

RPBCWD Staff Report – December 2021

Administration	Description	Update	Partners
Accounting, Audit & Budget	Coordinate with Accountants for the development of financial reports. Coordinate with the Auditor. Continue to work with the Treasurer to maximize on fund investments.	Staff Bakkum and Interim Administrator Jeffery compiled the monthly treasurer's report.	
Administration	Administrator activities	January regular meeting of the Board of Managers will address regular business. Open enrollment for staff benefits is January. Interim Administrator Jeffery will work with staff from North Risk Partners to provide necessary information to the staff.	
Annual Report & Communication	Compile, finalize and submit an annual report to agencies.	The 2021 Annual Communication has been printed and distributed. Additional copies are available at city halls and libraries around the District. Staff will meet in January to begin development of the annual report.	
DEI	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Staff met on December 15 to discuss current DEI initiatives at the District and made recommendations for future initiatives. Staff will hold a DEI discussion monthly to continue these actions.	
Human Resources	General Human Resources	No changes.	
Internal Policies	Work with Governance Manual and Personnel Committees to review bylaws and manuals as necessary.	No changes	
Advisory	Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee on water conservation, chloride management and emerging topics. Engage with the Citizen Advisory Committee on water conservation, annual budget, and emerging topics.	The CAC held a regular meeting on December 13. A new chair (Andrew Aller) and recorder (Rodey Batiza) were appointed. The next regular meeting of the CAC will be on January 24. There is no scheduled TAC meeting at this time though it is anticipated that a TAC meeting will be scheduled for late February or early March.	
Local SWMP		No changes.	
MAWD	Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts	No new updates	
District-Wide	Description	Update	Partners
Regulatory Program	Review regulatory program to maximize efficiency.	Five applications for a permit have been received since the December meeting.	

	Engage Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee on possible rule changes. Implement a regulatory program.	Three permits have been administratively approved since the December meeting. An Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control permit was administratively approved for a home addition in Deephaven. An Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control permit was administratively approved for two pond dredging projects to be performed by the City of Eden Prairie. One permits will expire in 30 days. Notification will be sent to those permit holders.	
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	Review AIS monitoring program. Develop and implement Rapid Response Plan as appropriate. Coordinate with LGUs and keep stakeholders aware of AIS management activities. Manage and maintain the aeration system on Rice Marsh Lake. Riley Chain of Lakes Carp Management. Purgatory Chain of Lakes Carp Management. Review AIS inspection program. Keep abreast of technology and research in AIS. Zebra mussel adult and veliger monitoring.	A DNR permit was applied for to operate the aeration unit on Rice Marsh Lake. A notice was posted in the Chanhassen newspaper, on the district website, and on Facebook. The permit will be approved shortly. The unit will be turned on in early January. Staff have been processing/analyzing all other AIS data collected for the 2021 Water Resources Report.	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie University of Minnesota MN DNR Carver County
Cost-Share	Schedule and coordinate site visits. Review applications and recommend implementation. Evaluate program.	Twenty-one Watershed Stewardship Grant (WSG) cost-share projects were completed in 2021. Fourteen projects remain active. Staff Forbes has met twice so far with the grant review committee (3 CAC members + Carver Co SWCD staff) to review the 2021 program and develop recommendations for 2022.	Carver County Soil & Water Conservation District
Data Collection	Continue Data Collection at permanent sites. Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program. Identify monitoring sites to assess future project sites. Water Level Sensors	Staff have been processing/analyzing all water quality data collected for the 2021 Water Resources Report. WOMP stations: samples were collected 3 times this month for the Metropolitan Council. Winter sampling will occur on the Riley Chain of Lakes this year per normal rotation. Field data was collected for the MN DNR Score Your Shoreline Assessment and the Erosion Intensity Worksheet for	Metropolitan Council City of Eden Prairie University of MN City of Chanhassen MN DNR City of Minnetonka

		<p>Lake Lucy, Lake Ann, Lake Susan, and Lotus Lake. Staff will complete the scoring via desktop review and GIS.</p> <p>Riley and Susan had sediment cores collected for preparation/evaluation for alum application this month. RML cores will also be collected but will be delayed until ice coverage due to vegetation limited sampling.</p>	<p>Three Rivers Park District</p>
<p>District Hydrology & Hydraulics Model</p>	<p>Coordinate maintenance of Hydrology and Hydraulics Model.</p> <p>Coordinate model update with LGUs if additional information is collected.</p> <p>Partner and implement with the City of Bloomington on Flood Evaluation and Water Quality Feasibility.</p>	<p>District Staff, Barr Engineering, and Eden Prairie will be updating the District’s stormwater model for both Purgatory Creek and Riley Creek. District staff have installed and checked monitoring equipment monthly in the Upper Purgatory Creek Recreational Area, Bren Pond, Eden Lake, and three additional ponds. Three stream units were also installed on Purgatory Creek. Staff are compiling data for model validation.</p> <p>Barr Engineering has been providing model assumptions and parameters to Eden Prairie engineering for review and confirmation. Task 1 of 3, Modeling and Evaluation, will continue well into 2022.</p>	<p>City of Bloomington</p> <p>City of Minnetonka</p> <p>City of Eden Prairie</p> <p>City of Deephaven</p> <p>City of Shorewood</p>
<p>Education & Outreach</p>	<p>Implement Education & Outreach Plan, review at year end.</p> <p>Manage partnership activities with other organizations.</p> <p>Coordinate Public Engagement with District projects.</p>	<p>Staff Bakkum continues to receive inquiries via the district website “Contact Us” form.</p> <p>Staff Mahon is discussing winter education opportunities with 1st grade teachers at Eden Lake Elementary School.</p> <p>Staff Mahon is working with staff at NMCWD and the City of Minnetonka to discuss hosting a raingarden building workshop in the spring.</p> <p>Staff Forbes, Bakkum and Mahon are building out base content for the new website. Next step is for all staff to review. The website will be presented to the BOM in mid/late winter for review.</p>	<p>Adopt-a-drain partners: Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie; Hamline University; Nine Mile Creek Watershed District; MPCA; Fortin Consulting</p> <p>City of Chanhassen</p>
<p>Groundwater Conservation</p>	<p>Work with other LGUs to monitor, assess, and identify gaps.</p> <p>Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee to identify potential projects.</p> <p>Develop a water conservation program (look at Woodbury model).</p>	<p>The City of Chanhassen has requested a review of their groundwater conservation grant to adjust scope and timeline based on new recommendations.</p>	<p>Metropolitan Council</p> <p>City of Eden Prairie</p> <p>City of Shorewood</p> <p>City of Bloomington</p>

			City of Minnetonka City of Chanhassen
Lake Vegetation Management	<p>Work with the University of Minnesota or Aquatic Plant Biologist, Cities of Chanhassen and Eden Prairie, lake associations, and residents as well as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on potential treatments.</p> <p>Implement herbicide treatment as needed.</p> <p>Secure DNR permits and contracts with herbicide applicators.</p> <p>Schedule regularly scheduled point intercept surveys.</p> <p>Work with Three Rivers Park District for Hyland Lake.</p>	<p>Ray Newman is working on an aquatic vegetation proposal to present to the board at the January board meeting.</p> <p>Wenck/Stantec provided the updated Mitchell Lake Management Plan.</p> <p>Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with staff from Eden Prairie and members of the Mitchell Lake Association to coordinate management activities.</p>	<p>City of Eden Prairie</p> <p>City of Chanhassen</p> <p>University of Minnesota</p> <p>MN DNR</p>
Opportunity Projects	Assess potential projects as they are presented to the District	No new updates	<p>City of Chanhassen</p> <p>St Hubert School</p>
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	<p>Continue working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).</p> <p>Engage the Technical Advisory Committee.</p>	No new updates	MPCA
Repair & Maintenance Grant	Develop and formalize grant program.	No changes	
University of Minnesota	<p>Review and monitor progress on University of Minnesota grant.</p> <p>Support Dr. John Gulliver and Dr. Ray Newman research and coordinate with local partners.</p> <p>Keep the manager abreast to progress in the research.</p> <p>Identify next management steps.</p>	<p>Along with completing an additional year of monitoring on the iron filing ponds, the U of MN has a new project funded by the Local Road Research Board to study wetlands (historic/converted to pond) and have been conducting in situ monitoring and laboratory studies with sediment cores on a pond in Shorewood and Chanhassen.</p> <p>The district is currently in discussion with the U of MN with a new urban long-term ecological research (LTER) program in the Twin Cities. This study will investigate how urban stressors – climate</p>	<p>Stormwater ponds partners: Cities of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Shorewood; U of MN</p>

		change, pollutants, invasive species, habitat fragmentation – affect the ecological structure and functioning of urban nature, including pollinators, forests, watersheds, and lakes and streams. It will also address how diverse residents interact with and experience the benefits and burdens of urban nature. Ultimately, the aim is to better understand urban nature and related policies and practices, to improve environmental outcomes for all residents.	
Watershed Plan	Review and identify needs for amendments.	No changes.	
Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)	Administer WCA within the Cities of Shorewood and Deephaven. Represent the District on Technical Evaluation Panel throughout the District.	No WCA applications have been received in Deephaven. No WCA applications have been received in Shorewood. Staff Dickhausen has been representing the District on TEP meetings in Chanhassen and Chaska. Annual report of WCA activities is due to BWSR in February. Interim Administrator Jeffery and Staff Dickhausen are working on the report.	City of Shorewood City of Deephaven City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie MCWD BWSR MN DNR ACOE
Wetland Management	Assess known existing wetlands, identify previously unknown wetlands, identify wetlands for potential restoration/rehabilitation and wetlands requiring additional protection.	Staff Jeffery, Staff Dickhausen and Staff Nicklay continue updating the MNRAM Access database. Staff Dickhausen and Interim Administrator Jeffery are continuing to develop biological assessment metrics of wetlands with Barr Engineering staff to supplement District MNRAM assessments.	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie Hennepin County Carver County MN DNR BWSR USFWS
Hennepin County Chloride Initiative	Phase 1: Develop a plan to target commercial and association-based sources or chloride pollution - businesses, malls, HOAs, property management companies and the private applicators that they hire. We will hire a consultant to facilitate focus groups with private applicators, as well as those that execute contracts with private applicators. These focus groups	The HCCI sub-group will be meeting with the selected consultant on January 6 for a progress report.	Eleven watershed districts/WMOs Multiple cities MPCA Hennepin County Environmental Services

	will help identify needs and barriers for our target audience. The consultant will compile information into a plan for implementation.		Board of Water and Soil Resources
Lower Minnesota Chloride Cost-Share Program	The Lower Minnesota River Watersheds are coming together to offer cost-share grants.	Chloride Reduction cost-share grant remains open and is posted on District website and advertised through Fortin Consulting and the MPCA. Administrator Jeffery is meeting with other members of collaborative in early January.	LMRWD RBWMO NMCWD
Bluff Creek 1W1P	Description	Update	Partners
Bluff Creek Tributary Restoration	Implement and finalize restoration. Monitor Project.	No new updates.	City of Chanhassen
Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Trl/Hwy 101	Remove 3 properties from flood zone, restore a minimum 7 acres and as many as 16 acres of wetlands, connect public with resources, reduction of volume, rate, pollution loads to Bluff Creek.	The site has been mostly graded. The new outlet structure and emergency overflow (EOF) has been installed. The site has been stabilized for the winter. Additional treatment of the site will occur in the early spring with planting late spring/early summer.	City of Chanhassen MN DNR Carver County
Riley Creek 1W1P	Description	Update	Partners
Lake Riley Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Sediment coring occurred in October and results are pending.	
Lake Susan Improvement Phase 2	Complete final site stabilization and spring start up. Finalize and implement E & O for project. Monitor project.	No new updates.	City of Chanhassen Clean Water Legacy Amendment
Lake Susan Spent Lime	2021 startup and monitoring	The spent lime treatment system ran from May to November and was working with removals over 41% across the summer. Staff took the system offline this month. More information will be available in the water resources report. Staff and Barr will be coring the wetland within the Lake Susan Preserve, which drains into the facility to determine phosphorous loading from this wetland. This task order is included within the packet for the 12/8/21 meeting.	City of Chanhassen
Lower Riley Creek Stabilization	Coordinate agreement and acquire easements if needed for the restoration of Lower Riley Creek reach D3 and E.	Maintenance of the site has been turned over to the City of Eden Prairie although the District staff will assist with inspections.	City of Eden Prairie Lower MN River Watershed District

	Implement Project. Continue Public Engagement for project and develop signage for restoration.		
Rice Marsh Lake Alum Treatment	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Staff will be conducting sediment core sampling when ice is accessible to assess treatment effectiveness and prepare for a second dose application.	City of Eden Prairie City of Chanhassen
Rice Marsh Lake Watershed Load Project 1	Install proprietary BMPs. Install soil corrections and plant areas in native vegetation for long-term study of impact on soil health and runoff parameters. Install curb-cut rain garden.	Interim Administrator Jeffery, Barr staff, Chanhassen staff, and representatives of Meyer Construction met on-site to discuss stabilization and material storage over the winter.	City of Chanhassen
Upper Riley Creek	Work with city to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek can we mitigate climate change). Conduct feasibility. Develop cooperative agreement with the City of Chanhassen. Order project and begin design.	Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with Counselor Welch to develop the term sheet and subsequent cooperative agreement with Chanhassen. A public hearing will be held in December to order the project.	City of Chanhassen
Middle Riley Creek	Work with Bearpath HOA/Golf Course to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek, can we mitigate climate change and provide for an improved recreational experience). Draft feasibility report. Develop cooperative agreement with Bearpath.	No new updates.	Bearpath Neighborhood Association City of Eden Prairie MN DNR
St Hubert Water Quality Project	Repair eroded ravine tributary to RML. Install BMPs to provide water quality and quantity benefits for site. Develop curriculum to be used with teachers and students at St. Hubert. Establish native vegetation and monitor soil development, water quality/quantity benefits, and ecological changes.	The project is substantially complete. Interim Administrator Jeffery and Staff Mahon are working with the school to develop curriculum.	CCSWCD Metropolitan Council City of Chanhassen
Purgatory Creek 1W1P	Description	Update	Partners

PCRA Berm		Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with Eden Prairie to define roles and responsibilities.	City of Eden Prairie MN DNR
Duck Lake Water Quality Project	Work with the City to implement neighborhood BMP. Identify neighborhood BMP to help improve water resources to DuckLake. Implement neighborhood BMPs.	No changes	City of Eden Prairie
Lotus Lake Internal Load Control	Continue monitoring the Lake. Plan second alum application.	No new updates. Results will be available in the water resources report.	
Silver Lake Restoration	Order project. Design Project. Work with the City of Chanhassen for design, cooperative agreement, and implementation.	Molnau Trucking was substantially complete as of November 19, 2021. Contract required completion by September 30, 2021. There are a few punch list items outstanding.	City of Chanhassen

Professional Development