project.*** Staff will send out a reminder asking TAC members, if they have not already done so, to provide their city's pertinent information to Mullen.

B. Hennepin County Updates.*

1. Natural Resources Strategic Plan. A survey has been distributed to stakeholders and the public asking for feedback on what folks value and wish for the County to prioritize in its natural and water resources work. The survey is available at <https://www.hennepin.us/natural-resources-plan>, (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/L2QRWFS>) or by navigating to the County webpage dedicated to the plan: [Updating the Natural Resources Strategic Plan | Hennepin County](#). Updates are available at: [Hennepin County \(govdelivery.com\)](#). Public and stakeholder outreach will continue through the end of summer. Collaboration groups will also be convened in the coming weeks for stakeholders to provide direct input on planning content.

2. Project/Program Updates.**a. Rush Creek Projects**

1) "Top of Hill WASCOB + Waterway": Project is wrapping up in the next few weeks with some final grade touch up, seeding and erosion control installation. The WASCOB, intake/pipe and waterway all went in according to plan. (Photos are included in the County update.) Construction staking has occurred and Staff expect to break ground and begin project construction as early as this week, weather allowing.

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2) “Phase 1” projects: Design is out for some minor changes and construction is expected to start in October. Wetland permitting and design on Phase 2 projects comes next (to allow wetland permitting of all planned work at once). Construction on these projects is anticipated late 2021 and early 2022.

3) Landowner Outreach. Outreach materials for landowners with livestock on site have been developed and are in production. Materials will be mailed out within the next month and follow-up phone calls will be made to discuss potential projects. Posters advertising conservation opportunities will also be posted in feed/tack stores and veterinary clinics. Outreach materials for landowners with crops or a home in the subwatershed are currently in development.

b. Updates on seven other landowner issues are included in the report.

3. **Soil health programming** will occur in late summer/fall to coincide with cover crop planting and in advance of planning for 2022 growing season.

4. **Environment and Energy Grants** for deconstruction to salvage building materials are now open for application. Funding is available for building projects that use deconstruction techniques instead of standard demolition to remove materials during the destruction, alteration, or renovation of a building. In a deconstruction project, a building is taken apart mostly by hand, and materials are sorted into categories for efficient recycling and reuse. Property owners and developers can receive up to \$5,000 to help offset the additional time and labor costs associated with deconstruction. Grants are available for demolition or renovation projects on residential properties up to four units that are 500 square feet or larger on structures built prior to 1970. Learn more and apply at <https://www.hennepin.us/deconstruction>.

c. **2021 Buffer Inspection.*** The 2017 Minnesota Buffer Law (MS 103F) requires Hennepin County (the acting SWCD) to perform monitoring on all buffer required parcels every three years. As part of the monitoring program, Hennepin County staff must field verify a percentage of parcels in the County to ensure compliance with the law. This monitoring may be conducted via aerial photo review or on-site review depending on availability of updated aerial photos and the buffer that is being verified.

Although this is not an inspection year for Elm Creek, a potential buffer issue was brought to the County’s attention and staff will be reviewing it this month. They will visit the parcel in Corcoran to verify the buffer is compliant with the Minnesota Buffer Law. The landowner will receive an inspection notice and a follow-up letter with the findings and any action needed to correct buffer problems. No action is required by the Commission at this time.

VII. Education and Public Outreach.*

The West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) met on August 9, 2021, with two primary topics of discussion: final edits to the revised Education and Outreach Plan, and education and outreach items in the new NPDES General Permit.

A. **Education and Outreach Plan.** WMWA adopted its first Education and Outreach Plan in 2010 and updated it in 2015. Each revision reflected the changing scope and focus of WMWA as it matured and as cities’ needs changed. In the meeting packet is the proposed revised Education and Outreach Plan that now focuses on four key activities for WMWA: (1) facilitating sharing of information and materials; (2) developing and disseminating coordinated messaging; (3) actively providing education and outreach via Watershed PREP; and (4) searching and attempting to acquire alternate sources of funding to supplement Commission contributions.

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The following is an overview of the major revisions in the proposed 2021 Plan:

1. Added an equity statement affirming the group’s commitment to environmental justice for all and outreach to historically underrepresented groups.
2. Revised the general educational goals for non-single family property owners and managers to focus solely on providing information and guidance on appropriate BMPs.
3. Removed educational goals for developers as cities were seen as being the most appropriate points of contact with these stakeholders.
4. Removed educational goals for training city staff, as those are the responsibility of the cities.
5. Removed educational goals for agricultural property owners and operators as Hennepin County staff have taken on that role acting as the county Soil and Water Conservation District.
6. Added a key educational goal for all the stakeholders to “understand the relationship between climate and water quality and water quantity.”
7. Revised the plan to replace references to the Hennepin County website with the WMWA website.
8. Eliminated Measuring and Monitoring Public Awareness as a major task. One of WMWA’s first activities was sponsoring a professional opinion poll in the four watersheds regarding knowledge and behaviors. WMWA does not expect to repeat that poll due to cost but will build measuring and evaluating into individual activities.
9. Strengthened the Communication and Information Sharing activity to incorporate the website and social media.
10. Eliminated the Develop and Coordinate Regional or Countywide Activities task. Early on WMWA had sponsored a series of workshops for broader participation but found it to be an inefficient use of time and resources. The group will focus on spreading information about existing activities sponsored by other groups.

Motion by Walraven, second by Riggs to adopt the plan as revised. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. NPDES Education and Outreach.

Each of the four WMOs has authorized \$1,000 of their WMWA special projects budget to be allocated to updating and printing materials specifically to meet the education and outreach requirements of the new NPDES General Permit. The WMWA steering committee discussed general messaging, and small groups will take on rewriting certain brochures/flyers. Once the group agrees on text a graphic designer will update the design with a common theme. Written materials to be updated include:

1. Commercial Snow and Ice Brochure
2. Residential Snow and Ice Brochure
3. Salt Envelope Stuffer
4. Pet Waste and Water Pollution Flier (Eden Prairie)
5. Water Softeners and the Environment (not on WMWA website, from the City of Eden Prairie)

RULE D - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

RULE E - EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL

RULE F - FLOODPLAIN ALTERATION

RULE G - WETLAND ALTERATION

RULE H - BRIDGE AND CULVERT CROSSINGS

RULE I - BUFFERS

*indicates enclosure

CHAMPLIN - CORCORAN - DAYTON - MAPLE GROVE - MEDINA - PLYMOUTH - ROGERS

elm creek Watershed Management Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes –August 11, 2021

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C. WMWA is seeking to hire an educator and to begin preparing for in-person Watershed PREP classes in the fall.

D. The **next WMWA meeting**, is scheduled for 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 14, 2021. Virtual or in-person format will be determined at the time the meeting packet is uploaded to the website.

VIII. Grant Opportunities and Project Updates.

IX. Other Business.

Included in the meeting packet is a notice from the City of Plymouth seeking input on the **reissuance of its MS4 permit**. Comments are due by August 20, 2021.

X. **Adjournment.** There being no further business, motion by Walraven, second by Riggs to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judie A. Anderson
Recording Secretary
JAA:tim

Z:\Elm Creek\Meetings\Meetings 2021\August 11 2021 regular meeting minutes.docxocx

Item No.	A	E	I R PFI	AR	Project No.	Project Name
			RP DD			
					W=wetland	
ah.				AR	2014-015	Rogers Drive Extension, Rogers.
ai.				AR	2015-030	Kiddiegarten Child Care Center, Maple Grove.
aj.				AR	2016-005W	Ravinia Wetland Bank Plan, Corcoran.
ak.				AR	2017-014	Laurel Creek, Rogers.
al.				AR	2017-029	Brayburn Trails, Dayton.
a.					2017-050W	Ernie Mayers Wetland/floodplain violation, Corcoran.
b.					2018-020	North 101 Storage, Rogers.
am.				AR	2018-046	Graco, Rogers.
an.				AR	2018-048	Faithbrook Church Phase 2, Dayton.
ao.				AR	2019-002	Parkside Villas, Champlin.
ap.				AR	2019-021	Brenly Meadows, Rogers.
aq.				AR	2019-026	Interstate Power Systems, Rogers.
ar.				AR	2019-027	Havenwood at Maple Grove.
as.				AR	2019-032	OSI Expansion, Medina.
at.				AR	2020-001	Outlot L, Markets at Rush Creek, Maple Grove.
au.				AR	2020-008	Ione Gardens, Dayton.
av.				AR	2020-009	Stetler Barn, Medina.
aw.				AR	2020-017	Meadow View Townhomes, Medina.
ax.				AR	2020-023	Ziegler Dayton Site Upgrades, Dayton.
ay.				AR	2020-025	Paulsen Farms, Corcoran.

RULE D - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
RULE E - EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL
RULE F - FLOODPLAIN ALTERATION

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CHAMPLIN - CORCORAN - DAYTON - MAPLE GROVE - MEDINA - PLYMOUTH - ROGERS

elm creek Watershed Management Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes –August 11, 2021

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az.				AR	2020-027	Kariniemi Addition, Corcoran.
ba.				AR	2020-032	Enclave Rogers - Commerce Boulevard, Rogers.
bb.				AR	2020-033	Weston Woods, Medina.
bc.				AR	2020-036	Balsam Pointe, Dayton.
bd.				AR	2021-007	Birchwood 2nd Addition, Rogers
c.					2021-009	Palisades at Nottingham 3rd Addition, Maple Grove.
d.					2021-010	Gleason Field, Maple Grove.
e.					2021-012	The Oaks at Bauer Farms, Champlin.
f.	A	E			2021-013	Rush Creek Reserve, Corcoran.
g.					2021-014	Elm Creek Stream Restoration Phase IV, Champlin.
h.					2021-015	66th Avenue/Gleason Parkway, Corcoran.
i.	A	E			2021-016	Territorial Lofts, Rogers.
j.					2021-017	The Park Group Building, Rogers.
k.					2021-019	Kwik Trip Store 1157, Dayton.
l.					2021-020	Crew Carwash, Maple Grove.
m.					2021-021	Territorial Triangle, Dayton.
n.					2021-022	ISD 728 Rogers High School Trail & Batting Cage Improvements
o.					2021-023	Maple Grove Medial Office Building (MOB).
p.					2021-024	River Walk, Dayton
q.					2021-025	Hackamore Road Reconstruction, Medina/Corcoran.
r.					2021-026	Prairie Creek Subdivision, Medina.

A= Action item E = Enclosure provided I = Informational update will be provided at meeting RPFI - removed pending further information
R = Will be removed RP= Information will be provided in revised meeting packet..... D = Project is denied AR awaiting recordation

RULE D - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
RULE E - EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL
RULE F - FLOODPLAIN ALTERATION

RULE G - WETLAND ALTERATION
RULE H - BRIDGE AND CULVERT CROSSINGS
RULE I - BUFFERS

*indicates enclosure

CHAMPLIN - CORCORAN - DAYTON - MAPLE GROVE - MEDINA - PLYMOUTH - ROGERS

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission Treasurer's Report

		2021 Budget	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	2021 Budget YTD
EXPENSES					
Administrative		95,000	7,138.26	7,524.13	67,628.13
Grant Writing		650			0.00
Website		2,000	120.00	521.30	879.30
Legal		2,000		77.50	813.75
Audit		5,000	6,000.00		6,000.00
Insurance		3,800			3,800.00
Miscellaneous/Contingency		1,000			0.00
Technical Support - HCEE		12,000			0.00
Floodplain Mapping					23,488.00
Project Review Technical		185,000	5,785.50	1,021.00	63,430.50
Other Technical			7,187.55	226.00	37,079.80
Project Reviews - Admin Support		12,000	1,183.45	3,603.19	17,084.22
WCA - Admin					340.60
Stream Monitoring USGS		24,000			0.00
Stream Monitoring TRPD		7,200			0.00
DO Longitudinal Survey		1,000			0.00
Rain Gauge		400	34.72	31.97	247.23
Lakes Monitoring - CAMP		760			0.00
Lakes Monitoring - TRPD					0.00
Sentinel Lakes		8,100			0.00
Additional Lake		2,500			0.00
Aquatic Vegetation Surveys		1,100			0.00
Wetland Monitoring (WHEP)		4,000			0.00
Education		2,500	257.50	86.90	1,110.41
WMWA General Activities		5,000	3,000.00		3,000.00
WMWA Implementation/Watershed Prep		6,500	1,000.00		1,000.00
Rain Garden Wkshops/Intensive BMPs/Special Projects		3,000	1,000.00		1,000.00
Education Grants		1,000			0.00
Macroinvertebrate Monitoring-River Watch		3,000			0.00
Projects ineligible for ad valorem		0			0.00
Studies / Project ID / SWA		0		529.48	1,592.65
Plan Amendment		2,000			641.66
Contribution to 4th Gen Plan		10,000			0.00
Transfer to (from) Capital Projects (see CIP Tr		175,000			128,781.77
Transfer to (from) Cash Sureties (see below)			-	-	1,003.00
Transfer to (from) Grants (see below)		125,000	-	-	0.00
To Fund Balance					0.00
TOTAL - Month			32,706.98	13,621.47	358,921.02
TOTAL Paid in 2021, incl late 2020 Expenses		700,510.00	447,110.51	460,731.98	2021 Paid

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission Treasurer's Report

		2021 Budget	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	2021 Budget YTD
INCOME					
<i>From Fund Balance</i>					
Project Review Fee		100,000	43,875.00		151,073.90
Refund Project Fee					(1,021.50)
Water Monitoring - TRPD Co-op Agmt		5,500			0.00
Member Dues		237,300			237,300.00
Interest/Dividends Earned		15,250	13.02		128.61
<i>Transfer to (from) Capital Projects (see CIP Tr</i>		185,588			72,418.24
<i>Transfer to (from) Cash Sureties (see below)</i>					0.00
<i>Transfer to (from) Grants (see below)</i>		100,000	-	-	189,691.00
Misc Income					0.00
Total - Month			43,888.02	0.00	649,590.25
TOTAL Rec'd 2021, incl late 2020 Income		643,638.00	676,578.07	676,578.07	2021 Received
CASH SUMMARY		Balance Fwd			
Checking		0.00			
4M Fund		1,307,408.90	1,536,876.46	1,523,254.99	
Cash on Hand			1,536,876.46	1,523,254.99	
CASH SURETIES		Balance Fwd			Activity 2021
WCA Administrative Escrows		338			0.00
WCA Monitoring Escrows		8,770			-1,003.00
Total Cash Sureties		9,108	8,104.77	8,104.77	
Deferred Revenue - 2019 WBIF Grant		67,243			
Total Restricted Cash		76,351	77,353.77	77,353.77	
RESTRICTED / ASSIGNED FUNDS		Balance Fwd			
<i>Restricted for CIPs</i>		745,366	-	-	689,002.47
<i>Enc. Studies / Project Identification / SWA</i>		187,134	-	(529.48)	185,541.43
Total Restricted / Assigned Funds		932,500	875,073.38	874,543.90	
Claims Presented		General Ledger Account No	August	September	TOTAL
Campbell Knutson - Legal		521000		77.50	77.50
Connexus - Rain Gauge		551100		31.97	31.97
Barr Engineering					1,247.00
Project Review Technical		578050		1,021.00	
Other Technical		578050		226.00	
Stantec (formerly Wenck)					0.00
Project Review Technical		578050			
Other Technical		578050			
JASS					12,265.00
Administration		511000		6,790.82	
TAC Support		511000		733.31	
Website		581000		521.30	
Project Reviews		578100		3,603.19	
Education		590000		86.90	
CIPs General		563001		529.48	
TOTAL CLAIMS					13,621.47

CAMPBELL KNUTSON
Professional Association
Attorneys at Law
Federal Tax I.D. #41-1562130
Grand Oak Office Center I
860 Blue Gentian Road, Suite 290
Eagan, Minnesota 55121
(651) 452-5000

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission
c/o Judie A. Anderson, Exec. Secty.
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth MN 55447

Page: 1
July 31, 2021
Account # 1448G

SUMMARY STATEMENT

PREVIOUS BALANCE	FEES	EXPENSES	CREDITS	PAYMENTS	BALANCE
1448-0000 RE: GENERAL MATTERS					
SERVICES RENDERED TO DATE:					
31.00	77.50	0.00	0.00	-31.00	<u>\$77.50</u>

Amounts due over 30 days will be subject to a finance charge of
.5% per month (or an annual rate of 6%). Minimum charge - 50 cents.

CAMPBELL KNUTSON
Professional Association
Attorneys at Law
Federal Tax I.D. #41-1562130
Grand Oak Office Center I
860 Blue Gentian Road, Suite 290
Eagan, Minnesota 55121
(651) 452-5000

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission
c/o Judie A. Anderson, Exec. Secty.
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth MN 55447

Page: 1
July 31, 2021
Account # 1448-0000G
229

RE: GENERAL MATTERS
SERVICES RENDERED TO DATE:

			HOURS	
07/14/2021	JJJ	Emails Judie re: electronic meetings, follow-ups re: Skye Meadows variance/resolution.	0.30	46.50
07/21/2021	JJJ	Emails Judie re: water appropriation permits, conservation/drought question.	0.20	31.00
		AMOUNT DUE	0.50	77.50
		TOTAL CURRENT WORK		77.50
		PREVIOUS BALANCE		\$31.00
07/27/2021		Payment - thank you		-31.00
		TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		<u>\$77.50</u>

Amounts due over 30 days will be subject to a finance charge of .5% per month (or an annual rate of 6%). Minimum charge - 50 cents.



Monthly Statement

Service Address
ELM CREEK RD
DAYTON MN

Billing Summary

Billing Date: Aug 17, 2021

Previous Balance	\$34.72
Payments - Thank You!	\$34.72
Balance Forward	\$0.00
New Charges	\$31.97

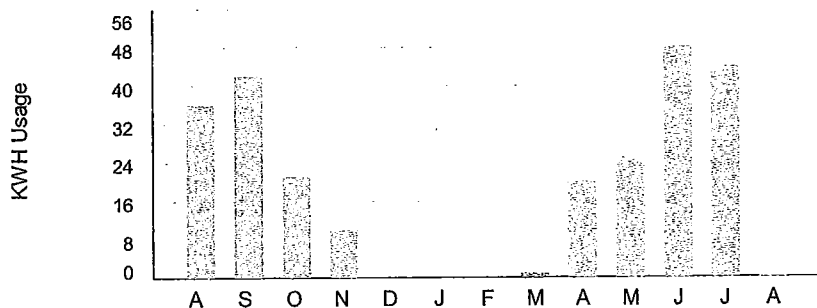
Total Amount Due **\$31.97**

Payment must be received on or before September 13, 2021

Energy Comparison

Previous Months' Usage

Current Month's Usage



How to contact us

Member Services / Moving - 763-323-2650
Outages and Emergencies - 763-323-2660
Hearing/Speech Impaired Call - 711 or 800-627-3529
Email: info@connexusenergy.com
www.connexusenergy.com
Gopher State One Call - 811
14601 Ramsey Boulevard, Ramsey, MN 55303

▼ Please detach at perforation and return this portion with a check or money order made payable to Connexus Energy ▼

TRA3-D-007134/006570 VG0417 S1-ET-M1-C00002



Account Number:

481113-238425

Total Amount Due

\$31.97

Payment Due By

September 13, 2021

007134 1 AB 0.425 003139/007134/006570 024 02 VG0417
ELM CREEK WATERSHED MGMT ORG
3235 FERNBROOK LN N
PLYMOUTH MN 55447-5325



Connexus Energy
PO Box 1808
Minneapolis, MN 55480-1808

00003197 0004811130238425 000000 00000 00000000000 0000000



INVOICE

Barr Engineering Co.
4300 MarketPointe Drive, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55435
Phone: 952-832-2600; Fax: 952-832-2601
FEIN #: 41-0905995 Inc: 1966

Ms. Judie Anderson
 Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission
 JASS-Watershed Administrators
 3235 Fernbrook Lane
 Plymouth, MN 55447

August 25, 2021

Invoice No: 23270F55.21 - 8

Total this Invoice	\$1,247.00
---------------------------	-------------------

Regarding: Review of development permits for compliance with the Elm Creek Watershed Management Plan

This invoice is for professional services for the above project, which include the following:

Job 100 - Technical Services

Meetings

- Attending WMC meeting to present project review

Pre-Project Review

- None

General administrative tasks

- Responding to general coordination emails and phone calls
- Invoicing

Job 300 - Project Reviews

Reviewing the following projects for compliance with Commission rules:

- 2021-022 Rogers HS Trail & Batting Cage

Coordinating and reviewing post approval submittals

- None

Professional Services from July 24, 2021 to August 20, 2021

Job:	100	Technical Services
------	-----	--------------------

Task:	010	Meetings
-------	-----	----------

Labor Charges

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Engineer / Scientist / Specialist IV				
Waln, Joseph	.60	160.00	96.00	
	.60		96.00	
Subtotal Labor				96.00
		Task Subtotal		\$96.00

Task:	040	General
-------	-----	---------

PLEASE REMIT TO ABOVE ADDRESS and INCLUDE INVOICE NUMBER ON CHECK.

Terms: Due upon receipt. 1 1/2% per month after 30 days. Please refer to the contract if other terms apply.

Labor Charges

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Engineer / Scientist / Specialist IV				
Waln, Joseph	.50	160.00	80.00	
Support Personnel II				
Nypan, Nyssa	.50	100.00	50.00	
	1.00		130.00	
Subtotal Labor				130.00
		Task Subtotal		\$130.00
		Job Subtotal		\$226.00

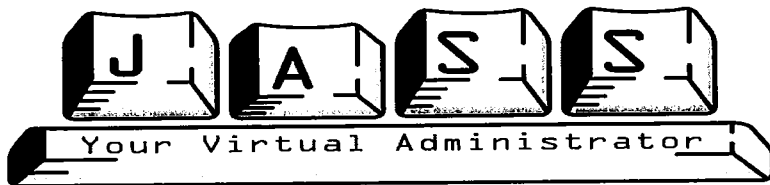
Job:	300	Project Reviews
Task:	2122	2021-022 Rogers HS Trail and Batting Cage

Labor Charges

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Engineer / Scientist / Specialist IV				
Waln, Joseph	4.60	160.00	736.00	
Engineer / Scientist / Specialist II				
Brown, Aaron	3.00	95.00	285.00	
	7.60		1,021.00	
Subtotal Labor				1,021.00
		Task Subtotal		\$1,021.00
		Job Subtotal		\$1,021.00
		Total this Invoice		\$1,247.00

	Current	Prior	Total	Received	A/R Balance
Invoiced to Date	1,247.00	57,379.50	58,626.50	57,379.50	1,247.00

Thank you in advance for the prompt processing of this invoice. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Waln, your Barr project manager at 952.832.2984 or email at jwaln@barr.com.



3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth MN 55447

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447

1-Sep-21

Total by
Project Area

Administrative	0.750	60.00	45.00	
Administrative	52.920	65.00	3,439.80	
Administrative - Audit		65.00	0.00	
Administrative - PRAP	2.730	65.00	177.45	
Admin - virtual PRAP		70.00	0.00	
PRAP - Reimbursable Expense		1.00	0.00	
Admin - virtual	3.340	70.00	233.80	
Office Support	12.00	200.00	2,400.00	
Storage Unit	1.00	146.64	146.64	
Data Processing/File Mgmt	1.75	65.00	113.75	
File Management		60.00	0.00	
Admin - Reimbursable Expense	234.38	1.00	234.38	6,790.820
Admin - TAC support		60.00	0.00	
Admin - TAC support	8.16	65.00	530.40	
Admin - TAC support virtual	2.25	70.00	157.50	
TAC Support - Reimbursable Expense	45.41	1.00	45.41	733.310
Website		60.00	0.00	
Website	8.02	65.00	521.30	
Website - Reimbursable Expense		1.00	0.00	
Web Domain, hosting		1.00	0.00	521.300
Project Reviews - Secre		60.00	0.00	
Project Reviews - Admin	36.53	65.00	2,374.45	
Project Reviews - Admin offsite		70.00	0.00	
Project Reviews - Admin - File Mgmt		60.00	0.00	
Project Reviews - Reimbursable Expense	299.89	1.00	299.89	2,674.340
Project Reviews - Admin - Specific	14.29	65.00	928.85	
Project Reviews - Admin - Specific - reimbursables		1.00	0.00	928.850
Education - Secretarial		60.00	0.00	
Education - Admin	0.98	65.00	63.70	
Education - Admin virtual - Blue Thumb Partner Event		70.00	0.00	
Education - Reimbursable Expense	23.20	1.00	23.20	86.900
CIPs - General - Secretarial		60.00	0.00	
CIPs - Administrative	5.60	65.00	364.00	
CIPs- Offsite Admin		70.00	0.00	
CIPs - reimbursables	163.94	1.00	163.94	527.940
Cost Share - admin		60.00	0.00	
Cost Share - administrative		65.00	0.00	
Cost Share - reimbursable expense	1.54	1.00	1.54	1.540

Invoice Total

12,265.000

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission Treasurer's Report

	A	B	C	D	K	L	T	U	V	W	X
1			2021 Budget	Jan 2021	thru July 2021 / paid Aug 2021 66.67%	thru Aug 2021 / paid Sep 2021 75%	2021 Budget Expenses YTD	%age Budget Expended YTD	Extrapolated FY 2021	Extrapolated %age FY 2021	(Over) Under Budget
2	EXPENSES										
3	Administrative		95,000	6,205.27	7,138.26	7,524.13	67,613.02	71.17	162,271	171	(67,271)
4	Grant Writing		650				0.00	0.00	0	0	650
5	Website		2,000	952.25	120.00	521.30	879.30	43.97	2,110	106	(110)
6	Legal		2,000			77.50	813.75	40.69	1,953	98	47
7	Audit		5,000		6,000.00		6,000.00	120.00	6,000	120	(1,000)
8	Insurance		3,800				3,800.00	100.00	3,800	100	-
9	Miscellaneous/Contingency		1,000				0.00	0.00	0	0	1,000
10	Technical Support - HCEE		12,000				0.00	0.00	0	0	12,000
11	Floodplain Mapping		0	1,842.50			23,488.00		23,488		(23,488)
12	Project Review Technical (Job 300)		185,000	6,384.50	5,785.50	1,021.00	63,430.50	34.29	152,233	82	32,767
13	Other Technical (Jobs 100 & 200)		-	2,889.00	7,187.55	226.00	37,079.80		88,992		(88,992)
14	Project Reviews - Admin Support		12,000	650.02	1,183.45	3,603.19	17,084.22	142.37	41,002	342	(29,002)
15	WCA - Admin		-				340.60		817		(817)
16	Stream Monitoring USGS		24,000				0.00	0.00	0	0	24,000
17	Stream Monitoring TRPD		7,200	7,200.00			0.00	0.00	7,200	100	-
18	DO Longitudinal Survey		1,000				0.00	0.00	1,000	100	-
19	Rain Gauge		400	28.42	34.72	31.97	247.23	61.81	593	148	(193)
20	Lakes Monitoring - CAMP		760	760.00			0.00	0.00	0	0	760
21	Lakes Monitoring - TRPD						0.00		0		-
22	Sentinel Lakes		8,100	8,100.00			0.00	0.00	8,100	100	-
23	Additional Lake		2,500				0.00	0.00	2,500	100	-
24	Aquatic Vegetation Surveys		1,100	1,100.00			0.00	0.00	0	0	1,100
25	Wetland Monitoring (WHEP)		4,000				0.00	0.00	0	0	4,000
26	Education		2,500	35.00	257.50	86.90	1,110.41	44.42	2,665	107	(165)
27	WMWA General Activities		5,000		3,000.00		3,000.00	60.00	3,000	60	2,000
28	WMWA Implementation/Watershed Prep		6,500		1,000.00		1,000.00	15.38	1,000	15	5,500
29	Rain Garden Wkshops/Intensive BMPs/Special Projects		3,000		1,000.00		1,000.00	33.33	1,000	33	2,000
30	Education Grants		1,000				0.00	0.00	0	0	1,000
31	Macroinvertebrate Monitoring-River Watch		3,000				0.00	0.00	0	0	3,000
32	Projects ineligible for ad valorem		0			CIPs	0.00		0		-
33	Studies / Project ID / SWA		0			529.48	1,592.65		3,822		(3,822)
34	Plan Amendment		2,000				641.66	32.08	1,540	77	460
35	Contribution to 4th Gen Plan		10,000				0.00	0.00	0	0	10,000

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission Treasurer's Report

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	A	B	C	D	K	L	T	U	V	W	X
36	Transfer to (from) Encumbered Funds (see below)						0.00		0		
37	Transfer to (from) Capital Projects (see CIP Tracking)		175,000	65,664.00			128,781.77			0	
38	Transfer to (from) Cash Sureties (see below)						1,003.00				
39	Transfer to (from) Grants (see below)		125,000				0.00			0	
40	To Fund Balance										
41	TOTAL - Month			101,810.96	32,706.98	13,621.47	358,905.91				
42	Accumulated Expenses 2021	blue highlighted = 2020 Expense	700,510.00		302,906.56	316,528.03	2021 Paid			0	
43											

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission Treasurer's Report

	A	B	C	D	K	L	T	U	V	W	X
44			2021 Budget		recd July 2021	recd Aug 2021	Revenue YTD	Received YTD	FY 2021		
45	REVENUE										
46	From Fund Balance										
47	Floodplain Modeling						0.00		48,693		
48	Project Review Fee		100,000		16,875.00		107,198.90	107.20	257,277		
49	Refund Project Fee						-1,021.50		(2,452)		
50	Water Monitoring - TRPD Co-op Agmt		5,500				0.00	0.00	5,500		
51	WCA Fees		0				0.00		-		
52	Reimbursement for WCA Expense						0.00		-		
53	WCA Escrow Earned						0.00		-		
54	Member Dues		237,300				237,300.00	100.00	237,300		
55	Interest/Dividends Earned		15,250		13.14		115.59	0.76	277		
56	Transfer to (from) Capital Projects (see CIP Tracking)		185,588		72,418.24		72,418.24	39.02	173,804		
57	Transfer to (from) Cash Sureties (see below)				CIP Tax Levy		0.00		-		
58	Transfer to (from) Grants (see below)		100,000				209,691.00				
59	Misc Income						0.00		-		
60	Total - Month				89,306.38	0.00	625,702.23		720,399.95		
61	Accumulated Receipts 2021	blue highlighted=2020 Revenue	643,638.00		571,382.71	571,382.71	2021 Received				
62											
63	MONTHLY CASH SUMMARY				July	Aug					
64		Balance Fwd			56,599.40	-13,621.47					



3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447
(763) 553-1144
Fax: (763) 553-9326
judie@jass.biz

To: Elm Creek Commissioners
From: Judie Anderson
Date: September 1, 2021
Subject: Public Hearing 2021 Levy

On June 9, 2021, the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission, upon recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee, agreed to move forward with a Minor Plan Amendment (MPA) to its Third Generation Watershed Management Plan to revise the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The MPA would revise Table 4.5 of the Commission's Third Generation Plan CIP in order to add two projects, remove four projects, and shift the timing and add specificity to three existing projects listed on the CIP. These new projects and project updates were submitted by the member cities. Following a public meeting conducted by the Commission on June 9, 2021, the Commission adopted Resolution 2021-03 Adopting a Minor Plan Amendment.

Doug Baines, representative from Dayton and Commission Chair, was present at a meeting of a Committee of the Hennepin County Board on July 27, 2021, to answer questions regarding the proposed levy. The County Board approved the Minor Plan Amendment and adopted a 2021 maximum levy of \$291,638 for the Elm Creek Commission on August 3, 2021.

At their August 11, 2021, meeting, the Commission called for a public hearing to be held on September 8, 2021, to consider these projects. Member cities and the County have been notified and notice has been duly published.

COMMISSION ACTION

The purpose of the public hearing is to present the proposed projects and proposed financing and to take comment from the member cities and the public. The recommended order of business is as follows:

1. Suspend regular meeting
2. Staff report on projects and proposed financing
3. Commission discussion
4. Open public hearing
5. Take comments from member cities
6. Take comments from public
7. Close public hearing
8. Commission discussion
9. Consider approving Resolution 2021-04.
10. Consider approving Cooperative Agreements with the cities of Champlin and Maple Grove.
11. Resume regular meeting.

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS.

Project 2021-01: Elm Road Area/Everest Lane Stream Restoration, Maple Grove.
Project Description: Stream restoration along 800 LF of intermittent stream to reduce sediment and nutrient release to Elm Creek, reducing Ph and TSS loading by 15 lbs/year and 15 tons/year, respectively, and improving DO and habitat for fish and invertebrates.
Proposed Levy: \$132,563.

Project 2021-02: Elm Creek Stream Restoration Phase V Hayden Lake Outfall, Champlin.
Project Description: Includes 3,800 LF of stream bank restoration located upgradient of the Mill ponds. Proposed construction will improve impaired water with low DO, restoring the stream banks and providing habitat structure.
Proposed Levy: \$159,075.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Technical Advisory Committee has reviewed the feasibility reports for these projects and found them to be consistent with the Commission's requirements. Staff recommends that the Commission

1. Approve the resolution that accepts the reports,
2. Order the projects,
3. Certify the Commission's share of the costs of the projects to the county levy, and
4. Approve the cooperative agreements with the cities of Champlin and Maple Grove.

ELM CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-04

**ORDERING 2021 IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, DESIGNATING
MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSTRUCTION, AND MAKING
FINDINGS AND DESIGNATING COMMISSION COST-SHARE FUNDING**

WHEREAS, on October 14, 2015, the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission (Commission) adopted the *Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission Third Generation Watershed Management Plan*, (hereinafter, “Plan”); and

WHEREAS, the Plan includes a Capital Improvement Program (CIP); and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2017, the Commission adopted a Minor Plan amendment that added two projects to the CIP, removed one project from the CIP, and shifted the timing of funding of four projects currently listed on the CIP; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2018, the Commission adopted a Minor Plan amendment that added eight projects to the CIP and shifted the timing of funding of one project currently listed on the CIP; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2019, the Commission adopted a Minor Plan amendment that added three projects to the CIP, removed one project from the CIP, and shifted the timing of funding of six projects currently listed on the CIP; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2020, the Commission adopted a Minor Plan amendment that added three projects, removed one project, added more specificity to two projects, and shifted the timing of one project currently listed on the CIP; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2021, the Commission adopted a Minor Plan amendment that added two projects, removed four projects, and shifted the timing and added specificity to three existing projects currently listed on the CIP; and

WHEREAS, the Commission’s Cost Share Policy, adopted April 11, 2012, specifies a county tax levy under Minn. Stat. § 103B.251 as a source of the Commission's share of funding for projects proposed in the Commission’s CIP; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2021, the Commission received Feasibility Studies on Project 2021-01: Elm Road Area/Everest Lane Stream Restoration, in the city of Maple Grove, and Project 2021-02: Elm Creek Stream Restoration Phase V, Hayden Lake Outfall, Champlin in the city of Champlin, (the “Projects”); and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2021, following published and mailed notice in accordance with the Commission’s Joint Powers Agreement and Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.251, the Commission conducted a public hearing on the Projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission as follows:

1. The Projects will be conducive to the public health and promote the general welfare and is in compliance with Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.205 to 103B.255 (the "Act") and with the Commission's surface water management plan as adopted and amended in accordance with the Act.

2. The total cost of the Projects is estimated to be \$291,638.

3. The Commission receives, accepts, and approves the feasibility reports for the Projects, which Projects are hereby ordered.

4. Not more than \$291,638 will be paid by the Commission from proceeds received from Hennepin County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.251, Subd. 6, and the Commission's Joint Powers Agreement. Additional costs will be paid by the respective cities wherein the projects reside, but no costs will be charged to other members of the Commission. The Commission understands that the County may pay such costs with taxes levied in 2021 and paid in 2022. The Administrator is directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to Hennepin County prior to October 1, 2021.

5. The cities wherein the projects reside are designated as the members responsible for contracting for the construction of Projects. Contracts for construction shall be let in accordance with the requirements of law applicable to said cities. The Cooperative Agreement for Project 2021-01 between the Commission and the City of Maple Grove is approved and the Chair and Administrator are authorized and directed to execute the agreement. The Cooperative Agreement for Project 2021-02 between the Commission and the City of Champlin is approved and the Chair and Administrator are authorized and directed to execute the agreement.

Adopted by the Commissioners of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission the eighth day of September, 2021.

Doug Baines, Chair

ATTEST:

Judie A. Anderson, Administrator

(NO SEAL)

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN**

I, Judie A. Anderson, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the minutes of all proceedings had and held by the Board of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission, that I have compared the above resolution with the original passed and adopted by the Board of

said Commission at a regular meeting thereof held on the eighth day of September, 2021, at 11:30 a.m., that the above constitutes a true and correct copy thereof, that the same has not been amended or rescinded and is in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto placed my hand and signature this eighth day of September, 2021.

Judie A. Anderson
Recording Secretary

(NO SEAL)

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
FOR
PROJECT 2021-01 ELM ROAD AREA/EVEREST LANE STREAM RESTORATION**

This Agreement is made as of this ____ day of _____, 2021, by and between the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission, a joint powers watershed management organization (hereinafter the "Commission"), and the City of Maple Grove, a Minnesota municipal corporation (hereinafter the "City").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Commission has adopted the Elm Creek Watershed Management Plan as amended on June 9, 2021 (the "Plan"), a watershed management plan within the meaning of Minn. Stat., § 103B.231; and

WHEREAS, the Plan includes a capital improvement program ("CIP") that lists a number of water quality project capital improvements; and

WHEREAS, the water quality projects identified in the CIP include the **Elm Road Area/Everest Lane Stream Restoration** more fully described in Attachment One to this Agreement, which is hereby made a part hereof (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Plan specifies that projects in the CIP will be partially funded by a County tax levy under Minn. Stat., § 103B.251; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2021, the Commission adopted a resolution ordering the Project, directing that it be constructed by the City and that the Commission's share of the Project costs be certified to Hennepin County for payment in accordance with Minn. Stat., § 103B.251; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that Hennepin County will levy taxes throughout the watershed for the Project, for collection and settlement in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City is willing to construct the Project on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON THE BASIS OF THE PREMISES AND MUTUAL COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Project will consist of improvements in the City as more fully described in Attachment One.
2. The City will design the Project and prepare plans and specifications for construction of the Project. Plans and specifications are subject to approval by the Commission's consulting engineer and the City of Maple Grove City Engineer.
3. The City will advertise for bids and award contracts in accordance with the requirements of law. The City will award the contract and supervise and administer the construction of the Project to assure that it is completed in accordance with plans and specifications. The City will require the contractor to provide all payment and performance bonds required by law. The City will require that the Commission be named as additional insured on all liability policies required by the City of the contractor. The City will require that the contractor defend, indemnify, protect and hold harmless the Commission and the City, their agents, officers, and

employees, from all claims or actions arising from performance of the work of the Project conducted by the contractor. The City will supervise the work of the contractor. However, the Commission may observe and review the work of the Project until it is completed.

4. The City will pay the contractor and all other expenses related to the construction of the Project and keep and maintain complete records of such costs incurred.
5. The Commission will secure payment from the County in accordance with Minn. Stat., § 103B.251 in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000). It is understood that tax settlement from the County is not expected to occur until 2022.

Out-of-pocket costs related to the Project, incurred and paid by the Commission for publication of notices, securing County tax levy, preparation of contracts, review of proposed contract documents and administration of this contract shall be repaid from funds received in the tax settlement from Hennepin County. Amounts received from the County, up to \$125,000, less reimbursement to the Commission of such expenses are available for reimbursement to the City for costs incurred by the City in the design and construction of the Project. Reimbursement to the City will be made on completion of the project and submittal of as-builts. Reimbursement to the City will be made as soon as funds are available provided a request for payment has been received from the City providing such detailed information as may be requested by the Commission to substantiate costs and expenses.

6. Reimbursement to the City will not exceed the amount received from the County, up to \$125,000, for the Project less any amounts retained by the Commission for Commission expenses. All costs of the Project incurred by the City in excess of such reimbursement, including all costs incurred in excess of estimated project costs due to unforeseen conditions or any other cause, shall be borne by the City or secured by the City from other sources.
7. All City books, records, documents, and accounting procedures related to the Project are subject to examination by the Commission.
8. The City will secure all necessary local, state, or federal permits required for the construction of the Project.
9. The project will be constructed on land owned or easements held by the City.
10. The City will have ownership of the associated improvements and will maintain them in good operating condition in perpetuity or until such time as they are replaced with like improvements.
11. The City will defend, indemnify, protect and hold harmless the Commission and its agents, officers, and employees, from any claims arising out of the design, construction, or maintenance of the Project, including environmental claims. Nothing herein shall be deemed a waiver of the limitations of liability in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 466.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized officers on behalf of the parties as of the day and date first above written.

ELM CREEK WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

By _____
Doug Baines, Its Chair

And by _____
Judie A. Anderson, Its Administrator

CITY OF MAPLE GROVE

By: _____
Its Mayor

And by: _____
Its Manager

ATTACHMENT ONE

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
FOR
PROJECT 2021-02 ELM CREEK STREAM RESTORATION PHASE V HAYDEN LAKE OUTFALL**

This Agreement is made as of this ____ day of _____, 2021, by and between the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission, a joint powers watershed management organization (hereinafter the "Commission"), and the City of Champlin, a Minnesota municipal corporation (hereinafter the "City").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Commission has adopted the Elm Creek Watershed Management Plan as amended on June 9, 2021 (the "Plan"), a watershed management plan within the meaning of Minn. Stat., § 103B.231; and

WHEREAS, the Plan includes a capital improvement program ("CIP") that lists a number of water quality project capital improvements; and

WHEREAS, the water quality projects identified in the CIP include the **Elm Creek Stream Restoration Phase V Hayden Lake Outfall** more fully described in Attachment One to this Agreement, which is hereby made a part hereof (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Plan specifies that projects in the CIP will be partially funded by a County tax levy under Minn. Stat., § 103B.251; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2021, the Commission adopted a resolution ordering the Project, directing that it be constructed by the City and that the Commission's share of the Project costs be certified to Hennepin County for payment in accordance with Minn. Stat., § 103B.251; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that Hennepin County will levy taxes throughout the watershed for the Project, for collection and settlement in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City is willing to construct the Project on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON THE BASIS OF THE PREMISES AND MUTUAL COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Project will consist of improvements in the City as more fully described in Attachment One.
2. The City will design the Project and prepare plans and specifications for construction of the Project. Plans and specifications are subject to approval by the Commission's consulting engineer and the City of Champlin City Engineer.
3. The City will advertise for bids and award contracts in accordance with the requirements of law. The City will award the contract and supervise and administer the construction of the Project to assure that it is completed in accordance with plans and specifications. The City will require the contractor to provide all payment and performance bonds required by law. The City will require that the Commission be named as additional insured on all liability policies required by the City of the contractor. The City will require that the contractor defend, indemnify, protect and hold harmless the Commission and the City, their agents, officers, and

employees, from all claims or actions arising from performance of the work of the Project conducted by the contractor. The City will supervise the work of the contractor. However, the Commission may observe and review the work of the Project until it is completed.

4. The City will pay the contractor and all other expenses related to the construction of the Project and keep and maintain complete records of such costs incurred.
5. The Commission will secure payment from the County in accordance with Minn. Stat., § 103B.251 in the amount of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000). It is understood that tax settlement from the County is not expected to occur until 2022.

Out-of-pocket costs related to the Project, incurred and paid by the Commission for publication of notices, securing County tax levy, preparation of contracts, review of proposed contract documents and administration of this contract shall be repaid from funds received in the tax settlement from Hennepin County. Amounts received from the County, up to \$150,000, less reimbursement to the Commission of such expenses are available for reimbursement to the City for costs incurred by the City in the design and construction of the Project. Reimbursement to the City will be made on completion of the project and submittal of as-builts. Reimbursement to the City will be made as soon as funds are available provided a request for payment has been received from the City providing such detailed information as may be requested by the Commission to substantiate costs and expenses.

6. Reimbursement to the City will not exceed the amount received from the County, up to \$150,000, for the Project less any amounts retained by the Commission for Commission expenses. All costs of the Project incurred by the City in excess of such reimbursement, including all costs incurred in excess of estimated project costs due to unforeseen conditions or any other cause, shall be borne by the City or secured by the City from other sources.
7. All City books, records, documents, and accounting procedures related to the Project are subject to examination by the Commission.
8. The City will secure all necessary local, state, or federal permits required for the construction of the Project.
9. The project will be constructed on land owned or easements held by the City.
10. The City will have ownership of the associated improvements and will maintain them in good operating condition in perpetuity or until such time as they are replaced with like improvements.
11. The City will defend, indemnify, protect and hold harmless the Commission and its agents, officers, and employees, from any claims arising out of the design, construction, or maintenance of the Project, including environmental claims. Nothing herein shall be deemed a waiver of the limitations of liability in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 466.

The remainder of this page is intentionally blank.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized officers on behalf of the parties as of the day and date first above written.

ELM CREEK WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

By _____
Doug Baines, Its Chair

And by _____
Judie A. Anderson, Its Administrator

CITY OF CHAMPLIN

By: _____
Its Mayor

And by: _____
Its Manager

ATTACHMENT ONE

Level II Performance Review

Elm Creek

Watershed Management Commission

Local Government Unit Review

Draft Report

August 20, 2021

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

520 Lafayette Road North

St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-0768

www.bwsr.state.mn.us

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This report has been prepared for **Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission** by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) in partial fulfillment of the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.102, Subd.3.

Prepared by Brett Arne (brett.arne@state.mn.us; 218-850-0934).

BWSR is reducing printing and mailing costs by using the Internet to distribute reports and information to wider audiences. This report is available in alternative formats upon request.

Introduction

This is an informational document prepared by the staff of the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission. It reports the results of a routine performance review of this organization's water management plan implementation and overall organizational effectiveness in delivery of conservation projects and programs. The findings and recommendations are intended to give local government units (LGUs) constructive feedback they can use to enhance their joint and individual delivery of conservation services.

For this review, BWSR has analyzed the LGU's reported accomplishments of their management plan action items, determined the organization's compliance with BWSR's Level I and II performance standards, surveyed members of the organization and their partner organizations for feedback, and conducted a routine spot check of Wetlands Conservation Act activities if applicable.

This routine evaluation is neither a financial audit nor an investigation and it does not replace or supersede other types of governmental review of local government unit operations.

While the performance review reported herein has been conducted under the authority granted to BWSR by Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B.102, this is a staff report and has not been reviewed or approved by the BWSR board members.

What is PRAP?

PRAP is an acronym for BWSR's Performance Review and Assistance Program. Authorized by the 2007 Minnesota legislature, the purpose of PRAP is to support local delivery of conservation and water management by periodically reviewing and assessing the performance of local units of government that deliver those services. These include soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, and the local water management functions of counties.

BWSR has developed four levels of review, from routine to specialized, depending on the program mandates and the needs of the local governmental unit. A Level I review annually tabulates all local governmental units' compliance with basic planning and reporting requirements. In Level II, conducted by BWSR once every ten years for each local government unit, the focus is on the degree to which the organization is accomplishing its water management plan. A Level II review includes determination of compliance with BWSR's Level I and II statewide performance standards, a tabulation of progress on planned goals and objectives, a survey of staff and board members of the factors affecting plan implementation, a survey of LGU partners about their impressions of working with the LGU, and a BWSR staff report to the organization with findings, conclusions and recommendations. BWSR's actions in Levels III and IV include elements of Levels I and II and then emphasize assistance to address the local governmental unit's specific needs. More details can be found on the BWSR PRAP webpage.

Executive Summary

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) staff met with the administrative consultants and the Elm Creek WMC board to discuss an evaluation of the water management function of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission. The findings in this document represent the data collected over the course of about 90 days of review and the recommendations are a result of the observations and conclusions we have made based on that data. There are four distinct parts of a Level II evaluation conducted via the BWSR Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) as authorized by M.S. 103B.102, the ECWMC was subject to only three as they do not implement the Wetlands Conservation Act.

Part 1: Evaluation of the progress made by water management entities toward goals stated in their approved and adopted local water management plans.

Part 2: Review of the entities' adherence to level I and II standards as directed by statutes, policies, and guidelines via a performance standards certification checklist.

Part 3: Board member and staff surveys as well as partner surveys to assess internal and external perceptions of performance, communication, partnerships, and delivery of conservation programs and customer service.

Part 4: Wetlands Conservation Act spot check to evaluate WCA program performance and delivery.

After thorough review of the data we develop a list of Actions and Recommendations to help guide the water management entities in their continued growth of program delivery. We do this to ensure they continue to meet basic standards as established in statutes and policy. We also develop a list of commendations for the great work these entities do as our partners in delivering conservation across the varied landscapes of Minnesota. Each of the above listed parts of the review are described in the findings section of this document, and the completed documents can be found in the notated appendices for further review. This report will be summarized in conjunction with other PRAP level II reports collected in 2021 to be used as the official BWSR PRAP report delivered to the legislature as part of our reporting requirement under M.S. 103B.102.

Key Findings and Conclusions

The Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission should be commended for their work in implementing core programs, rules, planning efforts, and building partnerships. The board and administrative consultants are viewed very favorably by their partners and have made significant progress toward implementing their watershed management plan.

Ongoing water management challenges in the metro area have created the necessity to forge stronger working relationships among partners to improve local water management within the watershed, and the switch to comprehensive watershed management plans throughout the state means new opportunities for increased prioritization of projects and available funding.

The Elm Creek WMC is commended for meeting all of the basic performance standards including having data practices policies, updated capital improvement program, and completing required annual reports. They are also commended for meeting several high performance standards, a testament to the quality of work they are recognized for by their partners.

Summary of Recommendations

There were several recommendations made by BWSR staff. These recommendations stem from the data we collected through the four parts of this review, as discussed previously. We rely heavily on our relationships with local government staff as well as the input of partners, staff, and board members to make sure we provide recommendations that are relevant, timely, and helpful for the LGUs to implement and improve their operations. The full text of the recommendations can be found in the conclusions section.

Recommendation 1 – Develop clear prioritized, targeted, and measurable actions for future watershed management plans

Recommendation 2 – Complete an internal analysis of the ECWMC Capital Improvement Program

Recommendation 3 – Conduct a review of the ECWMC regulatory program requirements and standards

Recommendation 4 – Assess and develop a coordinated communication and outreach strategy for engaging individual landowners

Findings

This section describes what BWSR learned about the performance of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission via the various collection methods as outlined below.

Findings Part 1: Planning

The findings in this section describe the Elm Creek Watershed Management Plan and action items and the accomplishments to date.

As part of this review, the administrator for ECWMC prepared a table (See Appendix A) listing the accomplishments to-date for each of the action items for which they are responsible. The table contains a progress rating applied by BWSR to each item indicating whether it has been completed or its target was met, whether progress has been made and work is continuing, or whether it was dropped or not started yet.

In reviewing the Watershed Management Plan for ECWMC, it was noted that there were a total of 35 action items listed. These action items were grouped under “goal areas” within the plan, and located under other specific goal statements, but not necessarily related to them specifically. The goal areas are listed below and cover a mix of resource and administrative issues:

- Water Quantity
- Water Quality
- Groundwater
- Wetlands
- Drainage Systems
- Commission Operations

Typically, fewer action items in a long-range plan denote more broad, continuous activities and fewer specific goals. Conversely plans with a long list of action items may be too specific to be achievable within the plan timeframe. The ECWMC watershed management plan falls toward the broad category of the scale with regard to metro watershed management plans with fewer action items, all of which are ongoing and the goals they are related to do not have any desired measurable results. Many of the actions are directly project related which is good and are adequately separated into specific goal areas. The summary we received also included several project implementation summaries that we used in our evaluation of plan progress.

The BWSR rated version of the Plan Progress Evaluation Table submitted by Elm Creek staff is contained in Appendix A, pages 12-14.

Findings Part 2: Performance Standards

BWSR has developed a set of performance standards that describe both basic requirements and high-performance best management practices related to the overall operation of the organization. These standards are different depending on the type of LGU. Nevertheless, each set of standards addresses four areas of operation: administration, planning, execution, and communication/coordination. The basic standards describe practices that are either legally required and defined by state statute or fundamental to watershed management organization operations as determined by BWSR board policies. Each year BWSR tracks all of Minnesota's water management LGUs' compliance with a few of the basic standards to make sure our partners stay in compliance with statutory or other legislative requirements. These typically include annual report submittals for BWSR grant activities, website reporting requirements, and financial reporting requirements as well.

The high-performance standards describe practices that reflect a level of performance that exceeds the required practices and may be items found within BWSR guidance materials or best practices recommendations. While all local government water management entities should be meeting all of the basic standards, only the more ambitious ones will meet many high-performance standards. The performance standards checklists submitted and reviewed for Elm Creek WMC are contained in Appendix B, pages 15-16.

For this Level II review, ECWMC reports compliance with 12 of 13 applicable basic standards, and 9 of 11 applicable high performance standards. The high achievements noted include:

- ECWMC has a consultant administrator on retainer
- Operational guidelines in place for fiscal procedures and conflicts of interest
- Strategic plan or self-assessment within the last 5 years
- Watershed hydraulic trends monitored
- Operational partnerships/cooperative projects accomplished with neighboring organizations
- Plan progress tracked for Information and Education objectives

Findings Part 3: Internal and External Surveys

Part 3 of this performance assessment is based on responses to an on-line survey of LGUs' staff and board and an online survey to partner organizations. The board and staff were asked different survey questions than the partners. The survey questions are designed to elicit information about LGU successes and difficulties in implementing plan goals and objectives and assessing the extent and quality of partnerships with other related organizations.

Internal Survey: Self-Assessment by ECWMC consultant staff and Board Members

A total of 21 staff and board members of the ECWMC were invited to take the online survey, and 8 responses were provided (38%). Those who responded indicated that they think the organization uses the current management plan either usually or always which is excellent. Many of the below questions are directly related to projects and plan accomplishments.

Please note: Information in this section has been analyzed and paraphrased to keep responses anonymous.

Survey participants were asked which programs or projects they consider to be particularly successful over the past few years. Examples given for Elm Creek WMC were:

- Development and implementation of the Capital Improvement Program
- Subwatershed assessments (SWAs)
- Mill Pond partnership with Champlin has been a great demonstration of integrating public education into CIPs
- Collaborating with Three Rivers Park district on alum treatments

When asked why these projects and programs were successful, the following examples were given:

- CIP program funding
- Creating partnerships between the cities and the commission
- Confidence in engineers
- Being willing to commit matching funds

The ECWMC staff and Board were asked to provide examples of areas where the agencies' work has been difficult to implement, as well as potential explanations for the difficulties. Answers provided are summarized below.

Identified Difficulty	Examples/Causes provided in survey (<i>paraphrased</i>)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural implementation • Rush Creek SWA • Resolving violations • Measuring TMDL progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Landowner involvement can be difficult.</i> • <i>Numerous agencies are involved</i> • <i>No incentives for conservation by speculators or property investors</i> • <i>Funding barriers</i>

Participants for the ECWMC survey were asked to list partners they had good working relationships with:

- Member communities
- Three Rivers Park District
- Hennepin County
- BWSR
- MPCA
- DNR

The survey also asked participants to identify organizations with whom they would like to collaborate with more often:

- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts
- Member cities
- Federal ag programs
- DNR waters and fisheries

Finally, the ECWMC staff and board were also asked to identify ways to improve the effectiveness of their organizations. Responses are summarized below:

- *Make sure each community has a representative on the Technical Advisory Committee and that those representatives attend and provide input at the TAC meetings*
- *Be more systematic about identifying needs and assessing progress*
- *Pursue more grant opportunities*
- *Increase city officials' understanding of ECWMC's jurisdiction and functions*

The full content of internal and external survey responses can be found in Appendix C, pages 17-20.

External Survey: Assessment of ECWMC by Partners

Elm Creek WMC Partners Survey: BWSR was provided a list of 15 partners by ECWMC staff. 10 partners responded to the survey for about a 67% response rate which is excellent. These partners reported a wide range of interaction with the ECWMC over the past 2-3 years including daily, almost every week, monthly, several times a year, or a few times a year indicating a wide variety of partner relationships. In relation to these answers 60% of the respondents said the frequency of their interaction was about right. The other 40% said there was not enough interaction indicating some room for improvement.

The partners were asked to assess their interactions with the ECWMC in five operational areas within the survey. The partners' rating of the commission's work in these areas was mostly "strong" or "good" indicating a very strong working relationship between the partners and ECWMC, but there were several ratings in the "acceptable" range which may indicate that there is room for improvement. There were no poor ratings given for any of the categories which is excellent, so for the most part ECWMC is either meeting or exceeding their partners' expectations.

Performance Area	ECWMC Partner Ratings (percent)				
	Strong	Good	Acceptable	Poor	Don't Know
Communication	22%	33%	45%	0%	0%
Quality of Work	22%	33%	45%	0%	6%
Customer Relations	22%	22%	33%	0%	23%
Initiative	22%	22%	45%	0%	11%
Timelines/ Follow through	33%	22%	45%	0%	0%

The partners' overall rating of their working relationship with the ECWMC was "strong" or and "powerful". There was one rating that indicated their working relationship was "good, but it could be better" and two ratings of "acceptable". It should be noted that there were no ratings of "poor" in any category which indicates the ECWMC maintains strong relationships with partners and should be commended for their efforts.

A couple of partners chose to make comments about their working relationship with the ECWMC:

- *The budget sometimes seems to limit what can be accomplished*
- *The ECWMC has strong communication and works well with partners. They recognize where they and their partners can improve and they have taken the initiative to make that happen including with their finances and project reviews*

When partners were asked for additional thoughts about how the ECWMC could be more effective, they provided the following summarized comments:

- *The ECWMC needs to do more to sell cities on watershed benefits and develop watershed-wide goals to take some burden off cities*
- *They need to alter their budget so more portions of the budget are paid by things like ad valorem taxes*

General Conclusions

After a thorough review of the provided information including water plan progress, performance standards, and reviewing the survey inputs we have developed some recommendations for both the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission.

In brief review, the ECWMC reports compliance with 12 of 13 applicable basic performance standards, and 9 of 11 high performance standards. The ECWMC has demonstrated clear progress toward their plan goals and actions, effectiveness in implementation of core programs and is a reliable partner. The ECWMC should continue to build upon their strong working relationships with partners to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the watershed.

The Elm Creek watershed management plan is a broad plan, and has fewer stated actions and less specificity than neighboring watershed management organization plans. The 35 actions within the plan were reviewed and progress has been excellent with all having some progress started and all of the plan actions currently ongoing. As with other plans we typically review, aside from stated TMDL reductions, there were few measurable goals or resource outcomes attributed to the actions items which will be recommended for future plan efforts.

Commendations

Commendations are based on achievement of BWSR's high performance standards (see Findings, Part 2 and Appendix B, pages 15-16). These practices reflect above average operational effectiveness and level of effort.

The Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission is commended for:

- ECWMC has a consultant administrator on retainer
- Operational guidelines in place for fiscal procedures and conflicts of interest
- Strategic plan or self-assessment within the last 5 years
- Watershed hydraulic trends monitored
- Operational partnerships/cooperative projects accomplished with neighboring organizations
- Plan progress tracked for Information and Education objectives

Action Items

Action items are based on compliance with BWSR's basic practice performance standards (see Findings, Part 2 and Appendix B, pages 15-16). Action Item address lack of compliance with one or more basic standards.

The ECWMC has one action item based on the performance standards checklist that was received:

No current data practices policy – Minnesota statutes chapter 13 outlines the requirements for government data practices. Statute 13.05 describes the duties of the responsible authority. BWSR can work with ECWMC to develop or update their data practices policy to become compliant with state statute. We require this action item to be addressed by ECWMC within six months of this report delivery.

Recommendations

This section contains recommendations offered by BWSR to the commissioners and staff of the ECWMC. The intention of these recommendations is to enhance the organization's delivery of effective water and related land resource management and service to the residents of the watershed. BWSR financial assistance may be available to support the implementation of some of these recommendations.

Recommendation 1 – Develop clear prioritized, targeted, and measurable actions for future watershed management plans

The Elm Creek Watershed Management Plan is a broad plan, with actions that do not address specific goals nor do they have explicit measurability outside of more general TMDL related reduction goals. The plan also lacks a clear relationship between the actions and specific goals where a completed action would be attributed to meeting a specific goal. BWSR recommends that for future planning efforts the plan organization and structure should reflect a clear relationship between goals and their specific actions as well as consider setting clear measurable outcomes the actions will achieve. In addition to fulfilling plan content criteria for the development of watershed management plans, this strategy will also make it easier for ECWMC staff and commissioners to report plan progress to partners and constituents, and more clearly demonstrate the effectiveness of the organization overall.

Recommendation 2 – Complete an internal analysis of the ECWMC Capital Improvement Program

In analyzing the collected data for ECWMC, we found that there were numerous stated issues with the organization's capital improvement program. Issues such as funding or technical resources can be common issues, but the results indicate there may be more deeply rooted issues such as gaps in communicating with member cities as well as a need for educating city officials of the benefits of the projects that the watershed undertakes to get more member support. We recommend conducting a program analysis to determine what barriers exist between the ECWMC CIP projects and member cities' willingness to assist, and developing a strategic plan to address the identified barriers to increase the CIP program effectiveness. BWSR offers PRAP assistance grants specifically for this type of exercise and is willing to work with ECWMC staff and commissioners on moving forward if desired.

Recommendation 3 – Conduct a review of the ECWMC regulatory program requirements and standards

There were several concerns found both internally and externally regarding the ECWMC regulatory program. Several responses identified issues with the program in terms of working with development entities and resolving regulatory program violations in a timely fashion. BWSR recommends the consulting staff and commissioners periodically review the regulatory program requirements and timelines to ensure issues are resolved quickly and that the permitting process is clearly understood and well documented. It may serve the commission well to review the program annually, or at least develop a regular review schedule.

Recommendation 4 – Assess and develop a coordinated communication and outreach strategy for engaging individual landowners

There were several comments in our surveys that indicated the ECWMC could do a better job of informing stakeholders – specifically landowners – of the value the commission brings to the conservation of resources within the ECWMC jurisdiction and the benefit of completing watershed projects for water quality and quantity. We recommend focusing on specific land areas or cover types within the watershed, including identified areas of lower water quality, or areas that disproportionately contribute to lower water quality and providing specific outreach to those landowners via direct communication or via coordination with partnering agencies.

LGU Comments and BWSR Responses

Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission board members and staff were invited to comment on the findings, conclusions and joint recommendations in the draft version of this report. The ECWMC provided a comment letter which can be found in Appendix E and is summarized below.

Appendix A. Plan Accomplishments

Indicator symbol for Progress Rating: □=not started/dropped ○=on-going progress ⇨=completed/target met

LGU name: Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission

Assessment date:

Type of Management Plan: Joint Powers Organization

Date of last plan revision: Minor Plan Amendment, June 9, 2021, amended CIP. Third Gen Plan approved October 14, 2015.

GOAL No. 4.3.1-Water Quantity; 4.3.2 Water Quality; 4.3.3 Groundwater; 4.3.4 Wetlands; 4.3.5 Drainage Systems; and 4.3.6 Operations and Programming.

Pages 131-138 of Mgmt. Plan

Objectives _water resource management; operations and programming_:

Planned Actions or Activities	Proposed Timeframe	Actual Timeframe	Accomplishments to Date	Progress Rating	Next Steps
1. 4.3.1 Third Gen Plan goals for water quantity are focused on reducing or, at a minimum, achieving no increase in the rate of runoff discharging to the streams in the watershed, reducing potential for erosive velocities and minimizing further streambank erosion.	Ongoing	Ongoing	The Commission maintains Rules and Standards requiring development and redevelopment meeting certain criteria to meet runoff rate control and runoff volume and infiltration requirements. These goals are accomplished ongoing as they are reviewed within the confines of development projects. Commission reviewed 54 projects in 2018; 32 in 2019; 42 in 2020; and 21 in 2021 thru June 14.	○	Continue. In 2018-2021, funded by the DNR, the Commission undertook a Floodplain Modeling and Mapping project. When adopted by the Commission the associated flood elevations will be used in future reviews.
2. 4.3.2 The Elm Creek Watershed-wide TMDL report and WRAPS plan established water quality improvement and protection goals for several lakes and the major streams in the watershed. The Third Gen Plan focus is on making progress to improve the lakes and stream as well as protect those that are not impaired waters. The Commission has a goal of undertaking a 5-year progress review the watershed-wide TMDL.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Annually review and adopt budget and CIP; undertake annual monitoring program with cooperation of Three Rivers Park District, USGS, and Hennepin County. Results are summarized in Commission's Annual Report and on the websites of the partners. Undertook subwatershed assessments for Diamond Lake, Fish Lake and Rush Creek to provide technical and financial assistance to member cities in identifying appropriate and cost-effective nutrient and sediment load reducing BMPs in priority areas.	○ □	Continue to identify and fund projects within these SWA areas. Assistance is being provided by Hennepin County Dept. of Environment and Energy. The Commission must recommit to proceeding with the 5-year review.

3. 4.3.3 Adopted a new infiltration requirement for new development and redevelopment to promote groundwater recharge and reduce runoff.	Ongoing	Ongoing	These goals are accomplished ongoing as they are reviewed within the confines of development projects	○	Continue to maintain Rules and Standards requiring projects reviewed by the Commission to meet certain criteria to meet abstraction/infiltration requirements.
4. 4.3.4. Preserve the existing functions and values of wetlands within the watershed; promote enhancement or restoration of wetlands	Ongoing	Ongoing	Until 2019 the Commission served at the WCA LGU for the cities of Champlin and Corcoran. After March 1, 2019, all cities in the watershed served as their own LGU for WCA. The Commission continues to review WCA-related documents as part of its project review function.	○	Continue
5. 4.3.5. Continue Hennepin County jurisdiction over the county ditches in the waters.	Ongoing	Ongoing		○	If requested, reconsider the jurisdiction over the county ditches.
6. 4.3.6. Operations and Programming includes the routine programs and operations of the Commission. It includes the education and outreach program, maintenance of rules and standards, the annual monitoring program, searching for grant funding and other funds to supplement the operating budget, operating a capital improvement program, and sharing in the cost of projects.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Most of these activities are guided by the Commission's administrative staff in partnership with the Technical Advisory Committee, the Budget Committee, and the Legal Advisor. The Rules and Standards are reviewed periodically as a need is identified by the TAC. TAC members are also responsible for assisting the Administrator to update the Commission's CIP. The Monitoring Program is overseen by Three Rivers Park District, Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County, and the USGS. The education and public outreach program is primarily delegated to WMWA (see below).	○	These activities are ongoing and unlikely to change going forward unless mandated by others.

7. educational goals	Ongoing	Ongoing	The Commission joined the West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) to provide citizen-level education. WMWA has implemented a 4 th grade program taught in schools and developed a video for online usage due to COVID.	○	In-school presentations are planned to resume in Fall 2021. In collaboration with Hennepin County, WMWA is also currently developing outreach materials for residents re pet waste and chlorides for use by member watersheds and cities. Educational programs/events occur as opportunities present themselves within Elm Creek member cities.

Appendix B. Performance Standards

METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT and WMO PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

LGU Name: Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission

Performance Area	Performance Standard		Level of Review	Rating	
	★	High Performance standard	I Annual Compliance	Yes, No, or Value	
	■	Basic practice or statutory requirement (see instructions for explanation of standards)	II BWSR Staff Review & Assessment (1/10 yrs.)	YES	NO
Administration	■	Activity report: annual, on-time	I	√	
	■	Financial report & audit completed on time	I	√	
	■	Drainage authority buffer strip report submitted on time	I	N/A	
	■	eLINK Grant Report(s): submitted on time	I	√	
	■	Rules: date of last revision or review	Last revision 01/2021	N/A	
	■	Personnel policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 years	All services contracted biannually	N/A	
	■	Data practices policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 years	II		√
	■	Manager appointments: current and reported	II	N/A	
	■	Consultant RFP: within 2 yrs. for professional services	II	√	
	■	WD/WMO has resolution assuming WCA responsibilities and appropriate delegation resolutions as warranted (N/A if not LGU)	II	√	
	■	WD/WMO has knowledgeable & trained staff that manages WCA program or has secured qualified delegate. (N/A if not LGU)	Commission no longer LGU for WCA. Cities have assumed that role	√	
	★	Administrator on staff	II	√	
	★	Board training: orientation and continuing education plan, record for each board member	II		√
	★	Staff training: orientation and continuing education plan and record for each staff	II		√
	★	Operational guidelines for fiscal procedures and conflicts of interest exist and current	II	√	
	★	Public drainage records: meet modernization guidelines	II	N/A	
Planning	■	Watershed management plan: up-to-date	I	√	
	■	City/twp. local water plans not yet approved		none	
	■	Capital Improvement Program: reviewed every 2 years	II	√	
	★	Strategic plan or self-assessment completed in last 5 years	Planning and assessment included in Annual Work Plans	√	
	★	Strategic plan identifies short-term priorities	II	√	

Execution	■	Engineer Reports: submitted for DNR & BWSR review	II	N/A	
	■	WCA decisions and determinations are made in conformance with all WCA requirements. (if delegated WCA LGU)	II	N/A	
	■	WCA TEP reviews & recommendations appropriately coordinated. (if delegated WCA LGU)	II	N/A	
	★	Certified wetland delineator on staff or retainer	II	N/A	
	■	Total expenditures per year (past 10 yrs.)	II	see below	
	★	Water quality trends tracked for key water bodies	II	√	
	★	Watershed hydrologic trends monitored / reported	II	√	
Communication & Coordination	■	Website: contains information as required by MR 8410.0150 Subpart 3a, i.e. as board meeting, contact information, water plan, etc.	II	√	
	■	Functioning advisory committee(s): recommendations on projects, reports, 2-way communication with Board	II	√	
	■	Communication piece: sent within last 12 months	Website update alerts	√	
		Communication Target Audience:			
	★	Track progress for Information and Education objectives in Plan	Target audiences include residents, homeowners, landowners, cities, lake associations, riparian landowners, elementary students.	√	
	★	Coordination with County Board, SWCD Board, City/Township officials		√	
	★	Partnerships: cooperative projects/tasks with neighboring organizations, such as counties, SWCDs, WDs, Non-Government Organizations		√	

Appendix C. Summary of External Survey Results

Elm Creek WMC Board and Staff Questions and Responses

How often does your organization use your current management plan to guide decisions about what you do? (response percent)	
Always	57.14%
Usually	42.86%
Seldom	0%
Never	0%

List your organization's most successful programs and projects during the past 3-5 years.
<i>Mill Pond partnership with Champlin has been a great demonstration of integrating public education into capital improvement projects</i>
<i>I'm starting my third year as a Commissioner and other than bank restoration projects on Elm Creek, collaborations with Three Rivers Park District on lake alum treatments, I don't have a good sense for the measure of success of programs</i>
<i>Development and implementation of the Commission's CIP program</i>
<i>the CIPs and SWAs</i>
<i>Updating the updated Water Management Plan to development applications.</i>
<i>Completion of subwatershed assessments to identify potential projects. Enhanced relationship with the county to door knock and implement projects</i>

What helped make these projects and programs successful?
<i>Bank restorations achieve very tangible, measurable outcomes</i>
<i>The CIP program and its funding which is a basis to assist its communities in the mutual goal of implementing and protecting the natural resources.</i>
<i>they create partnerships between the cities and the commission and the reviewing/funding agencies</i>
<i>Jim Kujawa's (Previously of Hennepin County Environmental services, now a consultant) thorough reviews. I'm learning to have confidence in the new firm's engineers at Wenk/Stantec. Preventing last minute development applications that Commissioners have had no time to review prior to the meetings</i>
<i>Being willing to commit matching money. Partners stepping forward to propose initiatives</i>

During the past 3-5 years, which of your organization's programs or projects have shown little progress or been on hold?
<i>Create a template chloride management plan that could always accompany project review approvals. It wouldn't be a requirement, but could help ensure the property manager has awareness of the need. -Implement SWA recommendations</i>
<i>Some of the City capital improvement projects, for which we levy and hold grant funds, are too slow to get started or off the books</i>
<i>Agricultural implementation of projects in the watershed have always been difficult.</i>
<i>getting landowner involvement in the Rush Creek SWA implementation projects. Getting landowners involved seems always to be difficult</i>

Violations, where land owners have acted without applying to the Commission before making changes. Progress towards resolution seem interminable. We have a violation that remains unresolved from 2017.

Measuring progress toward meeting TMDLs. Systematic stream condition assessments.

List the reasons why the organization has had difficulty with these projects and programs.

I believe we could use more detailed criteria for the timetable for levying to fund a City project, and stricter guidelines for City funding and project completion. I do not believe ECWMC should "sit" on substantial levied funds while waiting for City project that may in fact never see completion

Large parcels are purchased by speculators and are rented with no incentives for conservation. Some in the agriculture community are reluctant to work with and implement ag BMPs Slow process to develop a lasting relationship with Ag community. Dependency on other local and federal partners to implement projects

Landowner involvement. A lot of the "don't want government involved in my situation" attitude exists, particularly in the more rural areas.

I have a suspicion that some LGUs might have sympathy with the landowner regarding regulations, and then there are numerous appeals and agencies involved. These things are difficult to resolve satisfactorily.

Funding. Also, cities are focused on their own issues and are less likely to want to or be able to take a bigger-picture approach

Regarding the various organizations and agencies with which you could cooperate on projects or programs...

List the ones with which you work well already

Three Rivers Park District

The member communities. Three Rivers Park District

BWSR, PCA, DNR, Hennepin County, Three Rivers Park District

Hennepin County Environmental Services who have personnel contacting landowners to encourage them toward BMPs

Hennepin County. Three Rivers. BWSR

List the ones with which better collaboration would benefit your organization

MAWD

Member cities

The federal ag programs

Collaboration with state agencies can always improve

I am concerned with the Operation and Maintenance Agreements that depend on HOA's to administer, in cities that do not take on this responsibilities themselves

DNR waters and fisheries

If you don't know much about your organization's working relationships with partners, enter "I don't know"

1 response

What steps could your organization take to increase your effectiveness in accomplishing your plan goals and objectives?

Pursue more grant opportunities

I'm not sure the member city councils have a particularly strong understanding of the ECWMC's jurisdiction and how it overlaps the cities' own jurisdictions and functions related to project review, public improvements affecting water, citizen education, and the like

I believe the Commission is on the right track in its present approach

Make sure each community has a representative on the Technical Advisory Committee and that those representatives attend and provide input at the TAC meetings

Being really strict on granting variances--they are almost universally caused by profit motives of the developer.

Be more systematic about identifying needs and assessing progress

How long have you been with the organization?	(response percent)
Less than 5 years	28.57%
5 to 15 years	28.57%
More than 15 years	42.86%

Elm Creek WMC Partner Organization Questions and Responses

Question: How often have you interacted with this organization during the past two to three years? Select the response closest to your experience.	(response percent)
Not at all	0%
A few times	20%
Several times a year	30%
Monthly	20%
Almost every week	10%
Daily	20%

Is the amount of work you do in partnership with this organization...	(percent)
Not enough, there is potential for us to do more together	40%
About right	60%
Too much, they depend on us for work they should be doing for themselves	0.0%
Too much, we depend on them for work we should be doing ourselves or with others	0.0%

Based on your experience working with them, please rate the organization in the following areas:					
Performance Characteristic	Rating (percent of responses)				
	Strong	Good	Acceptable	Poor	I don't know
Communication (they keep us informed; we know their activities; they seek our input)	22%	33%	45%	0%	0%
Quality of work (they have good projects and programs; good service delivery)	22%	33%	45%	0%	0%
Relationships with Customers (they work well with landowners and clients)	22%	22%	33%	0%	22%
Initiative (they are willing to take on new projects, try new ideas)	22%	22%	45%	0%	11%
Timelines/Follow-through (they are reliable and meet deadlines)	33%	22%	45%	0%	0%

How is your working relationship with this organization? (percent)
Powerful, we are more effective working together
Strong, we work well together most of the time
Good, but it could be better
Acceptable, but a struggle at times
Poor, there are almost always difficulties
Non-existent, we don't work with this organization

Comments from Partners about their working relationship with the ECWMC:

- *The budget some times seems to limit what can be accomplished*
- *The ECWMC has strong communication and works well with partners. They recognize where they and their partners can improve and they have taken the initiative to make that happen including with their finances and project reviews..*

Do you have additional thought about how the “subject” organization could be more effective?

Very effective watershed organizations set aggressive goals for projects they want to implement, and then they find a way to pay for it, even if they have to make some modifications to their goals based on available funds. Unfortunately the Elm Creek Commission is handcuffed and not able to behave in that way. Too many of the Elm Creek member cities are cost averse, and they get in the way of the watershed being as affective as it can be. Specifically, cities like Corcoran spend so much time complaining about minor costs that they are unable to see the benefits and the long term cost savings. On the flip side, a city like Maple Grove has a huge percentage of the tax base, so Maple Grove complains about how much the city pays as a percent of the overall watershed budget, when it's really just happenstance with the way development, watershed boundaries and political boundaries have intersected. Both of these extremes impact how much the rest of the watershed is able to do, and prevents the from being as pro-active and effective as they can be. I also believe the representatives from the cities are doing their jobs and trying to protect funds the city has to directly pay. So, to be more effective, I think the watershed do a combination of two things: 1) They need to do more selling of the watershed benefits to these member cities and develop more watershed-wide goals that also take some burden off of the cities. In that instance, a city like Corcoran can become the watershed's biggest advocate if they realize how much they can leverage the watershed's efforts. 2) They need to alter their funding mechanism so more portions of their budget is paid for with something like ad valorem taxes, especially to complete studies and planning that will help them be a more effective watershed. And if dues from member cities are both reduced and a smaller portion of the overall budget, then cities like Maple Grove can lay off their claim of paying for ~40-50% of everything.

Provide incentive programs/grants to provide cost-share opportunities for project implementations. Provide incentives to permit applicants to implement BMP's that are above and beyond the Watershed Commission's rules and standards. There are some members of the joint powers agreement that are at different development stages within their respective Cities. I would like to see the conservative members become more pro-active with nutrient load reductions within their respective Cities. There seems to be a lack of capital improvement projects within these Cities. The commission sometimes is too dependent upon the technical services provided by the other agencies/organizations at significantly reduced rates. I feel the budget should be accurately adjusted to reflect the costs of provided services.

The ECWMC is transitioning from a longstanding close partnership with Hennepin County to an organization more reliant on private consultants. To their credit they have taken this opportunity to consider options and make well thought out decisions as to how their finances will be managed and how they will function moving forward with consultants. Also to their credit is that they are flexible as they work toward the most effective and efficient organization and partner they can be, including delivery of capital improvements

How long have you been with your current organization?	(response percent)
Less than 5 years	44.44%
5 to 15 years	22.22%
More than 15 years	33.33%

Appendix D. Comment Letter

Appendix E. Program Data

Time required to complete this review

ECWMC Staff: ?? Hours

BWSR Staff: 80 Hours

Schedule of Level II Review

BWSR PRAP Performance Review Key Dates

- April 12, 2021: Initial meeting with ECWMC Board
- April 10, 2021: Initial meeting with ECWMC staff
- May 21, 2021: Survey of board, staff, and partners
- September, 2021: Presentation of Draft Report
- October, 2021: Transmittal of Final Report to LGU (tentative)

NOTE: BWSR uses review time as a surrogate for tracking total program costs. Time required for PRAP performance reviews is aggregated and included in BWSR's annual PRAP report to the Minnesota Legislature.

elm creek

Watershed Management Commission

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STAFF REPORT September 1, 2021

a. 2017-050W Ernie Mayers Wetland/floodplain violation, Corcoran. The City of Corcoran contacted the Commission in December 2017 concerning drainage complaints on Mayers' property. Technical Evaluation Panels (TEPs) were held in 2017 and 2018 to assess the nature and extent of the violations and a restoration order was issued to Mayers. In October 2018, an appeal of the restoration order was received by the Board of Water and Soil Resources. BWSR placed an order of abeyance (stay) on the appeal looking for a resolution between the LGU and Mayers. On January 6, 2021, BWSR received an email from Corcoran that the LGU and Mayers were working towards resolving the restoration order. BWSR gave the parties until April 5, 2021 to seek an informal resolution or furnish a complete copy of the record to them. A TEP was held July 26, 2021 to discuss a draft settlement agreement between BWSR and Mayers. *Per phone conversations with LGU staff this past month, Mayers did not agree to the draft settlement proposal from BWSR. Because no resolution to the restoration order has been agreed to, the Mayers appeal for the restoration order will be heard by BWSR. Additional timelines and information will be provided to the Commission when available.*

b. 2018-020 North 101 Storage, Rogers. This is an existing 3-acre lot in the northwest corner of Highway 101 and CR144. The current land use is a combination of mini-storage units and outdoor storage. The site is proposed for complete demolition and construction of seven new mini-storage buildings. At their July meeting the Commission approved Staff findings dated July 9, 2018, pending four items relating to abstraction requirements and the infiltration system. The applicant requested and was granted an extension to *December 31, 2021*, provided the review process with the City of Rogers does not expire.

c. 2021-012 The Oaks at Bauer Farm, Champlin. This project was **approved** at the May 2021 meeting contingent that the applicant incorporates revisions from the city's engineering department and continues to demonstrate compliance with Commission rules. On July 22, 2021, Staff followed up with the City Engineer who indicated the design did not change in a way that would merit an additional review by the Commission. *This item will be removed from the report pending receipt of outstanding escrows.*

d. 2021-015 66th Avenue/Gleason Parkway, Corcoran. Reconstruction of 66th Avenue from a two-lane gravel road into a two-lane paved road with trails on both sides. Turn lanes will be added to CR 116 at the intersection with 66th Avenue. This corridor work between Gleason Parkway and CR 116 will increase accessibility between CR 101 and CR 116 into the Ravinia and future Tavera developments. *At their June 2021 meeting the Commission approved this project with the following conditions. 1) no wetland impacts can occur prior to MN WCA, LGU and Commission requirements being met, and 2) receipt/refund of final review fee balance.*

e. 2021-017 The Park Group Building, Rogers. This is a 3.0-acre site on Northdale Boulevard, northwest of the intersection of MN Highway 101 and 141st Avenue North. The project would construct a new warehouse, access drive, loading docks, and a new parking on an undeveloped site. The project would disturb 2.79 acres and create 1.73 acres of new impervious surface. The project triggers Rules D and E. The project was approved at the May **2021** meeting pending escrow review. The applicant subsequently revised

Commented [RSM1]: Judie- Please remove from the report as necessary.

Commented [RSM2]: Judie- Please remove from the report as necessary.

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the plans to include six additional parking spaces (approximately 1000 SF of additional impervious), which Staff administratively approved based on continued compliance with Rules D and E. *This project will be removed from the report.*

f. 2021-019 Kwik Trip, Dayton. This project is located in the northeast corner of County Roads 81 and 113. The applicant is proposing to subdivide this 8.2-acre parcel into one, 2-acre lot, three outlots (4.3 acres) and a street (1.8 acres) entering from CR 81. An existing regional storm pond is on the east property line. The project will remove the existing store/gas station and its access roads, create the new access road, and construct the Kwik Trip station on the easterly most two acres of the site. Existing stormwater ponds will be utilized for stormwater management. This work will disturb 8.3 acres. The site design for the Kwik Trip project, the new street, and the future impervious areas for the proposed outlots meet the design criteria the regional pond was approved for by the Commission in project 2017-022. Erosion and sediment controls were administratively approved by technical staff. No other actions are necessary on this project. *It will be removed from the report pending administrative escrow review.*

g. 2021-020 Crew Carwash, Maple Grove. This project would reconstruct an existing bank building and parking lot on a 1.80-acre parcel into a carwash. The site is located southwest of the intersection of Weaver Lake Road and Elm Creek Boulevard with access from Grove Drive. The disturbance is 1.52 acres, the existing impervious is 1.07 acres, and the proposed impervious is 1.17 acres. Runoff from this site flows into a regional pond on Arbor Lakes Parkway, which ultimately discharges to Rice Lake. The City has stated that the regional pond meets rate control and water quality treatment for the site. The applicant is proposing to use soil amendments to meet the Commission's volume rules. The Commission approved the project at its June meeting contingent upon receipt of outstanding project review fees and a stormwater maintenance agreement being put in place between the owner and the city with terms acceptable to the Commission.

h. 2021-021 Territorial Triangle, Dayton. This site is in the easterly triangle Territorial Road and CR 81 intersection near the border of Dayton and Maple Grove. The applicant is proposing to subdivide the 14-acre parcel into 30 rowhome units and 56 townhome units. Two ponding basins are proposed for stormwater management. This work will disturb approximately 10 acres and create 5.7 acres of new impervious areas. The Commission approved Staff's recommendations cited in their findings dated July 22, 2021 contingent upon (a) final application escrow fee balance determination by the Commission administrator and (b) provision of a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement for the irrigation system that is acceptable to the city and the Commission within 90 days after the plat is recorded. *This item will be moved to the operations and maintenance section of the report.*

i. 2021-022 Rogers High School Batting Cages and Trail Improvements, Rogers. This project is for improvements to existing batting cages and replacement of an existing trail. The work will disturb 1.55 acres and create 0.09 acres of new impervious surface. Stormwater management is provided by the existing on-site infiltration basin in the northeast corner of the site. The project is being reviewed for Rules D and E. The project was reviewed for Rules D and E. The Commission approved this project at its August 2021 meeting. *Surfeit escrow will be returned to the applicant. This item will be removed from the report.*

j. 2021-023 Maple Grove MOB, Maple Grove. This project is for the construction of a Medical Office Building and associated parking on an undeveloped parcel. The site located on the southeastern corner of the intersection of 105th Avenue North and Niagara Lane, immediately north of the Highway 610 and Maple Grove Parkway interchange. The project is being reviewed for Rules D and E. The applicant is working on revisions requested by Staff. *Staff have administratively approved grading and extended the 60-day review*

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period to allow for additional revisions to the site design to meet Commission water quality criteria. No recommendation is available for the Commission at this time.

k. 2021-024 Riverwalk, Dayton This site is south of CR 12 (Dayton River Road) and west of River Hills Parkway approximately ¼ mile north of CR 144 (Diamond Lake Road). The applicant proposes to construct a new single family residential subdivision with 242 lots including one amenity lot and a city well site. Site development will include removal of an existing home site, grading 94 acres, and installation of municipal sewer and water, streets, and stormwater systems. *The Commission approved Staff's recommendations in their findings dated August 11, 2021, at their August 2021 meeting contingent upon, a) Final application escrow fee balance determination by the Commission administrator, b) Wetland alteration must be approved by the LGU (Dayton) prior to impacts, c) Wetland buffer vegetation establishment, including maintenance for two full growing seasons after planting, must be provided with the site plan, and d) Soil infiltration on basin 1NW must be determined with this basin designed according to infiltration volumes and discharges verified by the soil testing and MPCA design criteria. This item will be moved to the operations and maintenance section of the Staff report*

l. 2021-025 Hackamore Road Reconstruction, Corcoran/Medina. *The cities of Corcoran and Medina plan to reconstruct 1.3 miles of Hackamore Road from just west of CR 116 to CR 101. The project will add 4.4 acres of new impervious surface along the stretch of roadway by widening the roadway, adding turn lanes, pedestrian facilities, and utility improvements. To meet the Commission's stormwater requirements, the project will largely rely on adjacent developments (both existing and proposed) to incorporate BMPs to provide rate control, volume control, and water quality control. The project is being reviewed*

m. 2021-026 Prairie Creek, Medina. *This proposed development will consist of a new 17 lot single-family development encompassing approximately 6.72 acres located on Hamel Road at Elm Creek Drive. There will also be a new private street, concrete walks, and utilities. Staff's review and findings are included in this month's packet. Staff recommends approval conditioned upon, a) determination of the final escrow fee balance when all conditions for approval are met and b) wetland buffer monumentation meeting the Commission's requirements*

n. 2021-027 Xcel Energy Elm Creek Substation, Maple Grove. *Xcel Energy is proposing to expand an existing electrical substation between Maple Grove Parkway and Fernbrook Lane, near the Highway 610 expansion. The expansion will occur within the existing 17.09-acre parcel. The project is being reviewed for Rules D and E. The applicant is working on revisions requested by Staff. Updated findings and recommendations will be provided to the Commission if available.*

o. 2021-028 Cubes at French Lake, Dayton. *This is four parcels totaling 71.62 acres located south of 117th Avenue and north of the intersection of 113th Ave. and CSAH 81. The project includes construction of a 996,960 SF industrial building with its associated parking and utility improvements. In addition, the project includes the construction of Dayton Parkway from CSAH 81 to 117th Avenue North. Initial review information was provided to the City and Applicant August 23. No revisions or updates have been provided as of this Staff Report update. No action on part of the Commission is necessary at this time.*

p. 2021-029 TriCare Grocery, Maple Grove. *The project will construct a grocery, retail, and associated parking spaces on approximately 2.5 acres of the 62.7-acre TriCare parcel, which is located just north of County Road 30 and southwest of Interstate 94. The project is being reviewed for Rules D and E. No recommendation is available for the Commission at this time. The applicant is working on revisions requested by Staff.*

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q. 2021-030 TriCare Roads, Maple Grove. The project proposed to construct roads in the 62.7-acre TriCare parcel, which is located just north of County Road 30 and southwest of I-94. The roads will result in 3.8-acres of net new impervious in the parcel. The project will be reviewed for Rules D, E, G, and I. No recommendation is available for the Commission at this time. The applicant is working on revisions requested by Staff.

r. 2021-031 Cook Lake Edgewater, Corcoran/Maple Grove. The application is for a 28.4-acre development just north of Bass Lake Road, on both sides of the Corcoran-Maple Grove municipal boundary. The development includes 60 single family homes in Maple Grove, 12 single family homes in Corcoran, and senior care and memory centers in Corcoran. The project will be reviewed for Rules D, E, G, and I. Staff will begin their review when all required fees have been received.

s. 2021-032 Dayton Park Industrial Center, Dayton: The Dayton Park Industrial Center will include up to 600,000 SF of industrial floor space and 300 vehicle parking areas on 50.8 acres in southwest Dayton. The review is of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet. Staff will provide written comments to the City of Dayton. No Commission action will be required for this review.

t. 2021-033 Westin Commons, Maple Grove. The project includes construction of 72 new single-family homes on a 10.9-acre site located south of County Road 81 and north of 105th Avenue. The existing property is a single family home. The project is being reviewed for Rules D, E, G, and I. The applicant is working on revisions requested by Staff. No recommendation is available for the Commission at this time.

u. 2021-034 BAPS Temple, Medina. This project includes construction of a Hindu Temple, dining hall, gymnasium, parking lot and one permanent residency for the temple's priest on a 19.7-acre parcel at 1400 Hamel Road. The parcel currently serves as a farmstead with a farmhouse and barns. The project is being reviewed for Rules D, E, G, and I. The City of Medina has recommended that the Commission cease reviewing the project because it is undergoing significant design revisions. The applicant is working on revisions requested by Staff. No recommendation is available for the Commission at this time.

v. 2021-035 Mister Carwash, Rogers. The project includes redevelopment of an existing, vacant restaurant building, parking lot, and drive-through into a new carwash facility at 21421 South Diamond Lake Road. The redevelopment is anticipated to decrease the impervious area by approximately 0.3 acres at the project site and add an underground filtration basin with underdrain. The project was reviewed for Rules D and E. Technical staff administratively approved the project because of the net decrease of impervious and construction of a stormwater BMP. This project will be removed from the report pending reconciliation of review fees.

w. 2021-036 D&D Service, Corcoran: The D&D Service development is proposed at the southeast corner of the intersection of County Roads 10 and 19 on a 16.54-acre parcel. The proposed project will include a large warehouse and office buildings along with parking and associated facilities. The existing site is a single farmhouse and surrounding agricultural land. The project is being reviewed for Rules D, E, G, and I. A complete application was received too late for our review and recommendation at the September Commission meeting.

x. 2021-037 Marsh Point, Medina: The Marsh Point project (also called the Arrowhead Drive project) includes construction of 38 single-family homes on the east side of Arrowhead Drive, west of Lake Medina. The development will replace four existing homes. The project is being reviewed for Rules D, E, G, and I. A complete application was received too late for our review and recommendation at the September Commission meeting.

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y. 2021-038 Bellwether 6th/Amberly, Corcoran: *The Bellwether 6th Addition and Amberly 1st Addition are adjacent developments in the city of Corcoran. Bellwether is a 140-acre site just west of County Road 101 and south of Stieg Road proposed for single-family homes. Bellwether was previously reviewed as the Encore site (Commission review #2018-032). Amberly, also known as the Van Blaricom development, is a 73-acre development immediately to the west of the Bellwether development. The project is being reviewed for Rules D, E, F, G, and I. A complete application was received too late for our review and recommendation at the September Commission meeting.*

z. 2021-039 I94 Logistics Center, Rogers. *This is a 30.90-acre site located between Interstate 94 on the west and County Road 13 (Brockton Lane N) on the east. A proposed warehouse, parking lot, and loading dock will create 12.5 acres of new impervious on the site, which is currently undeveloped. Approximately 12.25 acres of the parcel is in a conservation easement to protect woodlands and wetlands and cannot be developed. The project triggers Rules D, E, G, and I. A complete application was received too late for our review and recommendation at the September Commission meeting.*

FINAL RECORDINGS OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION/FOLLOW-UP ARE DUE ON THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

ah. 2014-015 Rogers Drive Extension, Rogers. This project involves improvements along Rogers Drive from Vevea Lane to Brockton Lane. The project is located east of I-94, south of the Cabela development. The total project area is 8.0 acres; proposed impervious surfaces total 5.6 acres. Site plans received July 1, 2014 met the requirements of the Commission with the exception of the nutrient control. The Commission approved the site plan contingent upon the City deferring 4.6 lbs. of phosphorus for treatment in future ponding opportunities as the easterly corridor of Rogers Drive develops. 2.3 lbs. will be accounted for in the Kinghorn Spec. Building site plan, with 2.3 lbs. still outstanding. This item will remain on the report until the total deferral is accounted for.

ai. 2015-030 Kiddiegarten Child Care Center, Maple Grove. Approved December 9, 2015. If the City does not take over the operation and maintenance of the underground system and the sump catch basins, an O&M agreement for the underground trench/pond system must be approved by the Commission and the City and recorded with the title. On February 5, 2019 Derek Asche contacted the owner requesting a copy of the recorded maintenance agreement. No update was available on July 2, 2019.

aj. 2016-005W Ravinia Wetland Replacement Plan, Corcoran. In December 2016, the Commission approved Staff's recommendations on this wetland replacement plan. Final wetland impacts are 1.22 acres. Wetland credits created on site will be 4.01 acres. Excess credits of 0.75 acres are proposed to be used on Lennar's Laurel Creek development in Rogers (2017-014). All approval contingencies have been met and construction is completed. Vegetation planting and management took place throughout 2017. Barr Engineering is providing monitoring to ensure the replacement meets the performance standards of the approved plans. Annual reports have been submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in February 2019, February 2020, and March 2021. *Monitoring status as of March 2021: Wetlands and buffers are looking good but will need continued vegetation management in 2021 to get rid of invasive species (mostly cattail). Hydrology is good in both the restoration and creation areas.*

ak. 2017-014 Laurel Creek, Rogers. In June 2017, the Commission approved this project with four conditions. All contingency items have been provided with the exception of the O&M agreement which is being negotiated by the City as to whether the City or the HOA will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the stormwater management facility. On August 31, 2017, Andrew Simmons responded that the O&M agreement is still being negotiated.

al. 2017-029 Brayburn Trails, Dayton. At their August 2017 meeting the Commission approved Staff's findings dated August 2, 2017 with five conditions. All of the conditions have been met except for the final recordings of the O&M agreements and easements. On March 7, 2018, the City reported: final plat approval has not been granted, easements will be recorded as plats are approved. Ponds will be maintained by the City of Dayton. An agreement, and additional easement, will

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be required for a water re-use system within one of the ponds (between the City and HOA). This system is not part of the first addition – the timing of said improvements/agreement is unknown. Construction had been expected to start in 2018.

On February 7, 2019, Jason Quisberg provided the following information: The 1st Addition was scaled back from what was proposed; associated construction activity is significantly completed. Extension of trunk utilities through Staff Sundance Golf Course are complete. The proposed 2nd Addition is under review. Improvements to 117th Avenue (East French Lake Road to Fernbrook Lane) will be part of the work done with the 2nd Addition. Construction is anticipated to start spring 2019. Pond easements are being recorded with the platting process for each addition (those [that are] part of the 1st Addition are in place). The water re-use system is not part of the 2nd Addition (will be with future additions).

On March 4, 2021 Nico Cantarero reported that Brayburn Trails is continuing to construct homes. The development is through their 6th addition with approximately 2/3 of the development final platted. 117th Avenue improvements have been constructed and the development continues to build infrastructure and homes.

am. 2018-046 Graco Expansion, Rogers. This project is the expansion of an existing building. The site is located in an area that has regional ponding provided for rate control purposes, but needs to account for water quality and abstraction requirements on site prior to discharging offsite as part of the improvements. The Commission granted conditional approval at their October 2018 meeting. Conditions of approval were to (1) submit a SWPPP plan meeting requirements, (2) clarify maintenance responsibilities for the iron enhanced sand filter, and (3) a letter from the City of Rogers stating their intentions to provide the water quality deficit in an upcoming project. Staff confirmed several minor plan revisions remain in conformance with the original approval. This item will remain on the Staff report until such time as the water quality deficit has been made up.

an. 2018-048 Faithbrook Church, Phase 2, Dayton. This is an application for review of an expansion of an existing church located northeast of the intersection of Fernbrook Lane and Elm Creek Road. The Commission approved this project at their November 2018 meeting conditioned upon receipt of a SWPPP meeting NPDES requirements and the City accepting maintenance responsibility or recording a modified O&M plan for the stormwater features on the site in a form acceptable to the Commission. On February 7, 2019, Jason Quisberg reported that this project has gone idle; it is believed to be due to funding needs of the applicant. It was expected activity would resume in Spring 2019. On March 4, 2021 Nico Cantarero reported that the outlet to the church has been constructed. The church still has plans for a Phase 2 expansion, but it has not been initiated to date.

ao. 2019-002 Parkside Villas, Champlin. This is two adjacent rural parcels totaling 13.9 acres that are proposed to be split into 56 single-family residential lots. It is located on the east side of Goose Lake Road just south of its intersection with Elm Road (CR 202). The review is for compliance with Commission Rules D and E. At their February 2019 meeting the Commissioners approved Staff's findings dated January 29, 2019, contingent on (1) a long term O&M agreement on the stormwater basin and irrigation system being provided and recorded on the property title and (2) the applicant working with the City and Three Rivers Park District to safely outlet the pond water below the trail system adjacent to the property line.

ap. 2019-021 Brenly Meadows, Rogers. This is a 38-unit townhome project proposed on 6.9 acres north of 129th Avenue about one-third mile west of Main Street. It triggered the Commission's review for Rules D, and E. This item was approved by the Commission at their August 2019 meeting, contingent upon O & M plan requirements for the stormwater pond and irrigation system.

aq. 2019-026 Interstate Power Systems, Rogers. This is a 10-acre site to construct a 1-acre building for a mechanical shop and 6 acres of parking and driveways along County Road 81. It triggered review of Rule D, E, G, and I. This item was approved by the Commission at their November 2019 meeting, contingent upon documentation of existing conditions pollutant loading and a recorded O&M plan for onsite BMPs. The applicant provided the pollutant loading data in November 2019. Commission is still waiting on the O&M plan as of April 2021.

ar 2019-027 Havenwood at Maple Grove. This is a 5.6-acre site located at the northwest intersection of Bass Lake Road (CR10) and Troy Lane (CR101). The site is proposed to be subdivided into two lots. The southerly lot will be 4.5-acres with a 150-unit senior living facility. The remaining outlot (~1.3 acres) is anticipated to be a daycare facility. In their find-

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ings dated October 17, 2019, Staff recommended approval contingent upon the irrigation pond and system having an operation and maintenance plan approved by the City and Commission and recorded on the title for this property. A copy of the recorded document must be provided to the Commission.

as. 2019-032 OSI Expansion, Medina. This is an existing business located in the northwest corner of Highway 55 and Arrowhead Drive. The applicant is proposing to build an addition on the south side of the building and add parking to the north side of the site, creating an additional 3.6 acres of new impervious area. In their findings dated February 4, 2020, Staff recommended approval contingent upon receipt of O&M plans on the stormwater facilities that meet the Commission's requirements. Dusty Finke reported on March 4, 2020, that recordation of the O&M plans is still pending.

at. 2020-001 Outlot L, Markets at Rush Creek, Maple Grove. Outlot L is a 1.55-acre lot located in The Markets at Rush Creek (Hy-Vee South) PUD development. This project is located just west of the Hy-Vee gas station and south of CR10. A 12,000 SF multi-tenant building and associated parking is proposed for this site. Stormwater management for this lot is part of the regional stormwater system approved by the Commission for project 2016-002. Commission rules require compliance with Rules D and E. On January 23, 2020, Staff administratively approved this project contingent upon receipt of a dated and signed set of final development stage plans. Signed and dated plans were received in December 2020. The project approval is good until December 31, 2021.

au. 2020-008 Lone Gardens, Dayton. This project is located at the northwest intersection of CSAH 144 (Diamond Lake North) and 12 (Dayton River Road). The site consists of three agricultural properties totaling 48.29 acres. 112 new single-family residential lots creating 16.84 acres of new impervious surface area are proposed for this development. The Commission's review was for compliance with Rules D, E, G, and I. At their October 2020 meeting the Commission approved Phase I grading on the north 14-acre area conditioned that: a) the applicant accepts any and all risks for any changes required to obtain final approval by the Commission and b) that the City of Dayton grants approvals for said grading, and to deny the remainder of the application unless the applicant extends the review deadline beyond the current October 21, 2020 deadline. The applicant extended the deadline to November 30, 2020. Updated site plans received November 16, 2020 met the contingencies of the Commission approval with the exception of the post development infiltration basin percolation test requirements. At their December meeting the Commission approved the updated plans contingent upon post-development percolation tests being provided on infiltration basins to demonstrate the constructed infiltration rate meets or exceeds the design infiltration rates.

On March 4, 2021 Nico Cantarero reported that Lone Gardens constructed their 1st addition of approximately 30 homes along the northern portion of the site. The developer has indicated plans to grade the remainder of the site and construct the 2nd addition of the development in 2021 which would include the second access to the site onto North Diamond Lake Road.

av. 2020-009 Stetler Barn, Medina. This site disturbs approximately 3.5 acres and must meet Commission Rules D, E, and I. Because of the limited available space for pasture, paddocks and land application of manure, understanding how these components will be managed is also an important part of the review. A complete plan was received on April 22, 2020. At their May 13, 2020 meeting the Commission approved this project contingent upon: 1) The landowner continuing to work with the U of M Extension Office and Hennepin County Rural Conservationist to finalize composting, pasture and paddock management plans and 2) A long-term pond/basin operation and maintenance plan and agreement with the City of Medina being approved by the City of Medina and the Commission. The agreement must be recorded on the land title with a copy of the recorded agreement provided to the Commission.

aw. 2020-017 Meadow View Townhomes, Medina. This is a 22-acre site located south of Meander Road and north of Highway 55. Lennar Homes is proposing to build 125 townhomes with their necessary infrastructure on this site. A complete application was received May 29, 2020. The plans call for 7.64 acres of new impervious areas. The Commission's review was for conformance to Rules D, E, F, G, and I. At their October meeting, the Commission approved Staff's finding dated September 30, 2020, contingent upon (1) The mean (average) depth on the west wet detention pond must be 4.0' or deeper; (2) Buffer strip monumentation and vegetation maintenance plans must conform to the Commission's requirements; (3) An operation and maintenance agreement of the stormwater ponds and irrigation system must be approved by the City and the Commission. The agreement must be recorded on the pro-

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perty title with a copy of the recorded document provided to the Commission; and (4) Erosion and sediment controls must conform to Commission requirements. Since the approval, the City of Medina has requested the applicant provide abstraction by irrigation only, thus eliminating one filter basin. Staff reviewed the changes and found the updates to be in compliance with the Commission's original approvals for stormwater management and administratively approved the plans contingent upon item (3) above and added the condition that design information on the irrigation pump and augmentation water source must be provided within six months of this approval.

ax. 2020-023 Ziegler, Dayton. This is an existing 4.73-acre commercial parcel located on Territorial Road near Holly Lane close to the Maple Grove/Dayton border. Currently the property consists of a building with bituminous drive and parking areas and a large gravel storage yard. The applicant is proposing to utilize the existing building, construct an additional commercial building, expand the bituminous parking lot, and add gravel lots for merchandise display and storage, triggering Commission rules D, E, G, and I. The Commission approved this project at their August 2020 meeting contingent upon wetland permitting being obtained and an Operation & Maintenance agreement being recorded on the land title. The wetland permit has been approved, but the O&M plan has yet to be received. On March 4, 2021, Nico Cantarero reported that Ziegler plans to construct their site improvements in 2021.

ay. 2020-025 Paulsen Farms, Corcoran. This is an 88-acre parcel located south of CR30 and east of Bechtold Road. Twenty (20) single family rural residential lots with 5.2 acres of new impervious areas are proposed on this site. This project triggered Rules D, E, and I. At their October 2020 meeting the Commission approved Staff's findings dated September 23, 2020 contingent upon: (1) rate control at culvert #3 must be equal to or less than pre-development rates for all storm events; (2) buffer strip monumentation conforms to the Commission's requirements; and (3) an operation and maintenance agreement must be created and approved by the City and the Commission. Said agreement must be recorded on the property title with a copy of the recorded document provided to the Commission. This project has been put on hold by the applicant. They have been informed that the approval expires October 14, 2021. *On July 21, 2021, Kevin Mattson responded, no updates.*

az. 2020-027 Kariniemi Addition, Corcoran. This is a 12.7-acre parcel located on Lot 3, Block 1 of the Rolling Hills Acres subdivision (ECWMC Project 2019-030) about a mile north of Highway. 55 on the east side of Rolling Hills Road. The applicant proposes to create three lots with a shared driveway for access along the northerly portion of the property. Project work will disturb 2.6 acres and create 0.83 acres of new impervious areas. This project was approved by the Commission at their September 2020 meeting pending receipt of O & M plans. *The O&M Agreement was received in the Administrative Office on July 21, 2021. This item will be removed from the report.*

ba. 2020-032 Enclave Rogers – Commerce Boulevard., Rogers. This project would create an apartment complex on a 3.3-acre site. The existing condition is undeveloped. The project will disturb the entire site and create 2.15 acres of impervious surface. The applicant is proposing an iron enhanced sand filter to meet Total Phosphorus removal requirements. The site is within two of the three outlots created as part of the adjacent former Lowe's development. The application was reviewed for Rules D and E. Staff granted administrative approval for grading contingent on applicant accepting risk for changes required for final approval and on approval from the City for grading activities. In their findings dated December 2, 2020, Staff recommended approval with those conditions, as well as submission of an O&M agreement for stormwater features, minor updates to the hydrology report, and minor updates to the SWPPP. The Commission approved Staff recommendations at their December 9, 2020, meeting.

bb. 2020-033 Weston Woods, Medina. This project would create 150 residential units on a 135-acre undeveloped site. The project will disturb 49.2 acres and create 17.49 acres of impervious area. The Commission approved this project at their March 2021 meeting with four contingencies: a) Wetland replacement plans must be approved by the City of Medina (LGU), MN DNR and USACE prior to impacts, b) Provide quantification of the change in flood storage capacity for the one-percent annual chance flood event due to the proposed project, c) Provide documentation that changes in flood elevation and loss of floodplain storage have been avoided, minimized, and/or mitigated to the extent practicable. Demonstrate that changes in flood elevation will not cause high water or aggravate flooding on other land and, d) An O&M agreement for stormwater facilities, including irrigation pumping system components and augmentation wells system,

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must be approved by the City and the Commission and recorded within 90-days after final plat approval on the title to this property. A copy of the recorded agreements must be provided to the Commission.

bc. 2020-036 Balsam Pointe, Dayton. This project would create 98 residential units on a 10-acre site near the intersection of Dimond Lake Road South and Dayton Road. The existing condition is undeveloped. The project will disturb the entire site and create 5.3 acres of new impervious. The application is being reviewed for Rules D and E. The Commission approved Staff's recommendations at their January 13, 2021 meeting contingent upon an O&M agreement meeting the Commission's standards being recorded on the land title.

bd. 2021-007 Birchwood 2nd Addition, Rogers. This project is east of CR13 (Brockton Lane) approximately 1/2 mile south of the intersection of CR 144 (141st Avenue North) and CR13. The applicant is proposing to develop the site into 30 single-family residential lots. The site drains south and east into Grass Lake. This work will disturb 10 acres and create 4.0 acres of new impervious area. At their April 2021 meeting the Commission approved this project contingent upon the final SWPPP being submitted prior to grading and receipt of any outstanding project review fees.

be. 2021-013 Rush Creek Reserve, Corcoran. This is a 91-acre site located along the north side of CR10, across from the Corcoran Community Park. The applicant is proposing to create a residential sub-division including 66 townhomes and 177 single-family units with 24.2 acres of new impervious area. The existing area is agricultural with 58 acres of cropland and 33 acres of wetlands/wooded areas. In their findings dated June 12, 2012, and updated July 14, 2021, Staff recommends approval with the following conditions (1) payment of all review fees; (2) City of Corcoran/TEP approval of the Wetland Mitigation Plan and the City maintains a drainage and utility easement for existing and proposed on-site wetlands; and (3) the applicant's provision of a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement acceptable to the City and the Commission within 90 days after the plat is recorded. The project was approved at the July meeting with these contingencies. *The City has confirmed that items 2 and 3 have been addressed and provided the documents to the Commission on September 1, 2021. This project will be removed from the report pending escrow review.*

bf. 2021-016 Territorial Lofts, Rogers. This is a 5.39-acre site on Territorial Road, adjacent to the Laurel Creek development. The project would construct a 75-unit apartment building, underground parking, a detached garage, maintenance facilities, and access road, creating 2.397 acres of total impervious (1.86 acres of which is net new impervious) and disturbing 5.2 acres. The existing site is two single-family residential homes. The site proposes to use stormwater reuse with an irrigation system to meet abstraction requirements, due to low infiltration capacity soils. The project was reviewed for Rules D, E, G, and I. *The project was approved by the Commission at its July 2021 meeting contingent upon receipt of outstanding project review fees and a stormwater maintenance agreement being put in place between the owner and the city with terms acceptable to the Commission.*

Commented [JK3]: Ross updates

THIRD PARTY HUC-8 MODEL REVIEW

The MNDNR intends to hold a Flood Risk Review Meeting for the watershed sometime in September. Wenck/Stantec is preparing a response on behalf of the watershed and its member cities.

RULE D - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
RULE E - EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL
RULE F - FLOODPLAIN ALTERATION

RULE G - WETLAND ALTERATION
RULE H - BRIDGE AND CULVERT CROSSINGS
RULE I - BUFFERS

Italics indicates new information

indicates enclosure

CHAMPLIN • CORCORAN • DAYTON • MAPLE GROVE • MEDINA • PLYMOUTH • ROGERS

Watershed Management Commission

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447
PH: 763.553.1144
email: judie@jass.biz
www.elmcreekwatershed.org

Prairie Creek Medina Project #2021-026

Project Overview:

Location: North of Hamel Road at the intersection with Elm Creek Drive
Purpose: Construct a new single family residential subdivision with 17 lots within a 6.7-acre parcel. Site development will include, grading approximately 4 acres, and installation of sewer and water, streets, and stormwater systems.

WMC Rules Triggered:

X	Rule D	Stormwater Management
X	Rule E	Erosion and Sediment Control
X	Rule F	Floodplain Alterations
	Rule G	Wetland Alteration
	Rule H	Bridge and Culvert Crossings
X	Rule I	Buffer Strips

Applicant:	Landform Professional Services	Attention:	Todd Olin
Address:	105 South Fifth Avenue, Suite 513 Minneapolis, MN 55401	Phone:	612-638-0265
		Email:	Tolin@landform.net

Agent:	Same as above	Attention:	
Address:		Phone:	
		Email:	

Exhibits:	Description	Date Received
Application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete ECWMC Application	August 3, 2021
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECWMC Request for Review and Approval	July 13, 2021
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City authorization: Medina, MN	June 28, 2021
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review fee: \$4,050	July 13, 2021
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Documents (site plans, reports, models, etc.)	August 3, 2021

Submittals

- Storm Water Narrative by Landform Professional Services, prepared for Stelter Enterprises, LLC dated August 18, 2021.
 - Narrative,
 - WSB Hydrology Model Results for Tower Drive, Kilkenny Lane and Hamel Road Utility and Street Improvements. Print date November 10, 2014.
 - NRCS soils report.
 - HydroCAD Summaries for existing and proposed conditions
 - Stormwater sewer drainage area map and sizing.
 - Geotechnical Report by STS Consultants dated August 17, 2005.
- Existing HydroCAD model with print date of August 16, 2021.

- 3 Remedial Investigation Report and Response Action Plan for Stelter Enterprises LLC dated July 7, 2021.
- 4 Wetland Buffer Exhibit for Prairie Creek dated August 3, 2021.
- 5 Landform Prairie Creek Preliminary Plat Engineering Review Comments to the City of Medina, dated August 3, 2021.
- 6 ECWMC Project file 2014-044 for Tower Drive Street and Utility Improvements
- 7 Prairie Creek Site Plans by Landform dated August 3, 2021, unsigned.
 - a. Sheet C0.1, Title Sheet
 - b. Sheet C0.2, Preliminary Plat
 - c. Sheet C1.1, Existing Conditions.
 - d. Sheet C2.1, Site Plan
 - e. Sheet C2.2 Vehicle Maneuvering
 - f. Sheet C3.1, Grading, Drainage, Paving & Erosion Control
 - g. Sheet C3.2, MN SWPPP Notes
 - h. Sheet C4.1, Utilities
 - i. Sheets C7.1 to C7.3, Civil Construction Details.

Findings

General

1. A complete application was received August 3, 2021. The initial 60-day decision period per MN Statute 15.99 expires October 2, 2021.
2. A stormwater pond and filter basin were constructed along the west and northwest area of this property as part of Medina's Tower Drive Street and Utility Improvement Project (ECWMC project 2014-044). Project 2014-044 assumed 3.7 acres from the Prairie Creek site draining into these two basins.
3. The project will disturb approximately 4 acres. Existing impervious areas is 1,400 square feet. Proposed impervious areas are 1.92 acres. An additional 0.18 acres of the Hamel Road ROW will be directed into the constructed ponds.
4. The Elm Creek floodplain encroaches into this property. The BFE is 975.0. There will not be any floodplain impacts from this project, but there will be some mitigation on this site from a previous project.

Rule D – Stormwater Management

Water Quality and Abstraction

5. The stormwater quality and channel protection volumes from the 6.7-acre Prairie Creek parcel (3.4-acre upland areas) was included in the Tower Drive Street and Utility Project drainage areas routed to the pond and filter basin constructed in 2015.
 - a. The Tower Drive project assumed all 3.4 acres of developable property on the Raskob (Prairie Creek) parcel would drain into the pond/filter basin for volume, rate, and abstraction controls.
 - b. Tower Drive Pond/filter basin designs were based on the Commission's 3rd Generation Stormwater Management Plans
 - c. Abstraction was determined using 7.7 acres of impervious areas, including 2.7 acres from the Prairie Creek (Raskob) parcel
 - d. The pond/filter basin was determined to reduce phosphorus loads by 80%. Using the MIDS program.

- e. Raskob (Prairie Creek) was assessed per the improvements for stormwater management on the Tower Drive Utility Project.
- f. Volume and water quality controls for the Prairie Creek development are considered adequate if they meet the design assumptions for the Tower Drive ECWMC project 2014-044 approvals.
 - i. Because of low elevations, the drainage area in the SE corner and near the wetland areas on this site cannot be routed back to the pond and filter basin.
 - ii. Volume and water quality controls are over treated in the regional pond/filter basin to account for the untreated water flowing directly into the wetland and SE areas. It was determined by City and ECWMC staff that the Prairie Creek design maximized the drainage areas to the pond/filter basin to the greatest extent possible.
 - iii. Rate controls for the areas discharging without the benefit of pond/filter basin detention/retention must still meet the Commissions flow requirements. See Table 1 for a summary of the rate controls before and after development.
- 6. Prairie Creek (Raskob) parcel design assumptions from the Tower Drive Utility project (2014-044):
 - a. 3.4 acres draining into pond/basin
 - i. 2.7 acres impervious (80%)
 - ii. 0.7 acres pervious
 - b. 3.3 acres ponding/basin/wetland/floodplain areas
- 7. Current Prairie Creek parcel design proposal.
 - a. 1.92 acres Imperious areas (56%)
 - i. 1.68 acres impervious areas from the development will drain to the pond/basin
 - ii. 0.13 acres of Hamel Road impervious will be captured and drain to the pond/basin.
 - iii. 0.11 acres of impervious areas from the development will not be treated due to low elevations in the SE corner of the site.
 - b. 4.8 acres pervious/grass areas
 - i. 0.8 acres will drain directly into the wetland or SE corner discharge area
 - ii. 4.0 acres will drain directly into the pond/basin areas

Rate Controls

- 8. Rate control measures **meet** Commission requirements.
- 9. Rate controls for the discharges not controlled by the pond/filter basin must meet the Commission's flow requirements.
 - a. There are 2 uncontrolled discharge areas from this site. 1) is the direct discharge into the wetland/floodplain area and 2) is the discharge into the Hamel Road ROW ditch in the SE corner of the property.
 - b. Hydrology and hydraulics on these two discharge points were analyzed using HydroCAD modeling.
- 10. As shown in Table 1, below, all flow rates at the discharge points meet the Commission's requirements.

Table 1 Rate of Discharge Leaving Site

Primary Discharge Point	Area (Acres)	Condition	2-yr (cfs)	10-yr (cfs)	100-yr (cfs)
Southeast Discharge¹ (To Hamel Road ditch-5R pre- & 50R-post-development))	1.78	Pre-Development	1.5	4.5	10.3
	0.72	Post-Development	1.0	2.2	4.6
	-1.06	Change	-0.5	-2.3	-5.7
Discharge directly into Wetland¹ (2S pre- & 20S post-development)	3.39	Pre-Development	4.4	10.9	22.5
	2.24	Post-Development	3.6	8.2	15.9
	-1.15	Change	-0.8	-2.7	-6.6
Discharge from ponds/filter basin² (12P pre- & post-development)	23.41	Pre-Development	13.0	29.4	55.5
	23.41	Post-Development	12.4	28.8	54.5
	0	Change	-0.6	-0.6	-1.0
Total Site Discharge² (60R pre- and post-development)	26.34	Pre-Development	14.8	34.1	67.5
	26.34	Post-Development	14.2	33.5	62.4
	0	Change	-0.6	-0.6	-5.1

1 Used Aug 16 HydroCAD-EX BLP001 2021-08-02 for pre-development and Aug 18, SWMP updates for post-development

2 Used pre and post development from August 18 SWMP updates

Rule E – Erosion and Sediment Control

11. Plans **meet** Commission requirements for erosion and sediment control.
 - a. The applicant is providing silt fence, dual silt fencing adjacent to the wetlands, inlet protections, temporary and permanent seeding and mulching, and rock construction entrances.

Rule F – Floodplain Alteration

12. No floodplains are impacted by this development. Site plans and past agreements between the landowner required mitigation of 3,312 cubic feet of floodplain mitigation from previous filling. This is provided adjacent to Block 2, Lot 9.

Rule I– Buffer Strips

13. Plans **do not meet** Commission requirements for buffer strips. Buffer monumentation locations must be provided.
14. Wetland buffer averages meet the Commission standards.
 - a. Total wetland distance = 720 feet. Length of buffer where slopes are 3:1 = 380 feet. No disturbance or slopes at 6:1 or flatter = 350 feet.
 - b. Total estimated buffer required = 24,000 sq. ft. Actual buffer provided = 28,800 square feet.
15. Wetland buffer monumentation was not provided on the site plan information received.
16. Wetland buffer vegetation establishment, including maintenance is included in the erosion control and storm water pollution prevention plans.

Recommendation

Conditions for Approval

1. Final application escrow fee balance determination by the Commission administrator. Additional payment or refund of the fees will be determined when all conditions for approval are met.
2. Wetland buffer monumentation must meet the Commission's requirements

Advisor to the Commission



James C. Kujawa
Surface Water Solutions

August 19, 2021
DATE

Attachments

- | | |
|----------|-------------------|
| Figure 1 | Project Location |
| Figure 2 | 2018 Aerial Map |
| Figure 3 | Site Map |
| Figure 4 | Existing Drainage |
| Figure 5 | Proposed Drainage |

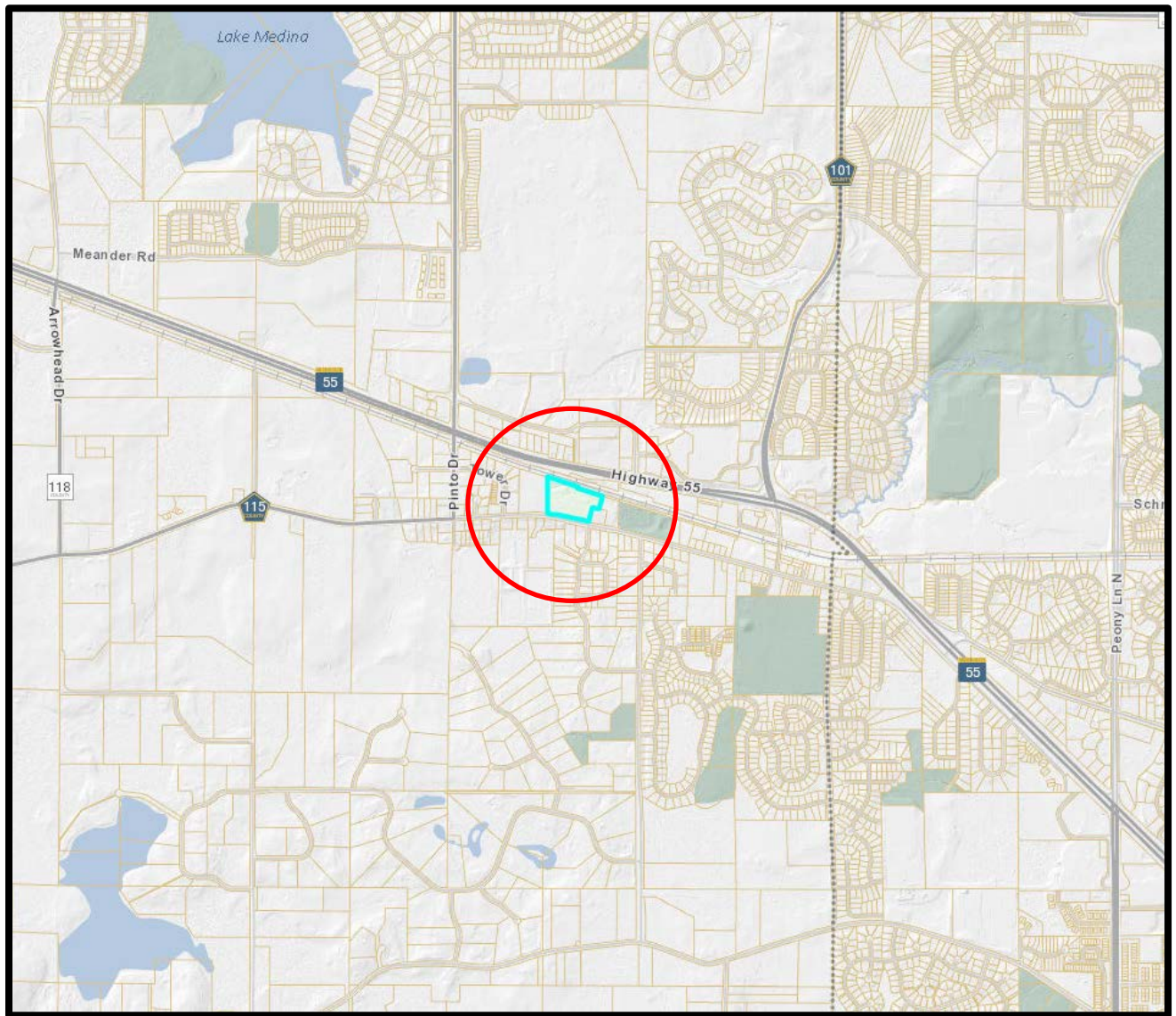
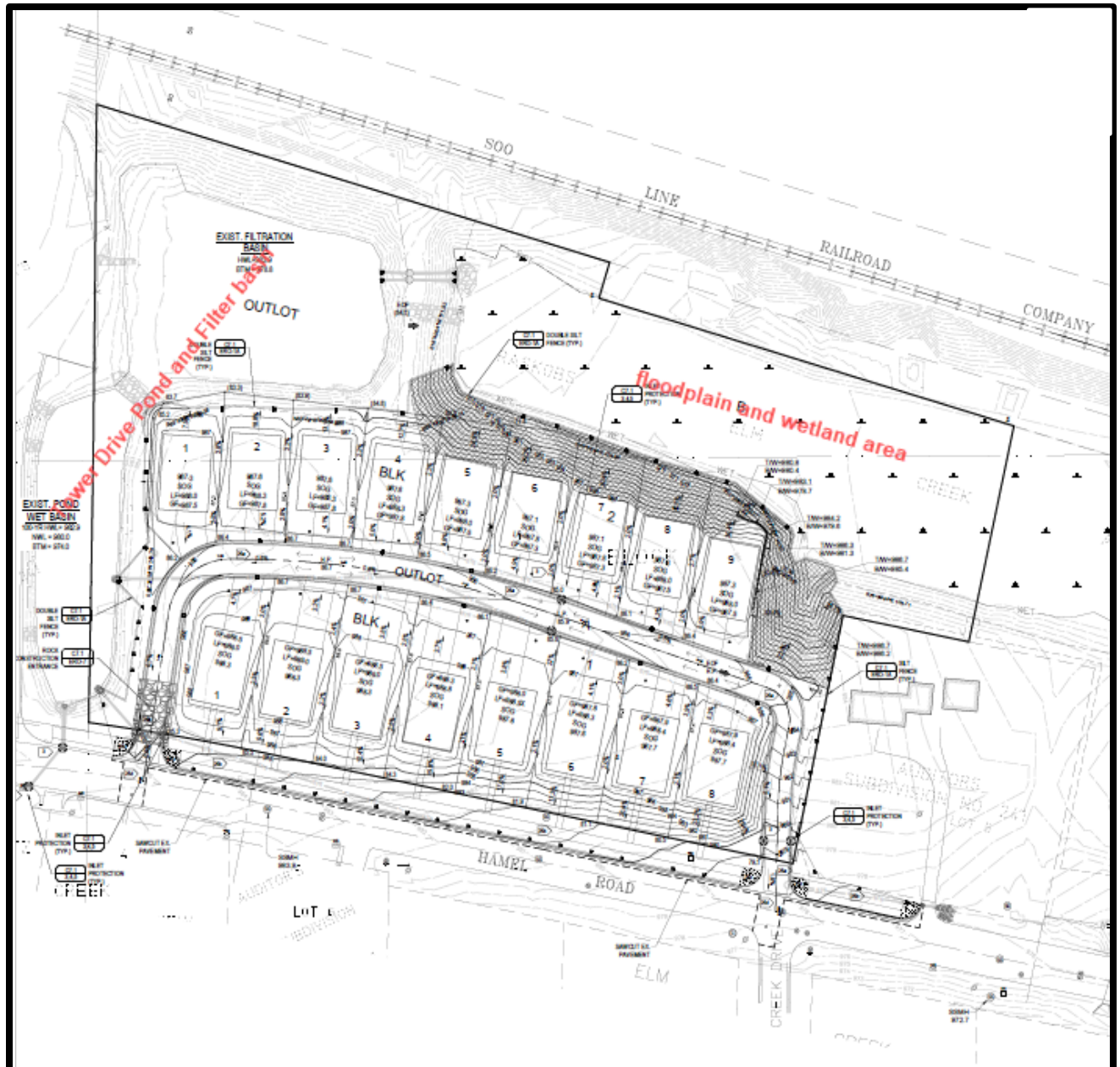


Figure 1 Project Location



Figure 1 2018 Aerial Map



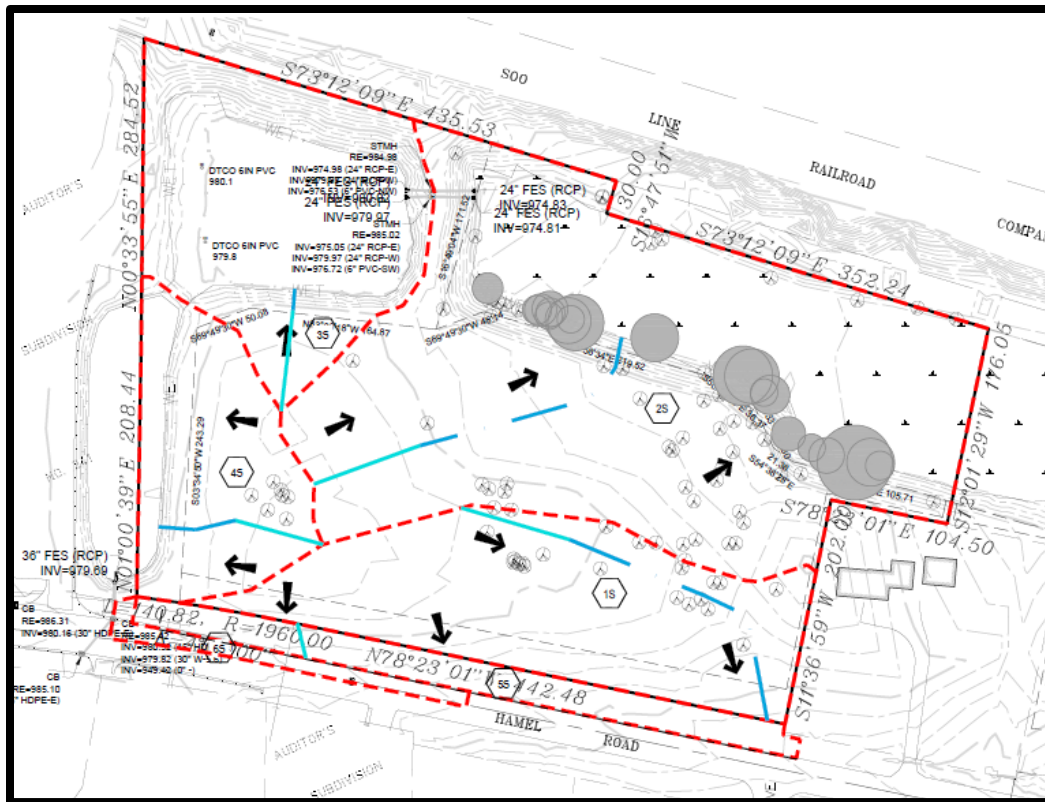


Figure 4 Pre-development drainage

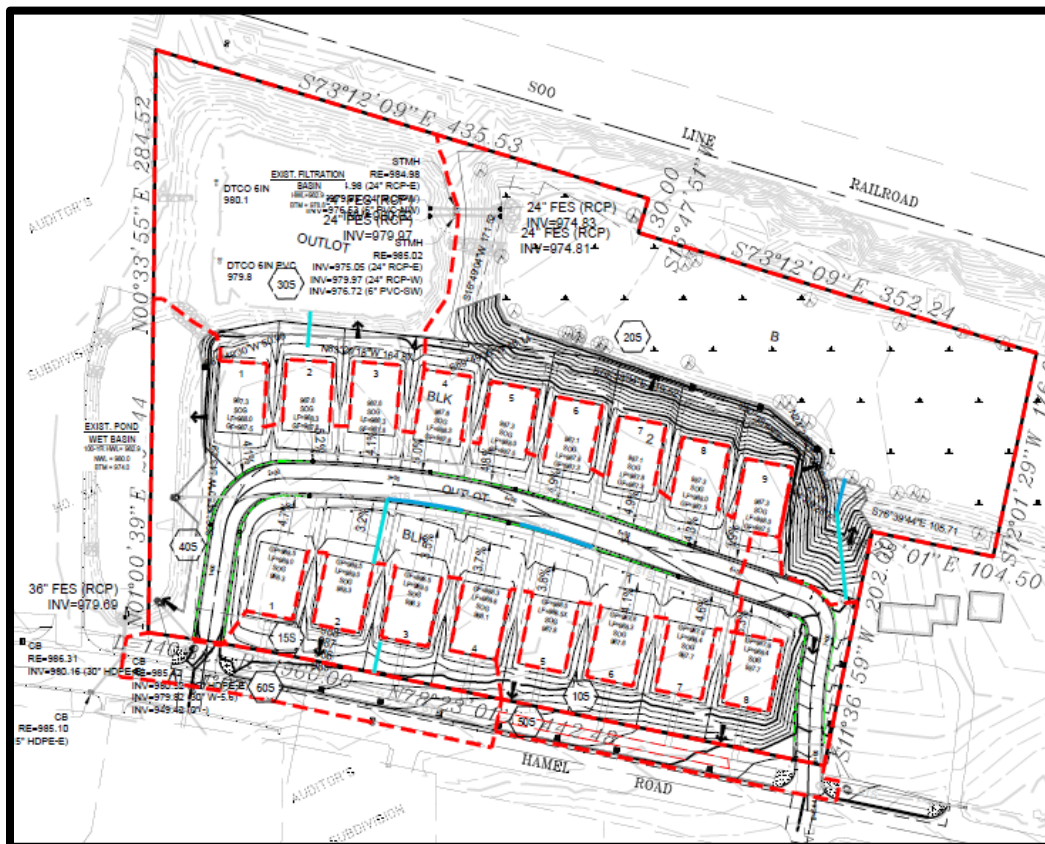


Figure 5 Post-development drainage

Watershed Management Commission

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447
PH: 763.553.1144
email: judie@jass.biz
www.elmcreekwatershed.org

Mister Car Wash Rogers Project #2021-035

Project Overview:

Location: Rogers, MN on the west side of Rogers Drive and south of Dimond Lake Road near a Holiday Station Store, replacing an existing vacant restaurant building.

Purpose: Demolition of current vacant building and construction of a 6,500sf Mister Car Wash with all associated parking and underground utilities.

WMC Rules Triggered:

X	Rule D	Stormwater Management
X	Rule E	Erosion and Sediment Control
	Rule F	Floodplain Alterations
	Rule G	Wetland Alteration
	Rule H	Bridge and Culvert Crossings
	Rule I	Buffer Strips

Applicant: Mister Car Wash

Address: 21421 S. Dimond Lake Road

Attention: Trevor Buhl

Phone: 520-484-7620

Email: tbuhl@mistercarwash.com

Agent: Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

Address: 767 Eustis Street Suite #100

Attention: Arik Lokensgard

Phone: 612-503-8547

Email: Arik.lokensgard@kimley-horn.com

Exhibits:	Description	Date Received
Application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete ECWMC Application	August 18, 2021
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECWMC Request for Review and Approval	August 18, 2021
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City authorization: Rogers, MN	August 17, 2021
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review fee: \$3,375	August 18, 2021
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Documents (site plans, reports, models, etc.)	August 18, 2021

Submittals

- Stormwater Management Plan, prepared by Kimley Horn dated May 26, 2021 (revised July 26, 2021)
 - Stormwater Management Analysis and Results
 - HydroCAD Modeling report for existing and proposed conditions
 - Existing and proposed drainage maps
- Site Construction Plans, prepared by Kimley Horn dated August 17, 2021 (revised August 21, 2021).

Findings

General

1. A complete application was received August 18, 2021. The initial 60-day decision period per MN Statute 15.99 expires October 24, 2021.
2. The existing site is a 1.45-acre parcel with a vacant fast food restaurant building. Runoff from the existing site is split into two drainage directions:
 - a. The vast majority of the site drains to storm sewer that is routed to the north beneath S. Diamond Lake Road
 - b. A small portion of the site drains directly offsite, as surface runoff, to the S. Diamond Lake Road and Rogers Drive intersection.
 - c. Both runoff directions are routed to an existing regional stormwater management facility just north of Diamond Lake Road and east of County Road 101.
 - d. The entirety of the site ultimately drains to the Crow River.
3. The proposed Mister Car Wash includes 1.43-acres of disturbance to construct a new conveyor-type stand-alone car wash, associated parking, vacuum equipment, lighting, underground utilities, and landscaping. The site will be adjacent to an existing Holiday gas station.
4. The redevelopment will *reduce* the amount of impervious at the site from 1.16-acres to 0.87-acres, a net decrease 0.29-acres of impervious.
5. Existing and proposed conditions HydroCAD models were created to model rate control.
6. An underground filtration system in the northeastern portion of the site is proposed.
7. There are no wetlands within the site.
8. There are no Elm Creek Watershed jurisdictional floodplains or stream crossings within the site.

Rule D – Stormwater Management (plans)

General

1. This project parcel is 1.45 acres, the expected disturbance is 1.43-acres. There will be a net decrease in impervious area from 1.16 acres to 0.87 acres with the redevelopment (a decrease of 0.29-acres of impervious).
2. Stormwater will be managed on the site using an underground filtration system.

Rate Controls

1. Rate control measures **meet** Commission standards.
2. Rate control for the site is provided by a net reduction in impervious area from pre-project conditions and by an underground filtration system with underdrain.
3. The applicant provided proposed HydroCAD model output for the 2-year, 10-year, and 100-year events which are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1 Rate of Discharge Leaving Site

Direction	Condition	2-year (cfs)	10-year (cfs)	100-year (cfs)
East <i>Toward the intersection of Diamond Lake Road and Rogers Road</i>	Pre-Project	0.2	0.4	0.9
	Proposed	0.2	0.4	0.7
	Change	0.0	0.0	-0.2
North	Pre-Project	5.0	7.6	13.0
	Proposed	2.6	6.8	12.5
	Change	-2.4	-0.8	-0.5

Abstraction Controls

1. Abstraction controls **meet** Commission requirements.
2. ECWMC abstraction criteria are based on net new impervious surfaces therefore the project is not required to provide abstraction control due to the decrease in impervious surfaces.
 - a. Due to proximity of fueling and vehicle maintenance areas, ECWMC rules restrict stormwater infiltration at such facilities.
3. The project provides 3,989 cubic feet of abstraction through the filtration system per manufacturer information.

Water Quality

1. The site is proposing a net reduction in impervious surface area and an increase in pervious areas to be paired with an underground filtration system, which will result in a decrease of TP and TSS.

Operation and Maintenance

For commercial/industrial projects with a filtration system in the city of Rogers, the landowner is responsible for the maintenance of the stormwater management BMP's. A stormwater maintenance agreement with the city will be a condition of this approval.

Rule E – Erosion and Sediment Control (plans)

1. Plans **meet** Commission requirements for erosion and sediment control.
2. The erosion and sediment control plans are consistent with current best management practices, including:
 - a. Rock construction entrance
 - b. Silt fence
 - c. Catch basin inlet protection
 - d. Stabilization of disturbed soil areas

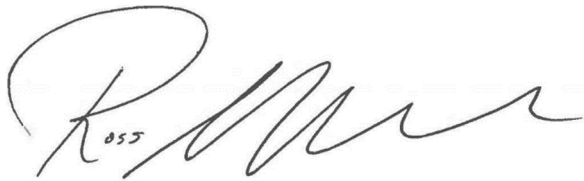
Recommendation

Approval by Technical Staff

Conditions for Technical Staff Approval

1. Approval is contingent upon final application escrow fee balance. Additional payment or refund of the fees will be determined when all conditions for approval are met.
2. Provide a complete O&M agreement between the applicant and the City of Rogers for all stormwater facilities on the project site.

On Behalf of Wenck (now part of Stantec Consultants, Inc.)
Advisor to the Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. 055' followed by a stylized, cursive flourish.

8/31/2021
Date

Attachments

- | | |
|----------|------------------------|
| Figure 1 | Project Location |
| Figure 2 | Existing Drainage Map |
| Figure 3 | Proposed Drainage Plan |

Figure 1 Project Location

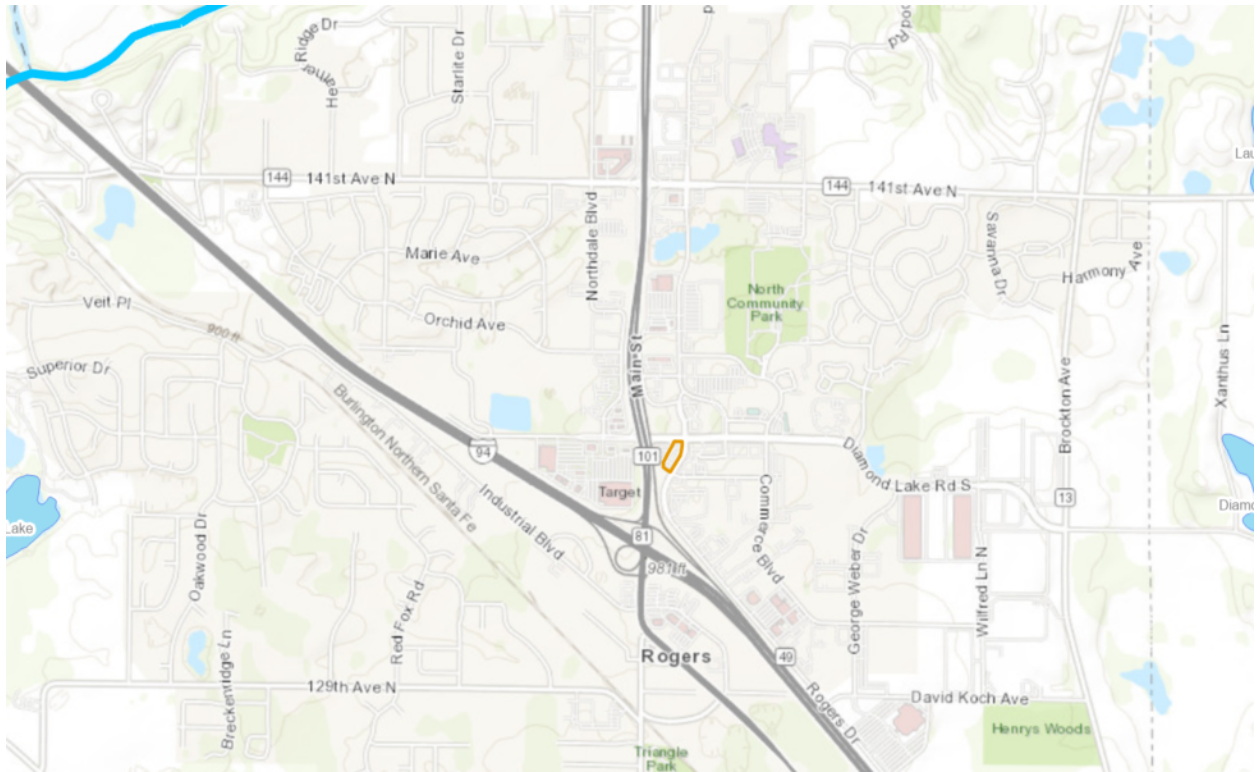


Figure 2 Existing Drainage Map

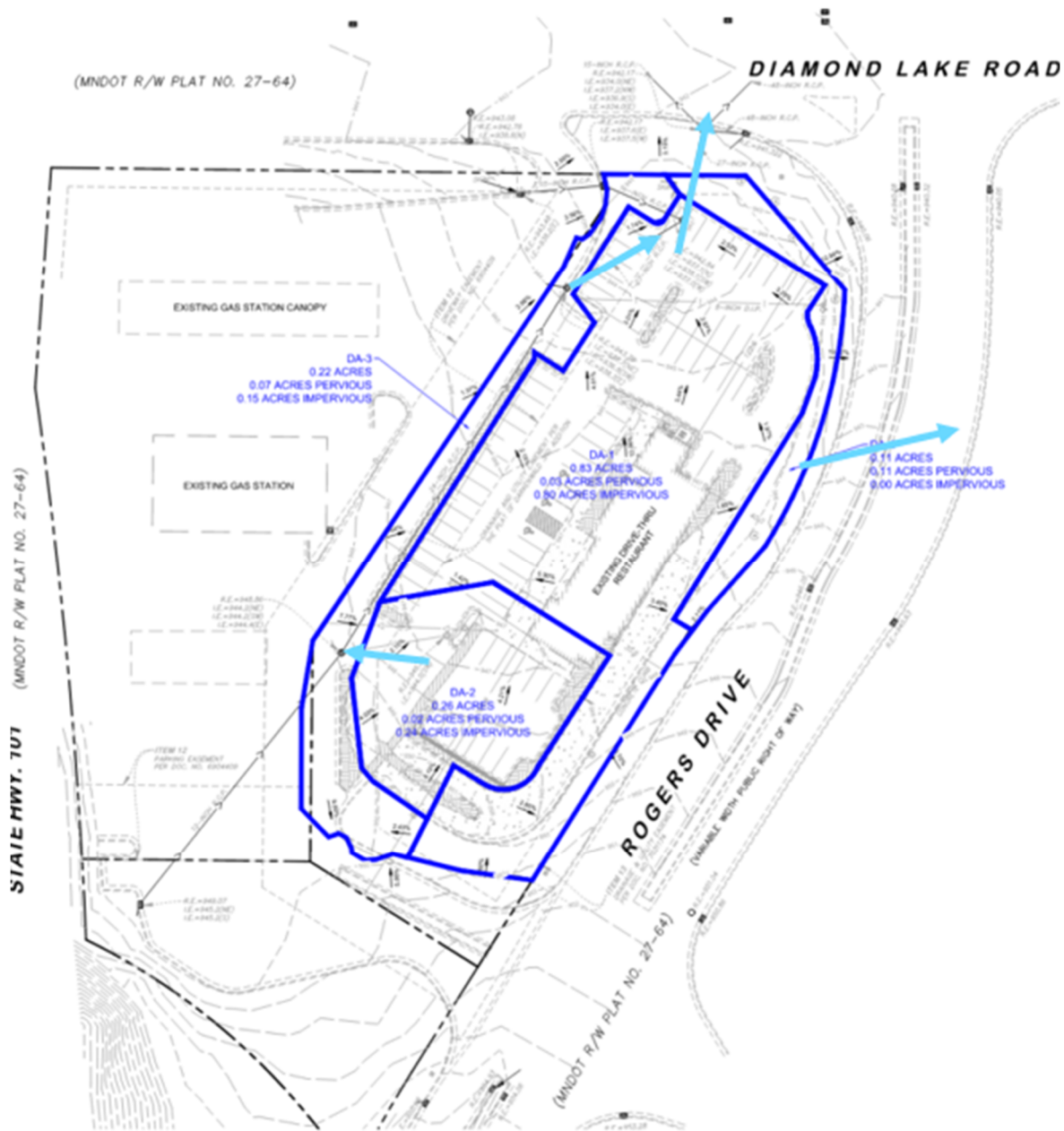
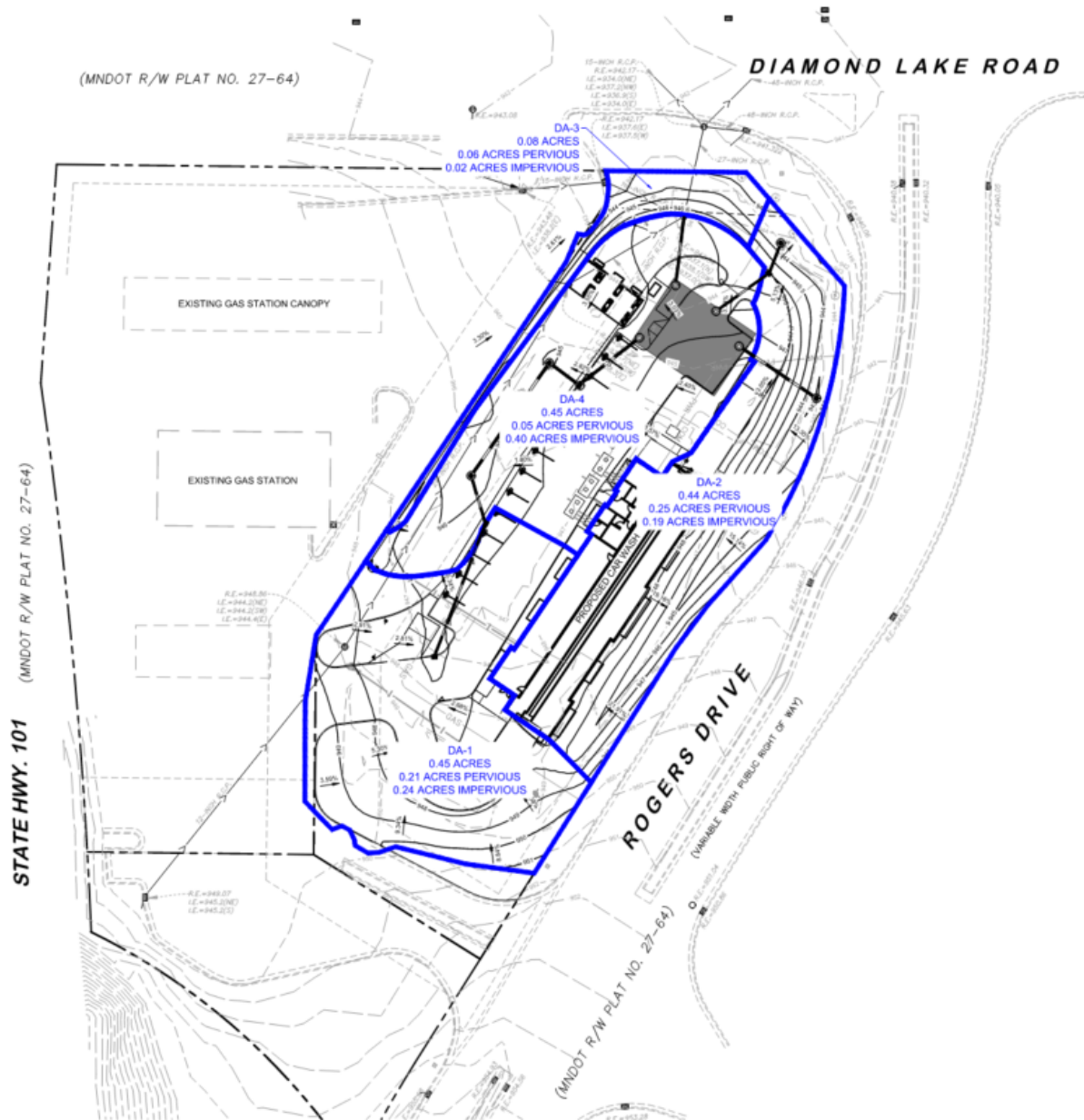


Figure 3 Proposed Drainage Plan



**ELM CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
POLICY ON COST SHARE FOR NON-STRUCTURAL PRACTICES**

I. PURPOSE

The Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission (Commission) desires to:

- 1) Minimize public capital expenditures needed to correct water quality problems; and
- 2) Identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface water quality; and
- 3) Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities; and
- 4) Secure other benefits associated with property management of surface and ground water.

With the advent of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) as stipulated in the Clean Water Act and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) regulation by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, communities within the Elm Creek Watershed began to implement capital improvement projects to improve the water quality in lakes. The Commission has historically partnered with member communities, Hennepin County, the Three Rivers Park District, and others to provide funding for projects and to meet TMDL requirements or remove lakes from the State of Minnesota Impaired Waters list.

New technology or other scientific advances may make it possible for the most cost-effective practices to be enhancements of existing practices above and beyond current Commission rules or common practice rather than construction of new facilities. The Commission, in recognizing this fact, and with the desire to spend taxpayer dollars wisely and cost-effectively, acknowledges that consideration for non-structural practices for watershed funding is a best practice.

This policy on funding non-structural practices shall serve as the basis for consideration by the Commission of funding non-structural practices and partnership with member communities.

II. MINIMUM QUALIFYING CRITERIA FOR FUNDING NON-STRUCTURAL PRACTICES

- 1) The practice must demonstrate a benefit to a waterbody identified as impaired and with an approved TMDL.
- 2) Documentation must be provided quantifying the benefit to the waterbody(ies).

III. FUNDING FOR NON-STRUCTURAL PRACTICES

- 1) Funding shall be up to 25% the cost of the project.
- 2) Funding shall be comply with Commission Capital Improvement Program policies and standards.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

POLICY HISTORY: _____ (Initial Approval)
 _____ (Revision 1)
 _____ (Revision 2)



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Upper Midwest Water Science Center

Minnesota Office
2280 Woodale Drive
Mounds View, MN 55112
763.783.3100

Wisconsin Office
8505 Research Way
Middleton, WI 53562
608.828.9901

Michigan Office
5840 Enterprise Drive
Lansing, MI 48911
517.887.8903

August 19, 2021

Ms. Judie Anderson
Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission &
Shinglecreek Watershed Management Board
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Attached are the signed originals of our standard joint-funding agreement for Elm Creek Conservation Management for the operation and maintenance of a gaging station and water-quality sampling on Elm Creek near Champlin, during the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 in the amount of \$21,562 from your agency. U.S. Geological Survey contributions for this agreement are \$19,296 for a combined total of \$40,858. Also the Shingle Creek Watershed Commission for the operation, and maintenance of specific conductance and water temperature monitoring instrumentation at Shingle Creek at Queen Avenue in Minneapolis, during the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 in the amount of \$3,800 from your agency. U.S. Geological Survey contributions for this agreement are \$3,453 for a combined total of \$7,253. Please sign and return one fully-executed original of each to Lisa L Syde-Hagen at lsyde-hagen@usgs.gov.

This is a fixed cost agreement to be billed quarterly via Down Payment Request (automated Form DI-1040). Please allow 30-days from the end of the billing period for issuance of the bill. If you experience any problems with your invoice(s), please contact Angela Hughes by email at amhughes@usgs.gov.

The results of all work performed under this agreement will be available for publication by the U.S. Geological Survey. We look forward to continuing this and future cooperative efforts in these mutually beneficial water resources studies.

Sincerely,

**RALPH
HAEFNER**

Digitally signed by
RALPH HAEFNER
Date: 2021.08.20
10:10:34 -04'00'

Ralph Haefner
Acting for Center Director

U.S. Geological Survey
In Cooperation with
The Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission

Summary of Data Program for 2021 Fiscal Year (October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021)

The U.S. Geological Survey will operate a streamgage for computation of streamflow, and collect and analyze water-quality samples manually and by automated sampler. Provisional and approved data will be published at http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mn/nwis/nwisman/?site_no=05287890.

Streamflow computation

A streamgage will be maintained and operated. Discharge measurements will be made to define changes to the stage-discharge relation over the range of flows that occur in order to compute an accurate record of streamflow.

Manual samples

Twelve manual samples will be collected using USGS protocols to obtain samples representative of the stream cross section. Samples will be collected approximately monthly to represent the variations in hydrologic conditions that occur during the year. Physical measurements and laboratory analyses of chemicals to be determined are listed in Table 1.

Automatic samples

A refrigerated automatic sampler will be used to collect 8 composited samples of runoff events. Composite samples will be discharge-weighted and collected during increasing or peak streamflow, when many selected concentrations are expected to be greatest. Samples will be analyzed for the same constituents as manual samples (table 1), excluding volatile suspended solids, water temperature, and dissolved oxygen. Automated sampling will focus on spring-snowmelt (after ground frost and sampler line thaw), and on rainfall runoff, when much of the annual load of many constituents are transported. To minimize nutrient degradation, samples will be processed within 48-72 hours of initial sample collection. The rising limb of hydrographs can exceed 72 hours at Elm Creek, so samples from such rises may be split to minimize nutrient degradation. Consequently, 8 samples may be analyzed in less than 8 runoff events. **If there are opportunities to sample more events, additional auto-samples may be authorized by ECWMC with an amended agreement at a cost of \$1,280 per composite sample.** One quality-assurance sample will be collected to assess cleaning techniques or analytical replication. Program costs are shown in Table 2.

Table 1. Laboratory analyses and physical measurements to be determined at Elm Creek near Champlin, MN

Laboratory Analyses	
Nutrients	Chemical oxygen demand
Total phosphorus	Dissolved chloride
Dissolved phosphorus	
Total ammonia plus organic nitrogen	Physical Measurements
Dissolved ammonia nitrogen	Water temperature (excluding auto-samples)
Dissolved nitrite plus nitrate nitrogen	Specific conductance
Total suspended solids	pH
Volatile suspended solids (excluding auto-samples)	

Table 2. Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2021

Activity	Total Cost	ECWMC Share	USGS Share
Gaging-station operation, maintenance and daily discharge computation	\$17,258	\$9,039	\$8,219
Water-quality sampling and chemical analyses	\$23,600	\$12,523	\$11,077
TOTAL Fiscal Year 2021	\$40,858	\$21,562	\$19,296

Form 9-1366
(May 2018)

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Joint Funding Agreement
FOR
Water Resource Investigations

Customer #: 6000001534
Agreement #: 21NKJFA203
Project #: NK00LZN, 001MV,LZN03
TIN #: 41-1416985

Fixed Cost Agreement YES[X] NO[]

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into as of the October 1, 2020, by the U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, Minnesota Water Science Center, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, party of the first part, and the Elm Creek Conservation Management party of the second part.

1. The parties hereto agree that subject to the availability of appropriations and in accordance with their respective authorities there shall be maintained in cooperation for the operation and maintenance of a gaging station and water-quality sampling on Elm Creek near Champlin, herein called the program. The USGS legal authority is 43 USC 36C; 43 USC 50, and 43 USC 50b.

2. The following amounts shall be contributed to cover all of the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program. 2(b) include In-Kind-Services in the amount of \$0.00

- (a) \$19,296 by the party of the first part during the period
October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021
- (b) \$21,562 by the party of the second part during the period
October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021
- (c) Contributions are provided by the party of the first part through other USGS regional or national programs, in the amount of: \$0

Description of the USGS regional/national program:

- (d) Additional or reduced amounts by each party during the above period or succeeding periods as may be determined by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.
- (e) The performance period may be changed by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.

3. The costs of this program may be paid by either party in conformity with the laws and regulations respectively governing each party.

4. The field and analytical work pertaining to this program shall be under the direction of or subject to periodic review by an authorized representative of the party of the first part.

5. The areas to be included in the program shall be determined by mutual agreement between the parties hereto or their authorized representatives. The methods employed in the field and office shall be those adopted by the party of the first part to insure the required standards of accuracy subject to modification by mutual agreement.

6. During the course of this program, all field and analytical work of either party pertaining to this program shall be open to the inspection of the other party, and if the work is not being carried on in a mutually satisfactory manner, either party may terminate this agreement upon 60 days written notice to the other party.

7. The original records resulting from this program will be deposited in the office of origin of those records. Upon request, copies of the original records will be provided to the office of the other party.

8. The maps, records or reports resulting from this program shall be made available to the public as promptly as possible. The maps, records or reports normally will be published by the party of the first part. However, the party of the second part reserves the right to publish the results of this program, and if already published by the party of the first part shall, upon request, be furnished by the party of the first part, at cost, impressions suitable for purposes of reproduction similar to that for which the original copy was prepared. The maps, records or reports published by either party shall contain a statement of the cooperative relations between the parties. The Parties acknowledge that scientific information and data developed as a result of the Scope of Work (SOW) are subject to applicable USGS review, approval, and release requirements, which are available on the USGS Fundamental Science Practices website (<https://www2.usgs.gov/fsp/>).

Form 9-1366
(May 2018)

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Joint Funding Agreement
FOR
Water Resource Investigations

Customer #: 6000001534
Agreement #: 21NKJFA203
Project #: NK00LZN,001MV/LZN03
TIN #: 41-1416985

9. Billing for this agreement will be rendered annually. Invoices not paid within 60 days from the billing date will bear Interest, Penalties, and Administrative cost at the annual rate pursuant the Debt Collection Act of 1982, (codified at 31 U.S.C. § 3717) established by the U.S. Treasury.

USGS Technical Point of Contact

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Supervisory Hydrologist
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Email: judie@jass.biz

USGS Billing Point of Contact

Name: Angela Hughes
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U.S. Geological Survey
United States
Department of Interior

Elm Creek Conservation Management

Signature
By RALPH HAEFNER Digitally signed by RALPH HAEFNER
Date: 2021.08.20 10:11:01 -04'00' **Date:** _____
Name: Ralph Haefner
Title: Acting for Center Director

Signatures
By _____ **Date:** _____
Name:
Title:

By _____ **Date:** _____
Name:
Title:

By _____ **Date:** _____
Name:
Title:

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

DATE: September 1, 2021

TO: Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission (ECWMC)

FROM: Kevin Ellis, Paul Stewart, and Kris Guentzel; Hennepin County Department of Environment and Energy

RE: September ECWMC Updates

Natural Resources Strategic Plan

A survey has been distributed to stakeholders and the public asking for feedback on what folks' value and wish for the county to prioritize in its natural and water resources work. You can take the survey [here](#), or by navigating to our webpage dedicated to the plan: [Updating the Natural Resources Strategic Plan | Hennepin County](#). You can also sign up for updates here: [Hennepin County \(govdelivery.com\)](#).

Public and stakeholder outreach will continue through the end of summer. Collaboration groups will also be convened in the coming weeks for stakeholders to provide direct input on planning content.

Upcoming events we'll be at:

- [Minneapolis Monarch Festival](#) at Lake Nokomis on Saturday, September 11
- [Medina Celebration Day](#) on Saturday, September 18
- [Oktoberfest at Heidi's Growhaus](#) in Corcoran on Saturday, September 25

Project / Program Updates

Rush Creek Projects

Jubert Lake Area Agricultural BMPs

Update:

- Staff conducted site visit with landowner to inspect the installation of waterway and design of "Phase 1" projects.
- Seeding on waterway still needs to be done. A seed mix was developed by staff and sent to landowner.
- Awaiting updates to "Phase 1" design from EOR. Finalized design and contract will then be sent to landowner for signature.

Previous:

- “Top of Hill WASCOP + Waterway”: Construction is complete. Additional punch list items remain, including seeding, to be completed in September. The WASCOP, intake/pipe and waterway all went in according to plan. See attached photos.
- “Phase 1” projects: County working with project design team (EOR) to finalize design for Phase 1 and begin design work on Phase 2. Construction for Phase 1 scheduled for October following harvest. Phase 2 construction delayed into 2022 to allow time for additional design and permitting.
- “Phase 1” projects include 7 grassed waterways, 1 wetland expansion, and 1 creek stabilization.
- Arens WASCOP + Waterway: Awaiting engineer capacity to complete designs. No information available about intake in road ROW, so will need to make some conservative assumptions about watershed to this project.
- “Phase 2” projects and wetland consulting: County will be requesting proposals for engineering services and wetland permitting assistance.

These projects are on multiple parcels west of Jubert Lake. Design and implementation are being funded through a funding partnership with ECWMC, Hennepin County, the State of MN (Rush Creek CWF grant), and the parcel landowners.

Anticipated Construction	Project	Engineer's Estimate	Commission Share Estimate	Hennepin & LO Share Estimate	Grant Share Estimate
Spring 2021	Top of Hill WASCOP + Waterway	\$32,704.80 [#]	\$8,176.20	\$3,270.48	\$17,987.64
	Arens WASCOP + Waterway	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Fall 2021	Phase 1 BMP 4 – Waterway	\$13,360	\$3,340	\$1,336	\$7,348
	Phase 1 BMP 9 – 2 Waterways	\$26,275	\$6,568.75	\$2,627.50	\$14,451.25
	Phase 1 BMP 13 – 4 Waterways	\$48,127	\$12,031.75	\$4,812.70	\$26,469.85
	Phase 1 BMP Other – Creek Bank Stabilization at Field Crossing	\$7,840	\$1,960	\$784	\$4,312
2022	Phase 1 BMP 11 – Wetland Expansion	\$75,610	\$18,902.50	\$7,561	\$41,585.50
	TOTAL	\$203,916.80	\$50,979.20*	\$20,391.68**	\$112,154.24***

[#] Bid estimate from contractor

*Commission Capital Funds remaining = \$55,747

**Hennepin and Landowner will contribute 10% each, values in column represents contribution from each party

***Grant funds unencumbered = \$31,443.40

Rush Creek Landowner Outreach

- Postcards advertising BMP projects for livestock owners were mailed in early August. Similar have been hung in area feed and tack stores. Responses are being addressed as they come in.
- Postcards advertising BMP projects for crop farmers have been finalized and will be mailed out in early September.
- An educational session such as a field day, livestream, or webinar is currently in development. Will most likely highlight a completed project in the Rush Creek watershed and will be archived for future viewing.

10000 Ebert Road:

Update: Landowner currently investigating locations of tile on the northern edge of the property.

Previous: Staff are working on developing a conceptual design with the landowner that meets program and landowner needs. Design will likely include some combination of prairie and mesic forest restorations in upland areas and buffers, waterways, and wetland restorations in lowland areas. Landowner referred to county staff by NRCS after the Conservation Reserve Program did not seem to be the right fit for landowner's conservation objectives. Overall objective is to convert the full 120-acre parcel from agricultural use to restored habitat, which will occur in phases over a timeline that has not yet been determined. County convened a site visit with landowner, USFWS, and NRCS during the week of March 29th. Next step will be to confirm presumed tile locations. Likely BMP projects in the short-term will be grading and planting grassed waterways in several areas, and beginning planning, design and engineering work to restore up to 16 individual drained wetlands on the property with native buffers.

9825 Sundance Road:

Update: Staff connected with septic program at Hennepin County. They recommended terraforming on the site to rejuvenate the system. Landowner is currently getting quotes from contractors. Staff are still looking for funding options since the landowner does not qualify for AgBMP loans.

Previously: Landowner has failing septic identified in the subwatershed assessment as pre-1990 septic system. Landowner did not qualify for a low-interest loan through the AgBMP Loan Program. County is currently working with landowner to find another method to finance a replacement of the failing system such as the SSTS Low-Income Fix Up grant administered by PCA.

10400 Trail Haven Road, Corcoran

Resident contacted Hennepin County to see if there is any assistance available for dredging a pond on the property. Staff is currently responding and will try to conduct a field visit to see if projects can be done to reduce sediment flowing into the parcel.

Other Landowner Conservation Assistance:

129th Ave N, Dayton:

Resident has two horses with a paddock, grazing area, and barn. Currently observing saturated areas around the current manure storage area during times with frequent or heavy rainfall leading to runoff into the southwest corner of the property. HC staff has discussed the building of a manure storage bunker on the property with the resident and has developed plans similar to a past project with modifications to match the landowners needs. Staff are currently in need of a structural engineer to sign off on the plans before contracting and implementation can occur.

21000 Block of Co. Road 117:

Update: Landowner is currently investigating and documenting tile locations and potential blockages in the northwest corner of the property.

Previous: Kolasa Farm/Enterprise reached out with concerns about a regional drain tile that runs from the properties on north side of Co Rd 117 through the proposed Rains Property wetland banking project. Staff are working with the landowner to address the issue.

25880 Territorial Road, Rogers:

Previous: Landowner requested information about low interest loan options for replacement of a failing septic system. Staff recommend working through Ag BMP Loan process to assess low interest financing. Landowner seeking quote and researching options with participating banks.

14100 117th Ave. N., Dayton:

Previous: Landowner requested information about technical and financial assistance available to add pollinator habitat to about 4 acres of former pasture land. Staff have assisted landowner to identify several locations for “pollinator nodes” in a dense stand of warm season grasses. Areas will be prepped for forb seed with 2 sprays and some mowing June through September 2021. USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program will provide seed to be sowed over snow during the winter of 2021/2022.

27015 123rd Ave. N, Rogers:

Update: Staff conducted a site visit after recent rain events. Noticed considerable accumulation within paddock. Currently looking into potential projects. Also inspected previously installed practices which are working as intended.

Previous: Landowner requested information regarding financial assistance to implement BMPs to protect water quality of a nearby pond through the Rush Creek Subwatershed grant. Landowner was concerned about runoff from sloped horse paddock and possible nutrient and bacterial contamination. A manure pad, barn gutters, and trench drain had previously been installed on the site. Staff will consider the request along with other applications for funding this summer.

Refuge at Rush Creek Wetland Bank:

Previous: Neighbors contacted staff regarding City of Corcoran’s public notice for a Drainage and Utility Easement Vacation. Staff referred questions to City of Corcoran’s wetland consultant.

Agricultural Soil Health Initiative

Previous: Soil health programing will follow in late summer/fall to coincide with cover crop planting and in advance of planning for 2022 growing season. Staff plan to send a follow-up mailer in May to all those that received the original mailers. In late February, Hennepin County staff sent a few dozen mailers to targeted farmers regarding cover crops and other soil health initiatives. County staff will be sharing those materials with the Commission as they become available.

Agricultural Conservation Program

Staff are currently developing options to preserve farmland in Hennepin County. Staff have met with others who have developed similar programs in other areas of the country to learn more about potential options. A mailer was sent to farmers and landowners with agricultural operations to gauge their interest and obtain input on the program. Follow up conversations are currently underway.

Environment and Energy Grant now open for application.

Grants for deconstruction to salvage building materials

Framing being taken apart during deconstruction project? Funding is available for building projects that use deconstruction techniques instead of standard demolition to remove materials during the destruction, alteration, or renovation of a building. In a deconstruction project, a building is taken apart mostly by hand, and materials are sorted into categories for efficient recycling and reuse.

Property owners and developers can receive up to \$5,000 to help offset the additional time and labor costs associated with deconstruction. Grants are available for demolition or renovation projects on residential properties up to 4 units that are 500 square feet or larger on structures built prior to 1970. Learn more and apply. <https://www.hennepin.us/deconstruction>

Grant for assessment and cleanup of contaminated sites

Applications are being accepted for [Environmental Response Fund grants](#), which help with the redevelopment of contaminated sites where the added cost of environment cleanup is a barrier to site improvement. Projects supported by the Environmental Response Fund provide a variety of community benefits, including the creation of affordable or moderately priced housing, economic development, green space, and infrastructure improvements.

Eligible applicants include cities, economic development agencies, housing and redevelopment authorities, other local public entities, nonprofit organizations, and for-profit businesses.

Applications are due November 1. Prior to applying, contact brownfields@hennepin.us to discuss your project and funding needs.

Seed grants for community-based clean energy projects available from CERTs

Clean Energy Resources Teams (CERTs) have seed grants available for clean energy projects that:

- Support community-based clean energy, including those related to energy conservation and efficiency, renewable energy, electric vehicles, and energy storage.
- Spur projects that are highly visible in their community and can be replicated by others.
- Provide an opportunity for community education about clean energy and its many benefits.

Applications are due October 26. [Learn more and apply.](#)



Grants available to increase pollinator habitat on residential properties

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and Blue Thumb are now accepting applications for the [Lawns to Legumes program](#), which aims to increase habitat for at-risk pollinators on residential properties.

All Minnesota residents are eligible to apply for individual support grants, which reimburse gardeners for up to \$300 in costs associated with establishing pollinator habitat in their yards. The program also offers workshops, coaching, and planting guides.

Applications for 2022 projects will be accepted through February 15, 2022. [Learn more and apply](#).

