

**BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 19, 2023**

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by President Vavra at 8:00 a.m. Present in the District Office: Linda Vavra, Jason Beyer, Doug Dahlen, Jerome Deal, Steven Schmidt, and Allen Wold. Absent: Ben Brutlag, John Kapphahn, and Scott Gillespie. Also present: Engineer Chad Engels, Engineer James Guler, Engineer Technician Troy Fridgen, Attorney Lukas Croaker, and Administrator Jamie Beyer.
- AGENDA** Upon motion by Dahlen, seconded by Deal and carried unanimously, the agenda was approved with the following additions: Schander Ring Dike, Revised High Erosion Cost Share Policy, North Ottawa Update.
- CONSENT AGENDA** Upon motion by Wold, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the Consent Agenda was approved.
- PUBLIC COMMENT** No public comment was provided.
- GCD #21 VIEWERS' REPORT & HEARING & NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING RESCHEDULED** Administrator Jamie Beyer stated that the GCD #21 Improvement Viewers' Report had been received on October 17, 2023, and the Property Owner's Report and Final Hearing notices are being prepared. There is a scheduling conflict between the next regular board meeting (November 16, 2023) and the next Drainage Workgroup meeting. Upon motion by Wold, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the next regular board meeting is moved to November 17, 2023 and the GCD #21 Final Hearing on the engineer's detailed survey report, viewers' report, property owners' report, and DNR Commissioner's final advisory report will be included.
- WCD #SUB-1** Construction continues to progress; the channel is 90% complete. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, Pay Application No. 3 in the amount of \$658,693.18 was approved. The District declined the railroad's requirement that the District be responsible for maintenance, in perpetuity, for maintenance of a culvert to be replaced near the railroad at State Highway 9 – no response has been received from the railroad. Attorney Lukas Croaker will draft a notice to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for enforcement for consideration at the November 17, 2023 board meeting.
- LTWQIP NO. 1 PHASE #3** Engineer James Guler presented an update on Lake Traverse Water Quality Improvement Project No. 1 Phase #3. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, Pay Application No. 5 in the amount of \$461,998.99 was approved. Board managers stated concerns that the native mix used for vegetation cover is slow growing, and that projects with high slope erosion could benefit from species that are faster to establish. District Engineer Chad Engels stated that cost savings on the project could be realized by the Construction Fund. Administrator Jamie Beyer stated that \$100,000 in grant funds through the Board of Water and Soil Resources could be moved to match a new grant for Twelvemile Creek; the Red River Watershed Management Board views their funding on a percentage-basis, and will likely expect a cost-savings similar to what the District realizes. Administrator Jamie Beyer will contact Red River Watershed Management Board Executive Director Rob Sip to verify how the maximum grant eligibility will be calculated in this under-budget scenario, and will report at the next board meeting.
- TCD #15 PETITION** Beyer motioned, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, to open the hearing to consider the petition from Schaffer Land Holdings, LLC to use Traverse County Ditch #15 as an outlet for Parcel #03-0076000, E1/2 NE1/4 of Section 15, Range 46, Croke Township (126), Traverse County. Attorney Croaker read Minn. Stat. § 103E.401, subd. 4. Engineer Engels provided an oral presentation of the existing condition of the ditch system along with a map showing the current assessment district. No public comment was received. Attorney Lukas Croaker read the order. Beyer motioned, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, to approve the Order Authorizing the Use of Traverse County Ditch #15 as an outlet for Parcel #03-0076000, E1/2 NE1/4 of Section 15, Range 46, Croke Township (126), Traverse County with the entrance fee recommended by engineering staff. Deal motioned, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, to close the hearing.
- REDPATH PHASE 2A** Construction continues on Redpath Phase 2A. Upon motion by Dahlen, seconded by Deal and carried unanimously, Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$762,149.42 was approved. President Linda

Vavra and District Engineer Chad Engels provided a presentation of the project to the Minnesota State Capital House Bonding Tour; a Senate Committee presentation is scheduled for early November. Upon motion by Dahlen, seconded by Beyer and carried unanimously, the Resolution Granting Authorization to File an Application with the Minnesota Management and Budget Office for 2024 State Appropriations Funded from State General Obligation Bonds was approved. Upon motion by Deal, seconded by Beyer and carried unanimously, the "General Obligation Bond Proceeds Grant Agreement - Construction Grant for the Bois de Sioux Watershed District Redpath Project Under the Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance Program" was approved contingent on sufficient clarifications verified by Attorney Lukas Croaker.

**TCD #23
PETITION**

Beyer motioned, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, to open the hearing to consider the following petition requesting authority to use Traverse County Ditch #23 as an outlet for: Evergreen Flats LLP, c/o Dale Blume: the S1/2 of Section 4, Range 44, Logan Township (127), Grant County (Parcels #09-0015-000, #09-0016-000, #09-0018-000). Attorney Croaker read Minn. Stat. § 103E.401, subd. 4. Engineer Engels provided an oral presentation of the existing condition of the ditch system along with a map showing the current assessment district. Property owner Mr. Dale Blume explained that the parcels drain both north and west; Mr. Blume requested that an entrance fee calculation comparison be made with a petition approved September 16, 2021, which had a similar split flow. In that case, the landowners similarly stated that the entrance fee calculation did not take into account the split flow for this property, so entrance fees for the parcels were based on the parcels' benefits multiplied by the documented historical expenses. Upon motion by Dahlen, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, the Order Authorizing the Use of Traverse County Ditch #23 as an outlet for Parcels #09-0015-000, #09-0016-000, #09-0018-000 was approved utilizing the benefit-based calculation of entrance fees. Beyer motioned, seconded by Schmidt and carried unanimously, to close the hearing.

**640TH AVE
ROAD RAISE**

Bids were received on behalf of Dollymount Township for the Dollymount Township 640th Avenue Road Raise. The Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost After Bid Opening is approximately \$77,000 more than the estimate provided prior to the bid opening. Board Manager Wold stated concerns that the District has many projects in progress, and that overruns in one project will affect the progress of others. District Engineer Chad Engels stated that project area landowners rejected other project alternatives, including an impoundment and a retrofit of Traverse County Ditch #8. The 640th Avenue Road Raise Project does provide protection for flood damages, and was a project alternative that was supported by area landowners. Board Manager Wold asked if the District could make a loan to Dollymount Township for the amount above the \$475,000 identified in the project's cost share agreement. Dahlen made motion, seconded by Beyer, to revise the District's cost share agreement amount to reflect the \$77,000 increase. District Engineer Technician Troy Fridgen stated that project features evolved as the project plan became more defined, and with that came obvious costs. Board managers expressed concerns that if this project is not constructed, that other landowners would also be affected - the BdSWD Ditch No. 5 project would have to be abandoned. No Dollymount Township officials were in attendance. Role call vote: Schmidt – aye; Dahlen – aye; Beyer – aye; Deal – aye; Wold – nay; Vavra – aye.

**TWELVEMILE
CREEK GRANT**

Moore Engineering staff have secured a grant through FEMA/MN Homeland Security Emergency Management to draft a feasibility study that will utilize an unsteady HEC/RAS river/floodplain model of Twelvemile Creek; the cost of the project is \$402,000, and the grant will cover 75% (\$301,500). The balance will be covered by a FDRWG Project Team grant of \$11,000 and \$100,000 from the District's 2023 – 2025 Watershed Based Implementation Fund Grant. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the grant is accepted and the draft Project Team was approved. District Engineer Chad Engels stated that the study may identify how levy improvements, road raises, and strategic culvert sizing could lessen flood risks for Graceville and Dumont communities. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, the "Form 424B - Assurances – Non Construction Projects" terms were approved.

**SCHMIDT
LEAVES**

Board Manager Steven Schmidt left the meeting.

FIVEMILE CREEK

District Engineer Chad Engels relayed findings of a recently completed survey and soil borings of Fivemile Creek. In general, the area is naturally flat and sediment deposits are not frequent in the channel; barring construction of an impoundment, the prior problem contributing to flood conditions are cattail and vegetation growth. Engineering staff met with representatives from the DNR, who were appreciate of the modeling and assessment information, which can accompany landowner applications

to clean-out vegetation. Administrator Jamie Beyer and District Engineer Troy Fridgen discussed the two possible project routes – 1) District-led vegetation clean-out, which would require an Environmental Assessment Worksheet and possible water manage district establishment, with multi-year development, or 2) Cleanout permits filed by individual landowners, with application support of the District if needed, with cleanout work to begin as soon as permits are approved. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, staff are authorized to organize a landowner meeting following harvest.

MOORE WETLAND SERVICES District Engineer Chad Engels described services provided by Moore Engineering to private landowners on behalf of wetland delineations and determinations, and asked board managers and Attorney Lukas Croaker if a conflict of interest could arise. Attorney Lukas Croaker stated that he could not identify an issue at this time.

LAKE SAMANTHA ELBOW LAKE District Engineer Chad Engels stated that an existing culvert between Lake Samantha and Elbow Lake was replaced, and set at an elevation determined by DNR staff. Upon motion by Dahlen, seconded by Deal and carried unanimously, payment to the contractor in the amount of \$5,932.48 was approved.

RING DIKE Attorney Lukas Croaker summarized a meeting held by legal, engineering, and District staff to discuss what further action could be taken in response to a complaint made by the neighbor to the ring dike constructed in Section 26 of Bradford Township, following funding denials by the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group and Red River Watershed Management Board. In reviewing satellite photographs of the area, it appears that a fenceline tree grove was removed during or after borrow pit construction, and that there may be an adverse possession issue. No further action is recommended by the District at this time.

NORTH OTTAWA The North Ottawa Project Team met earlier in the week, as leased cells that were restricted to small grain/corn silage have not been harvest yet. Engineer Technician Troy Fridgen has given the renter a deadline to remove the crop and bales by Friday, October 20. If the crop and bales are not removed, District Project Team members agreed to allow flooding of recently planted rye. A follow up meeting is scheduled for the Project Team. Engineer Technician Troy Fridgen stated that Grant County Commissioner Bill LaValley helped with gates at North Ottawa.

MEETING ROOM DISPLAY Board Manager Jason Beyer stated that meeting materials projected during the meeting are difficult to read. Upon motion by Beyer, seconded by Dahlen and carried unanimously, staff are authorized to evaluate alternative technology.

FARMLAND LEASES Administrator Jamie Beyer stated that Redpath and Moonshine leases are up. Board managers supported utilization of the same process that was used prior – to advertise for rental bids, for a 3-year term. Engineering staff will have to consider the impact of the extents of Redpath and Mustinka River construction prior to bid advertisement.

President Vavra provided an update of the happenings at the Drainage Workgroup.

The meeting was adjourned.

9:05 AM

11/08/23

Cash Basis

Bois de Sioux Watershed District
Expenses by Vendor Summary (No Employees)
October 20 through November 17, 2023

	<u>Oct 20 - Nov 17, 23</u>
Aramark	48.27
BlueCross BlueShield MN	21.74
Braun Intertec	12,582.50
City of Wheaton	50.75
Column Software PBC	112.60
Commissioner of Transportation	-1,000.00
Deal Bros. Land Partnership	11,833.00
Dwight Veldhouse	7,300.23
Elan Financial Services	1,083.60
Garrett Marple	6,120.00
Gazette Publishing Co.	1,684.25
Houston Engineering, Inc.	7,500.00
HPS	230.23
L & B Hardware Hank LLC	6.99
Larson Oil Company	76.00
Minnesota DNR - OMB	-1,153,530.62
Minnesota Watersheds/MAWD	7,500.00
Morris & Associates	239.00
Otter Tail Power Company	121.87
Otter Tail County	-10,458.43
QuickBooks Payroll Service	3.50
RINKER MATERIALS	125,096.00
RMB Environmental Laboratories Inc	298.39
RRWMB	-684,206.76
Runestone Telecom Association	95.95
Spee Dee Delivery Service, Inc.	22.99
State of Minnesota	-16,035.84
Stevens County	-13,458.18
Sturdevant's Auto Value Wheaton	3.59
The Chokio Review	97.50
The Ortonville Independent/Northern Star	52.50
Traverse Electric Cooperative Inc	47.66
Tri County Coop	275.88
Valley Office Products, Inc.	151.56
Wagner Company, Inc.	2,460.00
Wahpeton Daily News	173.61
Whaley Excavating & Concrete	10,805.00
Wilkin County	-35,490.25
Xerox Corporation	340.29
No name	0.00
TOTAL	<u>-1,717,744.63</u>

9:26 AM

11/08/23

Bois de Sioux Watershed District
CHECKS TO APPROVE - VENDORS & EMPLOYEES
 October 20 through November 17, 2023

Date	Num	Type	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Aramark						
11/17/2023	1907	Check	RUGS	53420 · Maintenance	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-48.27
Total Aramark						-48.27
BlueCross BlueShield MN						
11/17/2023	1933	Check	VISION PLAN	Health Insurance Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-21.74
Total BlueCross BlueShield MN						-21.74
Bois de Sioux Watershed						
10/26/2023	FEMA-35	General Journal	RECLASSIFY TCD #35 FEMA DAMAGES	54140 · Flood/HSEM/FEMA Repairs	Construction Fund:Redpath Imp.& Mustinka Rehab.:Ph 1 ...	53,129.20
10/26/2023	FEMA-35	General Journal	RECLASSIFY TCD #35 FEMA DAMAGES	54140 · Flood/HSEM/FEMA Repairs	Ditch Fund:TCD #35	-53,129.20
Total Bois de Sioux Watershed						0.00
Braun Intertec						
11/17/2023	1908	Check	TESTING	51200 · Project Construction	Construction Fund:Redpath Imp.& Mustinka Rehab.:Ph 2...	-12,582.50
Total Braun Intertec						-12,582.50
City of Wheaton						
11/08/2023	1904	Check	W/S/G	53440 · Utility Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-50.75
Total City of Wheaton						-50.75
Column Software PBC						
11/17/2023	1922	Check	FAC49920-0002 BUDGET HEARING 8/1 & 8/8	51500 · Advertising Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-61.20
11/17/2023	1922	Check	FAC49920-0003 PUBLIC NOTICE 11/1 & 11/8	51500 · Advertising Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-51.40
Total Column Software PBC						-112.60
Commissioner of Transportation						
11/06/2023	FEMA-3...	General Journal	Reverse of GJE FEMA-36 -- For CHK 21218 voided on...	54100 · Repairs and Maintenance		1,000.00
Total Commissioner of Transportation						1,000.00
Deal Bros. Land Partnership						
11/08/2023	1901	Check	PERMANENT CHANNEL EASEMENT	52520 · ROW	Ditch Fund:WCD #Sub-1	-8,480.00
11/08/2023	1901	Check	PERMANENT BACKSLOPE EASEMENT	52520 · ROW	Ditch Fund:WCD #Sub-1	-3,353.00
Total Deal Bros. Land Partnership						-11,833.00
Dwight Veldhouse						
11/17/2023	1918	Check	HOURS	54600 · Viewers Expense	Ditch Fund:GCD #21	-6,592.50
11/17/2023	1918	Check	MEALS, MILAGE	54600 · Viewers Expense	Ditch Fund:GCD #21	-707.73
Total Dwight Veldhouse						-7,300.23
Elan Financial Services						
11/08/2023	1906	Check	ADOBE SUB	55130 · Website	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-33.65
11/08/2023	1906	Check	ZOOM SUB	52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-34.18
11/08/2023	1906	Check	MAWD REGISTRATIONS - LV, AW, SG	52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-965.88
11/08/2023	1906	Check	FREEFIND SEARCH UPDATE	55130 · Website	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-19.00
11/08/2023	1906	Check	ANTI-VIRUS SUB	53500 · Office Supplies	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-10.58
11/08/2023	1906	Check	GROUND BREAKING SUPPLIES	53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	Construction Fund:Redpath Imp.& Mustinka Rehab.:Ph 2...	-20.31
Total Elan Financial Services						-1,083.60
Garrett Marple						
11/08/2023	1900	Check	PERMANENT CHANNEL EASEMENT	52520 · ROW	Ditch Fund:WCD #Sub-1	-6,120.00
Total Garrett Marple						-6,120.00

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Bois de Sioux Watershed District
CHECKS TO APPROVE - VENDORS & EMPLOYEES
October 20 through November 17, 2023

Date	Num	Type	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Gazette Publishing Co.						
11/17/2023	1910	Check	BID NOTICE	51500 · Advertising Expense	Construction Fund:640th Ave Road Raise:Dollymnt Cost ...	-1,047.75
11/17/2023	1910	Check	HEARING NOTICE	51500 · Advertising Expense	Ditch Fund:TCD #15	-190.00
11/17/2023	1910	Check	HEARING NOTICE	51500 · Advertising Expense	Ditch Fund:TCD #23	-285.00
11/17/2023	1910	Check	VIEWER NOTICE	51500 · Advertising Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-161.50
Total Gazette Publishing Co.						-1,684.25
Houston Engineering, Inc.						
11/17/2023	1911	Check	BEAST REDUCTION SPREADSHEET - CWF Eligible	51900 · Engineering Services	Construction Fund	-7,500.00
Total Houston Engineering, Inc.						-7,500.00
HPS						
11/17/2023	1930	Check	NORTH OTTAWA PORTAPOTTY	53440 · Utility Expense	Construction Fund:North Ottawa Impoundment:N.O. Dev ...	-230.23
Total HPS						-230.23
L & B Hardware Hank LLC						
11/17/2023	1928	Check	GOGGLES	54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-6.99
Total L & B Hardware Hank LLC						-6.99
Larson Oil Company						
11/17/2023	1925	Check	126	53470 · Office Fuel	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/17/2023	1925	Check	FUEL	54400 · Vehicle Fuel		-76.00
11/17/2023	1925	Check	126	54500 · Vehicle Maint & Repair		0.00
Total Larson Oil Company						-76.00
Minnesota DNR - OMB						
10/26/2023		Deposit	LSOHC GRANT REQUEST #3	44500 · Project Grant	Construction Fund:Redpath Imp.& Mustinka Rehab.:Ph 2...	1,027,884.42
10/31/2023		Deposit	CPL GRANT PAY REQUEST #2 - FINAL	44500 · Project Grant	Construction Fund:Lake Traverse WQ Improvement:Phas...	125,646.20
Total Minnesota DNR - OMB						1,153,530.62
Minnesota Watersheds/MAWD						
11/17/2023	1912	Check	MAWD DUES 2023	51800 · District Insurance & Dues	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-7,500.00
Total Minnesota Watersheds/MAWD						-7,500.00
Morris & Associates						
11/17/2023	1913	Check	GENERAL - SEPTEMBER	51100 · Accounting Services	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-239.00
Total Morris & Associates						-239.00
Otter Tail Power Company						
11/08/2023	1903	Check	ELECTRICITY	53430 · Electricity	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-121.87
Total Otter Tail Power Company						-121.87
Otter Tail County						
10/30/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES	42030 · Otter Tail County	Administrative Fund:General Cash	657.71
10/30/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES	42030 · Otter Tail County	Construction Fund	2,965.35
10/30/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES FOR RRWMB	42030 · Otter Tail County	RRWMB	2,965.36
10/30/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS FOR WCD 9/10 BOND	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:WCD #9	3,870.01
Total Otter Tail County						10,458.43
QuickBooks Payroll Service						
10/30/2023		Liability Check	Fee for 2 direct deposit(s) at \$1.75 each	53700 · Payroll Expenses	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-3.50
Total QuickBooks Payroll Service						-3.50
RINKER MATERIALS						
11/17/2023	1915	Check	BOX CULVERT - 28060434	53890 · Contracted Repairs & Projects	Construction Fund:Lightning Lake No. 1:DNR Grant CPL ...	-76,076.00
11/17/2023	1915	Check	BOX CULVERT - 28069466	53890 · Contracted Repairs & Projects	Construction Fund:Lightning Lake No. 1:DNR Grant CPL ...	-47,420.00
11/17/2023	1915	Check	BOX CULVERT - 28077169	53890 · Contracted Repairs & Projects	Construction Fund:Lightning Lake No. 1:DNR Grant CPL ...	-1,600.00
Total RINKER MATERIALS						-125,096.00

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11/08/23

Bois de Sioux Watershed District
CHECKS TO APPROVE - VENDORS & EMPLOYEES
October 20 through November 17, 2023

Date	Num	Type	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
RMB Environmental Laboratories Inc						
11/17/2023	1916	Check	WATER TESTING - D053045	51400 · River Watch/Expense	Construction Fund	-298.39
Total RMB Environmental Laboratories Inc						-298.39
RRWMB						
10/23/2023		Deposit	LTWQIP PHASE 3 - REQUEST 1	44505 · RRWMB WQ Project Grant	Construction Fund:Lake Traverse WQ Improvement:Phas...	711,590.65
10/23/2023		Deposit	NORTH OTTAWA PROJECT TEAM GRANT	49100 · Project Team Income	Construction Fund:North Ottawa Impoundment:N.O. Dev ...	1,863.77
11/17/2023	1923	Check	PORTION OF PROPERTY TAX FOR RRWMB	54225 · Transfer of Funds to RRWMB	RRWMB	-29,247.66
Total RRWMB						684,206.76
Runestone Telecom Association						
11/08/2023	1905	Check	INTERNET & EMAIL	53440 · Utility Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-95.95
Total Runestone Telecom Association						-95.95
Spee Dee Delivery Service, Inc.						
11/17/2023	1931	Check	POSTAGE - 914423	51400 · River Watch/Expense	Construction Fund:North Ottawa Impoundment:N.O. Dev ...	-22.99
Total Spee Dee Delivery Service, Inc.						-22.99
State of Minnesota						
10/27/2023		Deposit	MARKET VALUE CREDIG - AG	49300 · State Credits & Ag M H Credits	Administrative Fund:General Cash	1,598.42
10/27/2023		Deposit	MARKET VALUE CREDIG - AG	49300 · State Credits & Ag M H Credits	Construction Fund	7,218.71
10/27/2023		Deposit	MARKET VALUE CREDIG - AG	49300 · State Credits & Ag M H Credits	RRWMB	7,218.71
Total State of Minnesota						16,035.84
Stevens County						
10/25/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:TCD #8	46.66
10/25/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:TCD #37	244.41
10/25/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES	42040 · Stevens County	Administrative Fund:General Cash	1,314.46
10/25/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES	42040 · Stevens County	Construction Fund	5,926.32
10/25/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES FOR RRWMB	42040 · Stevens County	RRWMB	5,926.33
Total Stevens County						13,458.18
Sturdevant's Auto Value Wheaton						
11/17/2023	1926	Check	ID-846023808	54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-3.59
Total Sturdevant's Auto Value Wheaton						-3.59
The Chokio Review						
11/17/2023	1927	Check	VIEWER NOTICE	51500 · Advertising Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-97.50
Total The Chokio Review						-97.50
The Ortonville Independent/Northern Star						
11/17/2023	1914	Check	VIEWER NOTICE	51500 · Advertising Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-52.50
Total The Ortonville Independent/Northern Star						-52.50
Traverse Electric Cooperative Inc						
11/08/2023	1902	Check	REDPATH SHED	53430 · Electricity	Construction Fund:Redpath Imp.& Mustinka Rehab.:Ag La...	-47.66
Total Traverse Electric Cooperative Inc						-47.66
Tri County Coop						
11/17/2023	1929	Check	FUEL	54400 · Vehicle Fuel	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-275.88
Total Tri County Coop						-275.88
Valley Office Products, Inc.						
11/17/2023	1917	Check	INV12514 MARKERS	53500 · Office Supplies	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-10.48
11/17/2023	1917	Check	INV12671 CHECKS	53500 · Office Supplies	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-141.08
Total Valley Office Products, Inc.						-151.56

Bois de Sioux Watershed District
CHECKS TO APPROVE - VENDORS & EMPLOYEES
October 20 through November 17, 2023

Date	Num	Type	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Wagner Company, Inc.						
11/17/2023	1919	Check	SEDIMENT REMOVAL-11945	54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	Ditch Fund:TCD #52	-2,460.00
Total Wagner Company, Inc.						-2,460.00
Wahpeton Daily News						
11/17/2023	1921	Check	VIEWER NOTICE	51500 · Advertising Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-173.61
Total Wahpeton Daily News						-173.61
Whaley Excavating & Concrete						
11/17/2023	1920	Check	CLEAN OUT ROCKS	54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	Ditch Fund:TCD #36	-8,160.00
11/17/2023	1920	Check	MOVE CULVERTS	54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	Ditch Fund:TCD #26	-1,400.00
11/17/2023	1920	Check	RIP RAP	54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	Ditch Fund:TCD #26	-1,245.00
Total Whaley Excavating & Concrete						-10,805.00
Wilkin County						
11/02/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES	42060 · Wilkin County	Administrative Fund:General Cash	2,913.50
11/02/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES	42060 · Wilkin County	Construction Fund	13,137.25
11/02/2023		Deposit	PROPERTY TAXES FOR RRWMB	42060 · Wilkin County	RRWMB	13,137.26
11/02/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:WCD #18	109.83
11/02/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:WCD #20	1,254.52
11/02/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:WCD #25	459.42
11/02/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:WCD #35	383.20
11/02/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:WCD #39	591.06
11/02/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:JCD #6	6,160.13
11/02/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:JCD #7	268.70
11/02/2023		Deposit	DITCH ASSESSMENTS	41190 · Ditch Assessments	Ditch Fund:JCD #12	945.39
11/17/2023	1924	Check	PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST WCD #9 FROM OTTER ...	54956 · Intergovernmental Expense	Ditch Fund:WCD #9	-3,870.01
Total Wilkin County						35,490.25
Xerox Corporation						
11/08/2023	1899	Check	OPEN INVOICE & LATE FEE	52100 · Equipment Lease & Rental	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-109.16
11/17/2023	1932	Check	COPIER LEASE	52100 · Equipment Lease & Rental	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-231.13
Total Xerox Corporation						-340.29
Beyer, Jason W						
11/08/2023	21872	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-625.00
11/08/2023	21872	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21872	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-135.45
11/08/2023	21872	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21872	Paycheck		53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21872	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-38.75
11/08/2023	21872	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-9.07
Total Beyer, Jason W						-808.27
Brutlag, Benjamin						
11/08/2023	21873	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-250.00
11/08/2023	21873	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-46.90
11/08/2023	21873	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21873	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-15.50
11/08/2023	21873	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-3.63
Total Brutlag, Benjamin						-316.03
Dahlen, Douglas C						
11/08/2023	21874	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-500.00
11/08/2023	21874	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-116.46
11/08/2023	21874	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21874	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21874	Paycheck		53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21874	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-31.00
11/08/2023	21874	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-7.25
Total Dahlen, Douglas C						-654.71

Bois de Sioux Watershed District
CHECKS TO APPROVE - VENDORS & EMPLOYEES
October 20 through November 17, 2023

Date	Num	Type	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Deal, Jerome						
11/08/2023	21875	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-500.00
11/08/2023	21875	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-20.17
11/08/2023	21875	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21875	Paycheck		53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21875	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-31.00
11/08/2023	21875	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-7.25
Total Deal, Jerome						-558.42
Fridgen, Troy J						
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	54700 · Wages and Salaries	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-2,773.00
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	54700 · Wages and Salaries	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-976.41
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	53710 · PERA Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-281.21
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-222.69
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-52.08
11/17/2023	1909	Check	DATA/CELL PLAN	53400 · Office Operations	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-100.00
11/17/2023	1909	Check	SOLAR & LIVE CAMERA	53600 · Other Supplies	Construction Fund:North Ottawa Impoundment:N.O. Dev ...	-483.73
Total Fridgen, Troy J						-4,889.12
Gillespie, Scott						
11/08/2023	21876	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-500.00
11/08/2023	21876	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21876	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-102.31
11/08/2023	21876	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21876	Paycheck		53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21876	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-31.00
11/08/2023	21876	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-7.25
Total Gillespie, Scott						-640.56
Kapphahn, John M.						
11/08/2023	21877	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-625.00
11/08/2023	21877	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21877	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-150.13
11/08/2023	21877	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-38.75
11/08/2023	21877	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-9.06
Total Kapphahn, John M.						-822.94
Schmidt, Steven						
11/08/2023	21878	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-250.00
11/08/2023	21878	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-25.15
11/08/2023	21878	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21878	Paycheck		53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21878	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-15.50
11/08/2023	21878	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-3.63
Total Schmidt, Steven						-294.28
Sullivan, Wendy M						
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	54700 · Wages and Salaries	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-1,150.63
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	54700 · Wages and Salaries	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-415.26
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	54700 · Wages and Salaries	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-95.16
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	53710 · PERA Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-124.58
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-92.17
10/31/2023		Paycheck	Direct Deposit	53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-21.56
Total Sullivan, Wendy M						-1,899.36

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11/08/23

Bois de Sioux Watershed District
CHECKS TO APPROVE - VENDORS & EMPLOYEES
October 20 through November 17, 2023

Date	Num	Type	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Vavra, Linda J						
11/08/2023	21879	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-1,250.00
11/08/2023	21879	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21879	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-339.03
11/08/2023	21879	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21879	Paycheck		53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21879	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-77.50
11/08/2023	21879	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-18.13
Total Vavra, Linda J						-1,684.66
Wold, Allen L						
11/08/2023	21880	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-875.00
11/08/2023	21880	Paycheck		52700 · Manager Compensation	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21880	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21880	Paycheck		52900 · Mileage Expense Board	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-219.03
11/08/2023	21880	Paycheck		52800 · Meeting Expense	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21880	Paycheck		53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	Administrative Fund:General Cash	0.00
11/08/2023	21880	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-54.25
11/08/2023	21880	Paycheck		53800 · Payroll Taxes	Administrative Fund:General Cash	-12.68
Total Wold, Allen L						-1,160.96
TOTAL						1,704,015.32

Bois de Sioux Watershed District
2023 GENERAL FUND BUDGET
January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget
Income		
Investment Income	0.00	2,000.00
42000 · General Property Taxes	112,744.64	178,700.00
45000 · Miscellaneous Income	55.88	3,000.00
49000 · Project Administration	0.00	209,425.00
49300 · State Credits & Ag M H Credits	1,598.42	3,500.00
Total Income	114,398.94	396,625.00
Gross Profit	114,398.94	396,625.00
Expense		
51000 · Annual Report	815.00	1,750.00
55130 · Website	945.37	1,200.00
55140 · Mileage Expense Advisory Com	0.00	25.00
59150 · Education	0.00	1,000.00
51100 · Accounting Services	19,329.68	18,500.00
51300 · Administration Expense	49,522.50	56,000.00
51500 · Advertising Expense	3,847.17	3,800.00
51600 · Building and Structures	0.00	250.00
51800 · District Insurance & Dues	48,818.00	40,100.00
51900 · Engineering Services	14,667.50	20,000.00
52100 · Equipment Lease & Rental	3,232.46	5,500.00
52200 · Fringe Benefits	18,312.48	12,700.00
52600 · Legal Fees	32,444.63	38,000.00
52700 · Manager Compensation	17,875.00	25,000.00
52800 · Meeting Expense	7,203.85	2,500.00
52900 · Mileage Expense Board	4,215.70	5,000.00
53100 · Mileage Expense Staff	0.00	350.00
53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	642.43	2,500.00
53300 · Office Equip & Furniture	182.63	500.00
53400 · Office Operations	9,545.07	1,000.00
53500 · Office Supplies	2,091.77	3,000.00
53600 · Other Supplies	2,816.31	3,000.00
53700 · Payroll Expenses	8,185.80	7,050.00
53800 · Payroll Taxes	8,942.17	9,700.00
54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	13,598.36	1,200.00
54400 · Vehicle Fuel	3,122.59	5,000.00
54500 · Vehicle Maint & Repair	2,640.61	2,000.00
54700 · Wages and Salaries	108,209.20	130,000.00
Total Expense	381,206.28	396,625.00
Net Income	-266,807.34	0.00

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Cash Basis

Bois de Sioux Watershed District
2021 DITCH FUND BUDGET
January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget
Income		
39502 · FEMA/HSEM 2022	43,448.89	0.00
49450 · Internal Transfer In	0.00	1,115,850.00
44500 · Project Grant	122,075.00	244,150.00
20500 · Intergovernmental Revenue	2,005,308.99	0.00
20000 · Bond Proceeds	60,000.00	2,070,000.00
Ditch Revenues	361,290.43	481,700.00
Investment Income	86.41	25.00
45000 · Miscellaneous Income	1,057.44	10,000.00
Total Income	2,593,267.16	3,921,725.00
Gross Profit	2,593,267.16	3,921,725.00
Expense		
54956 · Intergovernmental Expense	66,172.81	230,000.00
60000 · State Grant Expense Activities	244,150.00	244,150.00
51020 · Buffers	0.00	0.00
51200 · Project Construction	1,013,914.91	0.00
51300 · Administration Expense	0.00	32,000.00
51500 · Advertising Expense	2,574.24	1,200.00
51900 · Engineering Services	416,685.13	180,000.00
52500 · Land	17,953.00	440,000.00
52600 · Legal Fees	37,632.32	27,000.00
52700 · Manager Compensation	0.00	1,500.00
53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	41,979.82	200.00
53300 · Office Equip & Furniture	0.00	1,000.00
54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	540,941.13	2,752,675.00
54600 · Viewers Expense	18,376.75	12,000.00
Total Expense	2,400,380.11	3,921,725.00
Net Income	192,887.05	0.00

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11/08/23

Cash Basis

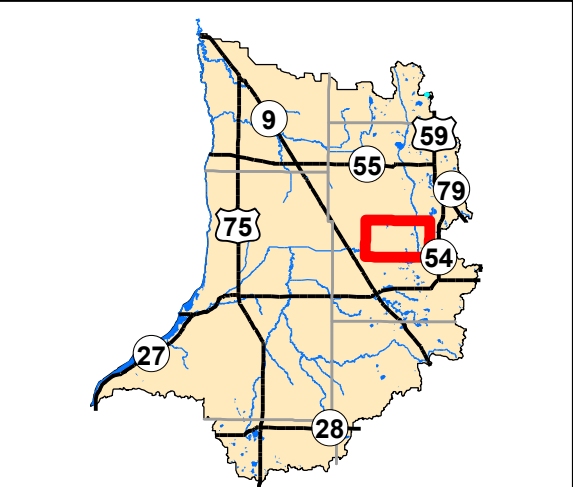
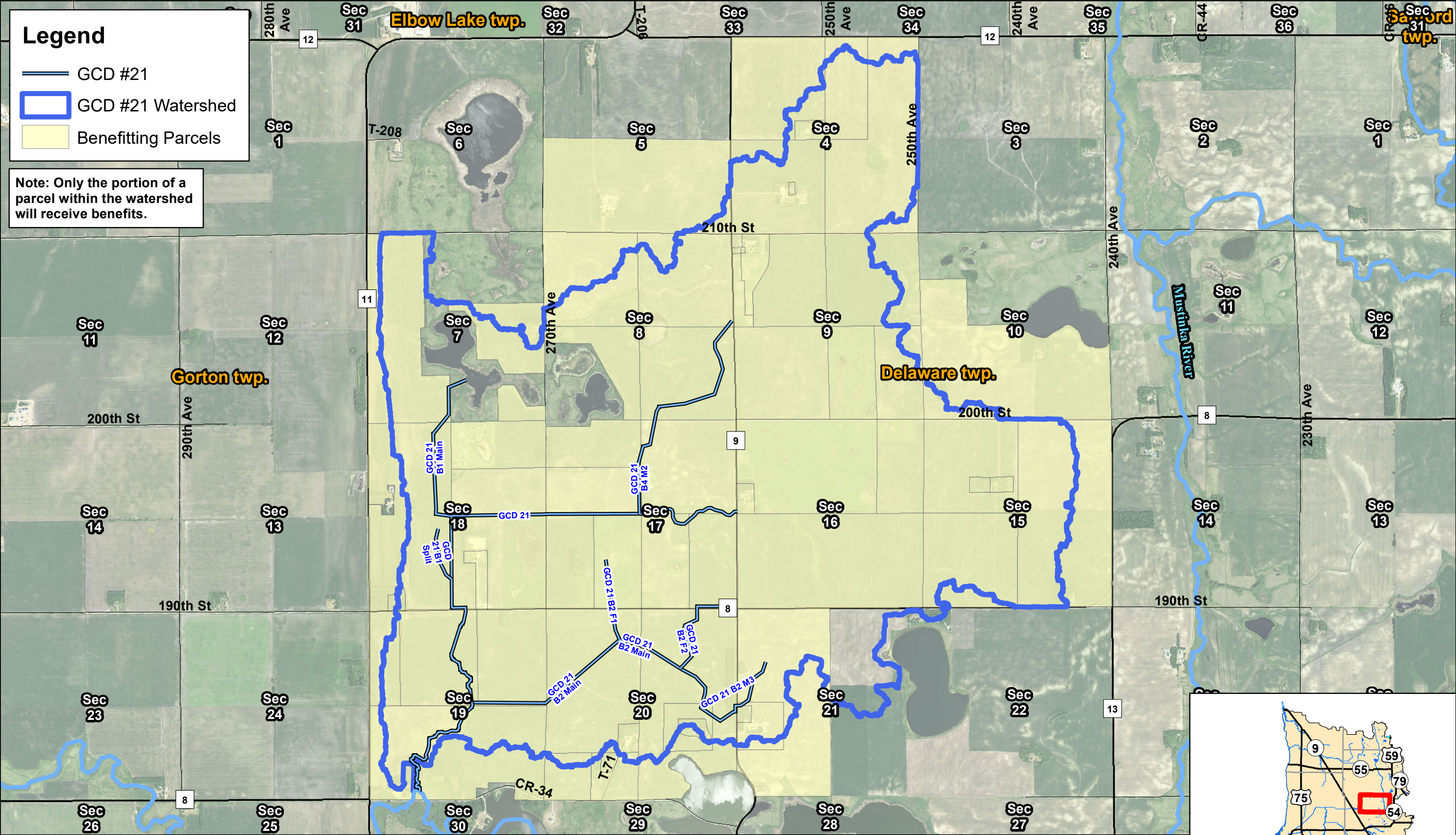
Bois de Sioux Watershed District
2023 CONSTRUCTION FUND BUDGET
 January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget
Income		
39502 · FEMA/HSEM 2022	1,368.75	0.00
49450 · Internal Transfer In	1,323,843.47	0.00
44510 · RRWMB Base Funding Grant	100,000.00	100,000.00
44505 · RRWMB WQ Project Grant	711,590.65	507,000.00
44500 · Project Grant	3,779,025.58	6,011,522.00
Ditch Revenues	32,000.00	0.00
41100 · Riparian Aid MN DOR	119,122.50	110,000.00
Investment Income	64,295.14	0.00
47100 · Storage Building Rental Income	0.00	800.00
42000 · General Property Taxes	505,189.81	807,033.00
44000 · Land Rental Income	866,935.59	875,000.00
45500 · Land Sale	1,098,585.67	0.00
45000 · Miscellaneous Income	5,797.00	2,000.00
48000 · Permit Fees	250.00	0.00
49100 · Project Team Income	7,800.03	0.00
49300 · State Credits & Ag M H Credits	7,218.71	0.00
49400 · Transfer In	440,124.38	0.00
Total Income	9,063,147.28	8,413,355.00
Gross Profit	9,063,147.28	8,413,355.00
Expense		
54955 · Internal Transfer Out	1,323,843.47	0.00
60000 · State Grant Expense Activities	1,733,106.41	1,064,522.00
51675 · Clean Water Cost Share Policy	0.00	541,000.00
51670 · Culvert Szng Cost Share Policy	0.00	575,000.00
51020 · Buffers	33,969.45	110,000.00
50100 · Stream Gaging Expense	12,699.69	2,500.00
Permits	92,298.75	150,000.00
55110 · Programs with SWCDs	5,000.00	10,000.00
51100 · Accounting Services	0.00	3,500.00
51200 · Project Construction	5,109,539.03	2,947,000.00
51300 · Administration Expense	0.00	168,700.00
51400 · River Watch/Expense	3,380.25	2,500.00
51500 · Advertising Expense	9,032.69	8,000.00
51900 · Engineering Services	1,463,258.35	1,188,683.00
52600 · Legal Fees	51,966.82	100,000.00
52700 · Manager Compensation	0.00	15,000.00
52800 · Meeting Expense	235.39	1,500.00
52900 · Mileage Expense Board	0.00	150.00
53100 · Mileage Expense Staff	0.00	500.00
53200 · Miscellaneous Expenses	629.33	2,700.00
53300 · Office Equip & Furniture	0.00	1,000.00
53400 · Office Operations	2,161.62	1,500.00
53500 · Office Supplies	472.38	2,500.00
53600 · Other Supplies	483.73	100.00
53900 · Property Taxes	104,651.96	125,000.00
54100 · Repairs and Maintenance	317,870.92	1,391,000.00
54400 · Vehicle Fuel	0.00	1,000.00
Total Expense	10,264,600.24	8,413,355.00
Net Income	-1,201,452.96	0.00

Legend

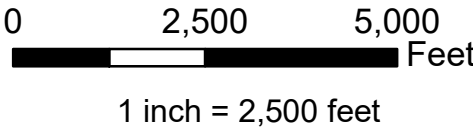
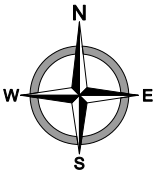
- GCD #21
- GCD #21 Watershed
- Benefitting Parcels

Note: Only the portion of a parcel within the watershed will receive benefits.



Grant County Ditch #21
Benefitting Parcels
Bois de Sioux Watershed District

Created By: TJS Date Created: 10/23/23 Date Saved: 10/23/23 Date Plotted: 09/29/17 Date Exported: 10/23/23
Plotted By: Tanner.Schmidt Parcel Date: 2021 Aerial Image: 2021 SIDA Elevation Data: IWI Lidar
Horizontal Datum: NAD 1983 HARN Adj MN Wilkin Feet Vertical Datum: NAVD1988
T:\Projects\22500\22549\22549_GCD21_BenefitParcels.mxd



Bois de Sioux
Watershed District



moore
engineering, inc.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE PROPERTY OWNERS REPORT
Statement of Benefits and Damages
Grant County Ditch #21 2023 Redetermination of Benefits
by Property Owner Name

TAXPAYER & PROPERTY OWNERS	TOTAL POTENTIAL BENEFITS	TOTAL NET BENEFITS	MAINTENANCE COST (ESTIMATED COST)	TOTAL DAMAGES* (TOTAL EASEMENT VALUE)
BISS/SCOTT & MAREEN	\$ 281,860.60	\$ 163,161.20	\$ 31,977.40	\$ 3,780.00
BLUME/DANA J & KATY R	\$ 1,046,534.30	\$ 1,029,070.79	\$ 201,697.60	\$ 26,725.00
CHRISTIANS/RODNEY	\$ 3,429.30	\$ 2,743.44	\$ 538.20	\$ -
COLEMAN/JODY	\$ 334,089.70	\$ 262,907.89	\$ 51,529.40	\$ -
CURRIER/GREG, BRUCE & DAVID	\$ 434,886.60	\$ 167,288.94	\$ 32,788.60	\$ -
DELAWARE TOWNSHIP	\$ 70,747.20	\$ 70,747.20	\$ 13,865.80	\$ -
DERBY FAMILY REVOC LIVING TRST	\$ 905.10	\$ 724.08	\$ 143.00	\$ -
DERBY/NANCY/ETAL	\$ 978,203.20	\$ 947,488.30	\$ 185,707.60	\$ 18,330.00
DERBY/ROGER & SHARON/TRST/ETAL	\$ 1,083,908.00	\$ 958,469.28	\$ 187,857.80	\$ 315.00
EATON/ERIC & BRENDA	\$ 7,844.20	\$ 7,059.78	\$ 1,383.20	\$ -
ELLISON FARM INC	\$ 84,777.70	\$ 84,777.70	\$ 16,616.60	\$ 135.00
ELLISON FARM LMTD PARTNERSHP	\$ 1,574,228.70	\$ 1,522,107.99	\$ 298,326.60	\$ 11,310.00
ELLISON/DANIEL	\$ 18,705.40	\$ 18,222.68	\$ 3,572.40	\$ -
ELLISON/MARK & LORI	\$ 6,368.70	\$ 6,368.70	\$ 1,248.00	\$ -
EVERGREEN FLATS LLP	\$ 280,839.20	\$ 210,651.08	\$ 41,285.40	\$ -
GERBER/KEITH & KELLY	\$ 472,406.10	\$ 284,218.40	\$ 55,707.60	\$ -
GOTTA/JAMES J/& ROBIN A/TSTES	\$ 259,413.80	\$ 181,589.66	\$ 35,591.40	\$ -
GRANT COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	\$ 215,416.06	\$ 215,416.06	\$ 42,221.40	\$ -
HEINTZELMAN/VIRGINIA	\$ 276,988.80	\$ 164,867.87	\$ 32,312.80	\$ 20,060.00
JD FARM LLC	\$ 367,085.70	\$ 367,085.70	\$ 71,947.20	\$ 5,350.00
KJORNES/KATHERINE/RESID TRUST	\$ 69,391.00	\$ 32,945.64	\$ 6,458.40	\$ -
KJORNES/TRAVIS, DAVID & SCOTT	\$ 286,827.20	\$ 86,048.16	\$ 16,866.20	\$ -
MC GEE/KAREN L	\$ 66,712.80	\$ 57,962.16	\$ 11,359.40	\$ -
MC GEE/SHAWN M & STACY L	\$ 84,731.10	\$ 69,831.78	\$ 13,686.40	\$ -
NELSON/JAMES K & CHARLENE R	\$ 1,277,895.60	\$ 647,976.74	\$ 127,002.20	\$ -
NELSON/PATRICIA A	\$ 1,005,252.10	\$ 758,058.44	\$ 148,579.60	\$ -
OLIVAS/JOSE L/SR	\$ 21,461.80	\$ 8,584.72	\$ 1,682.20	\$ -
OLSON/NICHOLAS A & MEGAN J	\$ 788,588.60	\$ 631,518.76	\$ 123,775.60	\$ -
PATTISON FAMILY FARM LTD PTP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
RATHS/PAUL J & JANE L	\$ 895,967.50	\$ 845,535.37	\$ 165,721.40	\$ 5,985.00
RICKS/LOWELL	\$ 1,719,577.80	\$ 1,503,870.44	\$ 294,751.60	\$ 14,870.00
TOUHEY/VERONICA	\$ 255,807.00	\$ 24,229.67	\$ 4,752.80	\$ 25,855.00
TRIDEN PROP LTD PRTNSH LLLP	\$ 708,940.30	\$ 705,802.62	\$ 138,335.60	\$ 11,970.00
U S OF AMERICA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
VIPOND FARMS LLP	\$ 56,116.20	\$ 22,446.48	\$ 4,399.20	\$ -
VIPOND PROPERTIES LLLP	\$ 42,214.80	\$ 22,795.99	\$ 4,466.80	\$ -
VIPOND/ANNEGINE M/RLT	\$ 219,543.10	\$ 140,863.72	\$ 27,609.40	\$ -
VIPOND/TERRANCE E & KATHY L	\$ 546,828.30	\$ 535,333.73	\$ 104,928.20	\$ 3,375.00
WILLMERT/KENNETH	\$ 611,261.70	\$ 506,738.62	\$ 99,322.60	\$ 990.00
TOTAL TAXPAYERS & PROPERTY OWNERS	\$ 16,455,755.26	\$ 13,265,509.79	\$ 2,600,015.60	\$ 149,050.00

*Damages will be paid to the property owner of record at the time easement and tax instruments are signed. **Please locate and have your land abstract available** - the improvement project will cover the cost to have the new drainage system easements recorded, and updates to abstracts.

Grant County Ditch 21 Viewer's Report Submitted 10/17/23 BDSWD Considers Approval 11/17/23						RATING BENEFIT VALUE PER ACRE													DAMAGE VALUE PER ACRE										
						A=	\$5,355.00	B=	\$4,332.00	C=	\$3,017.00	D=	\$1,633.00										Perm Channel Easement=	\$8,000.00	Future Maintenance Access=	\$350.00	Title Easement=	\$450.00	
																			Estimated Local Cost		\$2,600,000.00								
PROPERTY INFORMATION						Viewer Rating													\$13,265,509.79		= Total Benefit	Damages							
Order	PARCELID	TAXPAYER	T-R-S	Quarter	QQSection	A	A Value	B	B Value	C	C Value	D	D Value	Road ROW	X (Non benefit)	Potential Benefit	Hydraulic Efficiency	Proximity Percent	Net Benefit	Net Benefit %	Estimated Cost	Existing ROW Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Value	Proposed Maintenance Access Easement Ac.	Proposed Maintenance Access Easement Value	Proposed Tile Easement Ac.	Proposed Tile Easement Value	Total Easement Value
1	01-0016-000	CURRIER/GREG,BRUCE & DAVID	128-43-4	Gov Lot	1		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	27.5	\$44,907.50	0.4		\$44,907.50	100.00%	30.00%	\$13,472.25	0.10160%	\$2,641.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2	01-0016-000			Gov Lot	2		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	2.0	\$3,266.00			\$3,266.00	100.00%	30.00%	\$979.80	0.00740%	\$192.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3	01-0016-000			NE	SENE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	39.3	\$64,176.90	0.7		\$64,176.90	100.00%	30.00%	\$19,253.07	0.14510%	\$3,772.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4	01-0016-000			NE	SWNE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	3.2	\$5,225.60			\$5,225.60	100.00%	30.00%	\$1,567.68	0.01180%	\$306.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5	01-0016-000			SE	NESE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	39.2	\$64,013.60	0.8		\$64,013.60	100.00%	30.00%	\$19,204.08	0.14480%	\$3,764.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6	01-0016-000			SE	NWSE		\$0.00		\$0.00	22.1	\$66,675.70	17.8	\$29,067.40			\$95,743.10	100.00%	40.00%	\$38,297.24	0.28870%	\$7,506.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
7	01-0016-000			SE	SESE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	26.1	\$42,621.30	0.0		\$42,621.30	100.00%	40.00%	\$17,048.52	0.12850%	\$3,341.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	01-0016-000			SE	SWSE		\$0.00	1.1	\$4,765.20	35.0	\$105,595.00	2.8	\$4,572.40	0.9		\$114,932.60	100.00%	50.00%	\$57,466.30	0.43320%	\$11,263.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
9																													
10	01-0016-500	RICKS/LOWELL	128-43-4	Gov Lot	2		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	28.8	\$47,030.40			\$47,030.40	100.00%	30.00%	\$14,109.12	0.10640%	\$2,766.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
11	01-0016-500			NE	SWNE		\$0.00		\$0.00	7.0	\$21,119.00	29.8	\$48,663.40			\$69,782.40	100.00%	30.00%	\$20,934.72	0.15780%	\$4,102.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12																													
13	01-0017-000	OLIVAS/JOSE L/SR	128-43-4	NW	SENW		\$0.00		\$0.00	3.0	\$9,051.00	7.6	\$12,410.80			\$21,461.80	100.00%	40.00%	\$8,584.72	0.06470%	\$1,682.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
14																													
15	01-0017-500	VIPOND FARMS LLP	128-43-4	Gov Lot	3		\$0.00		\$0.00	2.1	\$6,335.70		\$0.00			\$6,335.70	100.00%	40.00%	\$2,534.28	0.01910%	\$496.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
16	01-0017-500			NW	SENW		\$0.00		\$0.00	16.5	\$49,780.50		\$0.00			\$49,780.50	100.00%	40.00%	\$19,912.20	0.15010%	\$3,902.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
17																													
18	01-0018-000	GERBER/KEITH & KELLY	128-43-4	SW	NESW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.5	\$816.50			\$816.50	100.00%	50.00%	\$408.25	0.00310%	\$80.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
19	01-0018-000			SW	SESW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.9	\$1,469.70			\$1,469.70	100.00%	60.00%	\$881.82	0.00660%	\$171.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
20																													
21	01-0018-100	GERBER/KEITH & KELLY	128-43-4	SW	NESW		\$0.00	11.1	\$48,085.20	23.3	\$70,296.10	1.8	\$2,939.40			\$121,320.70	100.00%	50.00%	\$60,660.35	0.45730%	\$11,889.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	01-0018-100			NWSW		\$0.00	23.9	\$103,534.80		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.4		\$103,534.80	100.00%	60.00%	\$62,120.88	0.46830%	\$12,175.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
23	01-0018-100			SESW		\$0.00	8.5	\$36,822.00	21.6	\$65,167.20	8.2	\$13,390.60	0.9		\$115,379.80	100.00%	60.00%	\$69,227.88	0.52190%	\$13,569.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
24	01-0018-100			SWSW		\$0.00	10.9	\$47,218.80	27.4	\$82,665.80		\$0.00	1.7		\$129,884.60	100.00%	70.00%	\$90,919.22	0.68540%	\$17,820.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
25																													
26	01-0020-000	RICKS/LOWELL	128-43-5	SE	SESE		\$0.00		\$0.00	10.0	\$30,170.00		\$0.00	2.0		\$30,170.00	100.00%	80.00%	\$24,136.00	0.18190%	\$4,729.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
27																													
28	01-0027-000	WILLMERT/KENNETH	128-43-7	Gov Lot	1		\$0.00	10.9	\$47,218.80	0.7	\$2,111.90	4.5	\$7,348.50	0.2		\$56,679.20	100.00%	60.00%	\$34,007.52	0.25640%	\$6,666.40	0.70	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	2.20	\$990.00	\$990.00
29	01-0027-000				2		\$0.00	11.4	\$49,384.80	0.9	\$2,715.30	5.1	\$8,328.30			\$60,428.40	100.00%	70.00%	\$42,299.88	0.31890%	\$8,291.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
30	01-0027-000				3		\$0.00	2.4	\$10,396.80	10.7	\$32,281.90	3.9	\$6,368.70			\$49,047.40	100.00%	80.00%	\$39,237.92	0.29580%	\$7,690.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
31	01-0027-000				4		\$0.00		\$0.00	2.9	\$8,749.30	9.2	\$15,023.60			\$23,772.90	100.00%	90.00%	\$21,395.61	0.16130%	\$4,193.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
32	01-0027-000			NW	NENW		\$0.00	20.1	\$87,073.20	0.2	\$603.40		\$0.																

Grant County Ditch 21 Viewer's Report Submitted 10/17/23 BDSWD Considers Approval 11/17/23						RATING BENEFIT VALUE PER ACRE													DAMAGE VALUE PER ACRE											
						A=	\$5,355.00	B=	\$4,332.00	C=	\$3,017.00	D=	\$1,633.00																	
PROPERTY INFORMATION						Viewer Rating													Damages											
Order	PARCELID	TAXPAYER	T-R-S	Quarter	QQSection	A	A Value	B	B Value	C	C Value	D	D Value	Road ROW	X (Non benefit)	Potential Benefit	Hydraulic Efficiency	Proximity Percent	Net Benefit	Net Benefit %	Estimated Cost	Existing ROW Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Value	Proposed Maintenance Access Easement Ac.	Proposed Maintenance Access Easement Value	Proposed Tile Easement Ac.	Proposed Tile Easement Value	Total Easement Value	
68																														
69	01-0036-000	U S OF AMERICA	128-43-8	SW	NESW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		3.6	\$0.00	100.00%	80.00%	\$0.00	0.000000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
70	01-0036-000				NWSW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.6	25.2	\$0.00	100.00%	70.00%	\$0.00	0.000000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
71	01-0036-000				SESW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00			21.9	\$0.00	100.00%	90.00%	\$0.00	0.000000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
72	01-0036-000				SWSW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	1.0	39.6	\$0.00	100.00%	80.00%	\$0.00	0.000000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
73																														
74	01-0037-000	VIPOND/TERRANCE E & KATHY L	128-43-8	SE	NESE		\$0.00	17.4	\$75,376.80	21.6	\$65,167.20		\$0.00	1.0		\$140,544.00	100.00%	100.00%	\$140,544.00	1.059500%	\$27,547.00	5.70	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	7.50	\$3,375.00	\$3,375.00	
75	01-0037-000				NWSE		\$0.00	19.5	\$84,474.00	10.1	\$30,471.70		\$0.00		10.5	\$114,945.70	100.00%	90.00%	\$103,451.13	0.779900%	\$20,277.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
76	01-0037-000				SESE	5.3	\$28,381.50	4.8	\$20,793.60	29.0	\$87,493.00		\$0.00	0.9		\$136,668.10	100.00%	100.00%	\$136,668.10	1.030300%	\$26,787.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
77	01-0037-000				SWSE	3.2	\$17,136.00	19.7	\$85,340.40	17.3	\$52,194.10		\$0.00			\$154,670.50	100.00%	100.00%	\$154,670.50	1.166000%	\$30,316.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
78																														
79	01-0038-000	CHRISTIANS/RODNEY	128-43-9	NW	NWNW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	2.1	\$3,429.30	0.5		\$3,429.30	100.00%	80.00%	\$2,743.44	0.020700%	\$538.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
80																														
81	01-0038-300	MC GEE/KAREN L	128-43-9	NW	NWNW		\$0.00	0.9	\$3,898.80		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.1		\$3,898.80	100.00%	80.00%	\$3,119.04	0.023500%	\$611.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
82																														
83	01-0038-301	MC GEE/KAREN L	128-43-9	NW	NWNW		\$0.00	3.9	\$16,894.80		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.5		\$16,894.80	100.00%	80.00%	\$13,515.84	0.101900%	\$2,649.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
84	01-0038-301				SWNW		\$0.00	10.6	\$45,919.20		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.9		\$45,919.20	100.00%	90.00%	\$41,327.28	0.311500%	\$8,099.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
85																														
86	01-0038-304	GOTTA/JAMES J/& ROBIN A/TSTEEES	128-43-9	SE	NWSE		\$0.00	5.7	\$24,692.40	34.0	\$102,578.00		\$0.00			\$127,270.40	100.00%	70.00%	\$89,089.28	0.671600%	\$17,461.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
87	01-0038-304				SWSE		\$0.00	11.7	\$50,684.40	27.0	\$81,459.00		\$0.00	1.1		\$132,143.40	100.00%	70.00%	\$92,500.38	0.697300%	\$18,129.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
88																														
89	01-0038-600	MC GEE/SHAWN M & STACY L	128-43-9	NW	NWNW		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.5	\$1,508.50		\$0.00			\$1,508.50	100.00%	80.00%	\$1,206.80	0.009100%	\$236.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
90																														
91	01-0038-601	MC GEE/SHAWN M & STACY L	128-43-9	NW	NWNW		\$0.00		\$0.00	20.8	\$62,753.60		\$0.00	0.6		\$62,753.60	100.00%	80.00%	\$50,202.88	0.378400%	\$9,838.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
92	01-0038-601				SWNW		\$0.00	1.8	\$7,797.60	4.2	\$12,671.40		\$0.00			\$20,469.00	100.00%	90.00%	\$18,422.10	0.138900%	\$3,611.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
93																														
94	01-0038-700	COLEMAN/JODY	128-43-9	NW	NENW		\$0.00		\$0.00	38.3	\$115,551.10		\$0.00	1.0		\$115,551.10	100.00%	70.00%	\$80,885.77	0.609700%	\$15,852.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
95	01-0038-700				NWNW		\$0.00		\$0.00	9.2	\$27,756.40		\$0.00	0.2		\$27,756.40	100.00%	80.00%	\$22,205.12	0.167400%	\$4,352.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
96	01-0038-700				SENW		\$0.00		\$0.00	39.4	\$118,869.80		\$0.00			\$118,869.80	100.00%	80.00%	\$95,095.84	0.716900%	\$18,639.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
97	01-0038-700				SWNW		\$0.00	4.9	\$21,226.80	16.8	\$50,685.60		\$0.00			\$71,912.40	100.00%	90.00%	\$64,721.16	0.487900%	\$12,685.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
98																														
99	01-0039-000	VIPOND/ANNEGINE M/RLT	128-43-9	NE	NENE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	4.8	\$7,838.40			\$7,838.40	100.00%	50.00%	\$3,919.20	0.029500%	\$767.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
100	01-0039-000				NWNE		\$0.00		\$0.00	15.0	\$45,255.00	22.8	\$37,232.40	0.8		\$82,487.40	100.00%	60.00%	\$49,492.44	0.373100%	\$9,700.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
101	01-0039-000				SENE		\$0.00		\$0.00	1.5	\$4,525.50	15.6	\$25,474.80			\$30,000.30	100.00%	60.00%	\$18,000.18	0.135700%	\$3,528.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
102	01-0039-000				SWNE		\$0.00		\$0.00	25.2	\$76,028.40	14.2	\$23,188.60	</																

Grant County Ditch 21 Viewer's Report Submitted 10/17/23 BDSWD Considers Approval 11/17/23						RATING BENEFIT VALUE PER ACRE													DAMAGE VALUE PER ACRE										
						A=	\$5,355.00	B=	\$4,332.00	C=	\$3,017.00	D=	\$1,633.00																
																			Estimated Local Cost		\$2,600,000.00								
																			\$13,265,509.79	= Total Benefit									
PROPERTY INFORMATION						Viewer Rating													Damages										
Order	PARCELID	TAXPAYER	T-R-S	Quarter	QQSection	A	A Value	B	B Value	C	C Value	D	D Value	Road ROW	X (Non benefit)	Potential Benefit	Hydraulic Efficiency	Proximity Percent	Net Benefit	Net Benefit %	Estimated Cost	Existing ROW Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Value	Proposed Maintenance Access Easement Ac.	Proposed Maintenanc e Access Easement Value	Proposed Tile Easement Ac.	Proposed Tile Easement Value	Total Easement Value
122	01-0067-000				SWSE		\$0.00		\$0.00	4.3	\$12,973.10	32.1	\$52,419.30	0.9		\$65,392.40	100.00%	30.00%	\$19,617.72	0.14790%	\$3,845.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
123																													
124	01-0068-000	NELSON/JAMES K & CHARLENE R	128-43-15	NW	SENW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	6.4	\$10,451.20			\$10,451.20	100.00%	40.00%	\$4,180.48	0.03150%	\$819.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
125																													
126	01-0068-300	NELSON/JAMES K & CHARLENE R	128-43-15	NW	NENW		\$0.00		\$0.00	15.8	\$47,668.60	23.5	\$38,375.50	0.8		\$86,044.10	100.00%	40.00%	\$34,417.64	0.25950%	\$6,747.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
127	01-0068-300				NWNW		\$0.00		\$0.00	39.3	\$118,568.10		\$0.00	0.8		\$118,568.10	100.00%	50.00%	\$59,284.05	0.44690%	\$11,619.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
128	01-0068-300				SENW		\$0.00		\$0.00	11.2	\$33,790.40	17.3	\$28,250.90			\$62,041.30	100.00%	40.00%	\$24,816.52	0.18710%	\$4,864.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
129	01-0068-300				SWNW		\$0.00		\$0.00	39.9	\$120,378.30		\$0.00			\$120,378.30	100.00%	50.00%	\$60,189.15	0.45370%	\$11,796.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
130																													
131	01-0068-500	NELSON/JAMES K & CHARLENE R	128-43-15	SW	NESW		\$0.00		\$0.00	24.8	\$74,821.60	15.5	\$25,311.50			\$100,133.10	100.00%	40.00%	\$40,053.24	0.30190%	\$7,849.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
132	01-0068-500				NWSW		\$0.00	6.7	\$29,024.40	33.5	\$101,069.50		\$0.00			\$130,093.90	100.00%	50.00%	\$65,046.95	0.49030%	\$12,747.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
133	01-0068-500				SESW		\$0.00		\$0.00	32.4	\$97,750.80		\$0.00	0.1		\$97,750.80	100.00%	40.00%	\$39,100.32	0.29480%	\$7,664.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
134	01-0068-500				SWSW		\$0.00	1.6	\$6,931.20	26.9	\$81,157.30		\$0.00	0.5		\$88,088.50	100.00%	50.00%	\$44,044.25	0.33200%	\$8,632.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
135																													
136	01-0069-000	NELSON/JAMES K & CHARLENE R	128-43-15	NW	SENW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	5.4	\$8,818.20			\$8,818.20	100.00%	40.00%	\$3,527.28	0.02660%	\$691.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
137																													
138	01-0070-000	OLSON/NICHOLAS A & MEGAN J	128-43-16	NW	SWNW		\$0.00	4.1	\$17,761.20		\$0.00	5.2	\$8,491.60	0.7		\$26,252.80	100.00%	90.00%	\$23,627.52	0.17810%	\$4,630.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
139																													
140	01-0070-500	OLSON/NICHOLAS A & MEGAN J	128-43-16	NE	NWNE		\$0.00	5.2	\$22,526.40	34.1	\$102,879.70		\$0.00	0.8		\$125,406.10	100.00%	70.00%	\$87,784.27	0.66170%	\$17,204.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
141	01-0070-500				SWNE		\$0.00	8.3	\$35,955.60	31.8	\$95,940.60		\$0.00			\$131,896.20	100.00%	70.00%	\$92,327.34	0.69600%	\$18,096.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
142	01-0070-500			NW	NENW		\$0.00	13.0	\$56,316.00	26.4	\$79,648.80		\$0.00	0.8		\$135,964.80	100.00%	80.00%	\$108,771.84	0.82000%	\$21,320.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
143	01-0070-500				NWNW		\$0.00	16.7	\$72,344.40	21.8	\$65,770.60		\$0.00	1.8		\$138,115.00	100.00%	90.00%	\$124,303.50	0.93700%	\$24,362.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
144	01-0070-500				SENW		\$0.00	7.8	\$33,789.60	32.4	\$97,750.80		\$0.00			\$131,540.40	100.00%	80.00%	\$105,232.32	0.79330%	\$20,625.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
145	01-0070-500				SWNW		\$0.00	7.0	\$30,324.00	22.9	\$69,089.30		\$0.00	0.3		\$99,413.30	100.00%	90.00%	\$89,471.97	0.67450%	\$17,537.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
146																													
147	01-0071-000	NELSON/JAMES K & CHARLENE R	128-43-16	NE	NENE		\$0.00		\$0.00	39.2	\$118,266.40		\$0.00	0.8		\$118,266.40	100.00%	60.00%	\$70,959.84	0.53490%	\$13,907.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
148	01-0071-000				SENE		\$0.00	4.7	\$20,360.40	35.4	\$106,801.80		\$0.00			\$127,162.20	100.00%	60.00%	\$76,297.32	0.57520%	\$14,955.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
149																													
150	01-0072-000	NELSON/PATRICIA A	128-43-16	SE	NESE		\$0.00		\$0.00	39.9	\$120,378.30		\$0.00			\$120,378.30	100.00%	60.00%	\$72,226.98	0.54450%	\$14,157.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
151	01-0072-000				NWSE		\$0.00	0.3	\$1,299.60	39.6	\$119,473.20		\$0.00			\$120,772.80	100.00%	70.00%	\$84,540.96	0.63730%	\$16,569.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
152	01-0072-000			SESE		\$0.00		\$0.00	39.0	\$117,663.00		\$0.00	0.9		\$117,663.00	100.00%	60.00%	\$70,597.80	0.53220%	\$13,837.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
153	01-0072-000			SW	SWSE		\$0.00	2.8	\$12,129.60	36.2	\$109,215.40		\$0.00	0.9		\$121,345.00	100.00%	70.00%	\$84,941.50	0.64030%	\$16,647.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
154	01-0072-000				NESW		\$0.00	14.0	\$60,648.00	26.0	\$78,442.00		\$0.00			\$139,090.00	100.00%	80.00%	\$111,272.00	0.83880%	\$21,808.80								

Grant County Ditch 21 Viewer's Report Submitted 10/17/23 BDSWD Considers Approval 11/17/23						RATING BENEFIT VALUE PER ACRE													DAMAGE VALUE PER ACRE											
						A=	\$5,355.00	B=	\$4,332.00	C=	\$3,017.00	D=	\$1,633.00								Perm Channel Easement=	\$8,000.00	Future Maintenance Access=	\$350.00	Tile Easement=	\$450.00				
																			Estimated Local Cost		\$2,600,000.00									
PROPERTY INFORMATION						Viewer Rating													\$13,265,509.79		= Total Benefit		Damages							
Order	PARCELID	TAXPAYER	T-R-S	Quarter	QQSection	A	A Value	B	B Value	C	C Value	D	D Value	Road ROW	X (Non benefit)	Potential Benefit	Hydraulic Efficiency	Proximity Percent	Net Benefit	Net Benefit %	Estimated Cost	Existing ROW Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Value	Proposed Maintenance Access Easement Ac.	Proposed Maintenanc e Access Easement Value	Proposed Tile Easement Ac.	Proposed Tile Easement Value	Total Easement Value	
182	01-0079-000	DERBY/ROGER & SHARON/TRST/ETAL	128-43-18	NE	NENE		\$0.00	39.6	\$171,547.20		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.9		\$171,547.20	100.00%	90.00%	\$154,392.48	1.16390%	\$30,261.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
183	01-0079-000				NWNE		\$0.00	40.5	\$175,446.00		\$0.00		\$0.00			\$175,446.00	100.00%	90.00%	\$157,901.40	1.19030%	\$30,947.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
184																														
185	01-0080-000	EATON/ERIC & BRENDA	128-43-18	Gov Lot	4		\$0.00		\$0.00	2.6	\$7,844.20		\$0.00	0.3		\$7,844.20	100.00%	90.00%	\$7,059.78	0.05320%	\$1,383.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
186																														
187	01-0080-500	TRIDEN PROP LTD	128-43-18	Gov Lot	1		\$0.00		\$0.00	7.2	\$21,722.40		\$0.00			\$21,722.40	100.00%	90.00%	\$19,550.16	0.14740%	\$3,832.40	9.10	1.00	\$8,000.00	1.70	\$595.00	7.50	\$3,375.00	\$11,970.00	
188	01-0080-500	PRTNSHP LLLP			2		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.6	\$1,810.20		\$0.00			\$1,810.20	100.00%	90.00%	\$1,629.18	0.01230%	\$319.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
189	01-0080-500				3		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.3	\$905.10		\$0.00			\$905.10	100.00%	90.00%	\$814.59	0.00610%	\$158.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
190	01-0080-500				4		\$0.00		\$0.00	2.3	\$6,939.10		\$0.00	0.0		\$6,939.10	100.00%	90.00%	\$6,245.19	0.04710%	\$1,224.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
191	01-0080-500			NW	NENW		\$0.00	40.6	\$175,879.20		\$0.00		\$0.00			\$175,879.20	100.00%	100.00%	\$175,879.20	1.32580%	\$34,470.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
192	01-0080-500				SENW		\$0.00	38.8	\$168,081.60		\$0.00		\$0.00			\$168,081.60	100.00%	100.00%	\$168,081.60	1.26710%	\$32,944.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
193	01-0080-500			SW	NESW		\$0.00	38.4	\$166,348.80		\$0.00		\$0.00			\$166,348.80	100.00%	100.00%	\$166,348.80	1.25400%	\$32,604.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
194	01-0080-500				SESW		\$0.00	38.4	\$166,348.80	0.3	\$905.10		\$0.00	1.5		\$167,253.90	100.00%	100.00%	\$167,253.90	1.26080%	\$32,780.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
195																														
196	01-0082-000	BLUME/DANA J & KATY R	128-43-18	NE	SENE	7.8	\$41,769.00	31.7	\$137,324.40		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.9		\$179,093.40	100.00%	100.00%	\$179,093.40	1.35010%	\$35,102.60	2.60	1.00	\$8,000.00	1.80	\$630.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$8,630.00	
197	01-0082-000				SWNE		\$0.00	40.3	\$174,579.60		\$0.00		\$0.00			\$174,579.60	100.00%	100.00%	\$174,579.60	1.31600%	\$34,216.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
198																														
199	01-0082-500	BLUME/DANA J & KATY R	128-43-18	SE	NWSE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	5.0	\$8,165.00			\$8,165.00	100.00%	100.00%	\$8,165.00	0.06160%	\$1,601.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
200	01-0082-500				SWSE		\$0.00	8.3	\$35,955.60		\$0.00	1.5	\$2,449.50	0.3		\$38,405.10	100.00%	100.00%	\$38,405.10	0.28950%	\$7,527.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
201																														
202	01-0082-900	BLUME/DANA J & KATY R	128-43-18	SE	NESE	21.5	\$115,132.50	17.9	\$77,542.80		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.9		\$192,675.30	100.00%	100.00%	\$192,675.30	1.45250%	\$37,765.00	5.30	2.10	\$16,800.00	3.70	\$1,295.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$18,095.00	
203	01-0082-900				NWSE		\$0.00	35.3	\$152,919.60		\$0.00		\$0.00			\$152,919.60	100.00%	100.00%	\$152,919.60	1.15280%	\$29,972.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
204	01-0082-900				SESE	8.1	\$43,375.50	30.3	\$131,259.60		\$0.00		\$0.00	1.9		\$174,635.10	100.00%	90.00%	\$157,171.59	1.18480%	\$30,804.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
205	01-0082-900				SWSE		\$0.00	29.1	\$126,061.20		\$0.00		\$0.00	1.0		\$126,061.20	100.00%	100.00%	\$126,061.20	0.95030%	\$24,707.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
206																														
207	01-0084-000	BISS/SCOTT & MAREEN	128-43-19	NE	NENE		\$0.00	5.3	\$22,959.60	14.3	\$43,143.10	20.3	\$33,149.90	0.9		\$99,252.60	60.00%	90.00%	\$53,596.40	0.40400%	\$10,504.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	8.40	\$3,780.00	\$3,780.00	
208	01-0084-000				NWNE		\$0.00		\$0.00	1.5	\$4,525.50	17.5	\$28,577.50	0.3		\$33,103.00	60.00%	100.00%	\$19,861.80	0.14970%	\$3,892.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
209	01-0084-000				SENE	5.7	\$30,523.50		\$0.00	21.9	\$66,072.30	13.0	\$21,229.00			\$117,824.80	60.00%	100.00%	\$70,694.88	0.53290%	\$13,855.40	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
210	01-0084-000				SWNE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	19.4	\$31,680.20			\$31,680.20	60.00%	100.00%	\$19,008.12	0.14330%	\$3,725.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
211																														
212	01-0085-000	HEINTZELMAN/VIRGINIA	128-43-19	Gov Lot	1		\$0.00		\$0.00	2.5	\$7,542.50	2.9	\$4,735.70	0.1		\$12,278.20	60.00%	90.00%	\$6,630.23	0.05000%	\$1,300.00	6.10	2.30	\$18,400.00	4.10	\$1,435.00	0.50	\$225.00	\$20,060.00	
213	01-0085-000				2		\$0.00		\$0.00	0.6	\$1,810.20</																			

Grant County Ditch 21 Viewer's Report Submitted 10/17/23 BDSWD Considers Approval 11/17/23						RATING BENEFIT VALUE PER ACRE													DAMAGE VALUE PER ACRE												
						A=	\$5,355.00	B=	\$4,332.00	C=	\$3,017.00	D=	\$1,633.00								Perm Channel Easement=	\$8,000.00	Future Maintenance Access=	\$350.00	Title Easement=	\$450.00					
																			Estimated Local Cost		\$2,600,000.00										
PROPERTY INFORMATION						Viewer Rating													\$13,265,509.79		= Total Benefit		Damages								
Order	PARCELID	TAXPAYER	T-R-S	Quarter	QQSection	A	A Value	B	B Value	C	C Value	D	D Value	Road ROW	X (Non benefit)	Potential Benefit	Hydraulic Efficiency	Proximity Percent	Net Benefit	Net Benefit %	Estimated Cost	Existing ROW Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Ac.	Proposed Open Channel Perm Easement Value	Proposed Maintenance Access Easement Ac.	Proposed Maintenance Access Easement Value	Proposed Tile Easement Ac.	Proposed Tile Easement Value	Total Easement Value		
242																															
243	01-0091-000	ELLISON/DANIEL	128-43-20	SE	NESE		\$0.00		\$0.00	4.6	\$13,878.20		\$0.00			\$13,878.20	100.00%	100.00%	\$13,878.20	0.10460%	\$2,719.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
244	01-0091-000				NWSE		\$0.00		\$0.00	1.6	\$4,827.20		\$0.00			\$4,827.20	100.00%	90.00%	\$4,344.48	0.03280%	\$852.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
245																															
246	01-0091-100	ELLISON FARM LMTD PARTNERSHP	128-43-20	SE	NESE		\$0.00	5.8	\$25,125.60	3.3	\$9,956.10		\$0.00			\$35,081.70	100.00%	100.00%	\$35,081.70	0.26450%	\$6,877.00	0.70	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	1.00	\$450.00	\$450.00		
247	01-0091-100				NWSE		\$0.00		\$0.00	13.5	\$40,729.50		\$0.00			\$40,729.50	100.00%	90.00%	\$36,656.55	0.27630%	\$7,183.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
248																															
249	01-0091-500	ELLISON FARM LMTD PARTNERSHP	128-43-20	Gov Lot	2		\$0.00		\$0.00	3.5	\$10,559.50		\$0.00			\$10,559.50	100.00%	80.00%	\$8,447.60	0.06370%	\$1,656.20	7.60	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	11.80	\$5,310.00	\$5,310.00		
250	01-0091-500				NE	NENE	11.5	\$61,582.50	3.9	\$16,894.80	22.0	\$66,374.00	1.6	\$2,612.80	1.9	\$147,464.10	100.00%	100.00%	\$147,464.10	1.11160%	\$28,901.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
251	01-0091-500					NWNE		\$0.00	39.7	\$171,980.40	0.5	\$1,508.50		\$0.00	1.0	\$173,488.90	100.00%	100.00%	\$173,488.90	1.30780%	\$34,002.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
252	01-0091-500					SENE		\$0.00	32.0	\$138,624.00		\$0.00	8.5	\$13,880.50	1.1	\$152,504.50	100.00%	100.00%	\$152,504.50	1.14960%	\$29,889.60	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
253	01-0091-500			SE	SWNE		\$0.00	19.2	\$83,174.40	22.6	\$68,184.20		\$0.00		\$151,358.60	100.00%	100.00%	\$151,358.60	1.14100%	\$29,666.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
254	01-0091-500				NESE		\$0.00	11.0	\$47,652.00	4.4	\$13,274.80	1.1	\$1,796.30	1.0	\$62,723.10	100.00%	100.00%	\$62,723.10	0.47280%	\$12,292.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
255	01-0091-500				NWSE		\$0.00		\$0.00	13.6	\$41,031.20	7.7	\$12,574.10		\$53,605.30	100.00%	90.00%	\$48,244.77	0.36370%	\$9,456.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
256																															
257	01-0092-000	ELLISON/MARK & LORI	128-43-21	SW	NWSW		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	3.9	\$6,368.70	0.3		\$6,368.70	100.00%	100.00%	\$6,368.70	0.04800%	\$1,248.00	0.10	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
258																															
259	01-0092-300	ELLISON FARM LMTD PARTNERSHP	128-43-21	NW	NENW		\$0.00	3.9	\$16,894.80	32.8	\$98,957.60		\$0.00	1.0	2.0	\$115,852.40	100.00%	80.00%	\$92,681.92	0.69870%	\$18,166.20	1.80	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	2.90	\$1,305.00	\$1,305.00		
260	01-0092-300				NWNW		\$0.00	12.0	\$51,984.00	25.6	\$77,235.20		\$0.00	1.9	\$129,219.20	100.00%	90.00%	\$116,297.28	0.87670%	\$22,794.20	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
261	01-0092-300				SENW		\$0.00	2.2	\$9,530.40	6.7	\$20,213.90		\$0.00		6.0	\$29,744.30	100.00%	90.00%	\$26,769.87	0.20180%	\$5,246.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
262	01-0092-300				SWNW		\$0.00	10.7	\$46,352.40	28.2	\$85,079.40		\$0.00	0.9	\$131,431.80	100.00%	100.00%	\$131,431.80	0.99080%	\$25,760.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
263	01-0092-300			SW	NESW		\$0.00		\$0.00	5.0	\$15,085.00		\$0.00		\$15,085.00	100.00%	90.00%	\$13,576.50	0.10230%	\$2,659.80	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
264																															
265	01-0092-500	ELLISON FARM INC	128-43-21	SW	NWSW		\$0.00		\$0.00	28.1	\$84,777.70		\$0.00	0.5		\$84,777.70	100.00%	100.00%	\$84,777.70	0.63910%	\$16,616.60	0.30	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.30	\$135.00	\$135.00		
266																															
267	01-0093-000	PATTISON FAMILY FARM LTD PTP	128-43-21	Gov Lot	1		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	1.0	8.4	\$0.00	100.00%	60.00%	\$0.00	0.00000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
268	01-0093-000				2		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		10.3	\$0.00	100.00%	70.00%	\$0.00	0.00000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
269	01-0093-000				3		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		1.5	\$0.00	100.00%	60.00%	\$0.00	0.00000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
270	01-0093-000			NE	NWNE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	1.0	38.5	\$0.00	100.00%	70.00%	\$0.00	0.00000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
271	01-0093-000				SWNE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		39.6	\$0.00	100.00%	80.00%	\$0.00	0.00000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
272	01-0093-000				NWSE		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		6.6	\$0.00	100.00%	70.00%	\$0.00	0.00000%	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
273																															
274																															
275																															
276	ROAD BENEFIT	Grant County Highway Department														\$94,259.20	100.00%	100.00%	\$94,259.20	0.71060%	\$18,475.60										
277	ROAD BENEFIT	Grant County Highway Department														\$121,156.86	100.00%	100.00%	\$121,156.86	0.91330%	\$23,745.80										
278	ROAD BENEFIT	Deleware Township														\$70,747.20	100.00%	100.00%	\$70,747.20	0.53330%	\$13,865.80										
						221.4	\$1,185,597.00	1473.7	\$6,384,068.40	2346.3	\$7,078,787.10	931.5	\$1,521,139.50	80.1	372.2	\$16,455,755.26			\$13,265,509.79	100.00060%	\$2,600,015.60	70.2	13.9	\$111,200.00	24.7	\$8,645.00	64.9	\$29,205.00			

ROAD AUTHORITY BENEFITS			ROAD BENEFIT								
Road Authority		Surface Material	Length of "A" Road Benefit (Feet)	A ROAD BENEFIT	Length of "B" Road Benefit (Feet)	B ROAD BENEFIT	Length of "C" Road Benefit (Feet)	C ROAD BENEFIT	Length of "D" Road Benefit (Feet)	D ROAD BENEFIT	TOTAL ROAD BENEFIT
Grant County Highway Department, County Road #8		ASPHALT	528	\$15,000.48	4252	\$48,302.72	10900	\$30,956.00			\$94,259.20
Grant County Highway Department, County Road #9		GRAVEL			12273	\$111,561.57	4227	\$9,595.29			\$121,156.86
Deleware Township All		GRAVEL			7920	\$44,985.60	17160	\$24,367.20	4980	\$1,394.40	\$70,747.20
Total											\$286,163.26

Soil Classification (Construction savings \$/mile)

<u>Roadway</u>	<u>"A"</u>	<u>"B"</u>	<u>"C"</u>	<u>"D"</u>
Township	\$75,000 (\$14.20/FT)	\$30,000 (\$5.68/FT)	\$7,500 (\$1.42/FT)	\$1,500 (\$0.28/FT)
County Gravel	\$120,000 (\$22.73/FT)	\$48,000 (\$9.09/FT)	\$12,000 (\$2.27/FT)	\$2,400 (\$0.45/FT)
County Asphalt	\$150,000 (\$28.41/FT)	\$60,000 (\$11.36/FT)	\$15,000 (\$2.84/FT)	\$3,000 (\$0.57/FT)
State Highway	\$200,000 (\$37.88/FT)	\$80,000 (\$15.15/FT)	\$20,000 (\$3.79/FT)	\$4,000 (\$0.76/FT)
Interstate Highway	\$300,000 (\$56.82/FT)	\$120,000 (\$22.73/FT)	\$30,000 (\$5.68/FT)	\$6,000 (\$1.14/FT)
Railroad	\$60,000 (\$11.36/FT)	\$24,000 (\$4.55/FT)	\$6,000 (\$1.14/FT)	\$1,200 (\$0.23/FT)

To: Bois de Sioux Watershed Ditch Authority

RE: Grant County Ditch No 21

2023 Redetermination of Benefits

September 21, 2023

In accordance with Minnesota Statute 103E we herewith submit the following Viewers Report.

BENEFITS AND DAMAGES STATEMENT

This report covers the determination of benefit for an improvement to a previously constructed drainage system. The basis for determining benefits and damages is, therefore, based upon a comparison of the conditions that would have existed prior to the ditch system's construction with those that will exist with the drainage system project.

Grant County Ditch No 21 was established around the early 1900's, with upgrades since then. The ditch system consisted of a main open ditch and county tile system. The drainage system outlet is into the Mustinka River, falling into Lake Traverse. The system provides an outlet for lands in Sections 4,5,7,8,9,10,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22 of Delaware twp. Grant County. Supporting documentation for the analysis and conclusions of the report is contained in our files and is available for inspection.

The figures stated herein are based on a full and fair consideration of all pertinent facts and information that we were aware of at the time of this appraisal. The following aids were used during the viewing process.

1. Soil Survey Manuals and Maps of Grant County
2. FSA Aerial Photos
3. Yield averages and production costs taken from Minnesota State College and University Farm Management Records and from the Center for Farm Financial Management at the UofM in St. Paul and FinBin, Local ag suppliers and producers.
4. Sales data from the Grant County's Assessor's Office (recent years used).
5. Visual inspection of each 40-acre tract
6. Topographical LiDar Maps
7. Original information regarding the ditch from Bois de Sioux Watershed District
8. Data produced by Chad Engles and James Guler PE, Moore Engineering of West Fargo regarding GIS data, drainage area, rainfall and run off potential.
9. Road footage was estimated per foot. Benefit assigned per industry standards.
10. Soil classifications were determined by viewers using soil types and elevation and transferred digitally by Moore engineering.

During the initial stages of the redetermination project, GIS technologies were utilized for the delineation of the watershed. This was done using the Minnesota LiDAR dataset aerial imagery, county ditch information and hydrologic modeling processes. Given the high accuracy of LiDar surface data both horizontally and vertically we can tell where surface water flows across much of the landscape. Hydrologic connector data (culvert and tile data) were made available to access flow of water in these locations. The final watershed basin was then field verified by the viewers for accuracy and the necessary edits were made.

Land classification values are based upon an increase in the potential for agricultural production because of constructing the drainage project and reconciled with sales value increases. Existing individual land management practices were not considered. All present land use was evaluated under estimated best land management practice. Benefits were also determined for areas that have accelerated runoff causing increase system capacity and maintenance. Special consideration was given to areas which were considered to be in a native/non converted condition or identified as wetlands under wetlands inventory and restricted from drainage by state or federal regulations and areas of restricted outlet.

No direct consideration was given to structure values within the watershed.

VALUATION PRIOR TO IMPROVEMENT

Beginning land use, property value and economic productivity have been determined with the consideration that the benefited properties within the watershed currently do not have an adequate outlet for artificial drainage.

“A” Standing water or cattails, wetland classification with a market value for agricultural purpose of \$0 per acre, economic productivity of \$0.

“B” Seasonally flooded/pasture ground. Pasture classification with a market value of \$1,000 to \$1,500 per acre, economic productivity of \$75 based on grazing days and/or hay values or other non-agricultural uses.

“C” Wet subsoil. Marginal crop land, low to medium crop land classification with a market value of \$1,800 to \$2,800 per acre, annual economic productivity of \$175.00 based upon average annual yield of 80% of optimum with \$426.00 production costs.

“D” Upland areas not needing artificial drainage, but irregular in shape and intermixed with wetter soils. Medium to high cropland classification with a market value of \$4,000 to \$5,000 per acre, annual economic productivity of \$295.20 based upon average annual yield of 96% or optimum with \$426.00 production costs.

VALUATION WITH RECOMMENDED IMPROVED DRAINAGE

Potential land use property value and economic productivity, after public and private drainage have been installed and with the restrictive existing drainage system in a reasonable state of repair, using current crop rotation, income and expense.

“A” Seasonally ponded agricultural ground. Lower cropland classification with a market value range of \$4,000 to \$5,000 per acre, annual economic productivity of \$733.50 based upon average annual yield of 90% of optimum with \$426 production costs.

“B” Occasionally flooded agricultural ground. Medium cropland classification with a market value range of \$5000 to \$6000 per acre economic productivity of \$749.80 based upon average yield of 92% of optimum with \$426 production costs.

“C” Wet subsoil. Medium high cropland classification with a market value range of \$6,000 to \$7,000 per acre economic productivity of \$774.25 based upon average yield of 95% of optimum with \$426 production costs.

“D” Upland areas not needing artificial drainage but irregular in shape and intermixed with wetter soils. Medium to high cropland classification with a market value range of \$7,000 to \$8,000 per acre economic productivity of \$845.00 based on 100% of optimum with \$426 production costs.

Special consideration was given to areas where the ditch has only provided an outlet adequate to convert the lands to pasture or hay land and are restricted from further individual improvements by regulatory restrictions.

Road benefits were determined with consideration of the reduced construction and maintenance costs that were realized after construction of the drainage system, by use of road footage at the industry’s accepted rate.

Utilizing these productive values, potential direct benefit values were determined for the system based upon a 25-year effective life with proper maintenance, private improvement cost depreciated over the same 25 year period and an allowance of 3% return on the system investment. Adjustment was made to each land class based upon consideration of the change in hydraulic capacity and the subsequent increased productivity that the construction of the drainage system improvement provided. Benefit values were rounded off to an even percentage benefit increase for ease of computation.

Example: “B” benefits per acre

Potential productivity Value	\$815 @92% (\$749.80)
Production Cost	(\$426)
Beginning Productivity Value	(\$75)
Change in Productivity Value	\$323.80
Annual Benefit Value	\$248.80

\$248.80 x 25 years discounted of 3% \$4332.

This value was used as a measure in adjusting the potential benefit in the viewers report.

The drainage system, as originally constructed, does not meet the NRCS recommended drainage capacities for agricultural drainage. Considering the impacts of this restrictive capacity, some areas were considered to have the highest and best use as hay or pasture. This restrictive capacity consideration is reflected by the application of an efficiency rate. This rate reflects the viewers’ determination of that portion of the potential benefit currently being provided by Grant County Ditch 21. Proximity adjustment was made to allow for construction of the public or private laterals required to have access to the drainage system.

The net benefit provided by the ditch system is determined by the potential benefit value, adjusted for the system’s restrictive capacity, being applied to the number of acres determined to be in each class per tract, accumulating the sum of these benefit values, and the applying the proximity and hydraulic rate percentage.

Due to a drain tile existing prior to the ditch system, tax parcels involved in section 21 and 22 remained omitted, even though within the watershed of the system.

These hydrologically adjusted values were then applied to the number of acres determined to be in each class per tract. The new improvement value for each class of land was then adjusted for the proximity from the actual drainage system improvement. This was done to allow for construction of public or private laterals to provide an outlet to each 40-acre land tract.

Damages have been given for the easement acquisition for the area required to establish the one rod seeding area adjacent to the outlet channel as required by Minnesota Statute 103E.021d as well as lands for the Bois de Sioux project. Also, easement acres for channel construction/maintenance were given a value of 1 year rent. If future maintenance is needed during growing season, the land operator will be compensated for crop value.

The damage value is our opinion of the difference between the current land value and the value of the same lands with the easement in place. During the process, there were anomalies and de minimis areas.

Viewers are unaware of any technical errors.

Respectfully submitted:

Dwight Veldhouse

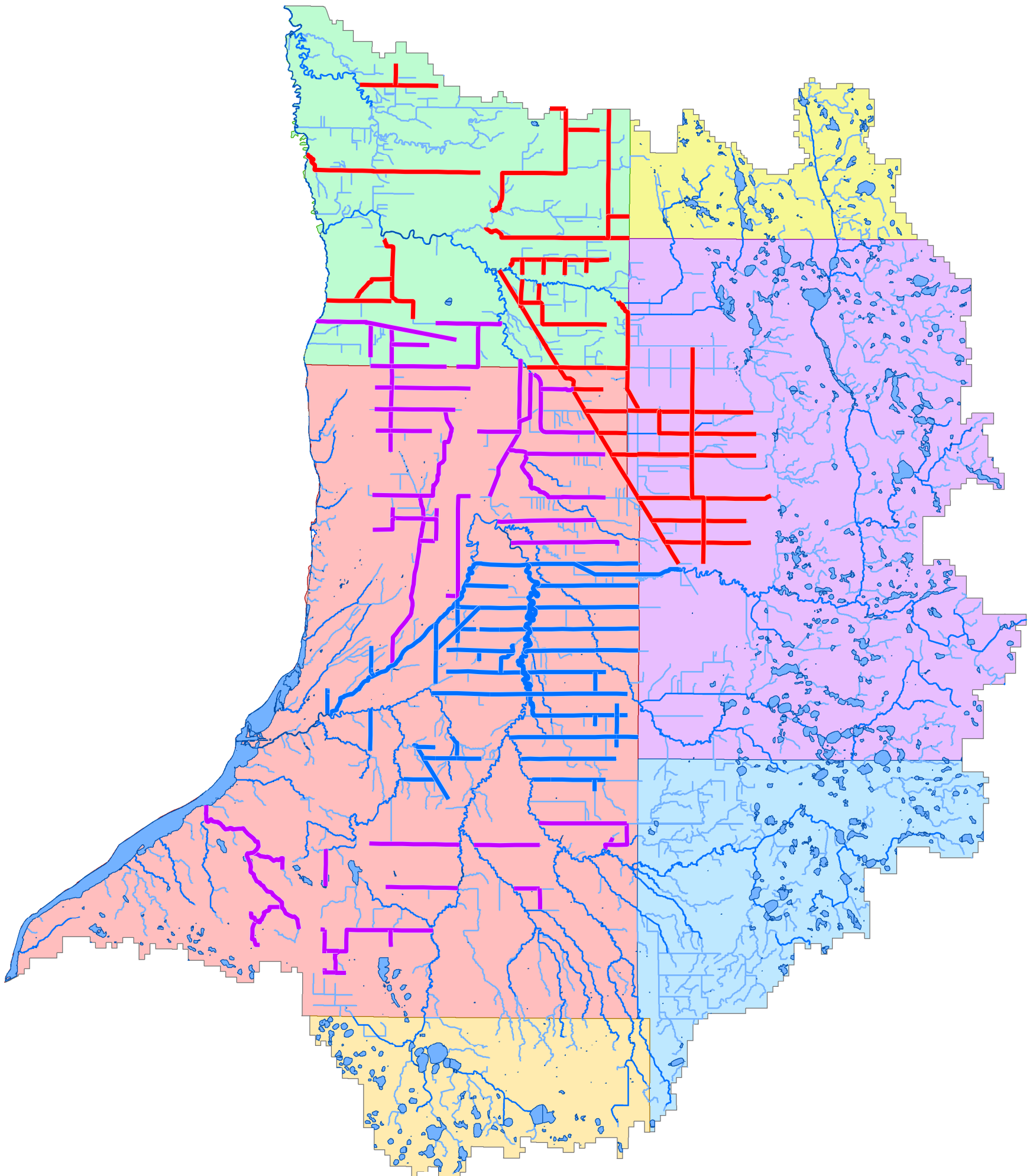
Don Metz

Loretta Pederson



Bois de Sioux
Watershed District

2023 Ditch Inspections



Legend

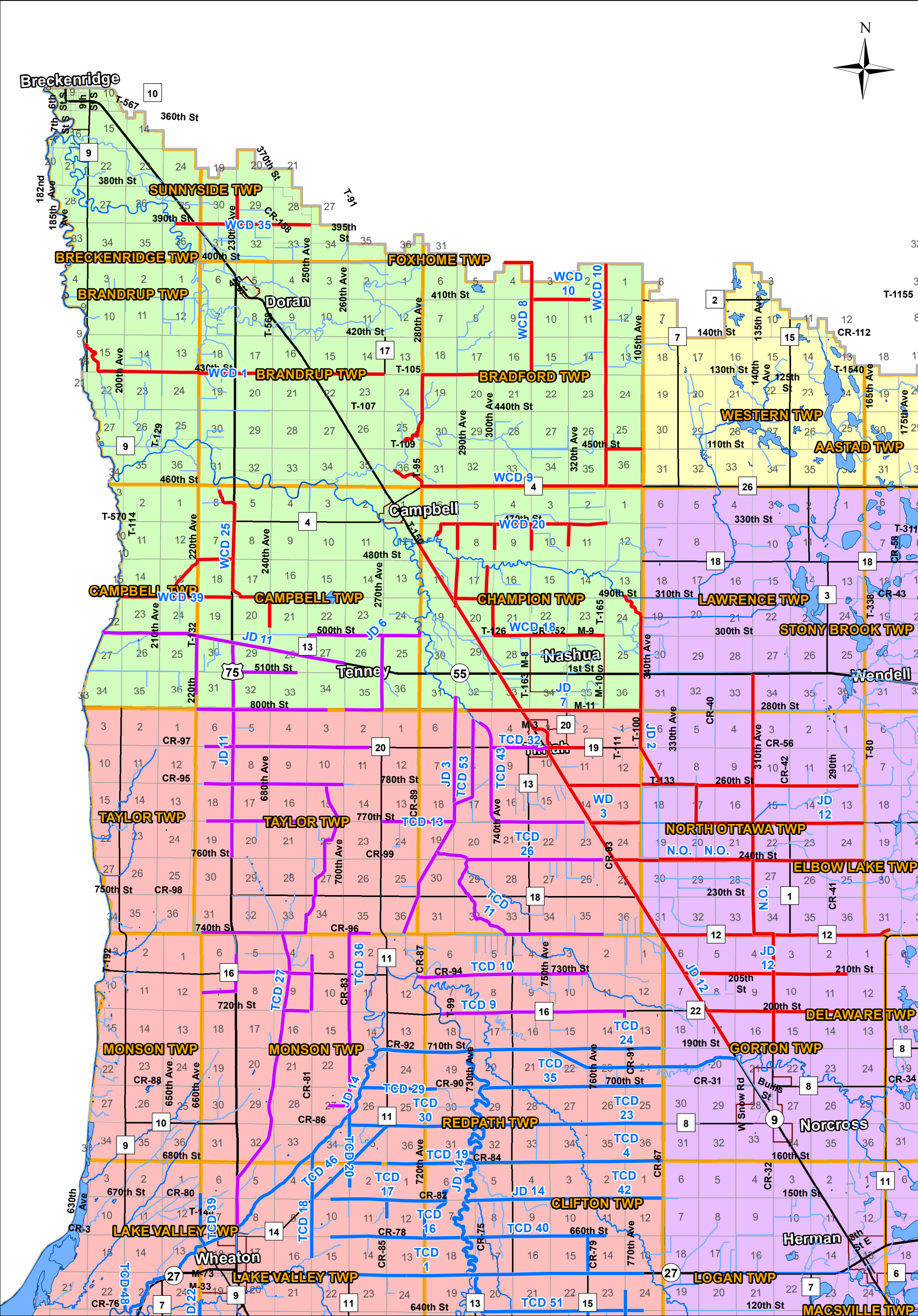
Ditch Inspection 3-Year Rotation Schedule:

Rotation

- Ditches Inspected in 2021 ~ 151 Mi
- Ditches Inspected in 2022 ~ 135 Mi
- Ditches Inspected in 2023 ~ 140 Mi



September 2023



Inspection Rotation Schedule

2023 Ditch Inspections

Bois de Sioux Watershed District, MN



Created By: AKS Date Created: 08/17/2023 Date Saved: 10/30/23

Date Exported: 10/30/23 Plotted By: andrew.smith

Aerial Image: NA Elevation Data: IWI Lidar

Horizontal Datum: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 14N Vertical Datum: NAVD1988

T:\Projects\18100\18139\18139-908 - Ditch Inspections\BdSWD Ditch Inspection Rotation Map 2023.mxd



0 1.75 3.5 7

Miles

1 in = 2 miles

Rotation_Schedule

Year 1 of 3 (2023) ~ 140 Mi

Year 2 of 3 (2024) ~ 151 Mi

Year 3 of 3 (2025) ~ 135 Mi



Bois de Sioux
Watershed District

704 Highway 75 South | Wheaton, MN 56296

Phone | 320.563.4185

Fax | 320.563.4987

www.bds wd.com

bds wd@runestone.net

TOPIC FOLLOW-UP

LTWQIP No. 1 Phase #3

11/17/23

BACKGROUND

Phase 3 is construction is under budget. Staff propose \$100,000 in 1W1Plan grant funds be shifted from this project to serve as a match for the HSEM/FEMA grant for Twelvemile Creek, and that reductions from the Construction Fund be made.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

From the Engineer's Estimate of Probable Cost

42.8%	\$ 1,542,250.00	Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources & DNR
14.9%	\$ 534,750.00	103D.729 Watershed Management District
9.3%	\$ 333,000.00	BdSWD Construction Fund
33.3%	\$ 1,200,000.00	RRWMB
	\$ 3,610,000.00	Total

Local Cost:

25.9%	\$ 534,750.00	103D.729 Watershed Management District
16.1%	\$ 333,000.00	BdSWD Construction Fund
58.0%	\$ 1,200,000.00	RRWMB
100.0%	\$ 2,067,750.00	

Project Estimate Based on 5 of 5 Contractor Pay Applications - Finish vegetation work left

45.3%	\$ 1,525,000.00	Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources & DNR
15.9%	\$ 534,750.00	103D.729 Watershed Management District
5.6%	\$ 188,040.00	BdSWD Construction Fund
33.3%	\$ 1,122,210.00	RRWMB
100.0%	\$ 3,370,000.00	Total

29.0%	\$ 534,750.00	103D.729 Watershed Management District
10.2%	\$ 188,040.00	BdSWD Construction Fund
60.8%	\$ 1,122,210.00	RRWMB
100.0%	\$ 1,845,000.00	

\$ 3,215,244.74 All Phase 3 Costs as of 10/20/23

Jamie Beyer

From: Wendlandt, Miranda S. <Miranda.Wendlandt@claconnect.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2023 10:16 AM
To: Beyer, Jamie
Subject: 2023 Audit
Attachments: Statement of Work - Audit Services BdSWD.pdf

Hi Jamie –

I hope this email finds you well. We are starting to plan for the 2023 audits. As you may be aware, there have been recent developments in accounting and auditing standards that directly impact government entities. Specifically, GASB Statement No. 96 and the Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) 143-145 have introduced new requirements and considerations for financial reporting and auditing.

- GASB 96, titled "Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements," addresses the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements. This standard requires government entities to evaluate and disclose the costs and benefits associated with these arrangements, which may impact the financial statements and related disclosures. I do not anticipate this standard will have an impact on your reporting.
- SAS 143-145, focuses on auditing accounting estimates, accounting policies, and audit evidence. As auditors, we are required to follow these standards to ensure the quality and effectiveness of our audit procedures. Given the impact of SAS 143-145 on government entities, we have carefully reviewed our audit approach and procedures to ensure compliance with these new requirements.

As a result of these changes, we have determined that an adjustment to our fee structure is necessary to adequately cover the increased time and effort required to perform the audit in accordance with SAS 143-145. Therefore, we will be implementing a one-time additional fee of \$1,000 to cover the additional work.

I'd also like to call to your attention that we've changed our billing structure in an effort to simplify the process. The following table from the Statement of Work (SOW) outlines how we will approach billing for the 2023 audit:

Professional fees will be billed as follows:

Progress bill to be mailed on	Amount to be billed
Upon execution of the SOW	One-third of our professional fees
Upon the commencement of substantive procedures	One-third of our professional fees
Issuance of draft report(s)	One-third of our professional fees

The 2023 SOW is attached. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the proposed fee or the changes to the billing process. If you have no questions, please let me know when your next meeting is so I know when to expect the signed copy back.

Looking forward to working with you again this coming year!

Miranda



Statement of Work - Audit Services

November 1, 2023

This document constitutes a statement of work ("SOW") under the master service agreement ("MSA") dated September 15, 2022, or superseding MSA, made by and between CliftonLarsonAllen LLP ("CLA," "we," "us," and "our") and Bois de Sioux Watershed District ("you," "your," or "the entity"). We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the terms and objectives of our engagement and the nature and limitations of the services CLA will provide for the entity as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Miranda Wendlandt is responsible for the performance of the audit engagement.

Scope of audit services

We will audit the cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of Bois de Sioux Watershed District, and the related notes to the financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023.

We will also evaluate and report on the presentation of the following supplementary information accompanying the financial statements in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

1. Combining statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in the fund balance- ditch special revenue fund
2. Combining statement of receipts and disbursements- ditch special revenue fund
3. Budgetary comparison schedules

The following supplementary information accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and our auditors' report will not provide an opinion or any assurance on that information:

1. Schedule of accounts receivable
2. Schedule of accounts payable
3. Schedule of principal district officials

Nonaudit services

We will also provide the following nonaudit services:

- Preparation of your financial statements and the related notes.
- Preparation of the supplementary information.

Audit objectives

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinions about whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the cash basis of accounting (a special purpose framework), which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAS) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with U.S. GAAS and the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require us to be independent of the entity and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. Our audit will include tests of your accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion.

We will also perform procedures to enable us to express an opinion on whether the supplementary information (as identified above) accompanying the financial statements is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of your financial statements.

Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions, add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditors' report, or if necessary, withdraw from the engagement. If our opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If circumstances occur related to the condition of your records, the availability of sufficient, appropriate audit evidence, or the existence of a significant risk of material misstatement of the financial statements caused by error, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets, which in our professional judgment prevent us from completing the audit or forming opinions on the financial statements, we retain the right to take any course of action permitted by professional standards, including declining to express opinions or issue a report, or withdrawing from the engagement.

We will also provide a report (which does not include an opinion) on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements, as required by

Government Auditing Standards. The report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states (1) that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance, and (2) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose. If during our audit we become aware that the entity is subject to an audit requirement that is not encompassed in the terms of this engagement, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance that an audit conducted in accordance with U.S. GAAS and the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* may not satisfy the relevant legal, regulatory, or contractual requirements.

As part of our audit, we will also perform the procedures and provide the report required by the Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions.

Auditor responsibilities, procedures, and limitations

We will conduct our audit in accordance with U.S. GAAS and the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*.

Those standards require that we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the planning and performance of the audit. As part of our audit, we will:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and evaluate whether audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. However, we will communicate to you in writing any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control relevant to the audit of the financial statements that we have identified during the audit.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the amounts and disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Conclude, based on our evaluation of audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Although our audit planning has not been concluded and modifications may be made, we have identified

the following significant risk(s) of material misstatement as part of our audit planning:

- Management override of internal controls.
- Lack of adequate segregation of duties.
- Improper revenue recognition.

There is an unavoidable risk, because of the inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of internal control, that some material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*. Because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, material misstatements, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity, may not be detected. Because the determination of waste and abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not require auditors to perform specific procedures to detect waste or abuse in financial audits nor do they expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting waste or abuse.

In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management and those charged with governance of any material errors, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management and those charged with governance of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential.

Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting fraud or errors that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that have a material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses in internal control. However, we will communicate to you in writing significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control relevant to the audit of the financial statements that we identify during the audit that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards and *Government Auditing Standards*.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the entity's compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that have a material effect on the financial statements. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

We will include in our report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance relevant

information about any identified or suspected instances of fraud and any identified or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements that may have occurred that are required to be communicated under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Management responsibilities

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you (management and, when appropriate, those charged with governance) acknowledge and understand that you have certain responsibilities that are fundamental to the conduct of an audit.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting. Management's responsibilities include the selection and application of accounting principles; recording and reflecting all transactions in the financial statements; determining the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates included in the financial statements; adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements; and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for including all informative disclosures that are appropriate for the cash basis of accounting. Those disclosures will include (a) a description of the cash basis of accounting, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and how the cash basis of accounting differs from U.S. GAAP; (b) informative disclosures similar to those required by U.S. GAAP; and (c) additional disclosures beyond those specifically required that may be necessary for the financial statements to achieve fair presentation.

You are responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities and safeguarding assets to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met. You are responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud; assessing the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud; and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements; identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and informing us of all instances of identified or suspected noncompliance whose effects on the financial statements should be considered. You are responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy any fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that we may report.

You are responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, including amounts and disclosures, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters, and for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from within and outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers); (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

You agree to inform us of events occurring or facts discovered subsequent to the date of the financial statements that may affect the financial statements.

Management is responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the cash basis of accounting. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains, and indicates that we have reported on, the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon or make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon. You agree to provide us written representations related to the presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for providing us with a written confirmation concerning representations made by you and your staff to us in connection with the audit. During our engagement, we will request information and explanations from you regarding, among other matters, the entity's operations, internal control, future plans, specific transactions, and accounting systems and procedures. The procedures we will perform during our engagement and the conclusions we reach as a basis for our report will be heavily influenced by the representations that we receive in the representation letter and otherwise from you. Accordingly, inaccurate, incomplete, or false representations could cause us to expend unnecessary effort or could cause a material fraud or error to go undetected by our procedures. In view of the foregoing, you agree that we shall not be responsible for any misstatements in the entity's financial statements that we may fail to detect as a result of misrepresentations made to us by you.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies to us of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the "Audit objectives" section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other engagements or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

Responsibilities and limitations related to nonaudit services

For all nonaudit services we may provide to you, management agrees to assume all management responsibilities; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably within senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, and/or experience to understand and oversee the services; evaluate

the adequacy and results of the services; and accept responsibility for the results of the services. Management is also responsible for ensuring that your data and records are complete and that you have received sufficient information to oversee the services.

Use of financial statements

Should you decide to include or incorporate by reference these financial statements and our auditors' report(s) thereon in a future private placement or other offering of equity or debt securities, you agree that we are under no obligation to re-issue our report or provide consent for the use of our report in such a registration or offering document. We will determine, at our sole discretion, whether we will re-issue our report or provide consent for the use of our report only after we have performed the procedures we consider necessary in the circumstances. If we decide to re-issue our report or consent to the use of our report, we will be required to perform certain procedures including, but not limited to, (a) reading other information incorporated by reference in the registration statement or other offering document and (b) subsequent event procedures. These procedures will be considered an engagement separate and distinct from our audit engagement, and we will bill you separately. If we decide to re-issue our report or consent to the use of our report, you agree that we will be included on each distribution of draft offering materials and we will receive a complete set of final documents. If we decide not to re-issue our report or decide to withhold our consent to the use of our report, you may be required to engage another firm to audit periods covered by our audit reports, and that firm will likely bill you for its services. While the successor auditor may request access to our workpapers for those periods, we are under no obligation to permit such access.

If the parties (i.e., you and CLA) agree that CLA will not be involved with your official statements related to municipal securities filings or other offering documents, we will require that any official statements or other offering documents issued by you with which we are not involved clearly indicate that CLA is not involved with the contents of such documents. Such disclosure should read as follows:

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, our independent auditor, has not been engaged to perform and has not performed, since the date of its report included herein, any procedures on the financial statements addressed in that report. CliftonLarsonAllen LLP also has not performed any procedures relating to this offering document.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website or submitted on a regulator website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in those sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

We may issue preliminary draft financial statements to you for your review. Any preliminary draft financial statements should not be relied on or distributed.

Engagement administration and other matters

We understand that your employees will prepare all confirmations, account analyses, and audit schedules we request and will locate any documents or invoices selected by us for testing. A list of information we expect to need for our audit and the dates required will be provided in a separate communication.

We will provide copies of our reports to the entity; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing confidential or sensitive information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the sole and exclusive property of CLA and constitutes confidential and proprietary information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to Minnesota Office of the State Auditor, or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of CLA personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies or electronic versions of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of seven years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the Minnesota Office of the State Auditor. If we are aware that a federal or state awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

Professional standards require us to be independent with respect to you in the performance of these services. Any discussion that you have with our personnel regarding potential employment with you could impair our independence with respect to this engagement. Therefore, we request that you inform us prior to any such discussions so that we can implement appropriate safeguards to maintain our independence and objectivity. Further, any employment offers to any staff members working on this engagement without our prior knowledge may require substantial additional procedures to ensure our independence. You will be responsible for any additional costs incurred to perform these procedures.

Our audit engagement ends on delivery of our signed report. Any additional services that might be requested will be a separate, new engagement. The terms and conditions of that new engagement will be governed by a new, specific SOW for that service.

Government Auditing Standards require that we make our most recent external peer review report publicly available. The report is posted on our website at www.CLAconnect.com/Aboutus/.

Fees

Our professional fees are outlined in the table below:

Service	Fee
Financial Statement Audit	\$14,500

Implementation of the New Risk Auditing Standards which includes an increase in information technology testing	\$1,000
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Total	15,500
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We will also bill for expenses including travel, internal and administrative charges, and a technology and client support fee of five (5%) of all professional fees billed. Our fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and their assistance with locating requested documents and preparing requested schedules. If the requested items are not available on the dates required or are not accurate, the fees and expenses will likely be higher.

Professional fees will be billed as follows:

Progress bill to be mailed on	Amount to be billed
Upon execution of the SOW	One-third of our professional fees
Upon the commencement of substantive procedures	One-third of our professional fees
Issuance of draft report(s)	One-third of our professional fees

Unexpected circumstances

We will advise you if unexpected circumstances require significant additional procedures resulting in a substantial increase in the fee estimate.

Changes in accounting and audit standards

Standard setters and regulators continue to evaluate and modify standards. Such changes may result in new or revised financial reporting and disclosure requirements or expand the nature, timing, and scope of the activities we are required to perform. To the extent that the amount of time required to provide the services described in the SOW increases due to such changes, our fee may need to be adjusted. We will discuss such circumstances with you prior to performing the additional work.

Agreement

We appreciate the opportunity to provide to you the services described in this SOW under the MSA and believe this SOW accurately summarizes the significant terms of our audit engagement. This SOW and the MSA constitute the entire agreement regarding these services and supersedes all prior agreements (whether oral or written), understandings, negotiations, and discussions between you and CLA related to audit services. If you have any questions, please let us know. Please sign, date, and return this SOW to us to indicate your acknowledgment and understanding of, and agreement with, the arrangements for our audit of your financial statements including the terms of our engagement and the parties' respective responsibilities.

Sincerely,

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Response:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Bois de Sioux Watershed District.

CLA

CLA

SIGN: *Miranda Wendlandt*

Miranda Wendlandt, Principal

DATE: 11/1/2023

Client

Bois de Sioux Watershed District

SIGN:

Linda Vavra, Board President

DATE:

Bois de Sioux Watershed District

SIGN:

Jamie Beyer

DATE:



Bois de Sioux
Watershed District

704 Highway 75 South | Wheaton, MN 56296

Phone | 320.563.4185

Fax | 320.563.4987

www.bdswd.com

bdswd@runestone.net

M E M O

TO: Traverse County Commissioners

FROM: Jamie Beyer, Administrator

DATE: December 29, 2023

RE: Manager Term Expiration

.....

Please be advised that Steven Schmidt's term as Bois de Sioux Board Manager will expire on April 30, 2024. Bois de Sioux Watershed Board Managers serve three-year terms, beginning May 1st.

Enclosed is a position guide that details the types of responsibilities associated with this position. Watershed Board Managers receive a meeting per diem of \$125, and are reimbursed mileage for watershed duty travel.

I have also included M.S. 103D.311, which describes appointment procedures.

Mr. Schmidt has expressed interest in continuing this appointment. Mr. Schmidt may continue to serve in this position until your decision has been made by the Board of Commissioners.

Thank you.

CC: Bois de Sioux Watershed Board Managers
Steven Schmidt

ENC: Board Manager Position Guide
M.S. 103D.311



Bois de Sioux
Watershed District

704 Highway 75 South | Wheaton, MN 56296

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www.bdswd.com

bdswd@runestone.net

M E M O

TO: Wilkin County Commissioners

FROM: Jamie Beyer, Administrator

DATE: December 29, 2023

RE: Manager Term Expiration

.....

Please be advised that Jason Beyer's term as Bois de Sioux Board Manager will expire on April 30, 2024. Bois de Sioux Watershed Board Managers serve three-year terms, beginning May 1st.

Enclosed is a position guide that details the types of responsibilities associated with this position. Watershed Board Managers receive a meeting per diem of \$125, and are reimbursed mileage for watershed duty travel.

I have also included M.S. 103D.311, which describes appointment procedures.

Mr. Beyer has expressed interest in continuing this appointment. He may continue to serve in this position until your decision has been made by the Board of Commissioners.

Thank you.

CC: Bois de Sioux Watershed Board Managers
Jason Beyer

ENC: Board Manager Position Guide
M.S. 103D.311



Bois de Sioux
Watershed District

704 Highway 75 South | Wheaton, MN 56296

Phone | 320.563.4185

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www.bdswd.com

bdswd@runestone.net

M E M O

TO: Big Stone County Commissioners

FROM: Jamie Beyer, Administrator

DATE: December 29, 2023

RE: Manager Term Expiration

.....

Please be advised that Scott Gillespie's term as Bois de Sioux Board Manager will expire on April 30, 2024. Bois de Sioux Watershed Board Managers serve three-year terms, beginning May 1st.

Enclosed is a position guide that details the types of responsibilities associated with this position. Watershed Board Managers receive a meeting per diem of \$125, and are reimbursed mileage for watershed duty travel.

I have also included M.S. 103D.311, which describes appointment procedures.

Mr. Gillespie has expressed interest in continuing this appointment. Mr. Gillespie may continue to serve in this position until your decision has been made by the Board of Commissioners.

Thank you.

CC: Bois de Sioux Watershed Board Managers
Scott Gillespie

ENC: Board Manager Position Guide
M.S. 103D.311

Clean Water Council Policy Committee Meeting
October 27, 2023

Following introductions, the Committee discussed diversity, equity, and inclusion as it relates to the Clean Water Fund. Paul Gardner will provide more information for the Committee's consideration at a future meeting.

Draft Drainage Policy Statement

Paul Gardner provided an overview of the feedback the Committee has received on the draft Drainage Policy Statement. The feedback ranged from "this is a nice start, do more" to "shrink the focus to where the CWC can do the most good." (comments received are included at the end of this document)


Discussion included:

- Minnesota Watersheds and the Association of Minnesota Counties are concerned that the background included in the draft policy paints a narrative that lays the blame of water quality and hydrological conditions squarely on the shoulders of ag drainage. The landscape was altered for production pre-statehood and many of the changes made in these systems in recent decades have improved systems in a way that improves water quality and hydrologic impacts. We believe that the change in the timing for Multi-Purpose Drainage Management (MDM) grants will encourage more participation by drainage authorities.
- Rich Biske asked if Minnesota Watersheds and the Association of Minnesota Counties had comments on the eight recommendations in the draft policy. Our comments will be sent to Paul Gardner.
- Jamie Beyer recommended that the Council reach out to county highway engineers for input on the MDM grants, expressed concerns regarding the need for more funding, and the fact that drainage projects are expensive for landowners, even when water quality best management practices are included.
- Rich Biske stated that intentions are important. The Committee has discussed the role of drainage and wants to understand the role of drainage water management, as well as how to help with planning and implementation.
- Marcie Weinandt said that the Committee recognizes the important role that drainage plays. The idea is how can we elevate water quality in drainage projects without interrupting water quantity and management within the systems. We know that 103E must be following. The Council needs to stay within the water quality aspects we can provide and assist drainage authorities as they pursue water quality benefits in drainage systems. The needs for agriculture are much different than the installation of a rain garden in a suburban area.
- Len Kremer spoke on behalf of the Minnesota River Collaborative. They believe that it is necessary to mitigate the effects of the impacts of drainage on water quality, load duration, and peak flows. He serves on the Outlet Adequacy Subcommittee of the Drainage Work Group. It is apparent, in his opinion, that there are a lot of issues in drainage that need to be addressed to restore the hydrology of the Minnesota River watershed, especially upgrading drainage law.
- Paul Gardner responded that many of Len's comments are of a broader scope. He is not sure how many of those recommendations the Council would want to take. There are proper safeguards in place to assure that projects don't accelerate water quality problems.
- Rich Biske stated that many of the elements in the Minnesota River Collaborative's comments are included in the draft policy such as collaboration and MDM. The specific changes to 103E are not in the Council's scope.

- Discussion was held regarding a drainage endorsement in the MAWQCP. MDA is happy to be involved in this, but it will require stakeholder input to have the correct standards and requirements. This could also open the door for more funding for water quality.
- Tom Gile commented on the Outlet Adequacy Subcommittee. The committee is developing a report that will be presented to the DWG to inform their deliberations about outlet adequacy and possible recommendations for changes to the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual or legislation. Policy questions have been raised during the committee's discussion that will need deliberation by the DWG.
- Discussion was held regarding the DNR's drainage engineering position. Haley Byron explained that this will be a statewide position that will hopefully be filled in the next two months. She also explained that early coordination is initiated with the local or regional DRN staff. For the southern part of the state, she is the main contact and is responsible for reviewing drainage project information. The DNR is continuing to pursue early coordination with drainage authorities and hopes to start pilot programs in southern Minnesota soon.
- Paul Gardner will provide a revised draft for the next CWC Policy Committee meeting. In revising the document, he will reach out to those who have commented for needed clarification.

Input on 50-Year Water Plan Scope of Work

A PowerPoint presentation was given and discussion was held regarding the 50-Year Water Plan.

<u>Scope of Work</u>	<u>U of M Areas of Work</u>	<u>CHAPTER 60 H.F. No. 2310</u> <u>The 50-year Clean Water Plan</u>
(1) the data sets that are required and how the University of Minnesota will obtain access;	(1) Partner & Community Engagement	(1) provide a literature-based assessment of the current status and trends regarding the quality and quantity of all Minnesota waters, both surface and subsurface;
(2) the suite of proposed analysis methods ;	(2) Continuous Engagement, Alignment, and Gap Assessment	(2) identify gaps in the data or understanding and provide recommended action steps to address gaps;
(3) the roles and responsibilities of project leaders, key personnel , and stakeholders;	(3) Data, Decision Support Systems, Synthesis Hub	(3) identify existing and potential future threats to Minnesota's waters; and
(4) the project timeline with milestones; and	(4) Modeling, Scenario Building, and Forecasting	(4) propose a road map of scenarios and policy recommendations to allow the state to proactively protect, remediate, and conserve clean water for human use and biodiversity for the next 50 years.
(5) a budget with expected costs for tasks and milestones.	(5) Inform Policy & Action Steps	
Funded by CHAPTER 60 H.F. No. 2310; due December 1, 2023		Funded through future legislative action (FY25+)
 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA <i>Drives to Discover™</i>		

MN Clean Water Partners

- ✓ State Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Employment and Economic Development, Health, Natural Resources, Transportation; and the Board of Water and Soil Resources, Clean Water Council, Environmental Quality Board, Pollution Control Agency, State Climatology Office,
- ✓ Legislative committees, subcommittees, and commissions,
- ✓ International, federal, state, and local government,
- ✓ Regional entities like Metropolitan Council,
- ✓ Watershed districts, watershed management organizations, soil and water conservation districts,
- ✓ Tribes,
- ✓ Public and private industry,
- ✓ Nonprofits with expertise in water resources

Questions for you:

- ✓ What, if any, clean water partners are we lacking that should be included in developing the Toolkit (future funding, if available)?
- ✓ What role does your Council, Board, or Committee play in the project?
- ✓ How would you like us to engage with your Council, Board, or Committee?
- ✓ What suggestions do you have to help us better serve Minnesota in the pursuit of clean water for the next 50 years?

Feedback on First Draft of Clean Water Council Drainage Draft Policy Statement

27 October 2023

From Policy Committee in August:

- Include more context up front on why the committee is doing this
- Break up ditch vs. tile inventories:
 - Ditches are well inventoried
 - Old tile maps get reviewed
 - What about private ditches
 - Some drainage authorities require permits for tile
 - Stress that government seek cooperation and consent from landowners
- Fund drainage authorities to be partners who identify opportunities for water quality, with the expectation that they integrate drainage into comprehensive watershed management plans
 - Integration with 1W1P is mostly happening
 - Drainage is prioritized in some 1W1P, not others
 - Water storage goals are ambitious, not always specified where it will happen
 - Multi-purpose drainage management (MDM) complements 1W1P
 - Bois de Sioux Watershed is a good example of coordination
- MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) could be used in areas where drainage is not a priority in 1W1P. We should connect drainage engineers with MAWQCP.
- Better understand training needs and whether the CWF would be a funding source
- Have Jeff Strock take a look at the statement draft

From Drainage Work Group Meeting 11 Sep 2023

- Outlet inventory is a big ask
- Drainage leads to longer growing season that facilitates no-till; give some credit to benefits
- Saturated buffers a good step
- Fix/add some background information; AMC will send
- Dialogue with DWG would be welcome; document “is a little scary”
- Train farmers on controlled drainage
- Restatement of concern about downstream hydraulic impact
- Value of multi-purpose drainage management not always understood
- Should address downstream flooding and its economic impacts

From Minnesota River Collaborative 25 Oct 2023

- Request that the Legislature establish a Minnesota River Board that will coordinate the current efforts and interests of the diverse stakeholders, local governments, state and local agencies, citizens, and other organizations working to manage and restore the hydrology of the Minnesota River Watershed. Coordination is also needed to ensure the collection of comprehensive data to evaluate current proposed projects and provide for development of a

comprehensive plan for the watershed, and to provide a mechanism to secure funding for project development, Multi-Purpose Drainage -Management development and maintenance.

- Coordinate the implementation of a comprehensive Minnesota River Watershed hydrologic data collection program that is currently needed to review proposed drainage improvement plans and will be the basis for future comprehensive planning and the implementation of Multi-Purpose Drainage-Management. Immediate focus should be on Minnesota River sub watersheds that are having the greatest impacts on water quality and hydrology.
- Encourage the approval of legislative funding for the development of a comprehensive hydrologic model proposed by BWSR for the Minnesota River Watershed that can be used to evaluate the impact of proposed drainage improvement projects that are currently being proposed and the cumulative impact of those projects and downstream public waters. The model will be the basis for development of a comprehensive Watershed Plan.
- Request that the Legislature modify drainage law to require that all private drainage systems tributary to a public drainage system or a public water submit plans for construction of the private system for approval of by the Drainage Authority or by the Department of Natural Resources if the private system is tributary to a public water. After completion of construction an as-built copy of the constructed project must be submitted to the drainage authority or the MDNR by the contractor.
- Request that the Legislature modify drainage law to require that frequent channel forming flows, the 1.5-year and 2-year frequency events be evaluated to determine impacts on project outlets. These events have been shown by research conducted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as part of their 2015, Sediment Reduction strategy to result in the most erosion and the largest volumes of sediment.
- Request that the legislature modify drainage law to require that if the outlet of a proposed public drainage project is currently not adequate that it must be modified as appropriate so that it will be adequate for the proposed project before is approved.

CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF AGRICULTURAL LAND USE AND ARTIFICIAL DRAINAGE, Minnesota River Basin (10/2/2022 update) Len Kremer

In the last 50 years the hydrology of the Minnesota River watershed has changed dramatically. The mean discharge at Jordon has doubled from 3100 cubic feet per second for the period 1936 through 1977 to 6100 cfs for the period 1978 through 2007. There has also been a three fold increase in rare and extreme flows. Flow duration curves at Jordon show that frequent channel forming flows have also changed significantly. During the period 1934 through 1949, a discharge of 1000 cfs was exceeded only 5 percent of the time for the period after 1949, 1000 cfs was exceeded more than 20 percent of the time. This change in the hydrology has been shown to be the result of the conversion of agricultural production from small grains and forage crops to soybeans and the more intense artificial drainage associated with the conversion.

The dramatic change in the hydrology of the watershed has had a significant effect on the water quality in the Minnesota River and its tributaries. Water quality data collected in the Minnesota River watershed indicates that the river and its tributaries have excessive sediment and phosphorus loads, elevated nutrient concentrations, high bacteria counts and other contaminants. The high bacteria count, principally caused by failing septic systems and the excessive sediment and nutrient loads, caused by increased runoff are of particular concern. According to a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 2017 study, none of the 14 segments of the Minnesota River met the water quality standard for aquatic life in 2017, and only six of the 14 met the standard for aquatic recreation. Recent studies have determined that the principal causes of the increased runoff and sediment loading has been due to the cumulative effect of artificial drainage associated with the land use changes in the watershed.

Based on MPCA data sediment loads from the Minnesota River watershed to the Mississippi River have more than doubled over the period 1980 through 2005 from approximately 0.6 million tons per year to approximately 1.2 million tons per year. According to research conducted by the MPCA as part

of the the South Metro TSS TMDL, Lake Pepin is expected to be filled with sediment in 340 years at the current deposition rate. The MPCA research indicated that it would have taken 4000 years at the 1970's sediment deposition rate. The increased sediment loads have been shown to be caused principally by severe bank erosion due to the longer duration of channel forming flows. Because of the increased sediment loads barge traffic on the upper reaches of the Mississippi have had to reduce the size of their tow which has increased river transportation costs.

There have been suggestions that these increases in runoff and river flows have been due to increased precipitation, but that assertion has been proven to be insignificant by many investigations including the M PCA, Belmont, Schottler and many others. Their research has shown that the change in water yield, the percentage of rainfall that runs off and is tributary to the river has nearly tripled from 7 percent in the 1930's to over 20 percent at the present time.

Recent studies by Schottler and Kelly of the effects of artificial drainage projects have clearly demonstrated that each project has impacts on the watershed hydrology and that the significant increase in Minnesota River flow has been caused by the cumulative effect of those projects. The increased river flow has had a devastating effect on both the magnitude and duration of flooding, the extent of riverbank erosion, downstream water quality, aquatic life and downstream aquatic recreation. Recently, extensive riverbank riprapping projects have been completed by the City of Mankato to stop erosion of the banks of the river and protect municipal infrastructure and by the City of Savage to protect a future city park from riverbank erosion.

The drainage coefficient most frequently used for the design of improvements to agricultural drain tile systems in the Minnesota River watershed is 0.5 inches of subsurface runoff versus historical agriculture drainage of less than about 0.3 inches of subsurface runoff (in a 24-hour period). The current recommendation is typically about double the historic drain tile system capacity and results in increased peak discharge and runoff volume from the tile system which closely correlates with the increased mean discharge for the Minnesota River.

The change in subsurface runoff standards causes the runoff to occur faster and results in higher sustained channel forming flows downstream. Extensive research conducted by the MPCA as part of the *Sediment Reduction Strategy for the Minnesota River* has shown that the volume of sediment due to erosion from frequent channel forming events, 1.5 -2 year events, is much greater than the volume of sediment from infrequent events. Therefore, the MPCA's Sediment Reduction Strategy focuses on reductions in the both the magnitude and the duration of flow resulting from a two-year event.

Developed communities throughout the watershed have determined that flood control efforts will be needed to protect infrastructure and development from increased river flows. Increased river flows have created a need for reinforcement of municipal flood control projects constructed in the past in order to provide continued protection. In addition, riverbank erosion has caused the destruction of public infrastructure and private residential properties and the sedimentation that results from the bank erosion has impeded downstream commercial riverborne shipping and recreational boating, increased sediment deposition in commercial and recreational marinas and destroyed floodplain lakes adjacent to the river. Many once successful agricultural production facilities in the vicinity of the river are currently subject to frequent crop losses. All of these impacts have been principally due to the effects of the change in upstream land use and more intense artificial drainage.



Association of
Minnesota Counties



MINNESOTA
WATERSHEDS
Connecting People. Protecting Water.

Memorandum

To: Clean Water Council Policy Committee

From: Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) - Brian Martinson, Policy Analyst bmartinson@mncounties.org
Minnesota Watersheds (MW) - Jan Voit, Executive Director jvoit@mnwatersheds.com
Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) - Rob Sip, Executive Director rob.sip@rrwmb.us

Date: October 25, 2023

Re: **Comments on CWC Drainage Policy Draft**

Minnesota's counties and watershed districts serve as drainage authorities and are responsible for managing and maintaining drainage systems on behalf of landowners that pay for the systems. The Association of Minnesota Counties (representing all 87 Minnesota Counties), Minnesota Watersheds (representing all of Minnesota's watershed districts), and the Red River Watershed Management Board (representing the seven watersheds in the Red River Valley) would like to offer the following comments regarding the current draft Clean Water Council policy on drainage. For the sake of this communication, we will keep our comments at a high level, but would welcome the opportunity to provide more detailed feedback as you continue your work on this document.

The *Draft Policy Statement* is quite expansive and addressing so many issues at once leaves many gaps that could cause confusion and misunderstanding. The *Drainage Information* section includes a listing of statutes, entities engaged in drainage work, and resources that provide guidance for drainage activities, but each of these lists is incomplete with a few key parties and resources omitted.

The *Background* section provides limited information but paints a negative picture that we feel misses the mark. If a background section is to be included in a future draft, we suggest a more thorough explanation of drainage system functions and review of both the challenges and opportunities they provide. There have been significant changes and improvements in drainage that provide benefits not only to the landowners and communities on the systems but also more broadly for water management.

The *Draft Policy Statement* currently includes a list of eight recommendations. We are supportive of the investments in the Multipurpose Drainage Management (MDM) program and agree there is a need to inform/engage more landowners and drainage authorities to take advantage of this program. We also support work to change the structure and timing of these grants to better align with project timelines.

However, several recommendations are unnecessary and seem to suggest prohibitions on certain uses to ensure that Clean Water Funds are not used to do environmental damage. Clean Water Funds have clear directives for water quality and protection, as do the programs that have been selected for funding. It seems unnecessary for the Clean Water Council to begin listing the things funding should not do, especially when they are already contrary to requirements of the Fund. The only Clean Water Council funded program specifically connected to drainage is the MDM program. These grants are for targeting critical pollution source areas to reduce erosion and sedimentation, reduce peak flows and flooding, and improve water quality, while protecting drainage system efficiency and reducing drainage system maintenance.

We believe that the Council's policies would do better to further clean water objectives by promoting positive investments and strategies. If the Council decides to adopt a drainage policy, it should focus on the intersection of the Clean Water Council's work and Minnesota Statutes 103E drainage systems by encouraging collaboration and shared objectives.

FDRWG Meeting Highlights

October 6, 2023



Project Updates: April Swenby (SHRWD Administrator) and Zach Hermann (Houston Engineering) gave an update on the **Sand Hill River Ecosystem Restoration Project**. The project will address persistent down-cutting and bank sloughing that occurs along the Sand Hill River/Sand Hill Ditch. Their project team will use FDRWG facilitation services and funding to develop project concepts over the coming year.

Floodplain Mapping: The IWI/HEI team hired last spring to explore methods of mapping floodplains in agricultural areas of the Red River Basin has delivered the work plan authorized in Phase 1. The work plan provides for development of three mapping methods: 1) flattened stream analysis using GIS; 2) a discharge method; and 3) HEC-RAS 2-dimensional modeling. Phase 2 will apply the three methods within two pilot areas and provide comparisons in terms of cost, scaling, and application to reducing flood hazards in rural areas of the basin.

Five-year Monitoring Program: The Work Group is setting up this new program with funding from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. The RRWMB, in its role as fiscal agent, has executed a grant agreement with the state, and is developing an agreement for services by the International Water Institute (IWI). The Monitoring Committee has also been in communication with the DNR's Water Monitoring and Surveys unit regarding streamflow gaging services.

The Monitoring Committee also reported on the solicitation process for a field contractor for this program. They recommended selection of a team led by Moore Engineering, Inc. This recommendation was approved by the Work Group.

Project Team Funding: There was discussion of the project team funding formula approved at the June meeting. Watershed Districts across the basin have more project teams working during this fiscal year than was assumed when the new formula was approved. This reduces the funds available for each project team. The Finance Committee will seek further input from watershed district administrators and will meet to discuss this topic further.

25th Anniversary: A celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the FDRWG was held in the southern part of the basin on October 22. It included several agency heads and legislators as well as members of the FDRWG and other guests. Tour stops included sites in the BRRWD and City of Breckenridge, followed by a groundbreaking ceremony at the BdSWD's Redpath Impoundment/Mustinka River project site.

Planning is under way for the **Annual Joint Conference** to be held **March 19-20, 2024** in Moorhead.

The **next meeting** of the FDRWG is scheduled for **December 13, 2023** in Grand Forks, ND.

For more information: contact the Minnesota DNR's Red River Basin Coordinator
Phone: 218-606-0128 / Email: Andrew.Graham@state.mn.us

MEETING NOTES

October 6, 2023

Ada, MN



Work Group members present: Check marks in the table below indicate attendance.

✓	T. Ebbenga (DNR, Co-Chair)	✓	G. Van Amburg* (citizen)	✓	D. Jasken (NRCS)
✓	R. Hemphill (DNR)	✓	E. Bernhardson (citizen)		C. Jarnot (USACE)
✓	D. Money (RRWMB, Co-Chair)	✓	Shayne Isane (agriculture)		Evan Ingebrigtsen (USACE alt.)
✓	G. Holmvik (RRWMB)	✓	Michael Sharp (MPCA)	✓	N. Bernd (W. Polk SWCD)
✓	L. Vavra (RRWMB)	✓	H. Van Offelen (BWSR)	✓	M. Jacobson* (Clay Co.)
✓	L. Ose* (RRWMB)		Pete Waller (BWSR alternate)		B. Nelson (Becker Co., alternate)
	J. Braaten (RRWMB alternate)		M. Josephson (MDA)		
✓	B. Peterson (RRWMB alternate)	✓	S. Bischof (MDA alternate)		

No. of Representatives: 16 Representatives present: 15 Quorum for decisions met? Yes

Coordinator: Andrew Graham (DNR)

Audience/Guests: Rob Sip (RRWMB), Nikki Swenson* (RRWMB), Erik Jones (HEI), Nate Dalager (HDR), April Swenby (SHRWD); Kristine Altrichter* (BRRWD), Nick Brown (DNR), Rachel Miller (MnDOT), Dave Kirkpatrick (IWI), Zach Hermann (HEI), Jeff Madejczyk (MEI), Chad Engels (MEI), Tracy Halstengard (RRWD), Molly Costin* (MPCA), Molly Jansen* (Park Street Public), Theresa Haugen* (MPCA)

* Denotes those attending remotely.

Meeting Packet:

- Agenda
- Project Information Form – Sand Hill River Ecosystem Restoration Project
- Floodplain Mapping budget for Phase 2 pilots
- Excerpt from Moore Engineering proposal for Field Services
- List of anticipated sites for Five-Year Monitoring Program
- RRWMB Agenda Item – MPCA Rulemaking
- FDRWG Budget, FY24
- Table of Proposed Funding Awards to Project Teams, FY24

Welcome and Introductions

Co-chair Theresa Ebbenga opened the meeting and those present introduced themselves. Andrew Graham listed those participating remotely via MS Teams.

Recap from Celebration of 25th Anniversary

Dan Money summarized the event held on September 22 to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Mediation Agreement and FDRWG. Approximately 35 people participated in a tour that included sites in the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, lunch at the confluence of the Bois de Sioux and Otter Tail Rivers in Breckenridge, and a ground-breaking ceremony at the partially completed Mustinka River/Redpath project site in the Bois de Sioux Watershed District. Co-Chair Theresa Ebbenga kicked off the event with introductory remarks at the BRRWD office in Barnesville. Lunch Speakers included Co-Chair Dan Money, DNR Commissioner

Sarah Strommen, BWSR Executive Director John Jaschke, Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Peterson, State Senator Rob Kupec, State Representative Erin Koegel, and BdSWD Board President Linda Vavra. Various other members of the FDRWG also commented during the lunch remarks and bus tour. The Redpath groundbreaking included additional remarks by Bois de Sioux Board Managers as well as State Senator Jordan Rasmussen.

Representatives of the City of Breckenridge spoke about projects to reduce flood risk in their community, including those funded by the State's Flood Hazard Mitigation Program as well as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Overall the event highlighted both past successes and ongoing commitments of FDRWG members to reduce flood risks and enhance natural resources throughout the Red River Basin. Special thanks are due to Kristine Altrichter of the BRRWD and Jamie Beyer of the BdSWD, as well as their Boards and engineers, for hosting and leading portions of this anniversary event.

Project Update – Sand Hill River Ecosystem Restoration Project

April Swenby and Zach Hermann updated the Work Group on activities of a project team that the Sand Hill River Watershed District convened in 2021. The project was recently renamed the Sand Hill River Ecosystem Restoration Project. It has the objective of improving conditions along the Sand Hill River/Sand Hill Ditch, that was converted into a straightened channel decades ago. The channel grade was too steep from the start, and this has caused downcutting and bank erosion ever since. Concrete grade-control structures were replaced with rock riffles approximately three years ago. However there are still problems, especially during high-flow events like the one in spring 2022.

The District currently envisions a project to add floodplain capacity using a two-stage channel design that will also provide a habitat corridor and stabilize side slopes. The project team will use facilitation services offered by the FDRWG to advance the project over the coming year, including clear definition of objectives, development of alternatives and selection of a preferred alternative. The initial focus will be a priority reach where the worst problems occur. An initial ballpark cost estimate is \$20 million to address the problems in that reach.

Theresa thanked April and Zach for the presentation. Andrew indicated he'll work with the District and Rob Sip to issue a task order for facilitation services. The funds budgeted for facilitation (\$30,000) at a 50/50 match are sufficient to add this to the other three project teams using the facilitation services in this fiscal year.

Floodplain Mapping Initiative

Henry Van Offelen reviewed the purposes and recent work done on the Work Group's initiative exploring methods of mapping the 10-year flood plains in agricultural areas of the Red River Basin (RRB). The IWI/HEI team selected in the spring to assist with this effort met with the Work Group's Technical and Scientific Advisory Committee (TSAC) in June and August. They prepared a work plan to apply three alternate methods at two pilot areas of the basin. This will help us to determine the pros and cons of the various methods, and which of them offer the most cost-effective approach to scaling across multiple areas throughout the RRB. Erik Jones and Dave Kirkpatrick summarized the methods, including: 1) flattened stream analysis using GIS; 2) a discharge method; and 3) HEC-RAS 2-dimensional modeling. By careful selection of pilot areas that have prior information available, the work plan can be carried out using the funds currently budgeted by the Work Group and RRWMB.

Theresa commented that key metrics for comparing methods will be cost effectiveness and quality/accuracy of the mapping outputs. After discussion, the Work Group indicated support for moving this effort to the next phase as planned. Andrew will work with Rob Sip to prepare an amendment for the IWI/HEI work.

Five-Year Monitoring Program

Andrew reported on progress launching the five-year monitoring program (5yMP) using the \$920,000 approved earlier this year by the Legislature. As of last week, the basic contract with the state is fully executed and enables use of the funds, retroactive to July 1, 2023. A contract with the International Water Institute (IWI) is nearly ready to execute as well. Andrew and members of the monitoring team have also been in communication with DNR's streamflow monitoring unit, which was identified as the most cost-effective option to measure stream flows necessary for estimating water quality loading at various sites. The monitoring committee will be working throughout this fall on site-specific monitoring plans, and the field work will begin in 2024.

Michael Sharp reported on the process to select a field contractor. With Andrew's assistance, the Monitoring Committee prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) that was released in late July. The RFP included an overview of the program purposes, a scope to serve as the basis of contractor cost estimates, and criteria for contractor evaluations. Three firms submitted proposals, and these were reviewed by a selection panel that was a subset of the Monitoring Committee. The panel determined that all three were capable of performing the desired services. Two of the firms were rated higher than the third firm. One of these, a team of Moore Engineering and Stantec, was invited to interview. On the basis of the submittal, pricing and interview the panel recommended selection of Moore Engineering, and the full Monitoring Committee subsequently considered and accepted this recommendation.

After discussion the Work Group affirmed the selection of the Moore Engineering/Stantec team as the field contractor for the 5yMP. Andrew will arrange calls with their Project Manager Jeff Madejczyk to draft the contract in conjunction with Rob Sip and the RRWMB's legal counsel.

MPCA Rulemaking Update

Anna Hotz, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Section Manager for Environmental and Business Assistance, gave a presentation on the agency's rule-making process and rule updates that are currently under way. The rule-making process involves many steps with checkpoints along the way with the public, internal management, the State Office of Administrative Hearings, and the Governor's office. This process ensures that the agency receives extensive input as rules are proposed, developed and finalized. The MPCA maintains an on-line docket listing rules currently being developed or updated. The current docket includes four rules involving water resources: 1) Water Quality Standards, Use Class 1; 2) Water Quality Standards, Use Class 2 Ammonia; 3) Water fee; and 4) Lakes Eutrophication Standards.

From this list, items (1) and (4) are currently open for comment from the public. The Water Quality Standards, Use Class 1 rule update calls for water quality standards for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, also known as PFAS.

The Lakes Eutrophication Standards rule update would revise standards and use designations for Class 2 (surface) waters that are protected for aquatic life and recreation. This includes special attention on northern lakes and forests, and northern Minnesota wetlands. It would also adopt a tiered aquatic life uses (TALU) framework for lakes, similar to that already used for rivers and streams.

More information on the process and these individual rules can be found at:

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/mm-rule1-00.pdf>

Project Team Funding

Andrew displayed the FDRWG budget for the fiscal year that began on July 1, 2023, focusing on two line-items that provide funding for project teams sponsored by watershed districts. Those are:

Existing Project Teams: \$160,000

Project Team Start-ups: 30,000

At the June meeting, the Work Group made a change in how funds for project teams are distributed. Instead of awarding funds in equal amounts to all participating watershed districts, the work group determined it would award funds in equal amounts to each project team, limited to a maximum of \$25,000 per project team. The Finance Committee subsequently directed Andrew to interpret this as equal amounts to each project (to account for districts that use a single project team to advance multiple projects).

This change was made in June without a complete inventory of project team needs. After contacting all of the watershed districts, Andrew developed a table to summarize their projected costs. They identified 16 project teams with funding needs in this fiscal year. Three of these are projected to need \$1,500 to \$3,000. Four others are projected to need \$10,000 to \$15,000. The remaining 9 are projected to need \$25,000. All of these needs will be matched with local funding from watershed districts.

Andrew displayed a breakdown showing how the \$160,000 budgeted for project team support (without start-ups) could be allocated to meet these needs. This would allocate \$12,182 to each project team. Five project teams (those with costs listed at \$10,000 or less) would be fully funded at their projected need. Three project teams (those listed at \$15,000) would receive most of their requested amount. The remaining nine project teams (those requesting \$25,000) would receive less than half of their requested amount. Andrew also presented a slightly modified option that would hold \$7,500 back till late in the year, in case the lower-cost project teams needed more funds than currently listed. Andrew also noted that the joint TRWD and RRWD Juneberry project may need to be treated as a special case.

FDRWG members asked for a reminder of the reasons the new procedure was proposed and approved. Theresa Ebbenga noted that in recent years the standard allocations have been under-utilized, leaving very large portions of the project team funds unallocated. This requires the FDRWG to shift funds very late in the fiscal year, after all actual costs have been determined. This means that districts with higher costs don't really know how much they can count on from the FDRWG. Andrew explained that this is partly due to the different number of project teams sponsored by watershed districts. The idea was to direct available funds proportionally, so that districts with more project teams and higher project development costs could count on more funding than districts with fewer project teams and lower costs.

Dan Money expressed concern that the new approach may not work as well as we thought originally. At the time the FDRWG approved it, the \$160,000 budget was intended to provide up to \$25,000 for each project team. He suggested an alternate method that could be used to fund the full list using the approved budget amounts. Greg Holmvik also questioned the need for the new procedure. He feels the prior process worked well and likes the fact that each district received the same amount. Both Dan and Greg noted that the re-allocations at the end of the fiscal year enabled those with the highest costs to receive more funding anyway.

Theresa noted that the Work Group does not have consensus on the project team allocations. She suggested this topic be tabled until the next meeting, giving everyone more time to consider it. Dan suggested the Finance Committee discuss the procedure and provide a recommendation for discussion at the December Work Group meeting. Tracy Halstengard asked for an opportunity for all watershed district administrators to comment. Andrew will invite them to provide input.

Ring Levees

Andrew reported on progress distributing \$360,000 that the Legislature appropriated in 2022 for farmstead and rural ring levees in the RRB. Two awards were made to the RLWD earlier this year, and both of those ring levees have been constructed. Andrew visited them in September with staff from the RLWD and they look good. One of the landowners was on site during the visit and he expressed his appreciation of the funding provided from the State, District and RRWMB to protect his home from flood water.

Three additional applications were approved recently. Two of these, also in the RLWD, have been issued grant agreements. The work on those ring levees may be done this fall or may be deferred until the 2024 construction season. The third application was in the BRRWD. It has not yet received a grant agreement, because the landowner is not certain they want to proceed. Funding remaining for any additional ring levee projects will be approximately \$30,000 if the BRRWD project proceeds, or \$80,000 if it does not. The funding will expire in June 2025. All construction will need to be completed by that date.

2024 Joint Annual Conference

Theresa summarized the Communications Committee's work to plan the 2024 Joint Annual Conference with the RRWMB. The conference will be held on March 19 and 20. The Committee has identified approximately 25 potential topics and speakers. They will be working to winnow this list down and draft an agenda in the coming weeks. Dan suggested that Andrew send the list to FDRWG members to invite additional suggestions or input.

Agency Updates

Agencies present provided updates on recent initiatives and activities. These included BWSR, MPCA, MDA, NRCS, Regional SWCDs, DNR, MnDOT and RRWMB.

Production of New Videos on the FDRWG

Theresa announced that a rough cut of the two videos being produced for the FDRWG by HEI are available for viewing after lunch, for those who can stay to watch them. Andrew will also send a link out to Work Group members so they can take time to view them and comment if they wish.

During the lunch viewing, several comments were provided. Andrew and Theresa will relay these to Heidi Joarnt at HEI.

Action Items

Action items from the meeting are listed on the next page.

Action	Assigned to	Complete by
1. Issue a task order for facilitation services for the Sand Hill River Ecosystem Restoration Project Team.	A. Graham R. Sip	10/20/23
2. Prepare an amendment to authorize the IWI/HEI work on 10-year floodplain mapping pilots per the approved work plan	A. Graham R. Sip	10/20
3. Work with Moore Engineering to draft the contract for field services on the 5yMP.	A. Graham R. Sip	11/21
4. Invite WD Administrators to provide input prior on the project team funding process.	A. Graham	11/15
5. Schedule a meeting of the Finance Committee to discuss the funding options for project teams and provide a recommendation to the full Work Group for discussion.	A. Graham & Finance Committee	11/30
6. Put project team funding process on the agenda for the next meeting.	A. Graham Co-chairs	12/13
7. Send the list of 2024 Conference topics/speakers to FDRWG members and invite suggestions or other input.	A. Graham	10/10
8. Send a link to the new videos (rough cut) out to Work Group members, so they can view them and comment if they wish. Comments will be needed by the end of October.	A. Graham	10/10
9. Relay comments on the video received during the viewings after the 10/6 meeting to Heidi Joarnt at HEI.	A. Graham T. Ebbenga	10/13

Jamie Beyer

From: rrra@ideaone.net
Sent: Friday, November 03, 2023 10:46 AM
Cc: bds wd@runestone.net; morteza.maher@mstrwd.org; 'Tammy Audette'; tracyh@roseauriverwd.com; 'Two Rivers Watershed District'; 'Tara Jensen'; LuAnn Kemp; rc wrd@drtel.net; 'Bladow, Tiffany A.'; Wendy Willprecht; 'Tasha Krueger'; 'TCWRD Hillsboro'; 'Walsh County Water Resource Board'; rc wrd@drtel.net; 'Charlene Varnson'
Subject: Red River Retention Authority Board Meeting Dec 13, 9AM East Grand Forks City Hall

Greetings,

I hope all have had a good fall and looking forward to the holiday season soon upon us.

I would like to extend an invitation to join the Red River Retention Authority Board of Directors meeting to be held at 9:00 am, December 13th at the East Grand Forks City Hall. This meeting is in conjunction with the Prairie Grains Conference being held the 13th and 14th at the Alerus Center. This would be a great opportunity to meet the board members and Brian Fuder, the new Executive Director, and to hear about some of the things we have been working on.

I hope that this will work into your schedules, and it would be greatly appreciated if you could RSVP your attending to rrra@ideaone.net.

Look forward to seeing and meeting you.

Best Regards,

Brian

Member Services



**MINNESOTA
WATERSHEDS**
Connecting People. Protecting Water.

What is Minnesota Watersheds?

Minnesota Watersheds is a 501c(4) non-profit and membership based organization serving local governments that manage water on watershed boundaries rather than political boundaries. Members benefit from having an organization that **supports and advocates for leaders in watershed management** and works diligently to maximize the availability of tools and resources to **establish excellence and innovation** in member organizations.

Fortify the infrastructure to ensure reliable delivery of services.



We maintain regular communication with our members to ensure they are informed of the latest watershed news including trainings they may find useful, changes to legislation that may impact them, and information to help them stay in compliance with governmental regulations and laws. **Strategic Plan efforts:** Ensure our governance and management are aligned with the Strategic Plan, continued commitment to communication through newsletters and distributing meeting information.

Serve as a liaison to collaborate with statewide agencies and associations.



We continue to maximize relationships with state agencies and associations as the best way to advance initiatives, especially with the legislature. **Strategic Plan efforts:** continue collaborative efforts with the Minnesota Association of Watershed Administrators and the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Ensure strong legislative policies are in place for watershed management.



Members drive the organization's policies through an annual resolutions process. From these resolutions, our Board of Directors sets each year's priorities. Our lobbyist works to influence political decisions on our behalf. **Strategic Plan efforts:** develop clearly defined legislative policies that accurately state our positions and follow through with lobbyist succession plan.

Enhance the skills of watershed district and watershed management organization boards.



Every year, we provide members with opportunities to learn from other members and industry experts at our events. Training topics include watershed planning, permitting, flood control, education and outreach programs, innovative technologies, public relations, data collection and analysis, aquatic invasive species, drainage, governance, and leadership. **Strategic Plan efforts:** maintain our watershed handbook and providing training at events.

Build a watershed community that supports one another.



The Board of Directors appreciates your watershed's support through attendance at the Legislative Day at the Capitol, Summer Tour, and Annual Conference. We value the opportunity to work with board members and staff at these events. We welcome your involvement in the Board of Directors and on our committees. This is **YOUR** organization. We look forward to serving you in the coming year. **Strategic Plan efforts:** increase participation at our events and share member services information.

Coming together is a **beginning**; keeping together is **progress**; working together is **SUCCESS**.

- Henry Ford

Member Services



**MINNESOTA
WATERSHEDS**
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Our Members

Region I		
Bois de Sioux	Buffalo-Red River	Cormorant Lakes
Joe River	Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers	Pelican River
Red Lake	Roseau River	Sand Hill River
Two Rivers	Warroad	Wild Rice
Region II		
Cedar River	Clearwater River	Crooked Creek
High Island Creek	Kanaranzi-Little Rock	Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank
Middle Fork Crow River	North Fork Crow River	Okabena-Ocheda
Shell Rock River	Turtle Creek	Upper Minnesota River
Yellow Medicine River		
Region III		
Bassett Creek WMC	Brown's Creek	Capitol Region
Carnelian Marine St. Croix	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake	Coon Creek
Minnehaha Creek	Mississippi WMO	Nine Mile Creek
Ramsey-Washington Metro	Rice Creek	Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek
South Washington	Vadnais Lake Area WMO	Valley Branch

**Minnesota Watersheds
offers opportunities to
increase watershed
management skills,
build relationships,
and develop partner-
ships with like-minded
groups and organiza-
tions**

NOVEMBER
28-^{DEC}1

ARROWWOOD
CONFERENCE
CENTER
Alexandria, MN

Tentative **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

TUESDAY, NOV 28

10 A-3 P	Minnesota Association of Watersheds Administrators (MAWA) Meeting
12-1 P	Lunch for MAWA
3-4 P	Partner Updates
4-6 P	Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors Meeting

WEDNESDAY, NOV 29

8 A-4 P	Choose Your Workshop — See Page 4-6
12-1 P	Lunch
4-9 P	Trade Show – Opening Night
5-8 P	Night at the Movies

THURSDAY, NOV 30

7-9 A	Regional Caucuses
8 A-4 P	Choose your Concurrent Sessions — See Page 7-15
12-1:30 P	Lunch, Awards and Mark Seeley Keynote <i>*Break from 12-3 for lunch and Trade Show networking*</i>
8 A-3 P	Trade Show
5-7 P	Happy Hour, Banquet + Awards

FRIDAY, DEC 1

7-9 A	Breakfast
9 A-Noon	Business Meeting (resolutions)
Noon-1 P	Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors Meeting

Region I Caucus

Thursday, November 30, 2023 @ 7:00 a.m.

Caucus location: LeHomme Dieu (main floor)

AGENDA

- 7:00 a.m. Welcome and Call to Order (Convener Peter Fjestad)
- 7:03 a.m. Appointment of a Secretary (Fjestad)
- 7:05 p.m. Election of Caucus Chairperson (Fjestad)
- 7:10 a.m. Nominations of a Region Director to Minnesota Watersheds Board (Caucus Chair)
Current Region 1 Minnesota Watersheds Board Members:
- Linda Vavra – term expires December 2023 (current President)
 - Gene Tiedemann – term expires December 2024
 - Peter Fjestad – term expires December 2025 (current Vice President)
- Vote for one open position, currently held by Linda Vavra for a term to expire in 2026.***
- 7:15 a.m. Candidate Remarks - 5 minutes each (Caucus Chair)
- 7:30 a.m. Voting (Caucus Chair)
Election results should be reported to the Minnesota Watersheds President and Executive Director so they can be presented to the members at the annual business meeting.
- 7:45 a.m. Call for Committee Members (Caucus Chair)
One manager is needed for each committee, who is committed to attending meetings and fulfilling responsibilities, no alternates, please. In the past, not all regions have been able to fill the committee positions, let alone designate an alternate Having alternates also makes representation lopsided, with more representation from one region over another. It is more efficient to designate one individual who is willing to commit to attending meetings. If the person is unable to attend a scheduled meeting, it is his/her responsibility to contact the committee co-chair(s). (See table on page 2.)
- 8:15 a.m. Open Forum (Caucus Chair)
Discussion of proposed resolutions, regional hot topics, etc.
- 9:00 a.m. Adjournment (Caucus Chair)

Region I		
Bois de Sioux	Buffalo-Red River	Cormorant Lakes
Joe River	Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers	Pelican River
Red Lake	Roseau River	Sand Hill River
Two Rivers	Warroad	Wild Rice

Minnesota Watersheds Committees – Region I Representatives

December 2023

Committee*	Region	2023 Members	2024	Responsibilities
Legislative	I	Gene Tiedemann, Red Lake		To provide focus and direction to the lobbyist(s) and Executive Director on annual priority legislative efforts and to keep members informed of the Association's efforts and progress.
Co-Chairs: Jackie Anderson, Michelle Overholser		Linda Vavra, Bois de Sioux*		
Governance				
<i>Bylaws & MOPP</i>	I	Linda Vavra, Bois de Sioux*		The By-Laws/MOPP committee is responsible for the annual review of these documents to ensure that they meet the needs and operating procedures of the organization.
Co-Chairs: David Ziegler, Jamie Beyer				
<i>Strategic Plan</i>	I	Dennis Kral, Pelican River		This Strategic Plan Committee is responsible for the review and annual prioritization of the organization's strategic plan.
Co-Chairs: David Ziegler, Andy Henschel		Linda Vavra, Bois de Sioux*		
Resolutions	I	Don Andringa, Sand Hill River		The Resolutions Committee is responsible for the annual solicitation and review of resolutions and policy changes to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting and any petitioned special meetings.
Co-Chairs: Linda Vavra, Jamie Beyer		Linda Vavra, Bois de Sioux*		
Finance	I	Dennis Kral, Pelican River		The purpose of the Finance Committee is to make financial recommendations to the Board on items such as the annual budget and dues.
Co-Chairs: David Ziegler, Matt Moore		Linda Vavra, Bois de Sioux*		
Events/Education	I	Gene Tiedemann, Red Lake		The purpose of the Events/Education Committee is to ensure Minnesota Watersheds events provide high quality educational and networking opportunities for members and non-members.
Co-Chairs: Gene Tiedemann, Tina Carstens		Linda Vavra, Bois de Sioux*		
Awards	I	Dennis Kral, Pelican River		The purpose of the Awards Committee is to promote, manage and present the annual Minnesota Watersheds Project and Program of the Year Awards.
Co-Chairs: Gerald Van Amburg, Karen Kill		Linda Vavra, Bois de Sioux*		
				*The Minnesota Watersheds President is a member of all committees.

How Minnesota Watersheds Committees Work

Information about upcoming committee meetings is developed by the Minnesota Watersheds Executive Director and committee co-chairs. The information is distributed to committee members and is available to members upon request. Meeting summaries are created and shared with members through the monthly newsletter, as well as the pertinent committee page on the Minnesota Watersheds website.

In the past, not all regions have been able to fill the committee positions, let alone designate an alternate. Having alternates also makes representation lopsided, with more representation from one region over another. It is more efficient to designate one individual who is willing to commit to attending meetings. If the person is unable to attend a scheduled meeting, it is his/her responsibility to contact the committee co-chair(s).

Executive Governance

The Executive Governance Committee works together to ensure daily operations align with the Bylaws, Manual of Policy and Procedures (MOPP), and Strategic Plan. The committee meets as needed.

By-Laws-MOPP

The purpose of the Bylaws-MOPP Committee is to ensure the Bylaws and MOPP are kept up to date and adequately guide the organization. The committee meets annually or as needed.

Strategic Plan Committee

The purpose of the Strategic Plan Committee is to ensure the Strategic Plan adequately guides the organization. The committee meets annually to prioritize the work plan for the Executive Director and to review the Strategic and Communication Plans.

Executive Finance and Finance Committee

The Executive Finance Committee will handle the day-to-day financial decisions. The Finance Committee will deal with the larger picture issues, such as preparing an annual budget and making recommendations on the annual dues structure.

Events-Education Committee

The purpose of the Events-Education Committee is to ensure Minnesota Watersheds events provide high quality educational and networking opportunities for members and non-members. The committee annually reviews the education work plan, provides input before and after events, and sets the convention presentation schedule, including recommendations for the staff development workshop. This committee is supported by the Executive Director and the Program Manager. The committee meets in January, February, April, June, July, September, and December.

Resolutions Committee

The purpose of the Resolutions Committee is to oversee the resolutions process. The committee meets in October to review and recommend resolutions.

Legislative Committee

The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to provide focus and direction to the Minnesota Watersheds lobbyist and Executive Director. They annually review the legislative program work and make recommendations to the Board of Directors on a legislative platform. The committee meets in June and December.

Awards Committee

The purpose of the Awards Committee is to promote, manage, and present the annual Minnesota Watersheds Project and Program of the Year Awards. The committee conducts its business almost exclusively by email.



Minnesota Watersheds

2023 Annual Conference

Arrowwood Convention Center, Alexandria, MN

Annual Business Meeting

AGENDA

Friday, December 1, 2023 | 9 a.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 9:00 a.m. Call to Order
- 9:01 a.m. Approval of Agenda (Action)
- 9:02 a.m. Approval of 2022 Annual Business Meeting Minutes (Action) – Linda Vavra
- 9:05 a.m. Treasurer's Reports – Linda Vavra
 - 2023 Year End Financial Report (Action)
 - 2023 Review of Financial Procedure Report (Action)
 - 2024 Proposed Budget (Action)

REPORTS

- 9:30 a.m. President's Report – Linda Vavra
- 9:40 a.m. Caucus Election Results Report – Linda Vavra
- 9:45 a.m. Executive Director's Report – Jan Voit
- 10:05 a.m. M.S. Chapter 103D Proposed Fixes – Jan Voit
- 10:15 a.m. Board of Water and Soil Resources Report - Executive Director John Jaschke

10:30 a.m. **BYLAWS HEARING** (Action) – Linda Vavra

10:45 a.m. **RESOLUTIONS HEARING** (Action) – Linda Vavra

Note: There will be two microphones in the room – One to use if you are "FOR" an amendment and one if you are "AGAINST" an amendment. If you wish to testify on a resolution, please proceed to the appropriate microphone and limit your comments to 2 minutes.

Resolution 1 – Require Watershed District Permits for the Department of Natural Resources

Resolution 2 – Clarify Budget Adoption Deadlines and Certification Types for Watershed Districts

Resolution 3 – Support New Legislation Modeled after HF2687 and SF2419 (2018)
Regarding DNR Regulatory Authority over Public Drainage Maintenance and Repairs

Resolution 4 – Support Streamlining the DNR Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

Resolution 5 – Support Increased Flexibility in Open Meeting Law to Utilize Interactive Technology

Resolution 6 – Support Minnesota Watersheds Education and Outreach to Encourage Formation of Watershed Districts in Unserved Areas

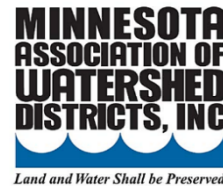
11:45 a.m. **LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM** (Action) – Linda Vavra

12:00 p.m. **ADJOURNMENT**

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD)

Annual Business Meeting

December 2, 2022



1. CALL TO ORDER

The 2022 MAWD Annual Business Meeting was convened at 8:00 a.m. by MAWD President Linda Vavra, Bois de Sioux Watershed District (WD).

2. GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING

Agenda

Scott Gillespie, Bois de Sioux WD made a motion to approve the agenda. David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Secretary's Report

President Vavra presented the minutes of the 2021 Annual Business Meeting. Jill Crafton, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD moved to approve the Secretary's Report. David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

President Vavra presented the following reports:

- 2022 Year End Financial Report and Statement of Financial Position. Dennis Kral, Pelican River WD moved to approve the 2022 Year End Financial Report. David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed upon Financial Procedures. The report dated November 28, 2022, was prepared by Redpath and Company, Ltd. Dennis Kral, Pelican River WD made a motion to accept the Report on Applying Agreed upon Financial Procedures. Sherry White, Minnehaha Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- 2023 Proposed Budget. Dennis Kral, Pelican River WD moved to approve the 2023 Proposed Budget. Sherry White, Minnehaha Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

3. REPORTS

Reports were given by President Vavra and Interim Executive Director Voit.

4. STRATEGIC PLAN

Interim Executive Director Voit presented the Strategic Plan. President Vavra called for a motion to approve the Strategic Plan. Jill Crafton, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan. The motion was seconded by Scott Gillespie, Bois de Sioux WD. The motion carried by voice vote. Mary Texer, Capital Region WD abstained from voting.

5. BYLAWS HEARING

Mike Bradley, Rice Creek WD made a motion to open the Bylaws Hearing. David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

President Vavra reported on the proposed changes to the Bylaws. A motion was made by Mike Bradley, Rice Creek WD to approve the proposed changes to the Bylaws. The motion was seconded by Celia Wirth, Brown's Creek WD. The motion passed by voice vote.

A motion was made by Scott Gillespie, Bois de Sioux WD to close the Bylaws Hearing. David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

6. RESOLUTIONS HEARING

A motion was made by Scott Gillespie, Bois de Sioux WD to open the Resolutions Hearing. The motion was seconded by Peter Fjestad, Buffalo-Red River WD and passed by voice vote. President Vavra presided over the Resolutions Hearing.

Resolution #1 Resolution to Request MAWD Support for Including at Least One MAWD Member on the Minnesota Department of Health's Workgroup to Move Forward, Prioritize, and Implement the Recommendations of the Interagency Report on Reuse of Stormwater and Rainwater in Minnesota.

Don Pereira, Valley Branch WD presented the resolution. Mike Bradley, Rice Creek WD moved to adopt Resolution #1. Celia Wirth, Brown's Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

- **Adopted Resolution 2022-1: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that MAWD supports administratively or legislatively including at least one MAWD member on the Minnesota Department of Health's workgroup to move forward, prioritize, and implement the recommendations of the interagency report on reuse of stormwater and rainwater in Minnesota.

Resolution #2 Resolution Seeking to Request MAWD Support the Passage and Enactment of a State Law that Provides a Limited-Liability Exemption to Commercial Salt Applicators and Property Owners Using Salt Applicators who are Certified Through the Established Salt Certification Program and Follow Best Management Practices

Randy Anhorn and Grace Butler, Nine Mile Creek WD presented the resolution. David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD moved to adopt Resolution #2. Don Pereira, Valley Branch WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

- **Adopted Resolution 2022-2: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that MAWD supports enactment of state law that provides limited liability protection to commercial salt applicators and property owners using salt applicators that are certified through the established state salt-applicator certification program and follow best management practices. Motion passed by voice vote.

Resolution #3 Resolution Seeking Increased Support and Participation for the Minnesota Drainage Work Group

Jamie Beyer, Bois de Sioux WD presented the resolution. Scott Gillespie, Bois de Sioux WD moved to adopt Resolution #3. Peter Fjestad, Buffalo-Red River WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

- **Adopted Resolution 2022-3: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that:
 - MAWD communications increase awareness of the DWG (meeting dates and links, topics, minutes, reports) amongst MAWD members; and
 - MAWD training opportunities strongly encourage participation in the DWG by watershed staff and board managers (for watersheds that serve as ditch authorities or work on drainage projects) – for e.g., add agenda space for DWG member updates, host a DWG meeting as part of a regular MAWD event; and
 - In preparation for MAWD member legislative visits, MAWD staff add a standing reminder for watershed drainage authorities to inform legislators on the existence, purpose, and outcomes of the DWG, and reinforce the legitimacy of the DWG as a multi-faceted problem-solving body; and
 - During MAWD staff BWSR visits, MAWD staff regularly seeks updates on how facilitation of the DWG is leading to improvements for member drainage authorities and conveys this information to MAWD members. The motion passed by voice vote.

Resolution #4 Resolution Seeking Clarification of Watershed District Project Establishment with Government Aid or as Part of a Plan

Jamie Beyer, Bois de Sioux WD presented the resolution. Scott Gillespie, Bois de Sioux WD moved to adopt Resolution #4. Jill Crafton, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

- **Adopted Resolution 2022-4: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that MAWD and BWSR work to clarify Minn. Stat. § 103D.605, Subd. 5.

Resolution #5 Resolution Seeking to Obtain Stable Funding for Projects that Provide Flood Damage Reduction and Natural Resources Enhancement

Dan Money, Two Rivers WD and Nick Tomczik, Nine Mile Creek WD presented the resolution. Scott Gillespie, Bois de Sioux WD moved to adopt Resolution #5. Marcy Weinandt, Rice Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

- **Adopted Resolution 2022-5: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts collaborate with the Red River Watershed Management Board and State Agencies to seek funding from the Minnesota Legislature to provide stable sources of funding through existing or potentially new programs that provide flood damage reduction and/or natural resources enhancements. A suggested sustainable level of funding is \$30 million per year for the next 10 years. The motion passed by voice vote.

Resolution #6 Seeking to Limit Wake Boat Activities that Cause Shoreline Erosion and Reduce the Efficacy of In-lake Phosphorus Control Practices, and Contribute to the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD presented the resolution. Ann Warner, Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD moved to adopt Resolution #6. Grace Butler, Nine Mile Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Resolution # 7 Resolution Seeking to Limit Excessive Use of Groundwater for the Purpose of Water Urban and Suburban Landscapes During Summer Months

David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD presented the resolution. David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD moved to table Resolution #7. Joe Collins, Capitol Region WD seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Resolution #8 Resolution Seeking Increased Flexibility in Open Meeting Law to Utilize Interactive Technology

Jill Crafton and David Ziegler, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD presented the resolution. Mike Bradley, Rice Creek WD moved to adopt Resolution #8. Celia Wirth, Brown's Creek WD seconded the motion. The motion failed.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Dennis Kral, Pelican River WD made a motion to adjourn the annual business meeting at 9:43 a.m. The motion was seconded by Jill Crafton, Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD. The motion passed by voice vote.

Ruth Schaefer
Secretary



Memorandum

DATE: October 27, 2023
TO: Minnesota Watersheds Members
FROM: David Ziegler, Treasurer
RE: **Draft FY23 Financial Statement, Review of Financial Procedure Report, and Proposed FY24 Budget**

It is important to note that the majority of Minnesota Watershed's revenue is generated through payment of dues.

INCOME FY23 ACTUAL

- The FY23 dues were based on the new dues' structure adopted by the membership at the 2022 annual business meeting. We also had increased income from regaining the membership of Mississippi WMO, and High Island Creek and Warroad WDs.
- The increased income for the Annual Conference is due to sponsorships and increased attendance following the pandemic.

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Jan Voit
Executive Director
jvoit@mnwatersheds.com
507-822-0921

INCOME FY23 ACTUAL

Administrative and Program Management

- General Administration – staff: Minnesota Watersheds was supported by contractors in 2023, rather than employees.
- Administrative and Communications Support – Contract: fund paid to Executive Director.
- Event and Communication Management – Contract: funds paid to the Program Manager for managing Minnesota Watersheds events.
- Newsletter formatting, Website, Social Media, etc. – Contract: funds paid to the Program Manager for these tasks.

Legislative Affairs

- Lobbying – Contracted Services: funds paid to lobbyist.

Professional Services

- Legal Fees: funds paid for general legal services.
- Legal Fees – Drainage Work Group: funds paid to represent members at the DWG.
- Accounting and Audit Fees: funds paid to Obremski Ltd. for monthly accounting and bookkeeping services, and to Redpath Ltd. for agreed upon procedures report.
- Insurance: funds paid for insurance coverage for errors and omissions insurance for the Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors, and for general coverage for office, records, and office equipment.

Office Expenses

- Rent: funds paid to Capitol Region WD for storage and office rent.
- Mileage and General Office Expenses: for directors and contractors, as well as office supplies.

Board and Committee Meetings

- Per Diems and Expenses: funds paid to directors for serving on the Board of Directors and Minnesota Watersheds Committees.

Special Projects

- Costs associated with rebranding

Education and Events

- Actual costs incurred for implementing the Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol, Summer Tour, and Annual Conference.



2023 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL PROCEDURE REPORT

The report from Redpath Ltd. for the agreed upon procedures has not been submitted. It will be distributed to members as soon as it is available.

INCOME PROPOSED FY24 BUDGET

- *The estimated dues for FY24 are based upon payment in full by current members with the dues' structure that was approved by the membership in 2022, as well as the dues for returning members Buffalo Creek and Prior Lake Spring Lake WDs.*
- *The estimated income for the annual conference in FY24 is based on actual revenue received in FY19.*
- *The estimated costs for the Legislative Day at the Capitol and Summer Tour are based on actual costs for FY23 with consideration of the increased costs for venues and food likely in 2024.*

EXPENSES PROPOSED FY24 BUDGET

Administration and Program Management

- General Administration – staff: Minnesota Watersheds is supported by contractors, not employees.
- Administrative and Communications Support: projected expense for the Executive Director.
- Event and Communication Management: projected expense for Program Manager for managing Minnesota Watersheds events (Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol; Summer Tour; and Annual Conference).
- Newsletter formatting, website, social media, etc. - Contract: projected expense for Program Manager.

Legislative Affairs

- Lobbyist Contract: for current lobbyist through 2024.
- Lobbyist Contract: for lobbyist hired through succession plan to work alongside the current lobbyist in 2024.

Professional Services

- Legal Fees: costs incurred for legal fees is primarily for general legal work.
- Legal Fees – Drainage Work Group: costs incurred to represent members at the DWG.
- Drainage Work Group – Contract: costs for Minnesota Watersheds representative at DWG meetings and subcommittee meetings.
- Accounting and auditing funds paid to Obremski Ltd. for monthly accounting and bookkeeping services, and to Redpath Ltd. for agreed upon procedures report.
- Insurance coverage for errors and omissions insurance for the Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors, and for general coverage for office, records, and office equipment.

Office Expenses

- Rent: funds paid to Capitol Region WD for storage and office rent.
- Mileage and General Office Expenses: for directors and contractors, as well as office supplies.

Board and Committee Meetings

- Per Diems and Expenses: Funds paid to directors for serving on the Board of Directors and Minnesota Watersheds Committees.

Special projects

- Funds for anticipated costs incurred with surveys, rebranding, or promotional items.

Education and Events

- Estimated costs for implementing the Annual Conference, Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol, Summer Tour, credit card processing fees, and special workshops.

Even with the additional projected expenses for a second lobbyist, we are projecting a modest increase in available capital at the end of FY24.

Questions regarding the FY24 proposed budget and/or the FY22 financial information should be directed to David Ziegler, Treasurer (david_ziegler@outlook.com or 952-905-1889) or Jan Voit (jvoit@mnwatersheds.com or 507-822-0921).

Minnesota Watersheds				Prepared	10/3/2023
DRAFT FY23 Financial Report and Proposed FY24 Budget					
October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024					
	FY2024	FY2023**	FY2023*	FY2022	FY2021
			Oct'22-Sep'23	Oct'21-Sep'22	Oct'20-Sep'21
INCOME	BUDGET	BUDGET	FY 2023 ACTUAL	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2021 ACTUAL
Dues - Watershed District Members	251,008	222,500	225,419	188,081	202,175
Dues - Watershed Management Organization Members	22,500	18,750	22,500	15,000	7,500
Annual Conference					
Annual Conference Registrations	70,000	70,000	114,563	26,836	46,145
Annual Trade Show and sponsorships	43,500	43,500	-	19,779	29,616
Wednesday Workshops	17,000	17,000	-	-	-
Annual Conference: Other/Prior Year	-	-	-	2,500	485
Legislative Day at the Capitol	4,000	6,300	6,913	4,069	2,871
Summer Tour	20,000	16,000	18,658	-	-
Minnesota Watersheds Workshops	2,500	2,500	-	-	-
Interest	25	25	481	53	31
TOTAL REVENUES	430,533	396,575	388,534	256,319	288,823
EXPENSES					
Administration & Program Management					
General Administration - Staff	-	95,000	-	126,390	98,250
Benefits / Taxes for Salaried Employees	-	26,250	-	29,550	25,361
Administrative and Communications Support - Contract**	111,600	40,000	89,708	52,611	8,455
Event and Communication Management - Contract	43,200	43,000	40,719	31,500	31,125
Newsletters, Website, Social Media, etc. - Contract	7,000	-	6,027	-	-
Legislative Affairs					
Lobbying - Contracted Services	45,000	45,000	33,122	40,000	40,000
Lobbying - Contracted Services	30,000	-	-	-	-
Lobbyist Expenses	1,000	1,000	353	314	-
Professional Services					
Legal Fees	25,000	15,000	17,118	25,919	24,763
Legal Fees - Drainage Work Group	7,500	-	5,289	-	-
Drainage Work Group - Contract	5,000	-	-	-	-
Accounting and Audit Fees	15,000	14,100	14,100	10,500	8,150
Insurance	1,700	2,200	2,407	2,067	1,971
Office Expenses					
Rent	4,800	4,800	3,000	4,800	3,600
Mileage and General Office Expenses	10,000	10,000	10,783	5,467	3,514
Dues, Other Organizations	-	-	-	-	385
Other Special Items	2,500	2,500	510	-	500
Memorials	250	250	-	-	-
Board and Committee Meeting					
Per Diems and Expenses - Directors	25,000	25,000	23,724	29,195	20,225
Board and Committee Meeting Expenses	1,000	1,000	-	2,237	172
Special Projects					
WD Handbook, Surveys, rebranding, etc	5,000	5,000	4,466	-	-
Education and Events					
Annual Conference					
Annual Conference	44,500	44,500	60,046	8,744	13,966
Annual Trade Show	3,300	3,300	-	-	495
Wednesday Workshop: Drainage	4,000	4,000	-	-	-
Wednesday Workshop: Managers	1,500	1,500	-	-	-
Wednesday Workshop: Administration	1,200	1,200	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Legislative Day at the Capitol	5,500	5,500	4,508	4,413	-
Summer Tour	20,000	16,000	14,379	852	1,080
Credit Card Processing Fees	4,100	4,100	939	2,807	3,065
Special Workshops	2,500	2,500	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	427,150	412,700	331,197	377,365	285,077
REVENUES OVER (LESS THAN) EXPENSES	3,383	(16,125)	57,337	(121,046)	3,746
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION					
Assets, Cash and Equivalents, actual			270,378	222,050	324,904
Dues receivable			-	911	8,147
Deposits received - deferred, prepaid expenses			(5,959)	(600)	(15,494)
Liabilities, accounts payable, taxes payable			(21,108)	(36,388)	(10,542)
ENDING NET ASSETS			243,311	185,974	307,015
*These are not final numbers and are subject to slight changes. **FY24 Budget approved by Finance Committee on 10/11/2023 and the BOD on 10/23/2023.					



Memorandum

DATE: October 27, 2023
TO: Minnesota Watersheds Members
FROM: Linda Vavra, Minnesota Watersheds President
RE: **Proposed Bylaws Changes**

The Bylaws Committee met on October 16 to discuss proposed Bylaws changes. The proposed changes were also discussed at the Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors (Board) meeting on October 23. Many of the proposed changes are minor and are shown in track changes throughout the document. The reasoning for the more extensive changes are as follows.

- Associate membership. There have been inquiries from non-governmental organizations to become associate members. At present, additional funds from outside organizations are not necessary for our budgetary needs. Representing both government and non-government organizations would be confusing for members and for legislators. The committee and Board recommend that the associate membership section should be removed from the Bylaws.
- Annual meeting. The annual business meeting is what this section is referring to. The directors are elected during regional caucuses. The committee and Board recommend updating this section to refer specifically to the annual business meeting and to reflect more accurately what transpires.
- Chairman and Recording Secretary. The agendas for the regional caucuses denote the election of a chairman and a recording secretary. Very often an administrator or other staff person takes the notes. The committee and Board recommend revising this section to more accurately reflect the procedure that is followed.

Questions regarding these proposed changes should be directed to Linda Vavra at 320-760-1774 or lvavra@fedtel.net or Jan Voit jvoit@mnwatersheds.com or 507-822-0921.

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320-760-1774 | Term 2023

VICE PRESIDENT
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BYLAWS

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF WATERSHED DISTRICTS, INC.

Doing business as Minnesota Watersheds

St. Paul, Minnesota

ARTICLE I.

Offices and Corporate Seal

- 1.1 Official Name. The official name of the corporation is the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc., which conducts business under the registered assumed name of, and is hereinafter referred to as, Minnesota Watersheds.
- 1.2 Purpose. The purpose of Minnesota Watersheds is to provide educational opportunities, access to information resources, interface with other agencies, facilitate tours, meetings, and lobby on behalf of members. Additionally, Minnesota Watersheds will facilitate the exchange of information to help members better comply with governmental regulations and laws while offering an informed interface with the community or communities being served. Minnesota Watersheds will work to secure the capacity of its members to implement their statutory powers and purposes.
- 1.3 Organized. The corporation is organized as a 501(c)(4) organization. Notwithstanding any provision of the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws which may be interpreted to the contrary, Minnesota Watersheds shall not authorize or undertake any actions which jeopardize its status as a 501(c)(4) organization.
- 1.4 Office. The registered office of the corporation shall be designated by the Board of Directors.
- 1.5 Corporate Seal. The corporation shall have no corporate seal.
- 1.6 Manual of Policy and Procedures. The Board of Directors has established a management document identified as the Manual of Policy and Procedures to support the orderly and timely details of regular operation. It may be revised at any time by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II.

Membership

- 2.1 Membership. Each dues-paying watershed district or watershed management organization duly established and in good standing pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B or 103D, shall be entitled to membership in this corporation.
- 2.2 Delegates. Alternates. When a watershed district or watershed management organization becomes a member of this corporation, it shall designate from among its board members two delegates to represent it in this corporation. In addition, each member may designate alternate delegates to represent such member in the absence of any originally designated delegate. Thereafter, each member shall annually designate its delegates and alternate delegates so long as it remains a member in good standing of this corporation.

2.3 Termination of Membership. Any member that has failed to pay its dues is not in good standing and shall be stricken from the membership roll.

2.4 Resignation of Member. Any member may withdraw from this corporation effective immediately by notifying the secretary in writing. Regardless of the date of termination, there shall be no refund of the annual dues paid by the member.

~~2.5 Associate Membership. The Board of Directors may from time to time extend associate membership to this corporation upon payment of dues as determined by the Board of Directors.~~

~~An associate member shall not be entitled to submit resolutions, vote, or serve on the Board of Directors, but shall otherwise be afforded all the rights and privileges granted to members, their delegates and alternate delegates by law and by the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of this corporation.~~

ARTICLE III.

Meetings of Membership

3.1 Annual Business Meeting. An annual meeting of this corporation shall be held ~~to vote for the election of the Board of Directors and~~ to transact such ~~other~~ business as shall properly come before them. Notice of the time and place of such annual meeting shall be mailed, either physically or electronically, by the secretary to all members at least thirty (30) days in advance thereof.

3.2 Special Meeting. Special meetings of the members of the corporation shall be called by the president upon request of a majority of directors of the Board of Directors or upon the written request of one-third of the members of the corporation in good standing. This request shall be in writing addressed to the president or the secretary of the corporation. Within thirty days of receipt of said request, the Board of Directors shall, mail (either physically or electronically) notice of said special meeting to all members. This notice shall state the objective of the meeting and the subjects to be considered.

3.3 Quorum. A majority of the delegates (two per member) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

3.4 Voting. Any action taken by the members shall be by majority vote of the delegates present unless otherwise specifically provided by these Bylaws. Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each delegate present.

ARTICLE IV.

Board of Directors

4.1 General Powers. The business activities of the corporation shall be directed and managed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be authorized to pay officers and directors of the corporation per diem allowances and expenses as may from time to time be submitted to the Board of Directors, and such other expenses as may from time to time be necessary for the furtherance of the corporation's business, consistent with the rate and provisions of watershed board member per diem allowances and expense reimbursement provided in state law. The Board of Directors is authorized to hire and/or contract for services needed.

4.2 Directors to be Elected by Regions. For the purpose of election of the Board of Directors, members are grouped into three regions; three Directors shall be elected from each region, with staggered three-year terms. Members from each region shall elect one director for a three-year term at the

annual business meeting of the Association. No watershed district or watershed management organization shall have more than one board member elected to be a Director on the Board of Directors of the Corporation. In the event of a vacancy on the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors may appoint a member for the remaining term from a watershed district or watershed management organization with an existing representative on the Board of Directors if there are no other candidates from the region requesting appointment to the position. In the event a vacancy is filled by the Board of Directors, such appointment shall be submitted to the regional caucus for approval at the next regional caucus meeting. Regional caucuses shall elect a Chairman and Recording Secretary ~~from its delegates for the purpose of its election procedure and~~ report the election results to the Convention at a designated time. The member watershed districts and watershed management organizations present at the Regional Caucus meeting shall have full authority to elect a Chairman, Recording Secretary, and representatives to the Board of Directors.

- 4.3 Regions. The Board of Directors may re-align the regions or the members contained therein, it being the intent and purpose that each region contain the approximate same number of members. Any watershed district or watershed management organization in Minnesota not presently a member of this corporation, upon admission to membership, will be assigned to a region by the Board of Directors. Regional membership shall be listed in the Manual of Policy and Procedures.
- 4.4 Number, Qualification, and Term of Office. The number of directors constituting the board shall be nine. Each director elected at the annual meeting shall be elected for a three-year term. Directors shall be on the board of a watershed district or watershed management organization member in good standing of this corporation.
- 4.5 Vacancies. If there be a vacancy among the officers of the corporation or among the directors by reason of death, resignation, termination of membership, or removal as provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws, or otherwise or for non-excused absences for three consecutive meetings, such vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Directors until the next Annual Meeting of the Association.
- 4.6 Removal of Directors by Members. At a special meeting of the Board of Directors called solely for that reason, the notice of which meeting shall have been given in writing to members of this board at least thirty days prior thereto and not more than fifty days prior thereto, a super majority of ~~7~~ seven members of this board may remove one or more directors from their term of office without cause.
- 4.7 Meetings, Actions. The Board of Directors shall hold the annual meeting of the Board of Directors immediately after the annual meeting of the members of this corporation, and at such annual meeting shall elect the officers as above provided ~~for~~. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at a time and place to be fixed by resolution or adopted by the majority of the Board of Directors.

The majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum. Directors may participate and vote in Board of Directors meetings by telephone or other electronic means approved by the Board in the Manual of Policy and Procedures.

Actions may be taken by a majority vote of those Directors present or participating by telephone or other electronic means approved by the Board in the Manual of Policy and Procedures. The secretary of the board shall give written or electronic notice to each director at least ten (10) days in advance of any regular or special directors' meeting. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the President of the board or upon demand in writing to the secretary by three (3) directors of the Board

of Directors.

- 4.8 Conflicts of Interest. Members of the Board of Directors shall act at all times in the best interests of the corporation. This means setting aside personal self-interest and performing their duties in transacting the affairs of the corporation in such a manner that promotes public confidence and trust in the integrity, objectivity, and impartiality of the Board. No Director shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from his/her position as such, and Directors shall serve without remuneration other than as provided in Section 4.1 of these Bylaws for the payment for reasonable expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties. The pecuniary interests of immediate family members or close personal or business associates of a ~~Director~~director are considered to also be the pecuniary interest of the ~~Director~~director.
- 4.9 Indemnification. All directors and officers of the corporation shall be indemnified against any and all claims that may be brought against them as a result of action taken by them on behalf of the corporation as provided for and subject to the requirements of Chapter 317A of Minnesota Statutes as amended.

ARTICLE V. Board Officers

- 5.1 Officers and Duties. There shall be four officers of the board, consisting of a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. All officers shall be directors of the corporation. Their terms and duties are as follows:
- 5.2 President. The president shall serve a term of office of one year and may, upon re-election succeed himself/herself for two additional successive terms. The president shall have the following duties:
- Convene and preside over regularly scheduled board meetings.
 - Have general powers and duties of supervision and management as directed by the Manual of Policy and Procedures.
 - Appoint such committees as he/she shall deem necessary with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.
- 5.3 Vice-President. The Vice-President shall serve a term of office of one year and may, upon re-election succeed himself/herself for two additional successive terms. The Vice-President shall have the following duties:
- Assume and perform the duties of the president in case of his/her absence or incapacity; and shall chair committees on special subjects as designated by the President.
 - Have general powers and duties of supervision and management as directed by the Manual of Policy and Procedures.
- 5.4 Secretary. The Secretary shall serve a term of office of one year and may, upon re-election succeed himself/herself for two additional successive terms.

The Secretary shall be responsible for preparing and keeping all records of board actions, including overseeing the taking of minutes at all board meetings, sending out meeting announcements, distributing copies of minutes and the agenda to each board member, and assuring that corporate records are maintained.

- 5.5 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall serve a term of office of one year and may, upon re-election succeed

himself/herself for two additional successive terms.

The treasurer shall chair the finance committee, maintain account of all funds deposited and disbursed, disburse corporate funds as designated by the Board of Directors, assist in the preparation of the budget, collect membership dues, and make financial information available to board members and the public.

ARTICLE VI.

Fiscal Year, Dues and Annual Review of Financial Procedures

- 6.1 Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the corporation shall end on September 30 each year.
- 6.2 Membership Dues. Dues will be determined annually by the Board of Directors as specified in the Manual of Policy and Procedures.
- 6.3 Annual Dues. Annual dues shall be payable in January of each year. If a member's dues are not paid on or before April 30 of each year, such member's name shall be stricken from the membership roll. Reinstatement shall be upon such terms and conditions as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend or defer dues of any newly organized watershed district or watershed management organization that joins this association until such member watershed district or watershed management organization is in actual receipt of its first authorized fund. The Board shall send out the annual dues statement with payment directed to the Minnesota Watersheds accounting firm. The Board of Directors may consider deferring, suspending, or reducing dues to new members or on an individual case basis when an appeal is made by a member because of hardship or funding problems.

- 6.4 Annual Review of Financial Procedures. The Board of Directors of this corporation shall provide for an annual review of financial procedures of all its resources and expenditures. A full report of such review and financial status shall be furnished at each annual meeting of the members. This review will be conducted by an auditing firm selected by the Board of Directors with experience in the field of government and water management. The review results shall be furnished to all members within forty-five days after receipt thereof by the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VII.

Employees

- 7.1 Employees. At the discretion of and under the direction of the Board of Directors, Minnesota Watersheds may choose to hire and administer various employees. Their positions and job expectations shall be individually developed and included in the Manual of Policy and Procedures.

ARTICLE VIII.

Resolutions and Petitions

- 8.1 Resolutions: The Chair of the Minnesota Watersheds Resolutions Committee will send a request for resolutions, along with a form for submission, to the membership at least three months prior to the annual Minnesota Watersheds membership meeting. Resolutions and their justification must be submitted to the Minnesota Watersheds Resolutions Committee in the required format at least two months prior to the annual Minnesota Watersheds membership meeting for committee review and recommendation. The committee will present these resolutions and their recommendations to the Board of Directors and the Minnesota Watersheds membership at least one month prior to the start

of the annual Minnesota Watersheds membership meeting. The Board of Directors may make additional recommendations on each proposed resolution through its board meeting process. This same procedure will be used when policy issues are to be considered at any special Minnesota Watersheds membership meeting.

- 8.2 Petitions: Any member or group of members may submit to the Board of Directors at any time a petition requesting action, support for, rejection of, or additional information on any issue of potential importance to the members. Such petitions require signed resolutions from at least 15 members before a ~~Special~~-special meeting of the membership will be convened.

ARTICLE IX.

Chapters

- 9.1 Chapters. Members may form chapters to further the purposes stated in Article II of the Articles of Incorporation, to carry out policies of the Board of Directors, and to suggest policies for consideration by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X.

Rules of Order

- 10.1 Rules. When consistent with its Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws, the 12th edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of this corporation. For consistency in operation, a copy shall be available for consultation if requested at every scheduled meeting of the and Membership meetings.

ARTICLE XI. Amendments

- 11.1 Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members of this corporation only as provided below.
- 11.2 Annual Meeting. At the annual meeting of the members of this corporation, the Bylaws may be amended by the majority of the members present if there is a quorum at said annual meeting and due notice has been given to the membership of the changes 30 days in advance of the meeting.
- 11.3 Special Meeting. These Bylaws may be amended by the members at a special meeting called for that reason but only by a majority vote of the entire membership of the corporation, and only if there has been thirty days' written notice to all members of such special meeting. Such special meeting may be called upon the request of one-third of the members of this corporation by notice in writing to the secretary or president, which notice shall ask for said special meeting and shall state the proposed Bylaws changes, and upon receipt of such request, the secretary or president must send written, either by mail or electronically, notice of the meeting to the members of this corporation within thirty days of receipt of such request, which shall be not less than thirty days nor more than fifty days of the date of the written notice.

Resolutions Packet



DATE: October 10, 2023
TO: Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors
FROM: Linda Vavra, Resolutions Committee Co-Chair
RE: Resolutions Committee Recommendations

The Resolutions Committee met on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 to review and discuss the resolutions submitted by Minnesota Watersheds members. Their recommendations are as follows.

Resolutions Recommendations

#	Resolution Title	Committee Recommendation
1	Require Watershed District Permits for the Department of Natural Resources	Recommends adoption
2	Clarify Budget Adoption Deadlines and Certification Types for Watershed Districts	Does not recommend adoption; recommends working with boards, staff, and legal counsel to understand and confirm best practices
3	Support New Legislation Modeled after HF2687 and SF2419 (2018) Regarding DNR Regulatory Authority over Public Drainage Maintenance and Repairs	Recommends adoption as amended
4	Support Streamlining the DNR Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	Recommends adoption
5	Support Increased Flexibility in Open Meeting Law to Utilize Interactive Technology	Recommends adoption
6	Support Minnesota Watersheds Education and Outreach to Encourage Formation of Watershed Districts in Unserved Areas	Recommends adoption

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS

RESOLUTION 2023-01

Resolution to Request Minnesota Watersheds Support to Require Watershed District Permits for the Department of Natural Resources

Proposing District: Wild Rice Watershed District
Contact Name: Tara Jensen
Phone Number: 218-784-5501
Email Address: tara@wildricewatershed.org

Background that led to submission of this resolution:

Watershed districts are local, special-purpose units of government that work to solve and prevent water-related problems (Minnesota Watersheds website).

While all other government units, such as states, counties, and cities have political boundaries, because water knows no boundaries and goes where it wants to, it makes sense to manage natural resources on a watershed basis. This type of management allows for an overall, holistic approach to resource conservation (Minnesota Watersheds website).

Watershed district have overall plans that are intended to protect, enhance, manage, and maintain the natural resources of the district in the best interest of the citizens and other stakeholders.

Watershed districts currently have rules and permit requirements that are not intended to delay or inhibit development. Rather permits are needed so that the managers are kept informed of planned projects, can advise and in some cases, provide assistance, and can ensure that land disturbing activity and development occurs in an orderly manner and in accordance with the overall plan for the district.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) owns, operations, and maintains wildlife management areas and other conservation-oriented property within the Wild Rice Watershed District (WRWD).

As part of the operation of this property, the MNDNR periodically does improvements (i.e. wetland restorations, channel modifications, etc.) on their land without going through the process of obtaining a permit from watershed districts, because they are currently not subject to 103D.345. Without requiring a permit, the watershed managers are not assured of being adequately kept informed of planned projects to ensure that land disturbing activity and development occurs in an orderly manner and in accordance with the overall plan for the district.

Ideas for how this issue could be solved:

Minnesota Watersheds could seek legislative authority to amend M.S. Chapter 103D.345, Subd. 5 as follows: Subd. 5. Applicability of permit requirements to state. A rule adopted by the managers that requires a permit for an activity applies to the Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources.

Efforts to solve the problem:

We have spoken with state agency staff. They currently submit permit applications as a courtesy to let us know what works are being completed. Without it being required, we worry that this will not continue forever.

Anticipated support or opposition:

We would anticipate support from watersheds and opposition from the MNDNR.

This issue (check all that apply):

Applies only to our district:	_____	Requires legislative action:	_____
Applies only to 1 or 2 regions:	_____	Requires state agency advocacy:	_____ X _____
Applies to the entire state:	_____ X _____	Impacts MW bylaws or MOPP:	_____

MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS RESOLUTION 2023-01

Resolution to Request Minnesota Watersheds Support to Require Watershed District Permits for the Department of Natural Resources

WHEREAS, discussion was had that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) has engaged in certain activity on property owned by the MNDNR which would require a permit for such activity as being within the scope of an existing rule of the Wild Rice Watershed District (WRWD), but the MNDNR asserts its position that it is exempt from obtaining any such permit; and

WHEREAS, the WRWD has concerns that the non-permitted work being done by the MNDNR on its property impacts other property owners/residents within the district resulting in such impacted property owners/residents having no recourse for water flowing, seeping, or otherwise being cast upon such other owners/residents; and

WHEREAS, the WRWD desires that Minnesota Statutes § 103D.345, Subd. 5 which pertains to the applicability of watershed permit requirements to the state and provides that a rule adopted by the managers that requires a permit for an activity applies to the Department of Transportation should be expanded to include the MNDNR.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Minnesota Watersheds supports amending Minnesota Statutes § 103D.345, Subd. 5 to read as follows: Subd. 5. Applicability of permit requirements to state. A rule adopted by the managers that requires a permit for an activity applies to the Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources.

Notes: This resolution is a resubmission of Resolution 2018-04 which expires in December. The committee recommends adoption.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS

RESOLUTION 2023-02

Resolution Seeking Clarification of Levy and Budget Statutes (103D.911 vs 275.056)

Proposing District: Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District
Contact Name: Dan Coughlin
Phone Number: 320-796-0888
Email Address: dan@mfcrow.org

Background that led to submission of this resolution:

Each year, managers of watershed districts are required to adopt a budget for the following year. The issue facing managers is what deadline for adopting a budget should be followed because the two statutes that apply to a watershed's budgetary process conflict with each other: Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1 and 103D.911, subd. 2. Minn. Stat. § 275.065, commonly referred to as the "Truth in Taxation" statute, requires special taxing districts to "certify to the county auditor the proposed property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year" by September 30. However, Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, subd. 2 states that "on or before September 15 of each year, the managers [of the watershed district] shall adopt a budget for the next year and decide on the total amount necessary to be raised from...tax levies..." These two statutes create a conflict for managers of watershed districts in Minnesota because it is unclear what deadline needs to be followed. However, historically, this was not the case. The Minnesota legislature amendment Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1 in 2014 changed the certification deadline from September 15th to September 30th. As written, the "Truth in Taxation" statutes of Minnesota Chapter 275 would apply to watershed districts. Minn. Stat. 275.066(1) states that the term "special taxing districts" includes "watershed districts under chapter 103D." Minn. Stat. 275.065, subd. 1(e) states that "special taxing district shall have the same meaning as stated in Minn. Stat. 275.066. Because watershed districts are included in the special taxing districts, the watershed districts "shall certify to the county auditor the proposed property tax levy for taxes payable the following year" on or before September 30. Minn. Stat. 275.065, subd. 1(a). The "Truth in Taxation" statute of 275 conflicts with Minn. Stat. 103D.911, subd.2, which requires managers of a watershed district to adopt a budget for the next year *on or before* September 15. The reference to September 15th in Minn. Stat. 103D.911 conflicts with the Truth in Taxation statute because two different statutory deadlines are provided for. To remedy any conflict, it is proposed that Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, subd. 2 be amended to be in harmony with Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1, which allows for a proposed levy to be submitted to the county auditor by September 30th. To ensure consistency, it is suggested that the other provisions of Minnesota Statute Chapter 275 be followed in Minnesota Statute Chapter 103D that, allow for a further discussion on the budget between October and November, with the final approval occurring in December.

In addition to the deadline, there is ambiguity surrounding whether a final budget or preliminary budget needs to be certified to the county auditor by the statutory deadline. Currently, Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, subd. 2 simply states a budget shall be adopted. It does not indicate whether that budget is a final budget or a preliminary budget. By following Minnesota Chapter 275, clear statutory guidance will be given on when the proposed budget needs to be presented, and the final budget needs to be adopted.

Ideas for how this issue could be solved:

It is proposed that Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, subd. 2 be amended to apply the statutory timelines of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 275 to watershed districts.

Efforts to solve the problem:

This has been a question many watershed districts are facing. Many watershed districts have turned to their legal counsel for interpretation. However, it is important that all watershed districts follow a consistent budgetary process to avoid legal issues.

Anticipated support or opposition:

Other watershed districts will likely want to partner with the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District to receive clarification regarding this matter. Both political parties in the State of Minnesota should also want to clarify this ambiguity. Clarity will also benefit the landowners by allowing landowners to be more informed of the budgetary process

through the preliminary property tax levy statements they already are interacting with for township, city, school district and county levy impacts; and would provide another avenue for landowner participation.

This issue (check all that apply):

Applies only to our district:	<u> </u>	Requires legislative action:	<u> X </u>
Applies only to 1 or 2 regions:	<u> </u>	Requires state agency advocacy:	<u> </u>
Applies to the entire state:	<u> X </u>	Impacts MW bylaws or MOPP:	<u> </u>

MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS RESOLUTION 2023-02

Resolution to Clarify Budget Adoption Deadlines and Certification Types for Watershed Districts

WHEREAS, managers of watershed districts in the state of Minnesota are required to annually adopt a budget for the following year; and

WHEREAS, a conflict has arisen due to the divergence between two relevant statutes, namely Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1 (referred to as the "Truth in Taxation" statute) and Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, subd. 2, concerning the deadlines for budget adoption; and

WHEREAS, the "Truth in Taxation" statute, Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1, stipulates that special taxing districts, including watershed districts under chapter 103D (as noted in Minn. Stat. § 275.065 subd. 1(e) and 275.066), must certify the proposed property tax levy for the following year by September 30; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, subd. 2, mandates that managers of watershed districts must adopt a budget for the next year and determine the total amount to be raised from tax levies on or before September 15, leading to a conflict in statutory deadlines; and

WHEREAS, the historical legislative amendment of Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1, in 2014 changed the certification deadline from September 15th to September 30th; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to address this conflict to provide clarity and consistency in the budgetary processes of watershed districts in Minnesota and to offer statutory guidance regarding the type of budget to be certified to the county auditor by the statutory deadline; and

WHEREAS, providing a consistent and understandable property tax levy process for all local units of government with ad valorem taxing authority provides property owners with a greater opportunity to become informed of activities and plans of the governmental units that serve them; and

WHEREAS, bringing watershed district budget and levy processes in line with those of other local units of government provides the added benefit of allowing boards of managers and their support staff to establish and refine their annual budgets in a timeframe closer to the start of their next fiscal year; which should allow for more accurate and detailed information to be utilized as part of the processes used to establish final budgets and to set annual property tax levies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Minnesota Watersheds supports the following:

1. The Minnesota Legislature shall amend Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, subd. 2, to align with Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1, by specifying that managers of watershed districts are required to submit the proposed preliminary property tax levy for the following year to the county auditor on or before September 30th.
2. To ensure uniformity and eliminate ambiguity, the budget adoption process in Minnesota Statute Chapter 103D shall adhere to the provisions outlined in Minnesota Statute Chapter 275, which include submitting the associated preliminary budget by September 30th. Furthermore, this alignment allows for further budget discussions between October and November, with approval of the final budget and associated property tax levy occurring in December, in accordance with the framework provided by Minnesota Statute Chapter 275.
3. The amendment to Minn. Stat. § 103D.911, subd. 2, shall explicitly indicate that the budget to be adopted is the preliminary budget and levy, and this levy shall be certified to the county auditor by September 30th, in line with Minn. Stat. § 275.065, subd. 1. Furthermore, the Board of Managers shall include with its preliminary levy certification materials to county auditors the date, time and location of its final budget and levy public hearing so it can be included as part of a county's proposed property tax notifications to property owners.

Notes: After reviewing the background information and discussing this resolution with MAWA at their meeting on September 27, the following information was submitted. Here is the link to the statute: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/275.065>. The applicable section is included below.

Subd. 6. Adoption of budget and levy.

(a) The property tax levy certified under section [275.07](#) by a city of any population, county, metropolitan special taxing district, regional library district, or school district must not exceed the proposed levy determined under subdivision 1, except by an amount up to the sum of the following amounts:

(1) the amount of a school district levy whose voters approved a referendum to increase taxes under section [123B.63, subdivision 3](#), or [126C.17, subdivision 9](#), after the proposed levy was certified;

(2) the amount of a city or county levy approved by the voters after the proposed levy was certified;

(3) the amount of a levy to pay principal and interest on bonds approved by the voters under section [475.58](#) after the proposed levy was certified;

(4) the amount of a levy to pay costs due to a natural disaster occurring after the proposed levy was certified, if that amount is approved by the commissioner of revenue under subdivision 6a;

(5) the amount of a levy to pay tort judgments against a taxing authority that become final after the proposed levy was certified, if the amount is approved by the commissioner of revenue under subdivision 6a;

(6) the amount of an increase in levy limits certified to the taxing authority by the commissioner of education or the commissioner of revenue after the proposed levy was certified;

(7) the amount required under section 126C.55;

(8) the levy to pay emergency debt certificates under section [475.755](#) authorized and issued after the proposed levy was certified; and

(9) the amount of unallotment under section [16A.152](#) that was recertified under section [275.07, subdivision 6](#).

(b) This subdivision does not apply to towns and special taxing districts other than regional library districts and metropolitan special taxing districts.

(c) Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, the employer is required to meet and negotiate over employee compensation as provided for in chapter 179A.

The Department of Revenue states that the special taxing districts that are subject to Truth in Taxation are limited to the metro.

Towns and special taxing districts (except for the three metropolitan special taxing districts and fire and emergency medical services districts) are not required to hold truth-in-taxation meetings. For towns, under "Meeting Information" it should read "Budget set at your annual town meeting in March 2023." Special taxing districts, other than the metropolitan special taxing districts (if applicable), are not listed under "Meeting Information."

Mark Doneux, Capitol Region WD, submitted the following Analysis and Comparison regarding this subject from his perspective and that of the Ramsey County property tax manager.

103D and 275 Analysis and Comparison

There has been some discussion and questions about 103D and 275 as it pertains to a watershed district levy certification process.

The current 103D.911 and 103D.915 statute is the most straightforward and simple approach for watershed districts to adopt and certify a budget and levy. It would be a disadvantage to be under 275 since watershed districts in multiple counties would then be required to attend multiple TNT hearings and at best add 15 days to the budget and levy process.

Here are the current 103 D statutes:

103D.911 BUDGET.

Subdivision 1. *Hearing.*

(a) Before adopting a budget, the managers shall hold a public hearing on the proposed budget.

(b) The managers shall publish a notice of the hearing with a summary of the proposed budget in one or more newspapers of general circulation in each county consisting of part of the watershed district. The notice and summary shall be published once each week for two successive weeks before the hearing. The last publication shall be at least two days before the hearing.

Subd. 2. *Adoption.*

On or before September 15 of each year, the managers shall adopt a budget for the next year and decide on the total amount necessary to be raised from ad valorem tax levies to meet the watershed district's budget.

103D.915 TAX LEVY.

Subdivision 1. *Certification to auditor.*

After adoption of the budget and no later than September 15, the secretary of the watershed district shall certify to the auditor of each county within the watershed district the county's share of the tax, which shall be an amount bearing the same proportion to the total levy as the net tax capacity of the area of the county within the watershed bears to the net tax capacity of the entire watershed district. The maximum amount of a levy may not exceed the amount provided in section [103D.905](#).

The question of whether watershed districts do fall under the 275 process is yes for September 30th filing deadline. 275.065 clearly state a preliminary levy must be certified by September 30th. See below.

275.065 PROPOSED PROPERTY TAXES; NOTICE.

§Subdivision 1. Proposed levy. (a) Notwithstanding any law or charter to the contrary, on or before September 30, each county, home rule charter or statutory city, town, and special taxing district, excluding the Metropolitan Council and the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission, shall certify to the county auditor the proposed property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year.

The debate comes in when considering if watershed districts are part of the Notice process known as Truth in Taxation (TNT) and the related hearings. Based on statute, 275.065, subd 3 watershed districts are NOT required to part of the Notice or TNT process, nor do we want to be. Subd 3 reads that METROPOLITAN taxing districts are subject to the notice/TNT process. When reviewing paragraph (i) that defined metropolitan taxing districts, it only includes the Metropolitan Council, Metropolitan Airports Commission and the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission.

See Subd 3 paragraph (c) and (i) below.

Subd. 3. Notice of proposed property taxes. (c) a portion of c

*The notice must clearly state for each city that has a population over 500, county, school district, regional library authority established under section 134.201, **metropolitan** taxing districts **as defined in paragraph (i)**, and fire protection and emergency medical services special taxing districts established under section 144F.01, the time and place of a meeting for each taxing authority in which the budget and levy will be discussed and public input allowed, prior to the final budget and levy determination.*

Here is paragraph (i)

*(i) For purposes of this subdivision and subdivision 6, "**metropolitan** special taxing districts" means the following taxing districts in the seven-county metropolitan area that levy a property tax for any of the specified purposes listed below:*

(1) Metropolitan Council under section 473.132, 473.167, 473.249, 473.325, 473.446, 473.521, 473.547, or 473.834;

(2) Metropolitan Airports Commission under section 473.667, 473.671, or 473.672; and

(3) Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission under section 473.711.

In the end, the current 103D statutes provide clear and simple process for adopting a budget and certifying a levy. Whether it's the 15th or 30th of September really makes no difference in preparing the budget and levy for the following year so going to September 30th only adds 15 days. As far as notification of tax levies to tax payers, watershed district budgets are an extremely minor portion of the overall property tax levy. That is why the notification process only seeks cities over 500 population, counties, and school districts. The entities make up the overwhelming majority of the property taxes and their respective levies can only go down after the November hearings.

Notes: The committee does not recommend adoption of this resolution. The committee recommends working with boards, staff, and legal counsel to understand and confirm best practices.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS

RESOLUTION 2023-03

Resolution Seeking Support of New Legislation Modeled after HF2687 and SF2419 (2018) Regarding DNR Regulatory Authority over Public Drainage Maintenance and Repairs

Proposing District: Rice Creek Watershed District
Contact Name: Nick Tomczik, Administrator
Phone Number: 763-398-3079
Email Address: ntomczik@ricecreek.org

Background that led to submission of this resolution:

The State enacted several laws related to water resources after the establishment of the public drainage systems. However, there was a commitment that these laws would not restrict existing rights including those related to the existence of, and obligation to maintain, public drainage systems.

The public waters inventory was never intended to restrict the right to maintain existing drainage systems. The legislature specifically exempted repairs from DNR permitting; gave the DNR a mechanism to ensure proposed work was repair; and directed the DNR to provide for the lawful function of public drainage systems that affected public waters. The DNR also adopted a rule exempting repairs from permitting and announced a policy in 1980 that stated repair of public drainage systems should be allowed without permits.

More recent DNR practices have departed from the 1980 policy and clear language in both statute and rule. The agency has increasingly required permits, approvals, and conditions contrary to current law and the 1980 policy. The DNR issued a new guidance document in February 2018 that was intended to provide clarity for both DNR staff and drainage authorities on the role of the DNR regarding public drainage activities (particularly repairs). This guidance has had the opposite effect, creating more uncertainty, expense, and delays in the public waters regulatory program and for drainage system repairs.

HF2687 and SF2419 were introduced during the 2018 legislative session to reinforce the protections given to drainage system repairs. These bills were placed on hold in committee when the DNR issued its new guidance that would address the concerns that drainage authorities had with its current practices (relating to permitting and permission requirements for work affecting public waters). Though these bills were never withdrawn by their authors, they require reintroduction for reconsideration.

The DNR policy and its implementation of that policy do not adequately address drainage authority concerns. Reintroduction and approval of new legislation modeled after HF2687 and SF2419 would reinforce in clear terms the DNR's role in drainage system repairs.

Ideas for how this issue could be solved:

Current disagreements about the DNR's jurisdiction could be resolved through protracted litigation (the least desirable course of action) or by clear legislative directives. New legislation, modeled after HF2687 and SF2419, will provide this clear legislative directive. The legislation would reinforce existing law regarding the DNR and the drainage authorities' roles and responsibilities when maintaining the public drainage systems and reduce the unnecessary expenditure of dollars by the Drainage Authority (passed by statute to landowners) and DNR.

Use draft bill language modeled after HF2687 and SF2419 with suggested amendments to introduce new legislation. Documents are attached to this resolution.

Attachments:

- 1- Proposed amendment to 103E.701
- 2- Proposed amendment to 103G.225
- 3- Proposed amendment to 103G.245

4- Revised SF 2419 bill language

To advance this legislation, we ~~recommend Minnesota Watersheds engage with the Drainage Work Group (DWG) to prioritize this topic for DWG deliberation in 2024. If consensus cannot be reached by the DWG in 2024,~~ we recommend Minnesota Watersheds, along with partner organizations such as the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), work with cooperating legislators to draft and introduce new bills in the 2025 legislative session.

Efforts to solve the problem:

RCWD representatives have met with DNR staff leadership multiple times since 2018 regarding the lack of clarity and consistency in DNR's role on public drainage system repairs across the State. This engagement resulted in the DNR issuing Letters of Permission for two RCWD drainage repair projects, only to rescind the Letters of Permission months later noting that permission was unnecessary. PDA engaged with DNR, yet DNR continues inconsistent jurisdictional response.

A similar resolution was proposed and adopted by MAWD in 2018. This resolution is sunseting in 2023. We are unaware of any actions from MAWD / Minnesota Watersheds that resulted from that resolution.

Anticipated support or opposition from other governmental units?

Wild Rice Watershed District is supportive of this resolution. All public drainage authorities (counties, watershed districts) should support this legislation. Non-governmental environmental organizations in the state and the DNR may oppose this legislation.

This issue (check all that apply):

Applies only to our district:	_____	Requires legislative action:	_____ X _____
Applies only to 1 or 2 regions:	_____	Requires state agency advocacy:	_____
Applies to the entire state:	_____ X _____	Impacts MW bylaws or MOPP:	_____

103E.701 REPAIRS.

Subd. 2. Repairs affecting public waters.

A. Where as-built records, ~~reestablished~~reestablished records under section 103E.101, subd. 4a, or prior concurrence of the commissioner exist, the Drainage authority may proceed with a drainage system repair consistent with the definition above without further concurrence, review or permission of the commissioner under section 103E.011, subd. 3.

B. Where as-built records, ~~reestablished~~reestablished records under section 103E.101, subd. 4a, or prior concurrence of the commissioner do not exist, ~~B~~Before a repair is ordered, the drainage authority must notify the commissioner if the repair ~~may affect~~will be conducted in, through or adjacent to public waters. Notice to the commissioner must include the proposed repair design and configuration. Within 60 days of notice, the commissioner must concur or non-concur that the proposed repair is, in fact, repair as defined in this section. Failure of the commissioner to concur or non-concur with the repair design and configuration within 60 days shall be deemed concurrence. If the commissioner ~~disagrees non-concurs~~ with the repair design and configuration~~depth~~, the engineer, a representative appointed by the director, and a soil and water conservation district technician must jointly determine authorized repair as defined in this section~~the repair depth~~ using existing records and evidence, including, but not limited to, applicable aerial photographs, soil borings or test pits, culvert dimensions and invert elevations, and bridge design records.~~soil borings, field surveys, and other available data or appropriate methods.~~ Costs for determining the repair ~~depth~~design and configuration beyond the initial meeting must be shared equally by the drainage system and the commissioner. The determined repair design and configuration~~depth~~ must be recommended to the drainage authority. The drainage authority may accept the joint recommendation and proceed with the repair.

C. Commissioner concurrence with repair design and configuration or drainage authority acceptance of a repair design and configuration recommendation shall constitute permission of the commissioner under section 103E.011, subd. 3.

103G.225 STATE WETLANDS AND PUBLIC DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

If the state has inventoried and designated public water courses, basins or wetlands on or adjacent to existing public drainage systems, the state shall consider the use of the public waters ~~wetlands~~ as part of the drainage system. If the commissioner's desired management or protection of public waters ~~wetlands~~ interfere with or prevent the authorized functioning of the public drainage system, the state shall provide for necessary work to allow proper use and maintenance of the drainage system while still preserving the public waters wetlands.

103G.245 WORK IN PUBLIC WATERS.

Subd. 2.Exceptions.

A public-waters-work permit is not required for:

(1) work in altered natural watercourses that are part of drainage systems established under chapter 103D or 103E if the work in the waters is undertaken according to chapter 103D or 103E;

(2) repair of a public drainage system lawfully established under Minnesota Statutes, chapters 103D and or 103E, and sponsored by the public drainage authority consistent with the definition of "repair" in Minnesota Statutes, section 103E.701, subdivision 1.

(3) a drainage project for a drainage system established under chapter 103E that does not substantially affect public waters; or

(34) culvert restoration or replacement of the same size and elevation, if the restoration or replacement does not impact a designated trout stream.

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETIETH SESSION

S.F. No. 2419

(SENATE AUTHORS: WESTROM, Weber, Eken, Sparks and Ingebrigtsen)

DATE
05/21/2017

D-PG
5448

OFFICIAL STATUS
Introduction and first reading
Referred to Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to natural resources; clarifying public waters and public drainage system
- 1.3 laws; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 103E.701, subdivision 2;
- 1.4 103G.225; 103G.245, subdivision 2.
- 1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 103E.701, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- 1.7 Subd. 2. **Repairs affecting public waters.** (a) Where as-built records, reestablished
- 1.8 records under section 103E.101, subdivision 4a, or prior concurrence of the commissioner
- 1.9 exists, the drainage authority may proceed with a drainage system repair as provided in this
- 1.10 section without further concurrence, review, or permission of the commissioner under
- 1.11 section 103E.011, subdivision 3.
- 1.12 (b) Where as-built records, reestablished records under section 103E.101, subdivision
- 1.13 4a, or prior concurrence of the commissioner does not exist, before a repair is ordered, the
- 1.14 drainage authority must notify the commissioner if the repair ~~may affect~~ will be conducted
- 1.15 in, through, or adjacent to public waters. Notice to the commissioner must include the
- 1.16 proposed repair design and configuration. Within 60 days of notice, the commissioner must
- 1.17 concur or not concur that the proposed repair is, in fact, repair as provided in this section.
- 1.18 Failure of the commissioner to concur or not concur with the repair design and configuration
- 1.19 within 60 days is deemed concurrence. If the commissioner ~~disagrees~~ does not concur with
- 1.20 the repair ~~depth~~ design and configuration, the engineer, a representative appointed by the
- 1.21 director, and a soil and water conservation district technician must jointly determine the
- 1.22 repair ~~depth~~ allowed under this section using soil borings, field surveys, and other available
- 1.23 data or appropriate methods existing records and evidence, including but not limited to
- 1.24 applicable aerial photographs, soil borings, test pits, culvert dimensions, invert elevations,

and bridge design records. Costs for determining the repair ~~depth~~ design and configuration beyond the initial meeting must be shared equally by the drainage system and the commissioner. The determined repair ~~depth~~ design and configuration must be recommended to the drainage authority. The drainage authority may accept the joint recommendation and proceed with the repair.

(c) The commissioner's concurrence with repair design and configuration or the drainage authority or an accepted joint recommendation acceptance of a repair design and configuration recommendation under this subdivision constitutes permission of the commissioner under section 103E.011, subdivision 3.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 103G.225, is amended to read:

103G.225 STATE WETLANDS PUBLIC WATERS AND PUBLIC DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

If the state ~~owns~~ has inventoried and designated public water courses, basins, or public waters wetlands on or adjacent to existing public drainage systems, the state shall consider the use of the public waters wetlands as part of the drainage system. If the commissioner's desired management or protection of public waters wetlands interfere with or prevent the authorized functioning of the public drainage system, the state shall provide for necessary work to allow proper use and maintenance of the drainage system while still preserving the public waters wetlands.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 103G.245, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Exceptions.** A public-waters-work permit is not required for:

(1) work in altered natural watercourses that are part of drainage systems established under chapter 103D or 103E if the work in the waters is undertaken according to chapter 103D or 103E;

(2) repair of a public drainage system lawfully established under chapters 103D or 103E and sponsored by the public drainage authority as provided in section 103E.701;

(3) a drainage project for a drainage system established under chapter 103E that does not substantially affect public waters; or

~~(3)~~ (4) culvert restoration or replacement of the same size and elevation, if the restoration or replacement does not impact a designated trout stream.

Wild Rice Watershed District

11 5th Ave East · Ada MN 56510 · Phone (218) 784-5501 · Fax (218) 784-2459 · www.wildricewatershed.org

September 13, 2023

Rice Creek Watershed District
4325 Pheasant Ridge Drive NE, Suite 611
Blaine, MN 55449

RE: WILD RICE WATERSHED DISTRICT SUPPORT OF MN WATERSHEDS 2023
RESOLUTION

Dear Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD):

The Wild Rice Watershed District (WRWD) Board of Managers had considered the MN Watersheds 2023 Resolution – *Support of New Legislation Modeled After HF2687 and SF2419 (2018) Regarding DNR Regulatory Authority over Public Drainage Maintenance and Repairs* (hereafter “MN Watersheds Resolution”) at Exhibit “A,” which has been adopted by the RCWD Board of Managers.

This letter, executed by the undersigned Chairman of the WRWD Board of Managers, on behalf of the WRWD Board of Managers, is being sent in support and agreement with the terms of the MN Watersheds Resolution regarding the commitment of lobbying efforts toward the passage of legislation modeled after HF2687 and SF2419 in subsequent legislative sessions.

Sincerely,



GREG HOLMVIK

Chairman – Wild Rice Watershed District Board of Managers

MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS RESOLUTION 2023-03

Resolution Seeking Support of New Legislation Modeled After HF2687 and SF2419 (2018) Regarding DNR Regulatory Authority over Public Drainage Maintenance and Repairs

WHEREAS, many watershed districts are drainage authorities 103E for all public drainage systems within their jurisdictional boundaries pursuant to the statute chapter; and

WHEREAS, statute chapter 103E places an obligation on drainage authorities to maintain public drainage systems on behalf of benefitted landowners; and

WHEREAS, courts have identified the rights of benefitted landowners to have public drainage systems maintained as a property right; and

WHEREAS, the State enacted laws related to water resources after the establishment of the public drainage systems with the commitment that these laws would not restrict existing rights to maintain public drainage systems; and

WHEREAS, DNR practices have departed from past policy and extended beyond the limits of its authority by regulating, permitting, and restricting drainage system repairs; and

WHEREAS, HF2687 and SF2419 were introduced during the 2018 legislative session to restate the protections given to drainage system repairs and were placed on hold in committee to await new DNR guidance that would address the concerns of the drainage authorities; and

WHEREAS, the DNR issued guidance in February 2018 that did not address the public drainage authority concerns and has created more uncertainty, expense, and delays in the public waters regulatory program and for drainage system repairs; and

WHEREAS, Though HF2687 and SF2419 were never withdrawn by their authors, the biennial legislative process requires that they be reintroduced for consideration.

WHEREAS, legislation modeled after HF2687 and SF2419 does not eliminate DNR or public input on repair depths; rather it clarifies how and when this is to occur in the process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Minnesota Watersheds supports the introduction of new legislation, modeled after HF2687 and SF2419, ~~commits its staff to vetting this topic through the Drainage Work Group in 2024, and commits its lobbying efforts toward promoting the passage of the bills in subsequent sessions.~~

Notes: The committee recommends adoption of this resolution.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS

RESOLUTION 2023-04

Resolution Seeking Action for Streamlining the DNR Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

Proposing District: Two Rivers Watershed District
Contact Name: Dan Money, Administrator
Phone Number: 218-843-3333
Email Address: dan.money@tworiverswd.com

Background that led to the submission of this resolution:

DNR's Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant program is authorized under MN Statute 103F. There is currently a lack of openness and transparency on the part of DNR in managing this program. There is lack of communication to grant applicants regarding how their project is scored, ranked, and prioritized for funding. Some of the projects have been waiting more than five years for funding, with little to no communication from DNR as to their status.

There is also a lack of information regarding DNR's and the Legislature's intent to fund applications to this program. Funding for the program relies on the legislative bonding cycle (See attached Analysis of Funds Allocated and Concerns about FHMP process). For example, in 2022-2023 there were requests for over \$150 million from this program. However, the DNR's request to the legislature to fund the program is typically in the range of only \$20 million. At that pace, it would take over eight years to fund the projects currently on the list, and longer considering future new applications. Some projects have already been on the list for seven or more years and have not been funded. DNR does not communicate with applicants as to project status, and they do not seem to have a plan to fund projects and move them to construction.

Ideas for how this issue could be solved:

- Work with DNR to rectify the communication problem. Scoring, ranking, and funding priority should be more transparent so applicants know where they stand from year to year.
- Work with the legislature to promote the program and point out its social, economic, and scientific impacts. Most of the projects, and especially those in the Red River Basin, contain not only flood control elements, but also natural resources enhancement components. Minnesota Watersheds should promote the concept of fully funding the program with the intent to complete projects that qualify and are on the DNR list within two to four years of eligibility.
- Work with partners like cities, counties, and watershed management organizations to seek changes to program management.

Efforts to solve the problem:

- The Red River Watershed Management Board has met with partner organizations to identify the problem and help gain support. General support for streamlining and funding the program has been communicated.
- The RRWMB has been meeting with DNR representatives from northwest Minnesota to discuss the program and potential solutions. They have indicated a willingness to address some of the issues raised and have developed a workplan to help improve the program delivery (see attached FHM Work Plan). However, more work needs to be done to further address the issues.

Anticipated support or opposition:

Partners could be counties, cities, WMOs, and the RRWMB. Not sure about opposition.

This issue (check all that apply):

Applies only to our district:	_____	Requires legislative action:	_____ (X)
Applies only to 1 or 2 regions:	_____	Requires state agency advocacy:	_____ X
Applies to the entire state:	_____ X	Impacts MW bylaws or MOPP:	_____

Concerns About the FHMP Process

- ▶ Lack of openness/transparency – and little coordination and communication with local government.
 - ▶ DNR coordination with other agencies – how does this work.
 - ▶ Only 1 full-time staff designated by DNR for FHMP administration – some administrative assistance is available.
 - ▶ Limited or no information about:
 - Scoring and ranking process by DNR.
 - Internal DNR processes and procedures.
 - Who final decision-makers are at DNR.
 - How DNR develops its preliminary and final recommendations to fund the FHMP for Governor's budget.
 - ▶ Limited communication and promotion of the FHMP by DNR at legislature.
- ▶ FHMP gets lost in the shuffle during the state budget process.
 - ▶ Inadequate and inconsistent funding by the legislature:
 - Affects timing and coordination of other local, state, and federal funds to construct water storage/flood mitigation projects.
 - Places increased pressure on local government to fund FHM – WSPs through local taxes.
 - Inflation!
 - ▶ Continued deferred FHMP funding reduces local government's ability to meet climate resiliency goals/reduce downstream impacts.
 - ▶ Everyone wants water storage – but no one wants to fund it consistently and adequately.

FHM Program Improvement Work Plan - MN DNR

Updated 06-16-2023

Project Name: Flood Hazard Mitigation (FHM) Grant Assistance Program Communication and Delivery Improvement Project

Project Goal: A transparent funding award process, where DNR and stakeholders have ready access to and better understanding of program history, funding eligibility, application and prioritization process, and allocation of appropriations in each funding cycle.

Planned Activities:

Task	Notes	Status
Post relevant existing FHM program information on DNR's website, FHM program page	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program history• List of current unmet needs• Allocation of past appropriations• Map of Projects• FAQ• Explanation of funding process and prioritization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DONE• DONE• DONE• Updated (not on web yet)• TBD• In progress
Obtain input on FHM program from interested stakeholders and post on web.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct LGU survey. See survey questions and responses.• Conduct LGU listening sessions. See listening session questions and notes.• Complete FHM Grant Assistance Program 2021 Survey and Listening Sessions Results Summary and post on web.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DONE• DONE• DONE
Internal As-Is Process Description and Review - SOPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop Standard Operating Procedures and supporting documents for DNR's internal, Land Use Programs (LUP) OneNote Manual.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nearing completion
Update current FHM application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update application to include narrative of program history, goals, eligibility, expansion of project prioritization based upon criteria established in law.• Draft application to be shared with internal and external stakeholders for review and comment prior to finalization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internal draft under review
Develop internal prioritization form based on prioritization criteria in statute and aligned with updated application form.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collect and review two to three scoring systems used by other grant programs in MN and/or other states.• Develop internal prioritization process. Recognize need for flexibility in working with funding directives from Legislature, statutory requirements, applicant needs, timing and practical implementation considerations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DONE collecting other scoring systems. Need to finish review.• TBD
Continue to get input and identify areas for improvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine timeline and process for periodic review of the FHM program and necessary updates to FHM materials. Once established, this will be an ongoing program maintenance task.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initiate once elements above are completed.



ANALYSIS OF FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM IN MINNESOTA – 1988 TO 2020

The Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) analyzed statewide allocations to the Flood Hazard Mitigation Program (FHMP) using data available from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The data used for this analysis is titled "History of Flood Hazard Mitigation Funding Allocations" is available on the DNR's website at this location:

https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/flood_damage/index.html

Data is available from 1988 to 2020 and below are facts about the FHMP:

- The FHMP started in 1988, has been in existence for over 34 years, with \$2 million being allocated the first year.
- FHMP funds are administered by the DNR and are pass through to Local Governmental Units (LGU) statewide including watershed districts, counties, cities, and townships.
- Since 1988, the FHMP has allocated \$516,819,885 to LGUs.
- No funds were allocated to the FHMP in 1989, 1992, 1996, 2004, 2016, 2019, 2021, and 2022.
- Of the 26 years that funds have been allocated to the FHMP, the average allocation is \$19,877,688 for statewide flood mitigation projects and efforts.
- The table below illustrates how funds have been allocated to LGUs statewide from 1988 to 2020 for the FHMP. A pie chart is also included on the next page depicting this information.

Entity Receiving FHMP Funds Statewide: 1988 to 2020	Amount of Total FHMP Allocations Received Statewide: 1988 to 2020	Percent of Total FHMP Allocations Statewide: 1988 to 2020
Watershed Districts	\$ 73,555,299.00	14.23%
Counties	\$ 34,155,509.00	6.61%
Cities	\$ 377,638,611.00	73.07%
Townships	\$ 30,734,747.00	5.95%
Other*	\$ 735,719.00	0.14%
TOTALS	\$ 516,819,885.00	100%

*Includes FHMP administration funds for the DNR to manage the program.

Contact: For more information, contact RRWMB Executive Director Robert L. Sip via email at rob.sip@rrwmb.us or by cell at 218-474-1084.

February 3, 2023



INFLATION IMPACTS ON CONSTRUCTION OF WATER STORAGE PROJECTS IN THE RED RIVER BASIN

The Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) uses the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Civil Works Construction Cost Index (CWCCI) to adjust for inflation. The CWCCI is used by the RRWMB to set cost-share rates for member watershed districts when constructing Water Storage Projects (WSP) in the Red River Basin of Minnesota. USACE updates the CWCCI at the end of each federal fiscal year, which is September 30. Below is information from 2000 to 2022 illustrating how the CWCCI has changed annually (*The 2021 index listed is the value published in fall of 2021 – USACE later revised the 2021 value to 984.80). Specific RRWMB information related to inflationary impacts is included on the [next page](#).

At end of Federal Fiscal Year	Index (CWCCI)	Change From Prior Year
2000	497.07	
2001	503.52	1.3%
2002	517.46	2.8%
2003	529.95	2.4%
2004	571.29	7.8%
2005	608.36	6.5%
2006	641.91	5.5%
2007	673.52	4.9%
2008	716.54	6.4%
2009	703.00	-1.9%
2010	724.17	3.0%
2011	756.48	4.5%
2012	773.75	2.3%
2013	787.64	1.8%
2014	804.05	2.1%
2015	804.97	0.1%
2016	810.92	0.7%
2017	835.57	3.0%
2018	862.56	3.2%
2019	888.57	3.0%
2020	897.19	1.0%
2021	971.10	*
2022	1120.25	15.4%

Key Facts Related to Construction of Water Storage in Minnesota:

- The Flood Hazard Mitigation Program (FHMP) is a primary funding source for WSPs and flood mitigation statewide.
- The FHMP is managed by the MN DNR and funds are pass-through to local government across the state of Minnesota.
- One bonding bill of \$17.6 million has been approved in the last 4 years to fund WSPs and flood mitigation efforts statewide.
- The current known need for FHMP funding is approximately \$150 million according to MN DNR data and information as of May 2022.
- Bills of more than \$156 million have been introduced for flood mitigation and WSPs as of February 1, 2023.
- Inconsistent FHMP funding affects timing and coordination of other local, state, and federal funds to construct WSPs/flood mitigation projects.
- Inadequate funds allocated to the FHMP place increased pressure on local government to fund WSPs through local taxes.
- Continued deferred FHMP funding reduces local government's ability to meet climate resiliency goals/reduce downstream impacts.

The table below illustrates cost increases using the USACE CWCCI from 2022 to 2023 for the RRWMB's member watershed districts to construct WSPs/flood mitigation projects. The cost estimate for the WSPs was approximately \$49 million in 2022 and when applying the CWCCI, costs have risen significantly. For 2023, the bonding request is \$73 million for the RRWMB's membership.

	2022 RRWMB Cost Estimates	2021 CWCCI 8.20%	2022 CWCCI 15.40%	2023 RRWMB Bonding Request
Project				
Redpath Impoundment	\$ 15.4000	\$ 16.9400	\$ 19.3116	\$ 19.2289
City of Perley	\$ 0.6250	\$ 0.6875	\$ 0.7837	\$ 0.6250
Nelson Slough	\$ 4.1500	\$ 4.5650	\$ 5.2041	\$ 11.2580
Lilac Ridge	\$ 3.0000	\$ 3.3000	\$ 3.7620	\$ 8.2500
City of Newfolden	\$ 4.6680	\$ 5.1348	\$ 5.8536	\$ 6.5000
Roseau Lake Bottom	\$ 7.0000	\$ 7.7000	\$ 8.7780	\$ 8.7404
Whitney Lake	\$ 1.0000	\$ 1.1000	\$ 1.2540	\$ 1.2486
Klondike Clean Water Retention	\$ 13.5000	\$ 14.8500	\$ 16.9290	\$ 16.8565
TOTAL	\$ 49.3430	\$ 54.2773	\$ 61.8761	\$ 72.7074

Readiness: All these WSPs are ready to receive funding through the FHMP to get to the finish line. Construction will allow projects to come "on-line" to meet local, regional, and international goals for climate resiliency, water storage, and natural resources goals in the Red River Basin.

New Water Storage: Approximately 100,000 acre-feet of new water storage will be created when the projects below are constructed by RRWMB membership.

Flow Reduction Strategy: The Red River Basin has adopted a 20% flow reduction strategy to reduce flood flows in the Red River. The RRWMB has adopted this strategy.

Farmland Flood Damage Reduction Goal: The Red River Basin also has the goal of providing protection against 10-year summer storm events for intensively farmed agricultural land and 25-year events when feasible.

Current Financial Investments: The RRWMB calculates that \$50 million has been invested in these projects. More detailed information about the projects below can be provided upon request and cost information is in millions of dollars.

Contact: For more information, contact RRWMB Executive Director Robert L. Sip via email at rob.sip@rrwmb.us or via cell at 218-474-1084.

February 6, 2023

MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS RESOLUTION 2023-04

Resolution Seeking Action for Streamlining the DNR Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

WHEREAS, severe flooding is known to occur repeatedly within the State of Minnesota, costing both public and private entities millions of dollars for repair and replacement of infrastructure, damage to homes, erosion and sediment control, and damage to cropland; and

WHEREAS, flooding also has severe and repeated impacts to water quality from erosion, sedimentation, nutrient loading, raw sewage discharges, and chemical spillage; and

WHEREAS, the DNR's Flood Damage Reduction Grant program (FHMG) under Minnesota Statutes 103F has been a successful tool for local governments to utilize to design and build projects to reduce and prevent flooding, protect the environment, and prevent social and economic losses; and

WHEREAS, the DNR's FHMG has historically not been funded adequately by the Legislature, nor have projects been scored, ranked, and prioritized adequately by the DNR; and

WHEREAS, the cost of construction has increased by nearly 28% over the past for years, however in the same time period the legislature has only provided funding (totaling \$17.6 million) in one of those years; and

WHEREAS, proposed flood damage reduction projects that are endorsed by the Red River Flood Damage Reduction Work Group are multi-purpose projects that provide climate resiliency, protection and enhancement of natural resources, habitat for fish and macroinvertebrates, and address water quality impairments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Minnesota Watersheds adopt a resolution seeking action requiring the DNR to establish transparent scoring, ranking, and funding criteria for the Flood Hazard Mitigation Program (M.S. Chapter 103F) and asking the Minnesota Legislature to fully fund the state's share of eligible projects that are on the DNR's list within each two-year bonding cycle. Information regarding scoring, ranking, and funding should be provided annually to project applicants.

Notes: Funding for flood damage reduction and flood hazard mitigation is important to our members. I believe this resolution will be supported by our members.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS RESOLUTION 2023-05

Resolution Seeking Increased Flexibility in Open Meeting Law to Utilize Interactive Technology

Proposing District: Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District
Contact Name: Terry Jeffery, Interim District Administrator
Phone Number: 952-807-6885
Email Address: tjeffery@rpbcwd.org

Background that led to the submission of this resolution:

Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Open Meeting Law, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13, was revised by the 2021 Minnesota Session Laws to provide increased flexibility for participation in public meetings by telephone and interactive technology. The revisions to Minnesota Statutes Sections 13D.02 and 13D.021 provide for this additional flexibility in the event that a health pandemic or emergency is declared under Chapter 12 of Minnesota Statutes. When the health pandemic or emergency is no longer declared, the standard, non-emergency meeting participation and notice requirements for remote participation by a member of a public body apply.

The standard, non-emergency language in the Open Meeting Law allows a member of a public body board to remotely attend and participate in a public meeting using interactive technology, provided that participation is from a public and publicly noticed location (13D.02 Subdivision 1 (5)); and 2). A member may participate remotely from a nonpublic location in a public meeting up to three times in a calendar year due to military deployment or medically documented personal health reasons.

Many public bodies, including watershed districts, successfully used interactive technology to conduct business, including public meetings, during the pandemic. Benefits to using these platforms that went beyond health and safety included reduced travel costs and time for the public and the organizations using the platform; increased opportunities for public engagement; lower barriers to public engagement; and increased equity and opportunity for potential leaders and participants.

This proposed resolution declares Minnesota Watersheds support for changes to the Open Meeting Law that would eliminate the requirement that public body board members participating in a meeting remotely by interactive technology be in a public and publicly noticed location, and the limitation on the number of times a member may participate remotely in a calendar year. It requires public bodies to provide members of the public access to public meetings using interactive technology at the regular meeting location, at which at least one representative of the public body must be present. It requires that the public be provided the opportunity to offer public comment during the meeting from remote locations or the regular meeting location. It further requires that a public body conducting public meetings under the revised Open Meeting Law must publish procedures for conducting meetings using interactive technology to put its members and the public on notice.

Ideas for how this issue could be solved:

Revise Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02 to eliminate the limitation on a member of a public body's remote participation in public meetings by interactive technology, and eliminate the requirement that the location of the member be public and noticed as such; provide opportunity for public participation by interactive technology at the regular meeting location; and require a public body that conducts a public meeting using interactive technology to publish procedures for conducting meetings using interactive technology.

All other requirements of the Open Meeting Law would continue to apply to ensure public access and transparency, including, but not limited to: roll call voting; public comment; ability to be seen and heard; public notice; representation by a member or designated representative at the regular meeting location; and recording and posting of public meeting minutes.

Efforts to solve the problem:

The District has discussed trends in interactive technology use by watershed districts and other public bodies, as well as anticipated legislative action, with its attorneys. The District has no state agency, legislative, or county responses to report.

Anticipated support or opposition:

The District anticipates support from organizations that experienced benefits from use of interactive technology for their public meetings that would like to continue to use the flexibility of interactive technology. The District also anticipates public support for the continued use of interactive technology, which has expanded access to public meetings.

Opposition may come from advocates for the existing Open Meeting Law.

This issue (check all that apply):

Applies only to our district:	_____	Requires legislative action:	_____X_____
Applies only to 1 or 2 regions:	_____	Requires state agency advocacy:	_____maybe_____
Applies to the entire state:	_____X_____	Impacts MW bylaws or MOPP:	_____

RILEY PURGATORY BLUFF CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT PROPOSAL TO AMEND Minnesota States Section 13D.02 as follows:

13D.02 OTHER ENTITY MEETINGS BY INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY.

Subdivision 1. **Conditions.**

(a) A meeting governed by Section 13D.01, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, and 5, and this section may be conducted by interactive technology so long as:

(1) all members of the body participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear and see one another and can hear and see all discussion and testimony presented at any location at which at least one member is present;

(2) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the body can hear and see all discussion and testimony and all votes of members of the body;

(3) at least one member of the body, chief legal counsel, or chief administrative officer is physically present at the regular meeting location where participation by interactive technology is available to members of the body and public present, unless participation at the regular meeting location is not practical or prudent under Section 13D.021; and

(4) all votes are conducted by roll call so each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded; ~~and~~

~~(5) each location at which a member of the body is present is open and accessible to the public.~~

(b) A meeting satisfies the requirements of paragraph (a), although a member of the public body participates from a location that is not open or accessible to the public, ~~if the member has not participated more than three times in a calendar year from a location that is not open or accessible to the public, and:~~

~~(1) the member is serving in the military and is at a required drill, deployed, or on active duty; or~~

~~(2) the member has been advised by a health care professional against being in a public place for personal or family medical reasons. This clause only applies when a state of emergency has been declared under section 12.31, and expires 60 days after the removal of the state of emergency.~~

Subdivision 4. **Notice of regular and all member locations.**

If interactive technology is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the public body shall provide notice of the regular meeting location, ~~and notice of any location where a member of the public body will be participating in the meeting by interactive technology, except for the locations of members participating pursuant to subdivision 1, paragraph (b).~~ The timing and method of providing notice must be as described in section 13D.04.

Subdivision 6. **Record.**

The minutes for a meeting conducted under this section must reflect the names of any members appearing by interactive technology, ~~and state the reason or reasons for the appearance by interactive technology.~~

Subdivision 7. **Public comment period.**

If a public body's practice is to offer a public comment period at in-person meetings, members of the public shall be permitted to comment from a remote location during the public comment period of the meeting, to the extent practical.

Subdivision 8. **Rules and procedures.**

A public body that conducts a meeting under this section must publish procedures for conducting meetings using interactive technology no later than December 31, 2022.

MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS RESOLUTION 2023-05

Resolution Seeking Increased Flexibility in Open Meeting Law to Utilize Interactive Technology

WHEREAS, the Open Meeting Law (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13D) provides that the governing bodies of watershed districts and other units of government may hold meetings and provide for participation by board members through use of interactive technology, so long as there is a declaration of pandemic or emergency;

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, many public bodies, including watershed districts, used interactive technology to conduct public meetings; there were many benefits to using interactive technology platforms, including reduced travel costs and time to the public and the organizations using the platform; increased opportunities for public engagement; decreased barriers to public engagement; and increased equity and opportunity for potential leaders and participants;

WHEREAS, the current statute allows for members to participate in meetings through interactive technology, but absent a declaration of pandemic or emergency, requires that a member participating through interactive technology must be in a location that is open and accessible to the public and noticed as such; an exception is allowed up to three times in a calendar year for military deployment or medically documented personal health reasons (13D.02, subdivision 1(A)(5), subdivision 1(b));

WHEREAS, even absent a declaration of pandemic or emergency, remote meeting participation through the use of interactive technology provides benefits to facilitating member participation while also assuring that decision making is transparent and meetings are accessible to the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnesota Watersheds hereby supports changes to the Open Meeting Law to provide greater flexibility in the use of interactive technology by allowing members to participate remotely in a nonpublic location that is not noticed, without limit on the number of times such remote participation may occur; and allowing public participation from a remote location by interactive technology, or alternatively from the regular meeting location where interactive technology will be made available for each meeting, unless otherwise noticed under Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.021;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minnesota Watersheds supports changes to the Open Meeting Law requiring watershed districts to prepare and publish procedures for conducting public meetings using interactive technology.

Notes: The RPBCWD managers would like to have the membership reconsider the three times in a calendar year which is in the Minnesota Watersheds adopted resolution on this subject. They are uncertain as to why the three-day limit as that seems rather arbitrary. This language is exactly the same as was submitted in 2022. The resolution failed in 2022.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS

RESOLUTION 2023-06

Resolution Seeking Minnesota Watersheds Education and Outreach to Encourage Formation of Watershed Districts in Unserved Areas

Proposing District: Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District
Contact Name: Dave Bakke, Manager; Jackie Anderson Manager
Phone Number: 612-308-7865 (Dave); 612-819-6906 (Jackie)
Email Address: dave.bakke@clflwd.org; jackie.anderson@clflwd.org

Background that led to the submission of this resolution:

Not all areas of Minnesota have a watershed district to support protection and improvement of lakes, rivers and wetlands and other water issues unique to those areas. "The watershed approach is now the national model and new hope for effective management of water resources" (Minnesota Watersheds website). Therefore, this resolution is to increase the number of local watershed districts to serve those areas of the state that lack support. In addition, with the increasing role being played by One Watershed-One Plan organizations throughout the State, it is important that each such entity include one or more watershed districts to advocate for and guide toward a watershed approach. The goal is to have all areas of Minnesota served by a local watershed district to advance responsible watershed-based management both locally and within One Watershed-One Plan organizations regionally.

Ideas for how this issue could be solved:

Minnesota Statutes 103D provides for the establishment of local watershed districts through petitioning by counties, municipalities, or citizens. Through various channels, (state government, counties, cities, lake associations, etc.) Minnesota Watersheds could provide outreach and education to promote and establish new watershed districts across Minnesota where they currently do not exist.

Efforts to solve the problem:

Members of our board of managers, past and present, have served as officers of lake associations and other local water management organizations. In that capacity, we have experienced the tremendous support of the Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District in leading efforts to improve and protect our lakes, rivers and wetlands. Recently, one of our managers joined the Elbow Lake Association, near Lake Vermillion, and found that no watershed district exists to provide the same support needed to protect and improve lakes, rivers and wetlands in NE Minnesota. At a recent Elbow Lake Association meeting, the manager was charged with finding avenues of support for protecting and improving area water and reached out to the CLFLWD board to gather support for this effort to increase the number of watershed districts in Minnesota. This resolution is offered to broaden support for this effort.

Anticipated support or opposition:

The legislature has endorsed watershed-based water resource management as state policy (103A.212). Minnesota Watersheds should expect support from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and other state agencies concerned with sound water resource management. It would be hoped that counties and conservation districts would welcome One Watershed One Plan organization members that would bring a specific watershed focus to bear. Some counties or others may not favor the formation of additional watershed districts on the grounds that they would dilute county authority within One Watershed One Plan organizations, or on grounds of general opposition to the creation of additional taxing authorities.

This issue (check all that apply):

Applies only to our district:	_____	Requires legislative action:	_____X_____
Applies only to 1 or 2 regions:	_____	Requires state agency advocacy:	_____X_____
Applies to the entire state:	_____X_____	Impacts MAWD bylaws or MOPP:	_____

MINNESOTA WATERSHEDS RESOLUTION 2023-06

Resolution Seeking Minnesota Watersheds Education and Outreach to Encourage Formation of Watershed Districts in Unserved Areas

WHEREAS, as set forth at Minnesota Statutes §103A.212, the Minnesota legislature has enunciated watershed-based water resource management to be state policy;

WHEREAS, many areas of the State of Minnesota do not lie within the boundaries of a watershed district or other watershed-based water management agency;

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §103D.205 provides for watershed districts to be established by petition of counties, municipalities or residents;

WHEREAS, watershed districts operate on sound watershed-based science to set goals, priorities and implementation plans, and have proven to be responsive to local water resource priorities and needs; and

WHEREAS, as One Watershed – One Plan organizations proliferate at a larger watershed scale, it is essential for such organizations to have as members watershed districts that can advocate for and guide toward a watershed approach;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Minnesota Watersheds, in consultation with its membership, develop a framework for education and outreach intended to encourage petition and advocacy for the formation of watershed districts in areas of the state not presently served by watershed-based public agencies.

Notes: We have difficulty getting established WDs and WMOs as members. It would be interesting to know what type of education and outreach this WD recommends, as well as what entities.



Memorandum

DATE: October 27, 2023
TO: Minnesota Watersheds Members
FROM: Linda Vavra, Minnesota Watersheds President
RE: **Proposed Legislative Platform**

In accordance with our Strategic Plan, the Minnesota Association of Watershed Administrators (MAWA) Legislative Platform Committee developed a draft Legislative Platform. The Strategic Plan also states that this work should be done in conjunction with the Resolutions Committee. The purpose of the Legislative Platform is to provide a document that clearly articulates legislative policies so our members and our representatives on the Board of Water and Soil Resources board, Clean Water Council, and the Local Government Water Roundtable can accurately state our positions.

The draft document was presented to the Resolutions Committee on October 10 and the Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors (Board) on October 23. The committee and the Board recommend adoption of the Legislative Platform with the understanding that this is a living document. Each year, the sunseting resolutions will be removed and newly adopted resolutions will be added. The document will be reviewed annually by the MAWA Legislative Platform Committee and the Resolutions Committee. Any recommended additions or corrections will be brought to the membership for consideration. The Legislative Platform will be updated and voted on by the membership each year at the annual business meeting.

Questions regarding these proposed changes should be directed to Linda Vavra at 320-760-1774 or lvavra@fedtel.net or Jan Voit jvoit@mnwatersheds.com or 507-822-0921.

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**MINNESOTA
WATERSHEDS**
Connecting People. Protecting Water.

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Abstract

This document articulates clearly defined legislative policies so members and Minnesota Watersheds representatives on the Board of Water and Soil Resources Board, Clean Water Council, and Local Government Water Roundtable can accurately state our positions.

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Purpose

Minnesota Watersheds represents both watershed districts and watershed management organizations (collectively referred to as Watersheds). That representation underscores the necessity of protecting Watershed powers, duties, and planning responsibilities on a watershed basis.

This legislative platform outlines Minnesota Watersheds positions on legislative matters and serves as the foundation for our organization to support or oppose various local, state, and federal legislation. It also articulates clearly defined legislative policies so members and Minnesota Watersheds representatives on the Board of Water and Soil Resources Board, Clean Water Council, and Local Government Water Roundtable can accurately state our positions.

Finance

Watershed organizations are tasked with many responsibilities by Minnesota statute and the local priorities set by their boards. To effectively perform those duties, adequate funding is necessary. Although some Watersheds have levy authority, there are many other avenues of funding that are important for achieving local water management, as well as water quality and quantity goals.

1. Capacity

- a. Support Clean Water Funds for implementation, not capacity (Resolution 2021-01B)
- b. Support capacity funding for watershed districts (Resolution 2021-02)
- c. Support General Fund repayment of Soil and Water Conservation District capacity funds to the Clean Water Fund (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

2. Grant Funding

- a. Support metro watershed-based implementation funding for approved 103B plans only (Resolution 2021-07)
- b. Support a more equitable formula for watershed-based implementation funding in the metro (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- c. Lobby for watershed-specific grant funding (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

Urban Stormwater

Watersheds and land use management partners work to reduce polluted stormwater runoff and/or increase infiltration from urbanization and hard surfaces. Many Watersheds in the state have adopted regulatory standards and/or official controls to successfully manage urban stormwater when land alterations occur. Watersheds also implement a variety of urban stormwater management practices to treat runoff before it enters our lakes, streams, and wetlands.

1. Stormwater Quality Treatment

- a. Support limited liability for certified commercial salt applicators (Resolution 2022-02)
- b. Support, partner/collaborate with MS4s (if/where appropriate) in permit compliance activities (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- c. Support the use of green infrastructure and minimizing impervious surfaces, where practical, in urban development and planning (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

- d. Where it may exist, support removing duplication of urban stormwater regulatory standards and controls (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- e. Support the rescission of the Department of Labor and Industry/Plumbing Board Final Interpretation of Inquiry PB0159, storm drainage surcharge to return to common engineering practice for stormwater pond design (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

2. Water Reuse

- a. Support creation of a Stormwater Reuse Task Force and for the Minnesota Department of Health to complete a review process (Resolution 2022-01)
- b. Support efforts to clarify and simplify State Plumbing Board rulings and requirements to facilitate more reuse of rainwater/stormwater (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

Water Quantity

Watersheds are directed by statute to conserve the natural resources of the state by land use planning, flood control, and other conservation projects. Specific purposes refer to flood damage reduction, stream flows, water supply, drainage ditches, to identify and plan for effective protection and improvement of surface water and groundwater, and to protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities. Numerous past, present, and future legislative initiatives have affected how water quantity issues are managed at the local level. This very broad-based topic includes management of the volume of water (drought, flooding, water supply), the flow of water (drainage, channel restoration, habitat), and recreation (lakes, rivers, wetlands) activities like fishing, boating, and hunting.

1. Drainage

- a. Support the current statutory requirements for notification and coordination in the development of petitioned repairs, drainage improvement projects, and new drainage systems (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- b. Support the addition of a classification for public drainage systems that are artificial watercourses (Resolution 2019-02)
- c. Reinforce existing rights to maintain/repair 103E drainage systems (Resolution 2018-08)
- d. Seek increased support for and participation in the Drainage Work Group (Resolution 2022-03)
- e. Oppose the drainage registry information portal (Legislation to defeat)
- f. Oppose incorporating increased environmental, land use, and multipurpose water management criteria (M.S. 103E.015 requirements (Legislation to defeat)
- g. Comply with the legislative mandate to review outlet adequacy and notification requirements in the Drainage Work Group

2. Funding

- a. Obtain stable funding for flood damage reduction and natural resources enhancement projects (Resolution 2022-05)
- b. Clarify county financing obligations and/or authorize watershed district general obligation bonding for public drainage projects (Resolution 2019-04)

3. Flood Control

- a. Support crop insurance to include crop losses within impoundment areas (Resolution 2021-05)

4. Regulation

- a. Support temporary water storage on Department of Natural Resources wetlands during major flood events (Resolution 2020-04)
- b. Support managing water flows in Minnesota River Basin (statewide) through increased water storage and other strategies and practices (Resolution 2019-03)
- c. Work with Minnesota Department of Transportation to support flood control and how to handle increased water volume issues along state and federal highway systems (example from Bemidji district of MnDOT) (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

5. Policy

- a. Support funding for watershed-based climate resiliency projects and studies (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- b. Support funding for best management practices that protect and enhance groundwater supply (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

Water Quality

Protecting and improving the quality of surface and ground water in our Watersheds is an essential component of managing water resources on a watershed basis

1. Lakes

- a. Support limiting wake boat activities (Resolution 2022-06)
- b. Support designation change and research needs for the Chinese Mystery Snail (Resolution 2019-07)
- c. Support temporary lake quarantine authorization to control the spread of aquatic invasive species (Resolution 2017-02)
- d. Support streamlining permit applications for rough fish management (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- e. Support dredging as a best management practice to manage internal phosphorus loads in lakes (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

2. Wetlands

- a. Support a statutory requirement for water level control structures in wetland restorations and wetland banks (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- b. Support federal, state, and local funding for wetland restoration and protection activities (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

3. Rivers and Streams

- a. Support a statutory deadline for Department of Natural Resources Public Waters Work Permit (45-60 days) (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- b. Support automatic transfer of public waters work permits to Watersheds (M.S. Chapter 103G.245 Subd.5 (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

4. Policy

- a. Support funding for watershed-based climate resiliency projects and studies (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- b. Support funding for best management practices that protect groundwater quality (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

Watershed Management and Operations

Protecting, enhancing, defending, and supporting existing Watershed statutory powers, duties, and planning responsibilities is necessary for effective and efficient watershed management and operations. Specific Watershed powers, duties, and planning responsibilities are contained in Minnesota Statutes [Chapter 103B](#) and [Chapter 103D](#).

1. Watershed Powers

- a. Support and defend eminent domain powers for watershed districts (Legislation to defeat)
- b. Support Watershed powers to levy property taxes and collect special assessments (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- c. Support a watershed district's power to accept the transfer of drainage systems in the watershed; to repair improve, and maintain the transferred drainage systems; and to construct all new drainage systems and improvements of existing drainage systems in the watershed (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- d. Support a Watershed's power to regulate the use and development of land within its boundaries (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

2. Watershed Duties

- a. Support a Watershed's duty to initiate projects (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- b. Support a Watershed's duty to maintain and operate existing projects (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- c. Support increased flexibility in the open meeting law (Resolution 2021-03)

3. Watershed Planning

- a. Support a Watershed's ability to jointly or cooperatively manage and/or plan for the management of surface and ground water (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- b. Support watershed autonomy during and following a One Watershed, One Plan development process (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- c. Support the connection between watershed-based implementation and funding (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- d. Support development of a soil health goal for metropolitan watershed management plans (Resolution 2020-03)

Agency Relations

Watershed organizations work with many federal and state agencies to accomplish their mission. While relationships vary from administrative to funding and regulatory, agency policies and procedures can have a major impact on Watershed operations and projects. Maintaining strong, positive relations and

ensuring Watersheds have a role in policy making is key to successful watershed management and operations.

1. Advocacy

- a. Require a 60-day review periods when state agencies adopt new policies related to water and watershed management (Resolution 2021-06)
- b. Increase collaborative efforts between Minnesota Watersheds and all state agencies involved in water management (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

2. Representation

- a. Support timely appointments of qualified individuals to represent Watersheds on the Board of Water and Soil Resources Board (Resolution 2018-03)
- b. Support representatives of Watersheds on the Clean Water Council being an administrator, manager, or commissioner of an active Minnesota Watersheds member (Resolution 2018-09)
- c. Support watershed district managers being appointed, not allowing county commissioners to serve as managers (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

3. Regulation

- a. Streamline the Department of Natural Resources permitting process (Resolution 2019-01)
- b. Require watershed district permits for the Department of Natural Resources (Resolution 2018-04)

Regulations

Watershed representation on state and local panels and committees and the ability for Watersheds to regulate development and use of land within the organization's boundaries without prohibitive regulatory restrictions is necessary.

- a. Oppose legislation that forces spending on political boundaries (Legislation to defeat)
- b. Support the ability to appeal public water designations (Resolution 2020-01)
- c. Seek Watershed membership on Wetland Technical Evaluation Panels (Resolution 2019-05)

Natural Resources

Minnesota Statutes direct Watersheds to conserve the natural resources of the state. Some of the purposes listed in statute are to conserve water in streams and water supply, alleviate soil erosion and siltation of water courses or water basins, regulate improvements by riparian property owners of the beds, banks, and shores of lakes, streams, and wetlands for preservation and beneficial public use; protect or enhance the water quality in water courses or water basins; and protect and preserve groundwater resources.

1. Planning

- a. Ensure timely updates to Wildlife Management Area plans (Resolution 2018-06)
- b. Support Watershed inclusion in development of state plans (i.e., Prairie Plan, State Water Plan, etc.) related to water and watershed management (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

2. Policy

- a. Support funding for climate resiliency (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)

3. Habitat

- a. Clarify buffer rule issues (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- b. Support funding to reduce erosion and sedimentation (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- c. Support funding for the enhancement, establishment, and protection of stream corridors and riparian areas (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)
- d. Support funding for the enhancement and protection of habitats (Legislative Platform Committee recommendation)